







# Biroca 2012 Dedication

## Alasdair Thornton

We would like to dedicate this year's Biroca to the big man on campus, Alasdair Thornton. With his caring nature and humor that enriches our day, Alasdair has truly become a force on campus, and an essential building block in the camp experience for many kids. This being his 15<sup>th</sup> year at Birch Rock, it is all together fitting that we thank Alasdair for his constant dedication to Helping the Other Fellow through thick and thin.

Alasdair started camp in 1998, beginning as a shy but slowly more and more outgoing camper as the years went by. He eventually rose to the rank of senior camper and was a perfect example for all of the morals and values Birch Rock looks to create in young men. Alasdair always was focused towards making the camp experience enjoyable for the Lower Campers, and once pretended to "sneak them out of their cabins" at night to bring them down to Joe's and hang out with them. Creating these kinds of special moments with the Lower Campers forged strong relationships between the generations and guaranteed that these new campers would come back next year.

Along with his values, Alasdair is also known for his in-your-face humor that puts the entire camp in hysterics at Camp Fire. He always can put a smile on your face that lasts the entire day, and his small observations on everyday life make you wonder and laugh at the same time. While effortlessly running Camp Fire with Pickles this year, Alasdair collaborated on some great themes and skit ideas that brought the house down. We certainly won't forget those skits for years to come.

The devotion Alasdair has towards the activities he covers is unwavering, baseball, swimming and basketball all make up the tri-fecta of awesomeness that awaits us everyday. With his help and support, we have all reached new heights, found new humor in life, and made ourselves continue the traditions laid down by Chief himself. Alasdair is truly deserving of this dedication for all his effort and dedication towards camp, we cannot thank you enough for all you've done.

In the words of Cabin 5, "We love you Alasdair".

-Senior Campers







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# **A View From The Top**

By Mike Mattson



This summer was "SOOOOO SICK!"

Our campers this summer were sensational. With almost half the group as diehard, full season guys who don't want to miss ANY of the season's special moments, and the other half thrilled to get in whatever quality BRC time then can get, the terrific attitudes were high. It was great to see so many smiling faces on Opening Day just thrilled to be back with their camp family. We hope that every one of you decides to return for more summer fun in 2013.

As for the staff, this crew was amazing with a "very deep bench" as Dave Weeks put it. The BRC experience on staff this summer was just amazing with an average of almost 10 seasons. Wow! And the new guys, well, the new guys were perfect additions. This was a hard-working, creative, well-bonded pack in the staff ranks.

Special thank yous go out to Cathy and Paul. Cathy handled a lot of crazy medical issues this summer and an increased camp population with the duty of a mother...hard-work, attention and care. She had someone in her building almost constantly and never stopped dealing. Paul and his team cooked us homemade food all summer. Even the chicken patties and sloppy joes were made from scratch. You both are a little more behind the scenes and do so much. Thank you!

It was great to have so many extensions. We had ten boys who wanted to extend from four weeks to seven weeks and seven of them were actually able to. We also had 3 of our Cubs III guys extend to the full three week program. Love it!

The most epic highlight of the summer was definitely Geronimo Weekend. That was insane, and perhaps one of the cooler things I've ever seen in my time at camp. It was a special thing that EVERY single member of the community was involved in. The pep-rally, the face paint, the bison burgers and duck, the shrines, letterwriting on the waterfront, meditation to find your inner animal spirit, the great race and field skirmish, the riddle quest and so much more. JUST EPIC! To those who were there, thanks for making it SO MUCH FUN, and for those who were not. Come back for the full seven weeks so you can experience every little special moment that makes BRC so great.

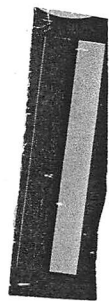
Thanks to you all for an amazing summer. Also, thanks for being so kind to the camp dogs. See you next summer!







CAMP



IN

REPORTS





HILTON A

Wow! Zoinks! Shebang! Holy moly! What a crazy time! We were homesick at first, but then we weren't. Reading this, we actually feel pretty campsick. Camp was pretty awesome. We got to play slugs in skits. What more can you ask for in life? At the age of 7, I honestly don't know. I just don't.

*Nothing less than first.*

# THE TERRIBLE TOILET TRAUMA

HILTON B

Our Cabin King is Jimmy Scanlon.

(Editors Note: The knights begin to talk in first person)

Knox

This is my first year but I'm really liking everything. I'm from Portland, Oregon, so I'm a long way from home. This is my first year at birch rock so I'm obviously a cubs camper. I think I really like kayaking.

Liam

This is my first year at birch rock. I live in Boston, MA. My favorite activity is archery. I like Birch Rock.

Ian

This is my first year at birch rock. I'm from Scituate MA. I really like archery.

Robbie

This is my second year at birch rock. I am from New York City. My favorite activities are baseball, archery, and art.

**ADVANTAGE  
— ME —**

**GET IN THE  
GAME**



# **"HAVE A NICE DAY"**

## **CABIN 1**

Cabin 1 is an awesome cabin. We have Hugh Jacks (Huge Axe) who is from Cincinnati, Ohio. He is reading Diary of a Wimpy Kid right now. His favorite activity is camp-craft. We also have A.J Noyes who is from Falmouth, Maine. He is reading The Dragons' Eye. His favorite activities are sailing, tennis and woodshop. Next we have Matthew Straut (Hondo) who is from Hanover, Massachusetts. He is reading Cay and the Travel Team. His favorite activities are basketball, lacrosse and archery. Then we have Caleb Davis (Clob) who is from Auburn, Maine. Caleb said he's reading books. We'll take his word for it. His favorite activity is sailing. Last but not least we have our counselor Eli Brewster. He is from Concord, New Hampshire. He is reading 501 Must-Know Speeches. He teaches tennis and baseball. Everyone knows that Cabin 1 is the best cabin. Ever.

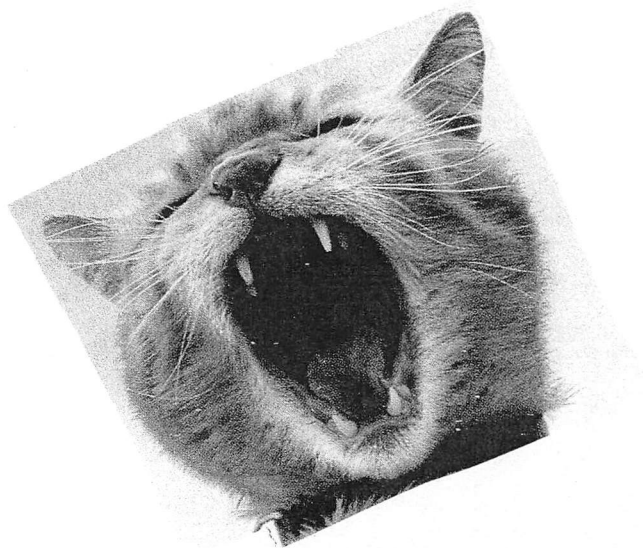
I love cantaloupe,

Matthew Straut

# **TAKING ONE FOR THE TEAM**

## **CABIN 2**

In this cabin, we have Jeffery "Jefferson" Naipier-Kane. He lives in Maine, and his three favorite activities are nature, campcraft, and archery. We also have Emmanuele "Lele" Canessa. He lives in Italy and his three favorite activities are soccer, archery, and nature. Next we have Michael "the Fox" Volpe. He lives in Florida, and his three favorite activities are baseball, nature, and campcraft. Last but not least we have Josh "Cookie Monster, Mayor" Cooke. He lives in Massachusetts and his three favorite activities are lax, archery, and nature. Our counselor is Alex McLaughlin who lives in New Jersey. His favorite activity is mountain biking. Our CIT is Spaulding Goetze III who lives in Colorado. His two favorite activities are sailing and eating cowtails.



### CABIN 3

In Cabin 3 we have Geroge Andrews, Kyle Perkins, Luke Feeney, and Jackson Woods. Our pack leadere was Ben Duvall he took the roll and the counselor and C.I.T because we were not fortunate enough to have one. George is from Chicago, Illinois his favorite activities are nature and Lax. Kyle is from Hopkinton, MA his favorite activity is tennis. Luke is from Philly enjoying basketball. Last but certainly not least is Jackson from Cape Elizabeth, ME who thoroughly enjoys sailing, basketball, archery, and art. Ben is from Newton, MA he spends his whole day at the waterfront instructing swimming. Cabin 3 rules!

**BULLETPROOF MONK**

### CABIN 4

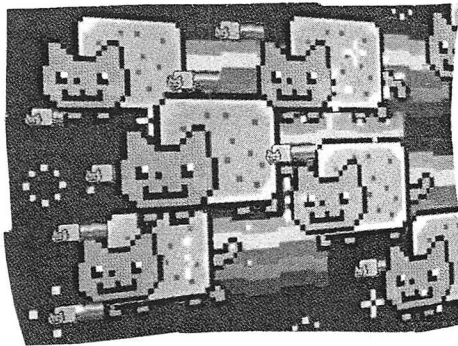
Hello, I am Cabin 4. The campers that live within me are: Devon Anderson, Rakesh Potluri, Nick Davis, and Chris Klein. They are pretty chill.

Devon's favorite activities durring camp are swimming, tennis, sailing, woodshop, and campcraft. Devon was born in Boston, MA and now lives in both Arlington, MA and Charlestown MA as well.

Rakesh likes to participate in campcraft, basketball, and kayaking while at camp. Rakesh was born in Manhattan, NY and now lives in Princeton NJ.

Nick's preferred activities are art, library, kayaking, and archery. Nick was born in Lewiston, ME, but now resides in Auburn, ME.

Chris enjoys lacrosse, sailing, and campcraft. he was born in Princeton, NJ, and has lived there ever since.



*Available in three delicious flavors.*



## CABIN 5

In our cabin, first cubs camo, we have Price Marlow. He liked to do canoeing and archery. He lives in Baltimore, Maryland. Next, we had, for the entire first session, Cole Morad and Nick Dilworth. Cole liked archery, BB guns, and canoeing. Nick liked basketball, tennis, and art. For second cubs camp, Seth Brewster liked campcraft, BB guns and basketball. Lastly, I saved the best for last, Drew Johnson, who is obviously the best. He liked baseball campcraft, and art, a very manly choice. Cole Morad lives in Boston, Massachusetts, and Nick is from Falmouth, Maine. Seth is from Concord, New Hampshire, and Drew is (the best), who is awesome, originated from Milford, NH, a manly town. Our counselor is Bobby Stafford, from Belmont, Massachusetts. His favorite activities are canoeing and soccer. Our CIT is Jeremy Lifter, from Columbus, Ohio. He likes Canoeing. CABIN 5 RULES!!!

# GET IT NOW!

## CABIN 6

First, we'd all like to thank our counselor Wes. Wes is from Morrison, Colorado and taught archery and campcraft.

"A goal for me first session was for me to get fit and be an awesome role model for everyone else." The cabin sixers believe Wes has achieved his goal and continues to get better. The camper in our cabin who is staying first session, a five year Birch Rocker, is David Herzig. David is from New York City and his favorite activities are basketball, archery, lacrosse, and kayaking.

"A goal for me was to have a good summer and play sports on the field." David believes he has accomplished his goal. Brad Schlauder, a full sessioner and a four year Birch Rocker, was born in Connecticut, but now currently lives in Mannas, Virginia and his favorite activities are woodshop, campcraft, and B.B. guns.

"A goal for Brad was to do his loon." Brad has accomplished his goal. The third camper is Asa Kaplan, a full sessioner. Asa is from Newton, Massachusetts and his favorite activities are campcraft, and B.B. guns.

"A goal for me this year was to be a role model for the Otters." Asa has accomplished this goal and continues to be a role model. Another full-sessioner, three year Birch-Rocker Matt Rotman is from Westborough, Massachusetts. Matt's favorite activities were art, woodshop, campcraft, and soccer.

"A goal for me was to have fun." Matt believes he has accomplished his goal and continues to have fun. From Day 1 to Day 28 a great time was had by all.





# DIANA DOUBLE TAKE

First Session Cabin Reports

## CABIN 7

Mariano Gomez

Bilbao-Spain

Enjoys reading and making things out of recycled materials and observing and learning about animals and plants

Nick Farnham

Falmouth-Maine

Enjoys playing "the cross" and going mountain biking

John LaViolette

Wessley-Massachusetts

Enjoys playing "the cross"

Liam Feeney

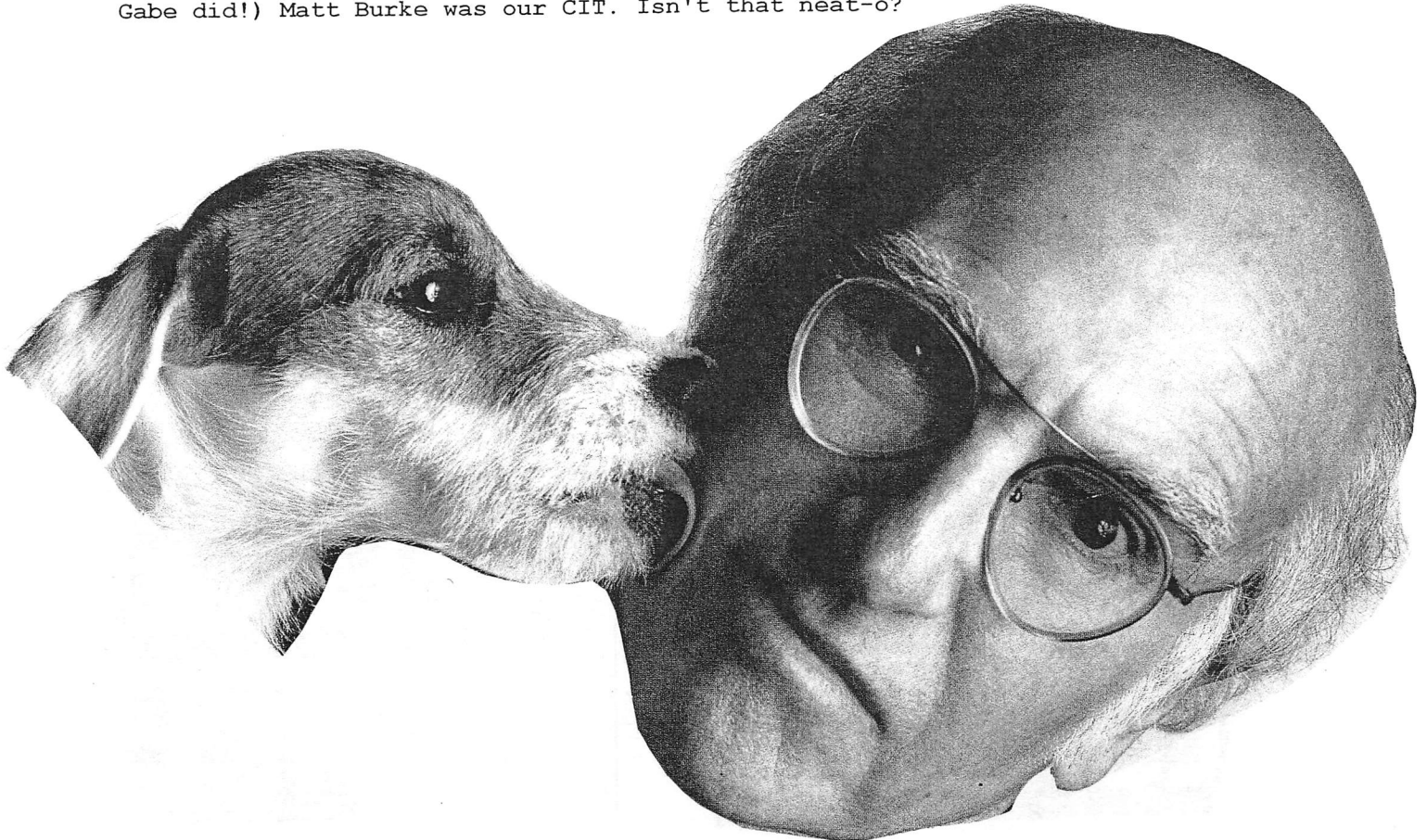
Philadelphia

Enjoys mountain biking

# JUST DO IT.

## CABIN 8

Cabin 8 was soooo awesome. We had a bunch of veterans, like Jack Duggan, John Reisert, Jack Culver, Henry Farnham, and General Patton (he yelled even more than Gabe did!) Matt Burke was our CIT. Isn't that neat-o?



**Bald, rich and anxious  
is a great way  
to go through life**

## First Session Cabin Reports

### EAGLE'S NEST

In Eagles Nest this year we had 7 young misfits and 1 gentleman: Hudson Cohn, Nathan Reeder, Victor Santiago, Max Woods, Elliot McGinn, Joe Ingraham, and the fine gentleman Edward Stafford.

Hudson Cohn is 13 and his favorite activities consisted of : Riflery, D&D in the cabin, and reading.

Nathan Reeder's favorite activities were : Tennis, Archery, and Sailing.

Victor Santiago with his favorite motto "Mean People Are Mean!", enjoyed baseball, scaring people, and general swim.

Max Woods, a very nice boy, loved to do tennis, sailing, art, and woodshop. He also LOVES to talk.

Elliot McGinn loves archery, tennis, swimming, and boating.

Second to last is Joe Ingraham from Newton, Massachussets, likes to do baseball, basketball, and tennis.

Lastly, Edward likes to do riflery, soccer, and try to control his misfit cabin!

I almost forgot Max Napier-Kane! He loved to do mountain biking, riflery, and campcraft. We had two counselors, Pickles and Harry, they like dancing. K bye-

By: Victo

**Make it an IHOP day.**



### BUZZARD'S ROOST

This year in Buzzard's Roost 1st session we have eight campers and two counselors. We have Alasdair Thornton who is from Southport, CT. Also here is James Charleston from Oxford, England. As for campers we have Baptiste Durand from Paris, France. He is a lazy frenchman. He enjoys campcraft and baseball. Also residing here is George Davies (pronounced Davis). He's from Paxton, Mass. He likes riflery and boating. Following in his footsteps is Benjamin Wagner (Honus Wagner to you, sir). He is from Boyleston, Mass. He likes campcraft, kayaking, and giggling. Jeffrey "Tree" Wood is from Claremont, NH. His two favorite activities are kayaking and breathing. As well as these goofballs, living here this year is Mercer Lynch. He loves ponies, and horses, but hates mules. His two favorite activities are laughing and breaking things. Like chairs, beds, and George. Gabriel Kolbert is from nearby Portland, Maine. He likes to sail and make beds. Peter Klein is from Princeton, NJ. He likes to lax, and ride dem bikes. Lastly here is Toby Young who likes to shoot guns and chill in the art room.

And a Fergilicious time was had by all.

**I SEE  
LONDON,**

**I SEE  
FRANCE**

EXPECT MORE. PAY LESS.**OWL'S PERCH**

Owl's perch was sick nasty first session. The cabin was epic, especially when it came to inspection. Racking up a total of 5 best bed wins is Trevor! Trevor is always teaching people how to make their beds properly, and is a main part of our inspection winning cabin. Trevor was quite involved in the mountain biking program, and he fought through a few big crashes. He also loved campfire. He usually had the lead role of a so-so skit that Owls put together in the rest period before campfire (AKA Cash money day). Of course talking about Trevor Perkins. Trevor McLaughlin, on the other hand, was just dead weight on inspection and campfire. He never made his bed, and he was always trying to sleep on top of his sheets. Whenever we had washhouse, he just sat in the stall and clogged the toilet. Some days we needed to make his bed for him, and other days we just let him get the 1 he deserved. Trevor is not very good at sports, after all he didn't graduate the cradle until this year. He did swim his seal this year, but he swam the whole thing on top of the white-caps going with him, and his Personal Flotation Bathing Suit that Cahill hasn't discovered yet. All he did at mountain biking was crash on camera, and try to match James' super wheelies. He was not successful, but when was he ever. I mean he didn't even get a single babe at beach day! We could finally determine that he was actually male after his haircut this year. His hair was pretty stupid at the beginning of the year, but not stupid enough. For some more attention he dyed it purple!

Nothing else comes close.

**PETE'S PALACE**

Founded upon the famous arcade that has become part of Birch Rock History, Pete's Palace has stood as a shining beacon of gnar-shredding awesomeness since the 80's. This year's group of senior campers have carried the flame on with all 4's, Best Cabin, Tri-fecta, and helping the other fellow on a regular basis.

8 veterans have graced this cabin 1st session, but sadly one of us shall be departing for the dark, sunless plains of California. Alec Westbrook, Birch Rocker for 5 years, has enjoyed this year greatly. He will be taking another senior camper year, so he's excited to come back next year. Some of the activities that Alec has slayed at are baseball, basketball, tennis, Intramural Simon-Says, Velociraptor Wrestling, and U.F.O racing, all while making a mean bed.

His comedic humor puts our cabin mate Tuffy in tears, his racket sets on fire during tennis due to the blazing speed he puts on the ball, and he's a saint to the little guys on campus. Alec shall be surely be missed by us all, and the memories you have given us shall not be forgotten. He also shall be recognized for almost beating the Pac-Man high score in the Pete's Palace Arcade. It was truly a spectacle to behold.

From Birch Rock with Love,

Pete's Palace

**"Coach told me to  
SHAKE THE GOO**





TRI

REPORTS



### KANGAMANGUS REGION: Otters

This trip was cabins 1, 2, and 3 and was led by Joe, Taos, Eli and Ben. The first day we swam and it was awesome. The second day we hiked a 3 mile loop trail. Everyone had fun. A good time was had by all. My name is Caleb Davis. Rawr!



### ANDROSCOGGIN RIVER: Bobcats

The Androscoggin Canoeing Trip was loads of fun. The campers on the trip were Rakesh Potluri, Devon Anderson, David Herzig, Nick and Henry Farnham, Matt Rottman, Unicorn Monkey, Brad Schlauter, Jack Duggan, and Liam Feeney. Our trip leaders were Joe Cohen and Gabe Dreyer.

The trip started at a pullout that we drove to. We had PB&J sandwiches, loaded the canoes and started paddling. We found a nice island to stop at where we played in the water, set up camp and had dinner which was gourmet pasta. Then we played some more and went to bed.

The next morning was pretty leisurely. We had eggs for breakfast and then took down camp. We played around a bit and then took off paddling. We paddled for a while until we found a small island to quickly have some burritos for lunch and set off again. We paddled a really long time now and it was especially boring because there was no current. We were looking for our next campsite which was not a deserted island, but a camping reservation.

When we finally spotted it, we realized there was no pullout for our canoes so we had to keep paddling looking for other places. By the time, everyone was tired and hungry so we decided to go to the nearest pullout while a couple guys from camp came and took the canoes while we drove to the campsite. We had dinner before we left so when we arrived we just warmed up in front of the fire. Set up tents and then went to bed. The next morning we had cold oatmeal and then we drove to step falls which is a bunch of natural rock water slides. They were really fun especially when the girls from fernwood cove came. After that we had some burritos for lunch and then drove back to camp. Finally when we got back we de prepped and showered, well that was the Androscoggin trip and a good time was had by all!

## BIGELOW MTN: Bobcats

On the Bigelow Trip this year, unicorns were ridden, heck was raised, and trails were beaten. The food consisted of the rabid demons we were able to capture and roast, summiting the mountain included bringing oxygen tanks, and tents were made by digging holes in the ground and praying it didn't rain. But how could campers survive such horrific conditions you might ask? Because they're Birch Rockers, *that's* why. Over all, it was just another trip, and another day in the life of the Bobcats. The moral of this trip report? Turn it in and maybe we won't write whatever comes out of our minds at 2:00 in the morning.

*Making every shot count*

## FLAGSTAFF LAKE: Wolves

On Flagstaff Lake this year we went for three days and two nights on an amazing canoeing trip. We canoed two or three miles a day and had two really nice campsites where we had many fun games of Magic and D&D around the campfire. We also had some nice times where we swam and had good food altogether. A good time was had by all!



## CARTER DOME: Wolves

The Carter Dome Trip had Peter Klein, Jeffery "Tree" Wood, Ben Wagner, Tobias Young, Ed Stafford, and Nathan Reeder. The leaders were Harry Netzer and Joe Cohen. On the first day we hiked Mt. Surprise and Mt. Mariah. On the second day we hiked North Carter, Mt. Hight and the tallest mountain on the range, Carter Dome. On the third day we hung out at some stream coming down from the mountains, and than we went back to camp. A good time was had by all!

*Bits of real  
chocolate chips  
in every sip.*

## OLD SPECK: Owl's Perch

The first sesch half of owls perch was awesome? There was Trevor McLaughlin, Gordon Hargraves, Luke brown, Jake Perkins, and frank "the tank" Cacciopoli. It was interesting up old speck mt which is the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest mit (Romney) in the state of NO GAME. We had great jelly that batman cooked with hobos. We hiked for long times and fun was had by all.

Editors note: Next time pay the Hiltonknight who wrote this less candy. Word.



## BALDPATE MTN: Owl's Perch

During first session, 4 awesome campers and two great counselors hiked the mountain that is bald pate. Theses campers were Peter Brewster, Sam Wayne, Noah Keates, and Trevor Perkins. The counselors were Taos and Zach "Pickles" Lynn. On the first day of the trip, they hiked up Puzzle Mountain and discovered an amazing 360° view at the top. They then hiked down to the campsite from there and when they got to the campsite they discovered Plank. After finding plank they set up camp and ate burritos. Next morning they got up and hiked 5.5 miles and summated Long Mountain. They passed the first and second campsite and then decided to camp at the third campsite. That night, they ate Chicken Alfredo and played the card game, munchkin. On the final day they hiked up east bald pate. When they got to the top, they could see for miles, and they were looking straight at old speck. They climbed down about 3 miles to the van. In total they hiked about (Bragging phrase deleted). Later, on the way back Taos and Pickles them to Arnold Palmers and Chips, a good time was had by all!

IM WATCHING YOU WATCHING ME.....

# THE FINE LINE

RANGELEY LAKES: Pete's

We began our first trip as senior campers super psyched. Musc and Sammy-D let us make the most of this sick trip.

The first thing we did was stop at Small Falls where we all jumped off a 20 foot ledge into a refreshing (and safe) pool of water below. Even Lance, who was afraid of heights conquered his fear and jumped off while yelling "I AM THE KING OF MYSELF!" Inspiration at its finest.

Our first day was short, nearly a 2 mile paddle to our campsite, though enough for Bamberger to show off his "race face" that he learned in Wilderness. (Editor's Note, Bamberger took off into the wilderness for a summer last year, so now he refers to it as Wilderness. We mock him for it on a regular basis.) We had our two JMG's set up a ballin' campsite and enjoyed some awesome burgers for dinner while reclining in a hammock. After dinner, Tuffy and Lance decided to sneak off and look for a girl's camp (to no avail). We went to sleep to prepare for our hard paddle the next day.

Good thing we were well rested because we had to take down camp in the rain and paddle 11 miles with a VERY strong headwind. It was all worth it though when we found the best campsite. Ever. We all joined hands and frolicked around this island that seemed like Shangra-La. We even found a weapon arsenal on the island, including a bow and arrow, a slingshot (which Bamberger found underwater) and some particularly sharp rocks.

The next day, after a few miles we reached our portage point. There we found some girls from Arcadia making their portage. We carried both our equipment and helped with theirs (because we are fine Birch Rock gentleman).

Afterwards we tried to sail by joining our canoes and using our paddles and tarp to catch the wind. After failing we just used the crazy wind to finish the journey.

The next day we got to sleep in and relax before paddling to the pick up spot.

A good time was had by all!

ADVERTISEMENT







“HSC”







C A B I N

R I P P O R T S



## HILTON A

Wade Wahlig: likes warplanes, swimming, and campcraft.

Jacob Neddle: likes Baseball, Magic the Gathering, Nature, and Basketball.

Mathew Narrowetz: Likes Tennis, Sailing, and Art.

Andrew Sträut: Likes Basketball and Nature

William Madden: Likes Basketball and Archery

Happy  
**SHARK WEEK**

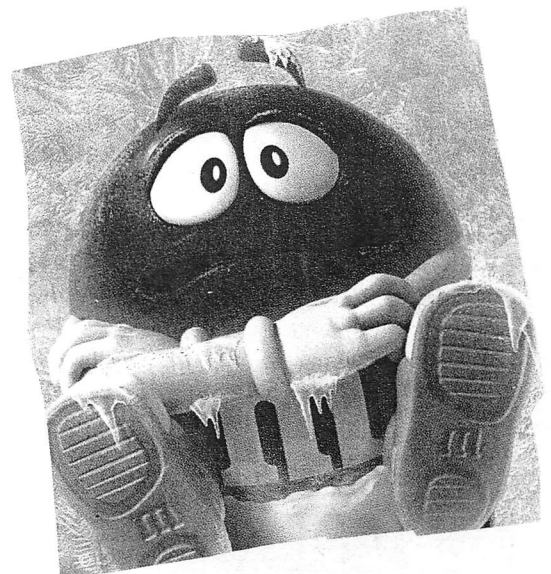


## HILTON B

Hilton B is the best cabin ever. In Hilton, we have five campers. Gus Tringale has been here for two years and his favorite activities are tennis and kayaking. Cam Jacobson has been here for two years and his favorite activities are soccer and canoeing. Eli Protas really likes nature. Sonny Avitable also really likes nature. Jasper Voss is from Narnia and his favorite activity are going inside of wardrobes. Jimmy Scanlon teaches soccer, swimming, and baseball. And a good time was had by all.



Chris Evans



## CABIN 1

This year cabin 1 was number 1. Cabin 1 consisted of Hugh Jacks (a.k.a. Huge Axe) counciler Eli Brewster(a.k.a. Supreme Dictator) Johnny Wahlig, Jack Thibodean, and Caleb Davis (a.k.a. The clob!) our cabin liked pizza Friday, taco Tuesday, candy and CLOBBERIN' TIME!!! But we liked Eli's supreme dictating the most. The end.



**SAVE BIG BUCKS &  
GET BIG BOOKS**

## CABIN 2

First here in cabin 2 we love birch rock and cabin 2. First thing is our counselor is Alex McLaughlin from Priceston New Jersey, and he teaches mountain biking and he is a life guard. Next we have Jack Flynn from Cincinnati Ohio, his favorite activities are campcraft, archery, and sailing. Next we have James Heckscher from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. His favorite activities are campcraft, kayaking, and evening activity. Hunter Grimes is from Cape Elizabeth Maine, and his favorite activities are woodshop, campcraft and art. Micheal Volpe is from Bonita Springs Florida, his favorite activities are art library and baseball. The CIT is Spaulding Goetze the 3<sup>rd</sup> is from Denver Colorado, he teaches sailing, art, and is a lifeguard. We had a great time at birch rock!



**NO WAY  
I'M WASHING THIS OUT**



### CABIN 3

Cabin 3 is an awesome cabin. It has an awesome counselor named Ben Duvall who is from Newton, MA. He is reading Game of Thrones and he teaches swimming all four periods. Next, we have Noah Birch. His dad went here in the 70's. He is from Nadick, MA. His favorite activities are swimming, archery, and campcraft. Sam Agnew is from Chesterfield, VA and his favorite activities are swimming and soccer. Matt Straut is from Hanover, MA and his favorite activities are lacrosse, swimming, archery, basketball, and baseball. Last but not least we have Wes Peterson who is from Greenwich, Connecticut. His favorite activities are tennis, archery, and basketball. Cabin 3 is the best cabin.

**LEARN  
PRACTICE PLAY**

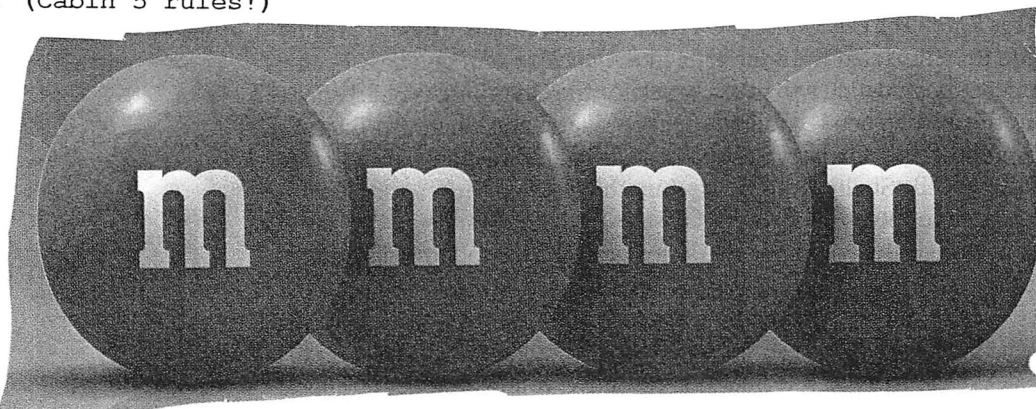
### CABIN 4

In cabin 4 my counselor was Nick and the CIT was Brandon. My cabin consisted of Lele, Jeffrey, and Stuart. Lele is from Italy and his favorite activities are archery, campcraft, and basketball. Jeffrey is from Brunswick, Maine. His favorite activities are nature, sailing, and soccer. Stuart is from Cape Elizabeth, Maine and his favorite activities are sailing, archery, and swimming. James Nelson is from Richmond, Virginia and my favorite activities are basketball, baseball, and archery. Nick is our counselor and he is the field director and has the best smile on campus. Brandon is our CIT and he does lawn games.

**the troublemaker**

## CABIN 5

During second session we had an awesome cabin in cabin 5. We had Owen Jacobsen, Kyle Perkins, Caleb Sciannella, Josh Cooke, Jeremy Lifter as CIT, and Bobby Stafford as our counselor. Owen Jacobsen comes from South Portland, Maine and his favorite activities are soccer and tennis. Caleb Sciannella is from Brooklyn New York, his favorite activities are campcraft and archery. Josh Cooke is from Newton Mass and his favorite activities are campcraft and tennis. Kyle Perkins is from Hopkinton, Mass and his favorite activities are kayaking and basketball. Bobby Stafford is from Belmont Mass and his favorite activities are canoeing and soccer. Jeremy Lifter is from Columbus Ohio and his favorite activities are canoeing and swimming. (Cabin 5 rules!)



## CABIN 6

Over the past few weeks we have grown to like many activities. Matt Burke's hobbies are fishing and basketball and he has been a birch rocker for seven years in all and now has returned to be a CIT. He lives in Naples, Florida. Wesley Wyatt from the wild west, also known as Colorado, teaches archery and camp craft. This is his first year as a staff member. His hobbies are slack lining, rock climbing, skiing and listening to music. This is Cole Madden's first year as a camper. He enjoys archery, swimming, and he lives in St. Petersburg, Florida. This is Garret's third year here as a camper and he enjoys lacrosse, sailing, swimming and mountain biking. He is from Cape Elizabeth, Maine. This is Chris Klien's first year and he is from New Jersey A.K.A the "Garbage state". He really enjoys camp craft, but he also enjoys the rest of camp. Nick Davis is from Auburn, Maine and this is his fourth year at Birch Rock. He enjoys archery and kayaking. His favorite hobbies are playing with magic cards and playing basketball.

# Hot Fun in the Summer

**"THE CHARACTER  
REALLY IS ME, BUT  
I COULDN'T POSSIBLY  
BEHAVE LIKE THAT.  
HE'S HOW I WANT  
TO BE - MY VERSION  
OF SUPERMAN."**

## CABIN 7

This year second session, cabin 7 was crazy. We had Sebastian "Sea Bass" Tringale, Fallou "Papa" Babou, Brad Schlauder, and Drew "Drew" Johnson. Sebastian is from Medfoud, Massachusettes, Fallou is from New York, New York, Brad is from Ledyard, Connecticut, and Drew is from Milford, New Hampshire. Sebastians favorite activities are sailing, lax, and boating. Fallou's are basketball, canoeing, mountain biking, and in his words "Being a Boss". Brad's are woodshop, campcraft, and art. Drew's are nature, instructional swim, and art. Our CIT, Naropa Perez, is from Bronx, New York and he likes campcraft, basketball, and lacrosse. Our counselor Jameson "Wiggles" Foley is from Bowdoinham, Maine, and teaches instructional swim, archery, and occasionally art .

# Stop the Madness.

## EAGLE's NEST

Our cabin 2nd session was a blast. We had great campers including Asa Kaplan from Newton Mass, his favorite activities are campcraft and tennis this was his 4th summer here at birch rock. Matt Rotman from Westborough Mass, his favorite activities are woodshop, campcraft, boating, and sailing. Jack Culver from Seattle Washington, his favorite activities were boating, and campcraft, this being his 3rd year at the rock. Joey Needle is from Lake Geneva Wisconsin, his favorite activities were basketball, sailing, tennis, and swimming, this was his 4th year. Milutin Gjaja is from New York city, his favorite are sailing, art, nature, library, and campcraft, this was his 3rd year at birch rock. Max Naipier-Kane is from Brunswick Maine, his favorite activities are mountain biking, art, tennis, and this was his 5th year. Liam (Leefern) Feeney is from Philadelphia Pennsylvania, his favorite activities were canoeing mountain biking, and sailing, this was his 2nd year at birch rock. John Reisert is from Waterville, Maine, his favorite activities are sailing, lax, nature, and swimming, this was his 3rd year at the rock. Both the counselors Samual Zachary Pickleton Esquire and Harry were from New York and were awesome!



# KING JAMES

Second Session Cabin Reports

## BUZZARD's ROOST

In Buzzard's Roost 2<sup>nd</sup> session we had a crazy cast of characters led up by James Charleston the 3<sup>rd</sup> and Alasdair Thornton. With campers Victor Santiago from Stanton Island New York, he enjoys art and taking off his shirt. Across from Victor was Jeffery Wood, (Tree) Tree liked sarcasm and playing the harmonica which annoyed George. George Davies hailing from Pazton Mass, liked boating and chilling with his cabin. Elliot McGinn from Cape Elizabeth Maine enjoyed tennis, archery, and boating. Ed Stafford from Belmont Mass, was big on soccer and lax (bro?) Toby Young from Burlington Vermont enjoyed riflery and chilling with the cabin. Mercer Lynch is from Baltimore Maryland and he enjoyed laughing. And Hudson Cohn from Bedford New York who enjoyed D&D games and mountain biking. This was the make up of an awesome cabin 2<sup>nd</sup> session.

WHAT'S  
MIME  
IS YOURS!

## OWL's PERCH

For my first year at Birch Rock not knowing what to expect because I got so used to my first session cabin. But I loved it between the random funny comments from Trevor to Christians sarcasm. There are so many activities that everyone has something they can be good at. Christian is trying for his advanced canoeing badge. Trevor for his advanced Basketball. Gordon for his advanced Woodshop. Louis is trying for his senior basketball and baseball. Frank is trying for his senior Campcraft. Mac is trying for his 15<sup>th</sup> Archery badge. Will is trying for his junior Campcraft badge. David is trying for his 6<sup>th</sup> archery badge. Nate is trying for his senior tennis badge. Luke is trying for his 8<sup>th</sup> Archery badge. We have people from New Jersey to Connecticut to Virginia, NJ and Mass. I love this camp and everyone in it is the best. Thank you Birch Rock for one of the best summers of my life.

~ Luke Brown

100% PERSPIRATION,  
0% INSPIRATION:

## PETE'S PALACE: THE SCOOP

Ah, how we've grown. From learning how to sit up straight at the table and not discuss the viscosity of our boogers, to teaching others while learning ourselves, we senior campers have grown in leaps and bounds this summer. With many of us being seasoned veterans, we have gone from prey in Geronimo to the top of the BRC food chain. With a cabin that has yet to receive a single three on our beds, has won the tri-fecta more times than we can remember, plus a fully operational video game arcade under our cabin, we can safely assume that we rocked the Rock this summer.

But, what is a cabin without its campers? The young men who stayed in this palace for 7 weeks have devoted themselves to helping the other fellow while shredding the gnar on a regular basis, all to benefit this camp as a whole. We have literally debated on getting "Run with the Pack" tattooed on our foreheads, we are that serious. To keep updated on the alpha wolves, continue reading.

Starting in the left corner, weighing in at 155 pounds is the Never-Fail-Me Israeli himself, Zachariah Bamberger. After taking a leave of absence in wilderness for one year, Zach has returned to us full force and ready to go. Basketball has proved to be the natural sport of the Bamberger, along with his infamous drop shot ability in tennis and his "Oh my God, that's poison ivy!" alarm system. Special note, it's almost always wintergreen, not poison ivy. Zach shall be returning home to his fiancée Natalie Portman after camp ends and hopes to come back next year as a C.I.T.

Perched above Zach in his lair on the top bunk is Patrick McLaughlin, capable of putting anyone in a headlock in under 3.5 seconds. Patrick is joining us from Jersey Shore after his tanning accident that almost left him paralyzed, we thank Snookie nothing bad happened. This shall be Patrick's sixth year at the Rock, and it shows in his painfully sharp bed. With his superior Camp Craft skills and the ability to go Mach 5 on a mountain bike, Patrick has dominated at both activities this year and shall continue to do so while teaching it for years to come. Patrick shall be walking home to New Jersey per request to test his survival skills. We wish him luck as he fights off the bears and serial killers he shall meet in the woods on his way home.

In the center of the cabin is Philip "Kesselrun" Kessler. With his silent and eerily mysterious nature, Philip would be the one person who always turns out to be the killer in the end of the movie. Luckily, since this isn't "Friday the 13th", he's just a funny guy with a good taste for literature. Philip sleeps with a kayak in his bed and will almost always be found carrying it around camp with Lashley behind him shouting encouragement, his dedication to that activity is truly admirable. He also has been drafted to Barcelona to replace Lionel Messi with his godly soccer skills; Philip is already brushing up on his Espanol in the cabin. Philip plans to kayak through land until he reaches his home in Newport, New Hampshire, after camp ends.

Above Philip is the Lone Star himself, Walker Texas Ranger Grimes. Walker has made this his fourth year at Birch Rock, and spent it well he has! By day, he sails underneath Lake McWain and hangs out with Spongebob, by mid-afternoon he focuses on his flow at lacrosse, and by night...well, he just sleeps like the rest of us. Fun Fact about Walker, with his superior camp-craft skills, Walker is capable of splitting a log and lighting a fire just by focusing. He is not a man you want to tangle with. Walker's goal after camp is to break the speed of light this year by harnessing the energy of a black hole and converting it into anti-matter, enough to power a ship to light speed. Take that, physics!

Next to Walker and down 2 feet is the mean, lean, rapping machine (we still haven't heard him rap), Gustavo Garcia. Gustavo is taking a break from his world tour and is taking some R&R at Birch Rock. He got right into the swing of things with a solid bed, a love of basketball that makes LeBron look like a hockey player, canoeing skills that match that of the Abenaki, and a way with the ladies that shows in our daily round of low budget. I would go into more detail, but sadly



there are younger readers. This shall be his first but hopefully not last year at camp, and he shall be hitchhiking back to the Bronx to his private mansion.

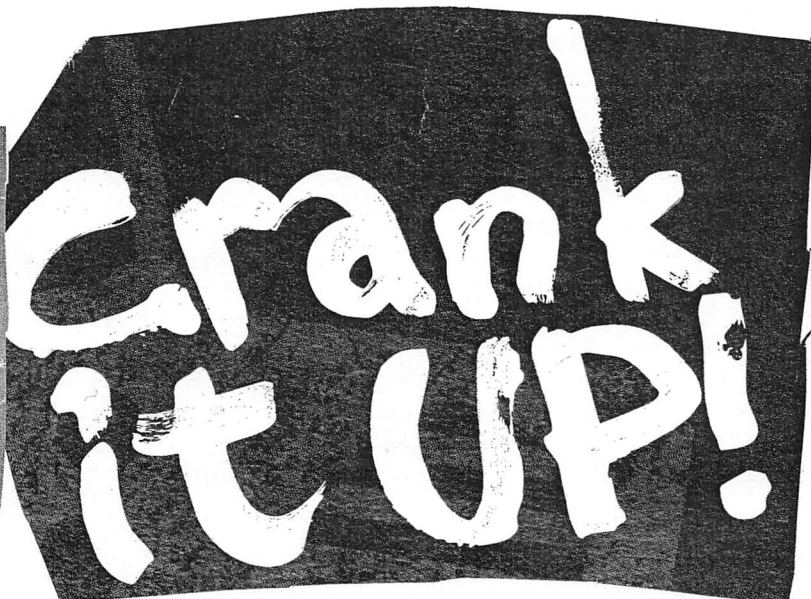
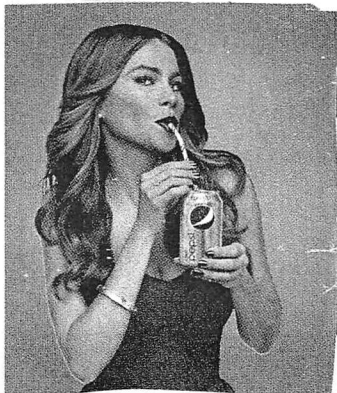
In his own little bubble on top of the cabin is the man with the most dust covers on campus, Lance Napier-Kane. Formerly from Delaware, he was reassigned to Brunswick, Maine on the witness protection program after he witnessed King without his beard, and has been spending his fifth year here at the Rock. Lance was taught art by the ghost of Picasso and has mastered the winds of McWain at sailing. Along with his two brothers, the Napier-Kanes have been ripping the gnar to pieces this year, and shall continue to do so until the resurgence of the "Conserve the Gnar" organization. Lance shall be leapfrogging back home with his brothers to reach their parrot who is part dragon.

On the bunk at the end of the cabin is Jonathan "Tough Man" Tuffy, capable of receiving ten blows to the head with a sledge hammer and not dropping. Tuffy has spent a whopping seven years now at the Rock, and has mastered the art of bed making and campfire, all while making the cabin laugh with his constant observations of everyday stupidity. Tuffy has become the expert sailor in the cabin, although he proves his land legs at baseball by hitting Sanderson's house on a regular basis. He has visited us from the land of Hanover, Massachusetts, or as he likes to call it, Hangover, Mass. Tuffy shall be aiming to rid the world of hatred towards "South Park" as soon as he leaves camp.

Finally, last but not least comes the esteemed, and dare I say handsomely charming writer of this cabin report, Gage "The Gage" Wheeler. Gage comes from the mean streets of Meredith, New Hampshire, after being raised by a pack of wolves from birth. Gage has attained the tennis skills of Roger Federer while gracing soccer almost everyday, and has managed to keep a four on his bed everyday. He also manages to conceal his hard hitting pillow; it has been outlawed by the Geneva Convention and 62 countries. Gage plans to escape camp by receiving his inspiration from the Hannibal Lecter series he is obsessed with, prepare to wake up one morning, faceless.

At the end is the king himself, Sammy D Deeran. Ruling over the palace with an iron fist, Sam shall be spending his eleventh year here after taking a break from partying with Tony Blair at Colby College. Sam has been helping out down at sailing and teaching kids how to beat the elements down at Camp Craft, all while pumping out some great alternative rock. Sam shall be returning home by riding G-Funk the Cow who lives in the Arcade back home to Falmouth, Maine.

Thank you all for a wonderful year, most of the memories we have of this cabin are discussing women and reminiscing on the acts of Bamberger, such as his famous roast of Nick Musciano on the Rangely Lakes trip, or the dance he did in front of a bunch of angry rednecks at the Oxford Speedway. From Patrick's wrestling skills to Lance's fedora, from Tuffy's music tastes to Gage's dubstep, this year shall not be forgotten easily. Live long and prosper my fellow campers, and remember: Waka Flocka Flame ain't good at swimming.



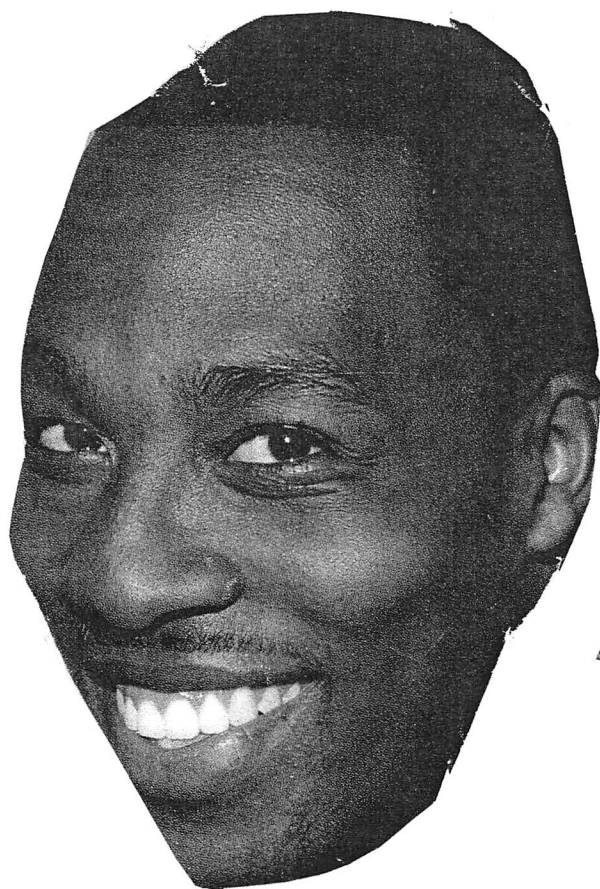
## CABIN 8

Here is the story of 5 senior campers stranded and left to die in the treacherous wilderness of lower camp. Forced to traverse the serpentine paths in the middle of the night, and exiled to ... dare I say it, the Lower Wash House. These five tortured souls were subject to the bone breaking hill each day, which explains the numerous occasions on which they have tardy to flagpole.

This experience, however had made them stronger, and the have joined together to form the "Fictitious Five!" Hailing from Metropolis (Scarborough, Maine) is Nate "Neutron" Howard, whose powers include the super monkey fist punch and super speed. Flying in from Coast City "Cape Elizabeth, Maine" is Curtis "Nicki Minaj" Alexander, who can whip a football across three football fields, and survive a collision with Zack "The Destroyer" Lashley. Hopping in from Gotham City is Rayquawn "The Chef" Tillman, who can filet a fish while eating cake in under 1.7 seconds. Also from Gotham, is Talla "Washboard" Babou, who boasts the best abs on campus. Wrapping up the lineup from places unknown is Hudson "Ironfist" Coccoluto. He can punch a skinhead in a moshpit while rooting dreads, without even removing his gauges. Administrating the group is Gabe "Shortshorts" Dreyer, who can defeat villains with his sonic GhettoBlaster, and doling out appropriate pushups to slacking heroes.

Together they protect Biroca from the crab and frog people races, Obliterating baby bottle logs, and lighting up the dark lands of lower camp with their cabin light. If you pass them on campus, thank them, for they are the reason you can sleep semi-soundly at night.

-Washboard





# TRIP REPORTS

WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE





CROOKED RIVER: Otters

1:30. We left camp  
1:45. We reached camp and hiked to our campsite.  
2:00. We got changed and went swimming in the river.  
2:30. We went to the camp site and hung out for around two hours  
4:30. We each gathered sticks and wintergreen to make a fire and tea  
6:30. We ate dinner  
7:00. We told a story and ate s'mores  
8:00. We hung out again  
9:30. Bed Time!  
6:00 A.M. We got up and cooked breakfast  
8:00 A.M. We ate breakfast  
9:00 A.M. We loaded everything into the car.  
9:30 A.M. We arrived back at camp

The  
Neurotic  
Zen of  
**LARRY  
DAVID**

KANGAMANGUS REGION: Otters

After lunch we packed up and drove to the camp sight then we set up the tent and unpacked. Then we changed into our bathing suits and went to the rock slides. The rock slides are little rapids and then after the rock slides we went back to the camp site and had hot dogs and s'mores. In the morning, we hiked a mile up a mountain. When we got to the top we stayed up there for about ten minutes. The view was amazing. Then we hiked back down and went home.



*Ice Cream is better the Milky Way™*

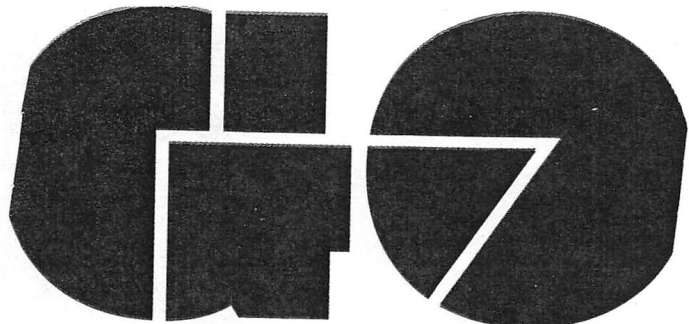
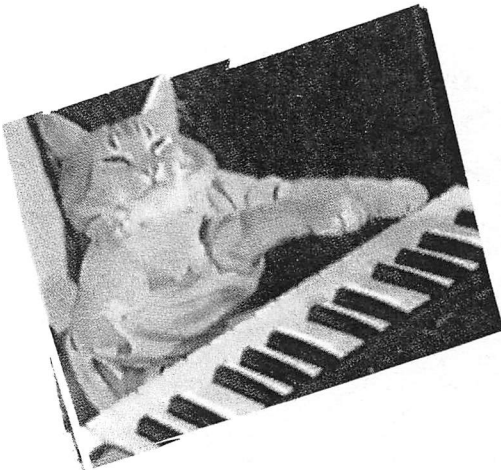
### MOUNT CARLO AND GOOSEEYE: Bobcats

We went to Mount Carlo and Goose Eye Mountain for our second session trip. We hiked 10.6 miles in three days and two nights. Cabin 6 and 7 were led by Jamie Foley and Taos. We departed after lunch on a Wednesday. Taos parked the van and we headed out on our journey. The first hike was not difficult so we got to our camp site hastily. It definitely was a relief to take off our extremely heavy packs; which everyone was just getting use to. For dinner we had fajitas and good old raisins and peanuts (GORP). After an uncomfortable night sleep, we began our long 4 mile journey full of challenging paths and rock faces, but we were rewarded with breath taking views. However, we were not too pleased to find out that it had taken us seven hours to hike four miles. We set up camp once again, battered and bruised, but pleased with our accomplishments. The next day we finished our hike with an easy stretch of trail, happy and proud of our trip. A good time was had by all.

# MAKE IT HAPPEN!

### EVANS NOTCH: Bobcats

Cabin four and five went on a trip to Evan's Notch. We first packed our stuff, got in the van, and drove to Evan's Notch. On the way there we stopped at emerald pool. We had a great time jumping off the rocks into the pool. Finally we got to our campsite and set up camp. We built a fire and ate hot dogs for dinner. For dessert we had skittles and played low budget. Then we got into our big tent and went to bed. The next morning we woke up and had French toast with peanut butter and cherries for breakfast. Then we went back to camp, and a good time was had by all.



Off the field/Between the cracks

## SEA KAYAKING: WOLVES

This year, the wolves age group went on the first ever Birch Rock Sea Kayaking trip. After driving for about 2 hours, we arrived at our campground. The people on our trip were Matt Rotman, Toby Young, Mercer Lynch, Victor Santiago, Joey Needle, Jeffrey "Tree" Wood, Ed Stafford and John Reisert. After setting up our tents, we had lunch and set out. We kayaked for about 2 hours total. When we came back to the boat launch, we realized it was low tide, meaning we had to trek through 20 yards of 6 inch mud. After that we hosed off and had dinner and went to bed. That night Mercer Lynch threw up, so the next day we didn't go kayaking. Instead we went to an aquarium, which was really cool. Then we went to an old Civil War fort. Then we went into Boothbay and had lunch. Then we walked around for 2 hours and had a lot of laughs. Then we went back, had dinner and went to bed. We woke up, packed up, and drove back to camp. And a good time was had by all!

## MT. SADDLEBACK: Wolves

The Saddleback trip was a great trip. The participants were Jack Culver, Milutin Gjaja, Liam Feeney, Max N-K, Hudson Cohn, Elliot McGinn, and George Davies. Every one of those boys were great and energetic campers. We also had great trip leaders, Alex McLaughlin and Captain Nemo. On the van ride to mountain we partied out to some rockin' music. When we got to the beginning of the trail we had a delicious lunch consisting of 6 subs. We hiked 2 miles with our pack. We got to the campsite in less than an hour. Once we set up camp, we got our water bottles and "gorp". We started a treacherous four mile hike. It was a steep uphill the entire way. We got to what we thought was the peak but when we turned around we saw another peak, so we climbed up that and got to the top, but it was another false peak. So that kept on happening for another 2-3 peaks. After about the 4<sup>th</sup> peak we just stopped and ate some beef jerky. It was scrumptious! The views were mind blowing. On the way down some of us sprinted, (mostly Liam) and some of us took our time. Either way all of us collapsed when we got back to camp. For dinner we ate rice and beans with hot sauce, it was great. Afterwards we ate some s'mores around a big campfire. When everyone was done and full we all collapsed into our sleeping bags. In the morning we had oatmeal and hot chocolate. Then we started our descent down to the van when we got there we started on our way to Step Falls.

Once got to the parking lot of Step Falls, we had lunch. When we finished our sandwiches we started a small hike to the falls. When we got there, we changed into the appropriate swimwear and went sliding down some epic water rock slides. The trip was great and everyone had a great attitude the entire way. And a good time was had by all!

**'TSST' HAPPENS**

### UMBAGOG LAKE: Three and a half week Bears

On the first day of the Umbagog trip we went to the wrong spot to get our canoes that Don and Janus generously brought to us. In the first 15 minutes Nate Howard managed to capsize his kayak. Luckily Nate Mayerhoeffer was also in a kayak and helped Nate Howard. After that it was smooth paddling the rest of the day. We got to the campsite and had a nice dinner of hamburgers and bacon. The next day we got to our next campsite but Sam said "It's too small to fit all of us," so we went 2 miles ahead to try to see if we could sleep in a trailer park but they didn't have enough space. The lady that worked there then gave us a large campsite 5 miles back in the direction we came from. We grudgingly made our way back and when we arrived we found ourselves at an awesome, spacious campsite. That night we had a great time playing mafia and jamming out on random stuff. The last day we paddled to our finish and got back in time for pizza Friday. A good time was had by all.

## KICK IT IN THE BIG EASY

### PRESIDENTIALS MTN RANGE: Seven Weeker Bears

This year, the hardcore seven weeker Bears all journeyed into the great outdoors with Joe Cohen and the mighty Toby Brewster himself to summit the tallest mountains in New England. The car ride was started by Tuffy constantly remarking on Joe's musical tastes until Joe put on Tuffy's favorite song "Contagious". We located ourselves at the fine Dolly Copp Campground next to a group of environmentalists who we labeled "Our Hippie Neighbors". After scouting out the campground, we made a small hike out to a series of pools where Trevor was the first (per usual) to test out the jumps into the pools. Seeing as he wasn't dead or severely injured, we all jumped in as well and had a great time. After that, we returned to base-camp and prepared ourselves a lovely dinner of spaghetti, and Frank's arch nemesis, onions.



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“组画”

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## FIRECAMP REPORT

Since it was an ACA year, we were unable to actually hold firecamp, which was a huge bummer. Instead we had campfire, which was pretty good too. Here are what we, the MCs and editors of this publication, believe to be the finest skits and characters of campfire this summer.

### Top 5 Skits

Birch Rock Dogs-Staff

Pickles Addiction-Eagle's Nest featuring Hugh Jacks

Pete's Palace Infomercials- Pete's Palace

Multiple Directions- Multiple Directions

Geronimo the Musical- Buzzard's Roost

### Top 5 Characters

Rox- Alasdair

Hugh Jacks- Hugh Jacks

Boshtrich- Brandyn Robida

Sarah McLaughlin- Patrick McLaughlin

Mr. T- Talla Babou and Rayquawn Tillman



Thank you for joining us. We had a blast.

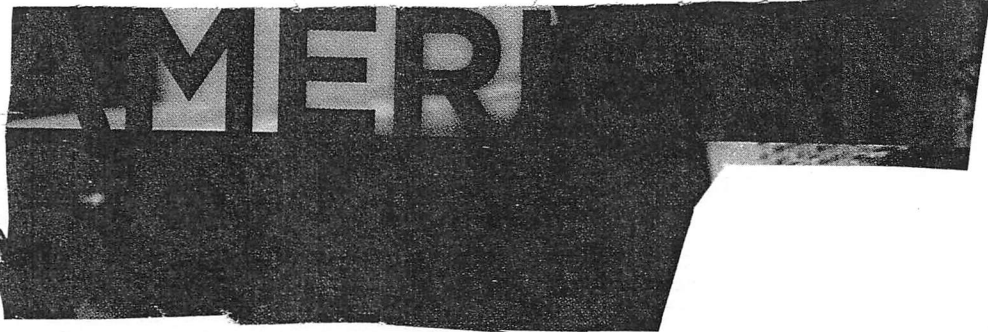
Samuel Zachary Pickleton III Esq. and Alasdair Alexander Waterfield Macmillan  
Heyward Thornton Esq.



## FOURTH OF JULY PARADE

On July 4<sup>th</sup> the lower camp went to the Waterford parade. It started out as a very rainy day, but eventually it cleared up. We sang song like the National Anthem, 'Star Spangled Banner', and many other birch rock songs. They gave us really cool props like sunglasses, hats, flags, and necklaces. Also, every five minutes or so, Asa Kaplan, Walker Grimes, and Trevor Perkins put on a performance with their saxophones. This year we had something different, their was a basketball boy, soccer boy, and an Olympic runner all marching in the parade. Sadly the parade had to end. We got to watch some great fireworks later that night, and a great time was had by all

-Matthew Straut



## THE SPACE DINNER

The space dinner was very fun, people dressed up in all kinds of clothes. Eli Brewster painted himself and dressed up like an avatar. When we walked in we had to go through decontamination and Cathy was spraying some kinds of liquid and any weapons that you had were taken once you went inside. Inside it looked like it was from Star Wars. During the meal we started with cheese puffs and gummy worms. Sam was lying in the salad bar in hyper sleep. Next, for dinner, we had meat and some vegetables in a soggy lettuce wrap. After that we hung around for a while then suddenly the doors opened and we got sucked into outer space. Just kidding. And a fun time was had by all.



## ARCADIA DANCE REPORT

The Arcadia dance was an awesome experience for everyone. The campers it included this year were cabins 4 through 8 and Eagles Nest. Before the there was a lot of gossip, rumors and doubt about what we were doing. The real event of the night was confirmed a few hours earlier that day before the dance about an hour before, everyone started to get ready and try and look their best for the girls but also to represent camp. Then, everyone went to the tables to eat an early dinner of burgers and fries. After dinner, we left for Arcadia. On the way, we stopped twice. The first time, to freshen our mouths with gum after a smelly meal. The second stop to get some ice cream! Everyone enjoyed that very much. When we finally got to Arcadia, a girl came up to us and gave us a tour including restrooms, snacks, and the dance floor. As we first arrived everyone had a really awkward feeling which stayed until the first slow dance, everyone kind of just tried to fit but no one had the guts to dance. Also, the other camps that were there were really obnoxious, so that didn't help at all! When they put the first slow dance on, they had everyone make a big circle. Then, they asked everyone to walk across and find someone to dance with. Most people found partners and the awkwardness settled down a bit. Once people found partners, a lot of them went to get snacks which included s'mores, chips, punch, and water. After this, the dance just went on alternating slow and fast and after a while, there was barely any awkwardness left. But then there were some... In fact one kid even climbed a tree! That's how shy he was. The Dance ended with "stairway to heaven" after that all the campers said goodbye and we left to go back to camp. The ride back was noisy with excitement but everyone went right to sleep when we returned. Well, that was the dance. Many new friends were made (some campers got letters!) and a good time was had by all.

## GERONIMO WEEKEND

During this weekend we have been split into two tribes the Red wolves, the Black Elk, and don't forget the Berserkers. The red wolves and the black elk were split to do a race. The Berserkers on the other hand were on a mission to find clues to reunite the tribes. The first events were kayaking, canoeing, and running. In the end, the red wolves won the second event, which was a lacrosse game, an arch off, and an egg toss. On the last day we fought the counselors and in the end, we all ended up as one great gentleman tribe!





## RUNNING CLUB

For the brave young men every morning who resisted the urge to fall back to sleep, Running Club was there to reward them with a three mile run to Springer's and back. Thomas Joyce and Alex McLaughlin ran the program every morning and received aid from Lord James Charleston Esquire III plus Wily Wes Wyatt. With tranquil morning runs through idealistic Maine farmland and glorious sunrises spent huffing and puffing down the road, friends were made and the human mind and body were tested with endurance. A refreshing swim down in the cradle was our reward after pushing ourselves that morning (and to keep us from smelling like low-tide), we were able to witness Whales take off and see wildlife that had not been interrupted by human activity on the lake. It was truly a spectacle to behold, and we all hope that the program is continued next year. Special thanks to everyone who participated, Thomas for organizing the program, and Alex for helping out big time. Keep pushing, keep running, keep living.

**DOUBLE  
DARE**

**VIP  
REWARDS**

## NATURE TRIP

We left for the animal preserve after lunch. Tuffy, Zach, Jeffery, Josh, Michael, Trevor, Jones, Le-Le, Mike Mattson, Frank and Mercer; all avid nature lovers, left for this great learning experience. Some of the interesting species that we found included the black bear, albino raccoon, fisher-cat, cougar, peregrine falcon, and golden bald eagles. We all had a great time and hope to go again next year.

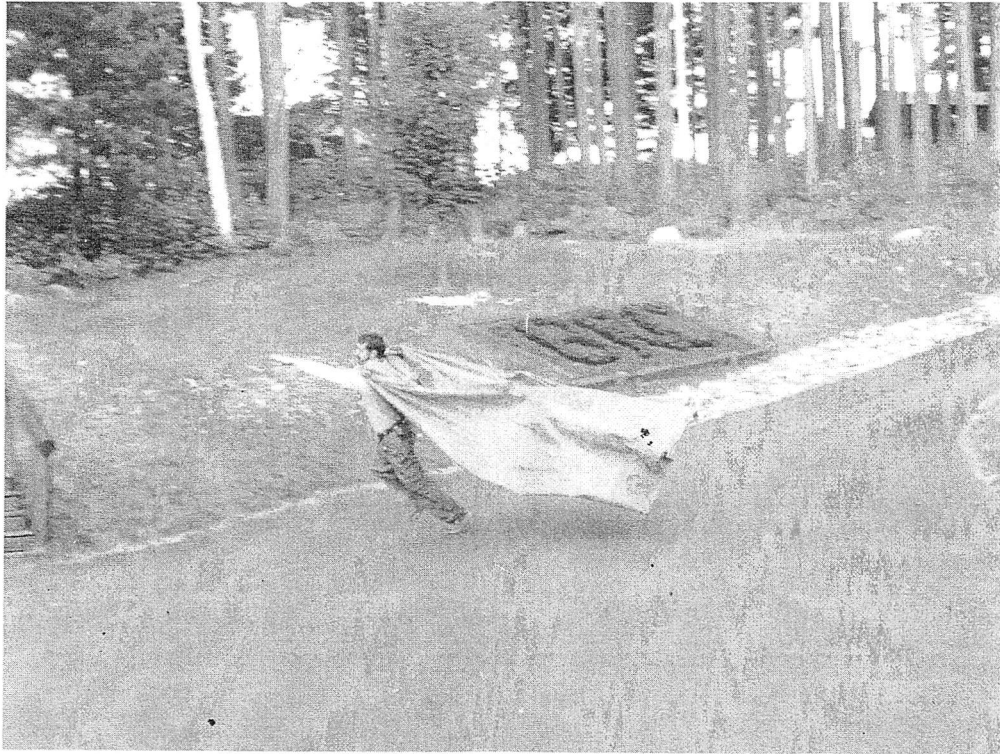
**DON'T RUB  
YOUR EYES**



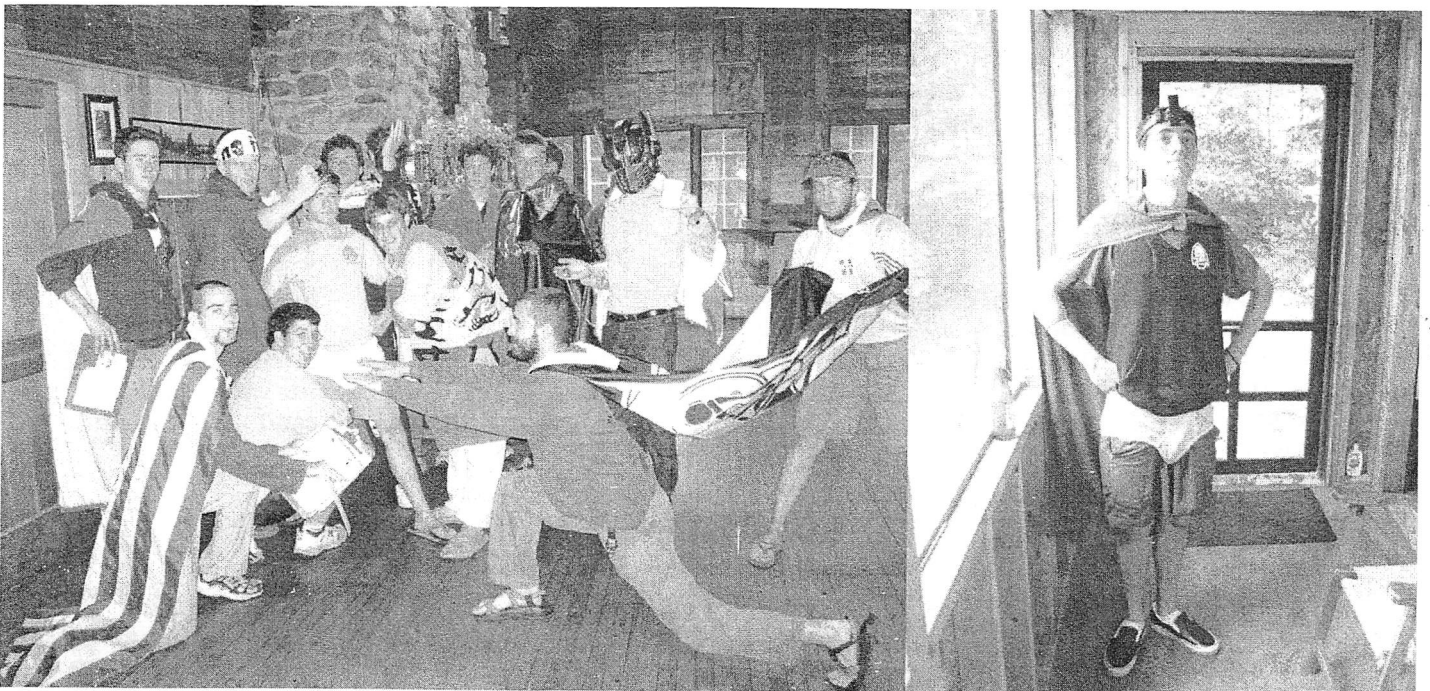


# **CAPE DAY!**

**AUGUST 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2012**



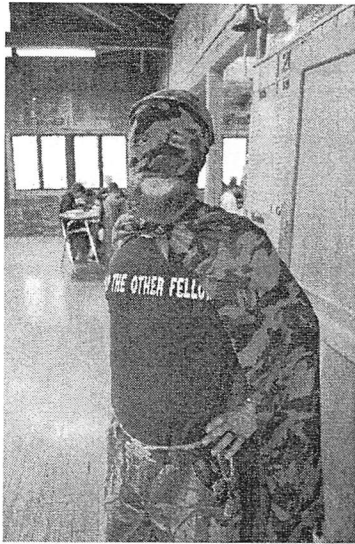
We are all heroes here. It's time to don our capes. On Wednesday August 1<sup>st</sup>, it's Cape day!



Cape Day, 2007

## CAPE DAY

Cape Day this year was awesome. Almost everyone dressed up in a cape. Some popular capes were superman, batman, and flag capes such as the U.S. and Italian flag. Alex McLaughlin had a great sidekick cape. Lots of people wore their capes to activities and meals. Ryno had a great camouflage cape and there were many more good capes. I'm sure everyone is looking forward to next years cape day.



# JUSTICE WILL BE SERVED!

## HOLLYWOOD THEME DINNER

On the second Friday of Second Session in 2012, there was a themed dinner, themed Hollywood. There were a couple groups, such as the Mimes and some esteemed guests visited including Blink 182 and Multiple Directions! The delicious food was a varying assortment of finger foods. Everyone dressed up as a famous actor or character, hence the vague Hollywood theme. The food was succulent and the theme was awesome and a splendid time was had by all.

# "Explaining awesome is hard to do."

-The Runnin' Trains  
Columbus, OH, Band of Buds 2010

## BEACH DAY

This year beach day was awesome! We went to Scarborough Beach. We took an hour and a half drive down but finally we got there. We had so much fun. The waves were huge. Pretty good for surfing. Some kids participated in Pickles' decathlon - which is like a triathlon, but for lower campers. Some kids made an awesome driftwood shack with seaweed insulation and a miniature firepit. Some kids ogled at a pretty girl in an orange bathing suit and Wayfarer sunglasses. NOBODY got sunburns. Everyone's looking forward to next beach day. And a good time was had by all. I love cantaloupe. I'm Matt Straut.

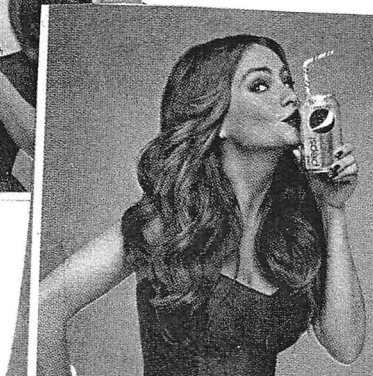
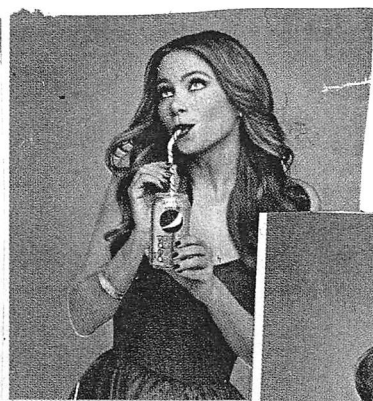
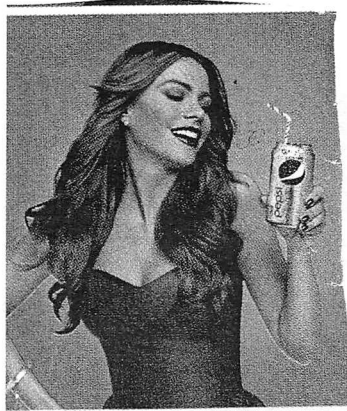


## PETE'S PALACE ARCADE

This year, the senior campers were graced with the privilege of using the Pete's Palace Arcade. New additions this summer included the new PS3 system, a classic Galaga '72 machine dug up from an ancient Mayan temple, and the first ever Birch Rock videogame, "Ryno: Zombie Slayer". Unfortunately, tragedy struck the arcade this year when G-Funk the Cow was taken from us by Andrew Clemens in his brief visit to camp, he shall be missed. On the bright side, we were able to create two new passage routes to the Arcade from behind the Ricky Bobby "Talladega Nights" poster, and the other leading to the underground labyrinth below Sanderson's field from the sports shed.

On a special note, Trevor Perkins, we would like to thank you for becoming the closest non-senior camper to finding the Arcade. Though we have gotten many upgrades from the original Arcade, we have not forgotten about the classics, especially Jon Tuffy, who broke the longstanding Pac-Man record set by Alastair Thornton. After pulling an all nighter, the senior campers together were able to reach level 87 in COD Black Ops: ZOMBIES.

Super secret junior and senior were flying, and even one Advanced Gamer badge was given to Rayquan Tillman, the first one given since Nick Musciano. We are also sorry to say that the Pete's Palace Arcade will be closing this summer, so if any future senior campers are wondering why it's not there, that's why. And if they say there was never an arcade, they are blatant liars.



## DECATHLON

My name is Samuel Zachary Pickleton III Esq. I started the lower decathlon four years ago. I was young and beardless. It was a glorious test of luck, strength, speed and dancing ability. Trevor McLaughlin was the grand champion and we celebrated his victory late into the evening. Too many years have passed since then. New events. New winners. Asa Kaplan. Ed Stafford. Matt Rotman. Each decathlon sapped more of my strength leaving me a tattered shell, a grim reminder of my former self. First session the decathlon was week. Events progressed at a crawl and it was ultimately shortened into a pentathlon. Lower camp was crushed, but I had moved on. I was an Upper Camp counselor and my heart had turned to stone.

Second session, something amazing happened. Something I can't tell you about right now, not on these pages. Just know that it was life changing and from that moment on, I knew I had to bring back the decathlon. With only one week of camp, I made an announcement and almost 20 intrepid lower campers answered the call. It was a wild and implacable decathlon. I did not so much run it as I unleashed it upon BRC. It was like painting with candied lightning. Alliances were made and broken. Tears were shed and much elven blood was spilled, but by the end we had all had an amazing time. Here is a list of the events and the top competitors.

### Events

1. Haiku
2. Underwater breath holding
3. Caber toss
4. Staring contest
5. Frisbee toss
6. Army crawl relay
7. SUMO!!!!
8. Sand castles
9. Treading water
10. BRC Hunger Games

### Top Competitors

1. Sebastian Tringale
2. Nick Davis
3. Fallou Babou and Drew Johnson
4. Cole Madden, Jeff Naipier Kane and Stu Whittier

I want to thank you all. Thank you for reminding me that lower campers can become gods.





## Special Reports

### DORK REPORT

First off, let it be known that we have reclaimed the term Dork. It means we like what we like - that's never been bad and never will be bad. If you are a dork then you know it. We encourage that. The Japanese have a term of praise for someone who is obsessed with something very particular, an *Otaku*. Well, camp has many beloved Otakus. Brad Schlauder is our encyclopedia on World War II, Wade Wahlig on spitfire planes, Zach Lashley on serial comics, Jamie Foley on Yugi-Oh, Gage Wheeler on scary stories, and Caleb Davis on Real Steel.

So, for next year, we will be instituting the dork program. You can work on the badge parts over the winter.

Junior Badge - The Clark Kent:

Little Lashley - read an entire run of one comic book

Mana Master - buy 60 booster packs of Magic and put together one deck capable of beating a lower camper

Avid Reading - read an extended-universe Star Wars book

Attitude - give a counselor attitude about not being able to see the latest summer blockbuster

Senior Badge - The Peter Parker:

Senior Lashley - read all runs of one Superhero

Creature Captain - buy 200 booster packs of Magic and put together one deck capable of beating Gordon Hargraves

Avid Reading - read Dune

Attitude - whine about Magic being banned

Advanced Badge - The Bruce Wayne:

Advanced Lashley - read all runs of one of the major publishers, Marvel or DC Comics

Artifact Admiral - buy 1600 booster packs of Magic and put together one deck capable of beating Lance Naipier-Kane

Avid Reading - read the Manga versions of Dragon Ball Z

Attitude - invent a new term for trading, e.g. swapping

Super-Advanced Badge - The Patton Oswalt

Super-advanced Lashley - start writing and drawing your own fan-fiction because you've read everything under the sun

Munchkin Man - buy every card of Magic known to man on eBay, then quit by throwing them up in the air in a fit of rage thus destroying them, and then pick up Munchkin, which is better anyways.

Avid Reading - read the Dark Tower series, and then read it in reverse

Attitude - avoid the sun at all costs... you know what, don't even call it the sun anymore, call it the Great Punishment Disc in the Sky because its that evil.



# Hello Muddah, Hello Fadduh

by Chris Moore

So, it is summer, and some of you are probably planning to send your children to camp for the first time. I have three words of advice: *Don't do it.*

Summer camp is hell. Separation anxiety. Your world turned upside down. Tears. Misery. Sleepless nights.

Parents should not have to suffer like this.

Ben, our firstborn son, had no interest in summer camp until he was twelve. Then, out of the blue, he decided to go. Far from home. Deep into the woods. Where he knew no one.

*For three weeks.*

Our helicopter-parent rotors whirled into full action.

We researched and got the *best* introduction-to-camp DVD in the world. We shopped for two of everything on the supply list. Dena and Ben packed his camp trunk. Then unpacked and packed again. And again. By the time they were finished

Ben was a summer-camp commando, capable of deploying to any camp anywhere in the dead of night at a moment's notice, provided he could slip out the window with his camp trunk on his back.

Here's how you get to Ben's camp: Drive 167 hours. Turn off the interstate onto a state highway. Turn off the state highway onto a mountain road. Turn off

the mountain road onto a gravel path. Ford a stream. Keep on keepin' on until your GPS starts to smoke and your Google Map directions read, *You have got to be kidding me.* Cross the border into Kazakhstan and bushwhack your way to the preternaturally-chipper counselor who greets you with, "Good morning! Any trouble finding us?"

We went with Ben to find his cabin. There he picked out his bunk and met one of his cabin mates, who after closer inspection and checking of IDs, turned

out to be his counselor. Then we were directed to a field where other campers were playing soccer and throwing Frisbee. Ben gave us a brief nod and joined the soccer action, and that was it. We were welcome. To leave.

Camp directors harbor a secret they will only admit if you ply them with enough Harvey S'morebangers: A parent's value is exhausted after the camp check is written. We are otherwise regarded as hovering, meddling, nagging impediments to happy camp experiences. (And by "we" I mean, of course, "all the rest of you," because I have *no idea* who placed that microphone under Ben's bunk to make sure he wasn't crying himself to sleep every night.)

And then the three weeks of agony began. The camp wooed us with the promise that they would upload *hundreds* of photos every day. What they did not tell us is that their photographers were myopic gibbons, and that the camp's Internet connection was a piece of twine and a *Cheerwine* can with an upload speed of four pixels per minute. Not that this stopped us from staying up into the wee hours every night, spasmodically hitting *refresh* and debating about whether the gauzy apparition in the background was Ben, and was he smiling, and even if he was, did his body language say, "The camp guards are forcing me to smile! Rescue me, please!"

Then he would disappear for days on end. Had he been kidnapped by insurgent bears? Fallen prey to Butterball the Man-Eating Donkey? So debilitated by homesickness that he could not lift his head from his bunk?

We wrote him long letters. Exactly the correct kinds of letters they teach in Summer Camp 101. Full of breezy news and asking lots of questions. Nothing too heavy. Nothing to indicate that the hours passed like stiletto-tipped glaciers, incising our wretched hearts to shreds as the days stretched interminably on.

In response we received a sum total of three letters, each full of wildly comforting

news like, *Dear Mom and Dad, Camp is good. I found a brown recluse on my bunk last night. Love, Ben.*

Pickup day! We arrived at four-thirty in the morning for the nine o'clock pickup. He exploded out his cabin's screen door and leapt into our welcoming arms. Or, would have, if he had been there. A frantic search led us to the dining hall, where he apparently could not be troubled to interrupt his breakfast to greet us. After polishing off his fourth helping of waffles, he sauntered over and bumped fists. "Yo."

Tears and hugs were reserved for his camp friends and counselors. When he told them how excited he was to see them next summer, I assumed he was just being polite. No way was he going to put us through this tribulation again, was he?

We took full advantage of the long drive home to interrogate him about his three weeks. We needed questions answered, for God's sake. The extended disappearances from the photos? Multi-day backpacking excursions, where he camped with mice in his sleeping bag and summited mountains in the middle of thunderstorms. His letters? "We had to write them on Sunday if we wanted ice cream."

I wanted to wring his neck. Three weeks Dena and I had turned ourselves inside out with worry, and the only reason he'd written us was to get dessert? Was there nothing the ungrateful rip had missed about home and family? Nothing?!

"Well," he said after some soul-searching, "I did miss Pop Tarts."

By the time we got home, we had extracted a promise from him. Never again would he go away to camp and leave the rest of his family behind to suffer so pitifully. And he kept his promise. Oh, he went to camp again the next year, but this time he took his younger brother, as well.

*Don't do it.* ■

**Chris Moore** lives in Richmond's West End with his wife, two sons, and pet donkey, Butterball.





## Have You Seen The Zambini Brothers?



## Coming To Birch Rock 2012....The Magnificent ZAMBINI BROTHERS!

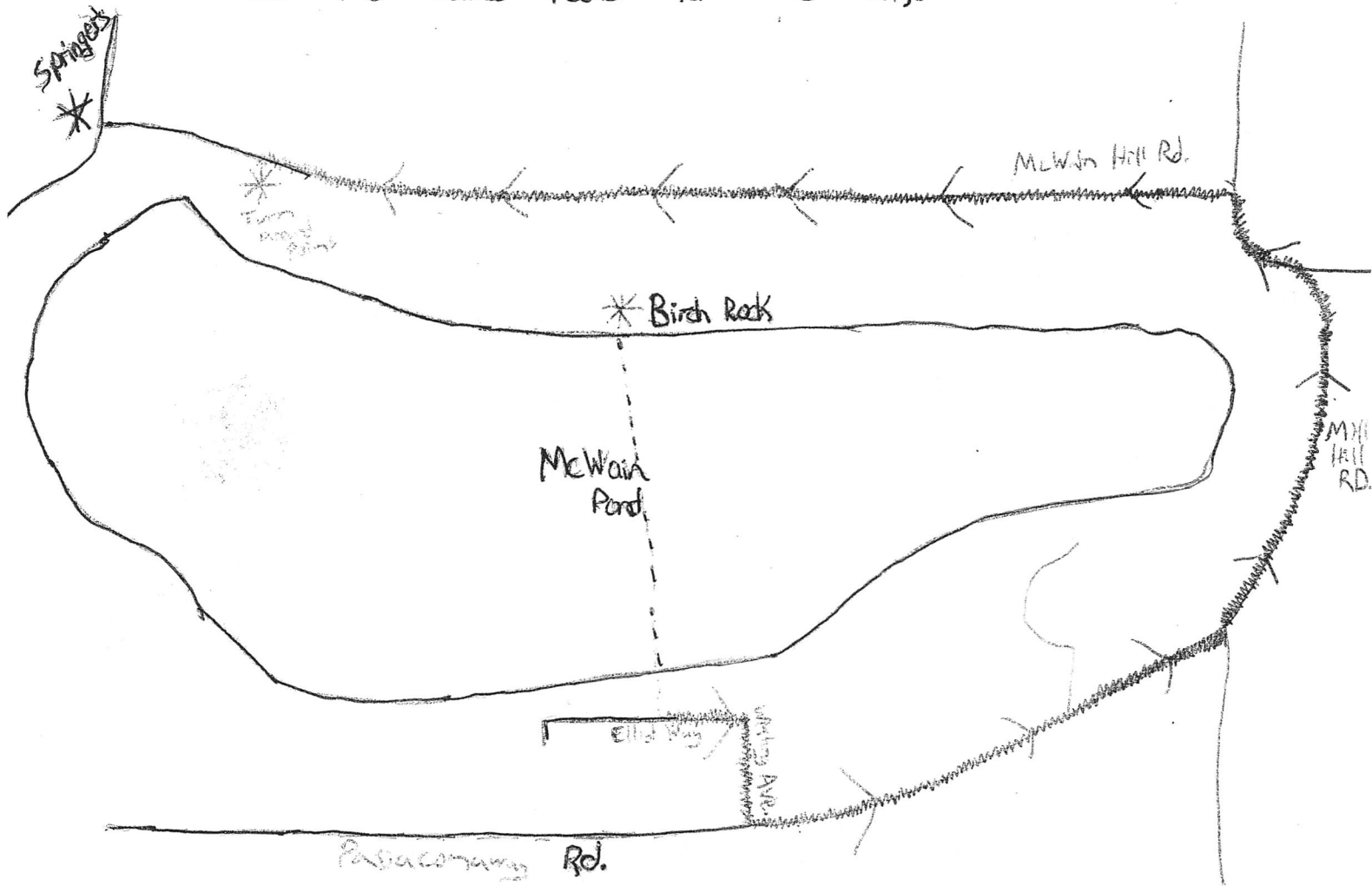
They have traveled the world performing in front of Sultans, Kings, Bishops, Popes and Cardinals. They have performed on trains, planes and buses. They have performed at weddings, funerals, the men's room at Grand Central Station, even the Mall of America. Be prepared to be amazed and astounded, moved and mystified, dazzled and dazed....they are THE BEST at what they do and they do a lot.

"I saw Zim and Zam outside the deli near Carnegie Hall. They were great!"

-Zom Zambini

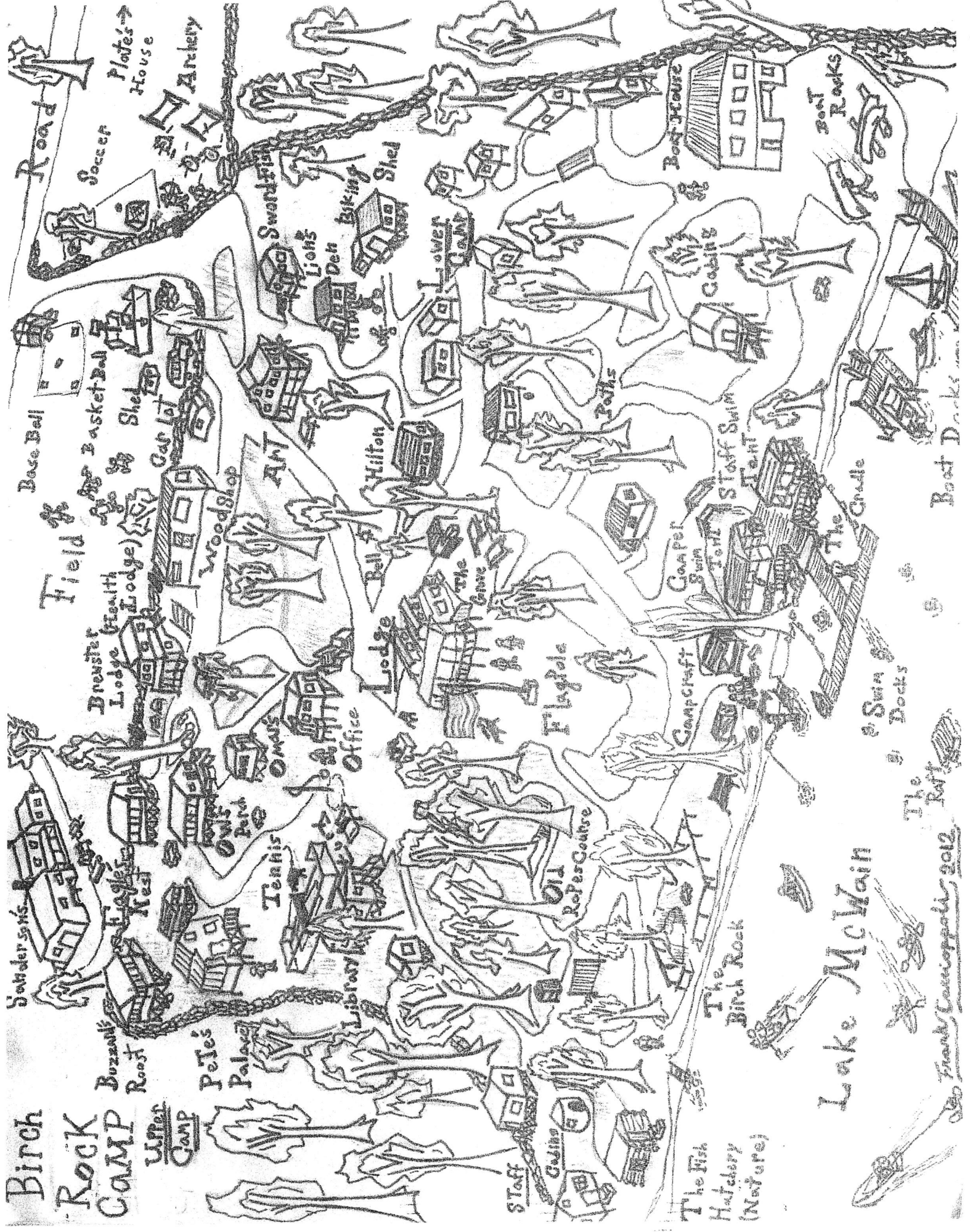
# BRC Triathlon 2012

- Follow the boded route for the bike



Put in your bag...
• Running Shoes
• Socks
• Towel, perhaps
• Shorts
• Underware
• Shirt
• Inspirational Quotes

# Birch Rock CAMP Upper Camp



Lake McVain

Frank Conioppoli, 2012







“HIN”

阿明  
跟狗







**ARCHERY**

Instructors: Jameson Foley and Wesley Wyatt

This 86<sup>th</sup> season up on the Archery Range at Birch Rock Camp was utterly awesome! With Jameson instructing the youngsters in the morning and Wes in the afternoons, the badges were soaring. This season there were many devoted Archers that came up on almost a daily basis. Their progression through the badges was literally visible as the target distance increased throughout first and second session. One young man worthy of mention is Elliott McGinn. Elliott has had his fair share of struggles on the range but he has risen to the challenge and has successfully earned his fifteenth badge: the American Archer. Badge and practice shooting were not the only common types of activities this season on the range. This season we saw the introductions of bring your own target day as well as archery conditioning. Both were designed to increase drive, endurance and focus. Up on the range this season, a good time was had by all!

# A PIECE of CAKE!

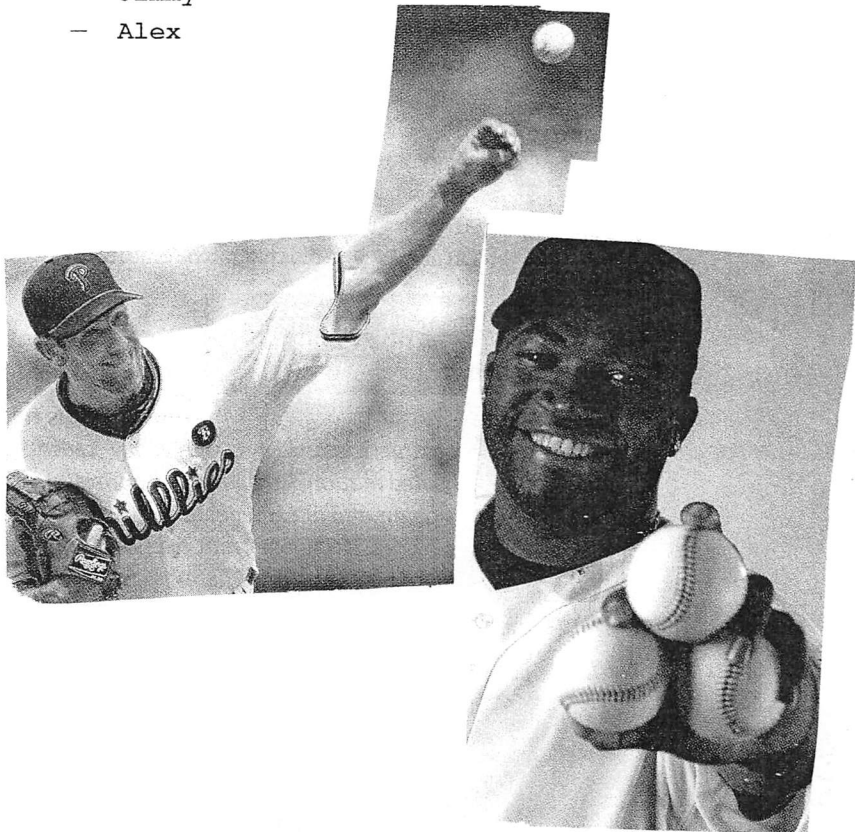


**SUMMER.**  
(Now available at home)

## BASEBALL

Twas another great year up at Colin McMahn Memorial Field. Badge parts, like the baseballs, were flying all over the place. A highlight of the year was the game against Camp Susan Curtis, in which the Birch Rock gentlemen emerged triumphant. It was also fun, which is important too. There was great enrollment at baseball this year, which adds strength to our case to make baseball the second required activity after instructional swim. There were often enough people to have mini-games, which were a blast, especially when we had Prince Fielder be the ghost runner. Louis Hurtado had a few hits that would make Barry Bonds himself proud. Politely approach the mound day was a blast as well, to say the least. We learned how to politely approach the mound when the opposing tosser was dropping them a little too high and tight. Many respectful words were exchanged that day. The grounder derby was glorious as well, and many a little dribbler up the line was hit that fateful day. Matt Straut was particularly proficient and came out on top. We had six campers hit 80 mph this year, an all time high, and two of which were representing the otters age group. Also, if I had a dollar for every ball we lost this year, I would probably have about 20 dollars. Thank you very much for all of you that came up to baseball this year to participate in the national pastime.

- Alasdair, Director of baseball and all things of the sort.
- Eli
- Jimmy
- Alex



## BASKETBALL

This year up on the field at basketball...

New surfacing, Lay-ups, NO finger-rolls, jumpers, black hole, tips, Trevor can dunk, Leg workouts/plyos, This aint the city! Fade aways...only, I am the Joker every year for Halloween, New water fountain, Sumo! Field house! Where's my change? '92 vs 2012 Dream Team, elbow game, tree climbing, Melo, Bam bam graduates from Ball So Hard University, knockout, super knockout! BOSTRICH, Basketball vs Soccer, No dessert, Lebron vs. Sanderson, old school, 1v1, 3v3, fastbreak drill, wasps nest in sunny hoop, Monstars vs Tune Squad, Sam for threeee, Zone?! Triple period Bball, Stay together for the kids, ADVs, Make it count.

"I've missed more than 9000 shots in my career.  
I've lost almost 300 games.  
26 times I've been trusted to take the game winning shot....and missed.  
IV'E FAILED  
over and over and over again in my life,  
and that is why I succeed."

-Michael Jordan

I have had an awesome time this summer with everybody that came up,  
thank you so very much for helping me have another amazing time at  
basketball.

Special thanks:  
Janice Walker  
Don Munn  
Charlie McDonald  
Alasdair "darsh knight" Thornton  
Matt Burke

Thank you and only 45 weeks,

Nick Musciano



## BOATING

Boating AKA Rowing AKA Bro-ting was rad. Every session started with 30 pull-ups for all. Then we donned PFDs and split up into the boats! Our fleet consisted of the Good Boat, the less Good Boat, the third choice Blue Convertible, the Walker Bay (In drydock). And then the Perkinses bought me a carbon fiber racing shell. Thanks Dude! For Senior badges only. Come down more next year and maybe you can take her out. Special thanks to Gabe Dreyer for covering when I couldn't make it. Remember guys, Boating makes you Bralic.

# Easy Growing

Sincerely,

Harry

## CAMPCRAFT

Buck Hard would be proud of all that took place down at Injun Joe's in the year of 2012. You should be proud, too. We've taken the program to a whole new level. Thank Gabe. For making JMG an integral part of the campcraft way of life. Thank Harry. For bringing his measured and wise advice to any situation. Thank Wes. For his bright new perspective. Thank Ryno, for making the badges what they are today. And thank the campers. For asking to be taught more and more every day. For never giving up for fear of failure.

- Sammy D

## CANOEING

What a summer we had  
On the shores of Lake McWain  
Teaching canoeing.

Brave campers joined us  
And they earned many badges,  
Many Penobscots.

Jeff Wood and Mercer,  
George Davies and Liam Feeney,  
Earned Abanakis.

Christian Hurtado,  
A brave man, struggled for his  
Passamaquoddy.

Thanks for signing up  
We hope to see you next year

-Pickles and Bobby



## C.I.T. REPORT

On June 20<sup>th</sup>, we all showed up except for one. Matt, Spaulding, Brandyn, Naropa, and Jeremy. A few days later we lost a valuable member to our CIT groups. A couple days late, another one showed up to bring us back to full strength, that person was... Nick Ray! With a full force of CITs no one could stop us. Not from sweeping the driveway, doing the dishes, covering activities (except for one), not even creating the greatest game of all-time... FOUR-CORE!!! All in all, this was a fantastic summer for all of us.

Love,  
The CIT's

**CAN  
ANYONE  
HERE PLAY  
THIS  
GAME?**

## KAYAKING

Kayaking out on the lake has remained a popular waterfront activity as Bob Donahue and Zach Lashley were able to enjoy their days floating on the water with all the different age groups as they taught, laughed and paddled. Many campers went down and learned their basic skills needed for the junior badge while some continued their education toward the senior badge. Phillip Kessler should be commended for his enthusiasm and dedication heading down to paddle the river kayak and endeavoring for his advanced badge. With summer coming to a close and a few days left to paddle, kayaking is sure to wrap up with a bang! Those who didn't make it down this summer come and give it a shot next summer, till then enjoy the year and we'll see you next summer!



ONE TENTH  
OF A SECOND

## LACROSSE

The hilltop rocked the flow this summer with some bro-tastic play. There was incredible effort out forth by all participants on the field. Aside from improving their pick-up lines, working on their flow, and mastering the art of the indian pick-up, the boys worked on their ball-handling, knowledge of the game, and conditioning. Special recognition goes out to Jackson Woods, Peter Klein, and Sam Wayne for their successful completion of the Hopkins badges. Their skills, dedication to the sport, and great effort were models for others on the field. Aside from the Hopkins badges, a number of Hobart and Williams badges were earned, with special recognition to Edward Stafford for earning them both this summer. The future of lacrosse at Birch Rock is strong, flow is more than a hairstyle, it is a lifestyle.

Until next summer,  
Thomas and Alex.

SAVE YOUR SUMMER



## MOUNTAIN BIKING

Yet another stellar year came and went for the mountain biking program. With a full shed and a bunch of eager campers, we were able hit trails from the waterfront path all the way to Hawk Mountain. The construction of the ropes course trail begun this year as well. It is a big project and will be ready for riding some time next year. Though the path is not quite completed, we still had a blast riding down the smooth banks and berms.

If there one thing this year should be remembered for, it would be the huge amount of junior badges given out. In fact, more people made it up the three in a row this year than the past three years combined. The crashes were spectacular this year as well. Some highlights include the infamous James/Wes back to back crash off the Cabin 6 rock, Gustavo Garcia's huge endo, and Alex's rear wheel hop to lumbar spine hop incident. Luckily, no one was seriously injured in the making of these crashes. Perhaps the greatest highlight of the year was the trip to Bradbury. We had a great time riding the fresh single track the area had to offer, and the features like the wood bridges were awesome as well. The two things we learned from the trip are to always carry a chain tool and to always enjoy the socks.

With the help of some fresh talent from England, we were able to drastically increase the average wheelie time per capita at camp. The mountain biking instructors would like to extend a warm thank you to everyone that signed up, and a super special thank you to the regulars. Keep calm and shred on, dudes.

-Alex

-Lord James



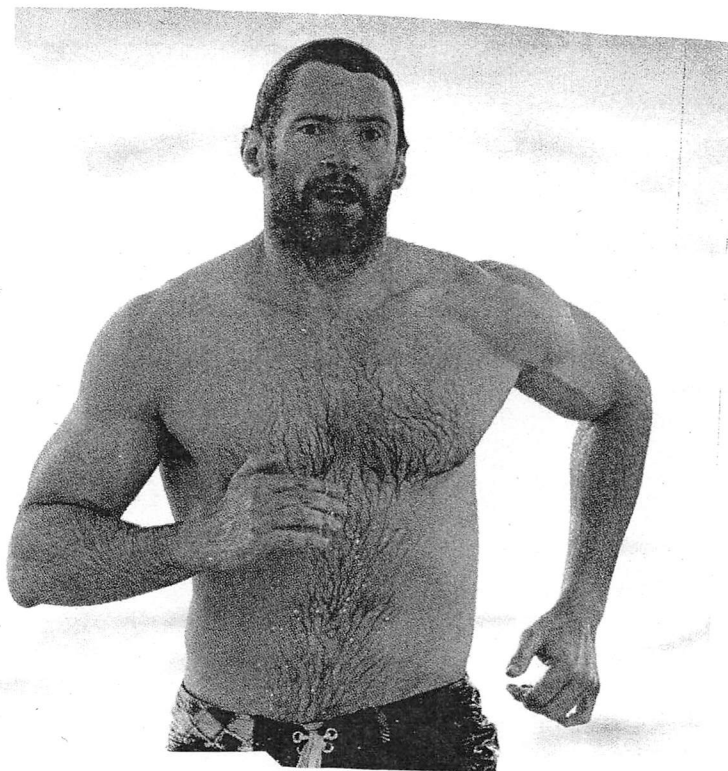
## NATURE

Camp was awash with flora and fauna this year, and even some particularly rare species of counselor were spotted. Harrus netzaris, which is usually and urban denizen well adapted to the scavenger lifestyle, was found on a number of occasions. He is adept at unearthing salamanders and frogs, and help set up the terrarium in which we looked after these critters. Camp also saw the arrival of an alien species from across the pond, Jammus charlestonia; fortunately it's not too invasive. This species had to adapt quickly to the different wildlife but soon found its niche in the birch rock food web. Together these two formed a symbiotic relationship with a local species Bobbus Dowsia, also known as the 'Dancing Owl', bringing microscope, maple and moose together in what was a summer of fun and discovery.

Nature was a huge hit with the younger camper this yea with a number of junior badges being awarded and even a few senior badges. Notably Jeffrey Napier-Kane came down almost every day and is now a master at identifying the various species on campus. However, the prize for highest attendance definitely goes to the two queen frogs who made their home in the terrarium. They were kept well fed with an endless supply of grasshopper, moths and spiders, and provided entertainment launching themselves around the tank after their prey. In addition to our terrestrial friends we also caught a number of fish and had some success diving for mussels.

Zach Bamberger finally achieved his advanced badge (the leopard) after discovering some interesting plants on campus such as the Indian Pipe, Deadly Nightshade and the endangered Pink Lady Slipper.

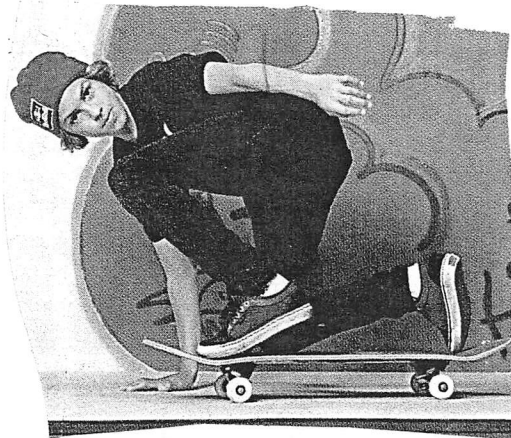
Other highlights included discovering moose tracks on campus, finding a plethora of wild food, nature treasure hunts and a visit to the Maine Wildlife Park. We even managed to fit in some tree climbing, including the monster sugar maple at the back of the library. A great time was had by all.



## RIFLERY

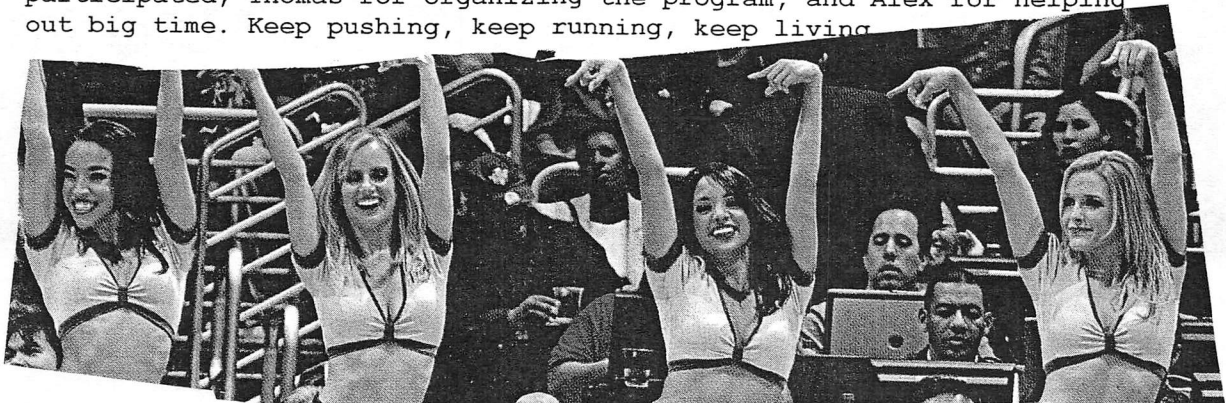
Seasons greeting and salutations this has been an astounding summer out at the range this year. Mystro and I are proud to say that we had many badges go out from our Basic badge up to the Sharpshooter. We enjoyed some added instruction from the range's own instructor every Friday when he would join us expressing his joy in the fact that young people were out learning to safely handle a rifle. This summer we also added a new facet to our program to begin instructing some of our younger gentlemen in target sports by offering a BB-gun activity. BB-guns became a popular activity for the bobcats and we had many of our Daisy badges go out to all summer. Asa Kaplan was our first recipient of the advanced BB-gun badge the Red Ryder. A special thanks goes out to the campers who continued to come to riflery and BB-guns for without their interest we could not have had as active or amazing a program as we had this summer. Till next summer have a great year!

-Zach Lashley



## RUNNING CLUB

For the brave young men every morning who resisted the urge to fall back to sleep, Running Club was there to reward them with a three mile run to Springer's and back. Thomas Joyce and Alex McLaughlin ran the program every morning and received aid from Lord James Charleston Esquire III plus Wily Wes Wyatt. With tranquil morning runs through idealistic Maine farmland and glorious sunrises spent huffing and puffing down the road, friends were made and the human mind and body were tested with endurance. A refreshing swim down in the cradle was our reward after pushing ourselves that morning (and to keep us from smelling like low-tide), we were able to witness Whales take off and see wildlife that had not been interrupted by human activity on the lake. It was truly a spectacle to behold, and we all hope that the program is continued next year. Special thanks to everyone who participated, Thomas for organizing the program, and Alex for helping out big time. Keep pushing, keep running, keep living.



## SAILING

"No one can learn all there is to know about sailing, because while it includes much of the exacting science of mathematics, it is also an art. With the spray in his face, and the sound of the waves and the wind his constant companion, the skipper ever seeks for the best way to make his boat go, and he must reckon on Mother Nature, capricious and unpredictable, but the thrill of sailing is ever there to lure him on."

- M Gilbert Whaley

Sailing this summer was fantastic. First session the wind gods saw fit to flip their usual patterns and give us exceptional wind in the morning. It was such a pleasure to see the younger gentlemen of Birch Rock tackle the generous but sometimes unpredictable wind of Lake McWain. The second session the wind patterns returned to normal and I could not characterize the wind as anything but generous. To all those earning badges kudos and I hope to continue with you on your climb to the skipper badge next summer. To those who simply came down to enjoy the lake and hone your sailing instinct, the pleasure of your company was delightful. The highlights for this summer were certainly the sailing race during the Water Carnival, the many trips to Seal Rock and Waz, and some very memorable capsizes, ones by me included. And if you did not accomplish everything you set out to this year down at sailing never forget that no sailor is perfect. An old sailing limerick reads:

"Here lies the body of Michael O'Day,  
Who died maintaining the right-of-way;  
He was right - dead right - as he sailed along  
But he's just as dead as if he'd been dead wrong."

As a final note I must thank Gabe and Spaulding for their tireless effort in helping me execute this program. Till next summer may your sails always be full of wind.

-Captain Nemo

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN MANGO AND  
PINEAPPLE COME TOGETHER?

## SOCCER

Instructors: Bobby Stafford and Jimmy Scanlon

Ingredients for Birch Rock Camp soccer: add two new nets, a bunch of new soccer balls, a handful of devout campers, the occasional stragglers, two councilors, and the same old exciting and unpredictable field that we've come to know and love, and voila! You have yourself this year in Birch Rock soccer. One highlight was totally revamped badge requirements geared towards teaching campers the basics of soccer, and then following it up by adding more advanced techniques and ideas on to the senior and advanced badges. Newly added as well were even more games like Tunnel of Doom, (you HAD to be there), Foxes and Hunters, and even more World Cup. All in all, shots were taken, goals were scored, shirts came off in celebration, and a good time was had by all up at soccer.

Looking forward to spicing up soccer even more next year!

Bobby Stafford and Jimmy Scanlon





## SWIMMING

POP POP!!!

This year swimming was incredible. BRC is really full of incredible swimmers and it's great that we had so many long distance swims go out this year. The swim area was the place to be this summer; always the best way to beat the heat. All the campers were down improving their swim form and going HAARD IN DA PAINT so that they could eventually do their long distance swim. Frank Caccioppoli especially! Great job, Frank! But getting back to the main point... SWIMMING IS THE PLACE TO BE!!! Not only is instructional a blast but all the little stuff that gets thrown in there just kicks butt. Syncro swims, walkoffs, water aerobics with Dickey, diving for stuff, Cahill's music education days; the list goes on and on. General swims were a blast as well; I enjoy having fun at the festive gatherings with my closest friends, a.k.a. WHO LIKES TO ROCK THE PARTY?!? Also, that Upper Camp general in the pouring rain was absolutely insane. But what makes swimming really awesome is YOU... the campers. Without all of you, swimming would not be nearly as fun... though I have been known to do flips in the swim area like Shamoo when nobody else is around. But my point is, it's really a joy to teach all of you everyday, so thank you once again. Alright, I guess it's time for shout outs now. Big shout outs to the Whales: Gage, Walker, Patty Mac, Tuffy, Neutron, Curtis and Z-Bam. All of you earned it. To all the Seals: can't wait to start Whale Training you guys next summer. To anyone who didn't do any LDS this year, don't fret... your time will come. Anyways, I've said too much. I've had way too much fun this year to put on one page. Catch y'all next year!

Yours Truly,  
Jacob Brad Cahill

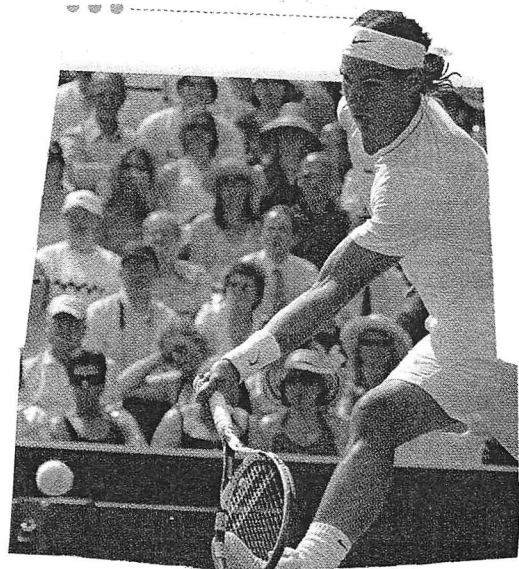
P.S. I love Funtown-Splashtown USA



### An Ode to Tennis

Tennis this year was sick,  
At signup it was the activity that every kid wanted to pick,  
Led by Eli and Pickles,  
Making money like dimes and nickels,  
Hitting tennis balls over the net,  
We were always careful when the court was wet,  
It was all kinds of fun,  
As we played out in the sun,  
The net was constantly broken,  
But this activity was still more epic than J.R.R Tolkien,  
In the neutral space between the waterfront and the field,  
These tennis ballers will never yield.

Tennis 2012  
Full tilt, full time.



## A View from the Summit - Trips in Review 2012

"THIS AINT THE CITY BOY!"

### Leaders

Joe Cohen  
Taos Young - MWA  
The King - MWA  
Sam Deeran - Canoe

Alone I shoulder the sky and hurl my defiance and shout the song of the conqueror to the four winds, earth, sea, moon and stars. I live!

Seeing this primal exhilaration, this barbaric yawp in a campers smile after they have just summited a mountain or completed a hard paddle have been the proudest moments of my summer. Birch Rock's trip program provides the unique experience for each camper for this achievement. Regardless of age or skill level, every camper is given the opportunity to spend a few nights out of camp on a backpacking or canoeing trip. These trips include their fair share of hardships, whether it is an exhausting hike or inclement weather, but overcoming these challenges are some of the touchstone moments of cabin bonding and personal achievement and growth for each camper. I have been overwhelmingly impressed with the way campers motivate and overcome what they thought possible while lifting and supporting each other along the way. Campers leave trips with new skills learned along the way and a newfound appreciation for the serenity of the Maine woods.

Say that I starved; that I was lost and weary; that I was burned and blinded by the desert sun. Footsore, thirsty, sick with strange diseases. Lonely, wet and cold ... but that I Kept My Dream!

Trips were some of my most memorable moments as a camper, and it was truly a privilege to be leading trips for Birch Rock this summer. This was a fantastic summer for the trip program and I hope to continue expanding the program with fun options like mountain biking and sea kayaking trips! I am grateful for the opportunity to be out in the wilderness with every camper and I would like to thank all of them for their effort, helpfulness, and positive attitudes that made each trip fun, safe, and successful. I hope to see you all next year! Seek and you shall find!

- Joe

I have not yet tired of the wilderness; rather I enjoy its beauty, the vagrant life I lead, more keenly all the time. I prefer the saddle to the streetcar. The star-sprinkled sky to a roof, the obscure and difficult trail, leading into the unknown to any paved highway and the deep peace of The Wild to the discomfort bred by cities.

## WINDSURFING

This summer windsurfing was a blast!!! Windsurfing was available to campers in the oldest Bears age group, including the cabins Owl's Perch, Pete's Palace, and Cabin 8. There were many die hard windsurfers that came down nearly every day at Fourth Period to face the surf and gale of Lake McWain on a windsurf board. The wind was epic most afternoons, and many a soul blew devastatingly long distances down wind. Many a soul also learned that if one blows down wind, one must paddle their board that same grueling distance against the wind back to camp. Despite many sore arms and bruised egos, Birch Rockers spent the summer conquering the winds and valiantly surfing all over Lake McWain!!

# TO TEACH THEIR OWN

## WOODSHOP

This summer was a great summer in the woodshop. We had a number of campers working on a variety of projects, from model carts and cutting boards to boxes, storage systems, and furniture. Through the summer, the boys improved their skills with the tools, they learned to more successfully read a piece of wood, and many learned to sing along with some classic rock thanks to WBLM.

# KNOW

Thomas

# THE SCIENCE

We Remember so well...

**Opening Day 2012...** Sanderson's Chicken Turd... Sacrificing goats... Mosquito's... Pop Pop!...Eahhh.. Fire Camp... Mike Alert... Waka Flocka Flame reads fine literature... Clob: The Movie... Rox the Queen of Birch Rock... More action... Trip reports trip reports trip reports ... Dr. Broners... Morning Runs... Rent a Woman...Human sized Jenga... Longest game of Cross Camp... Slack-jaw... "Don't hit on my sister"... 4<sup>th</sup> of July... Disney's Robin Hood ... Fireworks... BRC Space station... Arcadia dance... Matt Straut quotes... Cowtails... Arms of the Angels... Will you marry me?... Happy Birthday David Sanderson... Slap-Slap!... Zacharia Zachariah... Frank the tank... Rugby... Boshtrich... Zachary's race car dance... Jay is awesome yoyo... Geronimo Weekend... Shrines... Breakfast outside... Berserker quest... "We are all one tribe"... Geronimo themed campfire... Cover me Porkins... Shaman Caller 3000... Geronimo Pals...Multiple Directions... Black Swan... I'm still awake... ACA visit...Serenading Kitchen Girls... Eli breaks his nose... King shaves his beard ...Turnover day... Big Adventure... Laser tag... Skycake!... Trip to the book store... Ice Age 4..." Get in the woods"... Hey Nordy, peace out Taos... Head of Hilton... Full camp and then some... Lot's of basketball... Does this have corn in it?... Matt Clifford visits... "What would you do for a Klondike Bar?"... Birch Rock Camp Police... " I drink purple drank" ... Stay healthy... "What's fun?"... I pity the foo... Birch Rock Coast guards... Candy suppliers... Clobs circus dance... Who likes to rock the party?... Winnona kickball game... Lateral...TOUCHDOWN!... Salad for dessert... What she order? Fish Filet... Musc's Casino... BRC reality... Camera crew... "Whale cake again?"... Zambini Brothers at snack... Cotton candy... Don't look at the camera... Louder!...Lebron vs Sanderson... Cape Day...Cross Camp!...Peach Day...Beach beach lets go to the beach...Strut contest...Da bus...Pincus...Whale relay...Banquet...See you next year! Call me maybe?





