

The Canoe Era



CULVER ACADEMIES

1966 National Canoe Championship

(July 23-24th)

1966 Culver ACA Nationals Team



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Culver in a Canoeing Way

National Coach Blaho Trains 9 Culver Canoeists for National Contests

Culver has selected nine winter school canoeists to compete in the National Canoe Championships in New Rochelle, N. Y., July 23 and 24. They returned to the Academy June 28 to take part in a rigorous training routine supervised by Kalman Blaho, director of canoeing at Culver and coach of the American canoe and kayak teams.

Mr. Blaho, a native Hungarian and former canoe coach of the Italian Olympic teams, is developing a canoeing and kayaking program at the Academy and will be in charge of the North American Canoe championships on Culver's 1,800-acre Lake Maxinkuckee.

The American Canoe Association selected the Academy as the site of the North American championships Sept. 17-18, after the world championships in East Berlin in August. Mr. Blaho was selected to coach the American teams at the same meeting.

Ray Dodge, former commodore of the association from Niles, Mich., said after the meeting:

"For the first time in history, the United States has a great canoe coach in Blaho. All of us feel that he will bring our country into a stronger position in canoeing and kayaking at the

international level."

A native Hungarian, Mr. Blaho won the national canoe championship in his own country 22 times before he left for Italy in 1957. In Rome, he was professor at the College of Physical Education while at the same time leading the Italian teams to a gold and silver medal in the 1964 Olympics. He served during the past year as a consultant to the U. S. Olympic Committee and the American Canoe Association.

The North American championships will bring to Culver three top canoeists in seven different classifications from both the U. S. and Canada. In addition, association officials hope that Mexico will send a team to Culver. The championship will involve a flat water race course of 500 meters for women and 1,000 meters for men. Additionally, there may be a 10,000 meter race.

In addition to their practice schedule, the team is assisting Blaho in canoeing classes for 48 summer school students and helping begin work in four-oared company crew shells.

Team members include: John Benner and Chris Greenleaf, Culver, Ind.; Ted Frison, Englewood, Colo.; Fred Mann, South Bend, Ind.; Keith Oldham, Durham, N. C.; Jim Etchen, team captain from Pittsburgh, Pa.; Bob Fogel, Attica, Ind.; Steve Kling, Wayne, Ill.; and Casper Martin, Elkhart, Ind.

Canoeists Travel To National Meet

This summer Culver will be represented at the U. S. National Canoeing Championships in New York.

From eight to 10 cadets who are presently on the varsity canoe team will return to the Academy about June 28 to begin three weeks of training. They will then travel to New York to participate in the races at the end of July.

At the canoe banquet last May 24 Jim Etchen was elected captain by vote of the canoe team for the 1966-'67 season. Many varsity and J. V. letters were also awarded.

Coach William P. Garrison considers it a great step in a first year varsity sport to go right to the national championships. "We also have several boys who are contenders for the state finals in mid-October. We've had a fine year—much better than I expected."

Vedette 6-6-1966

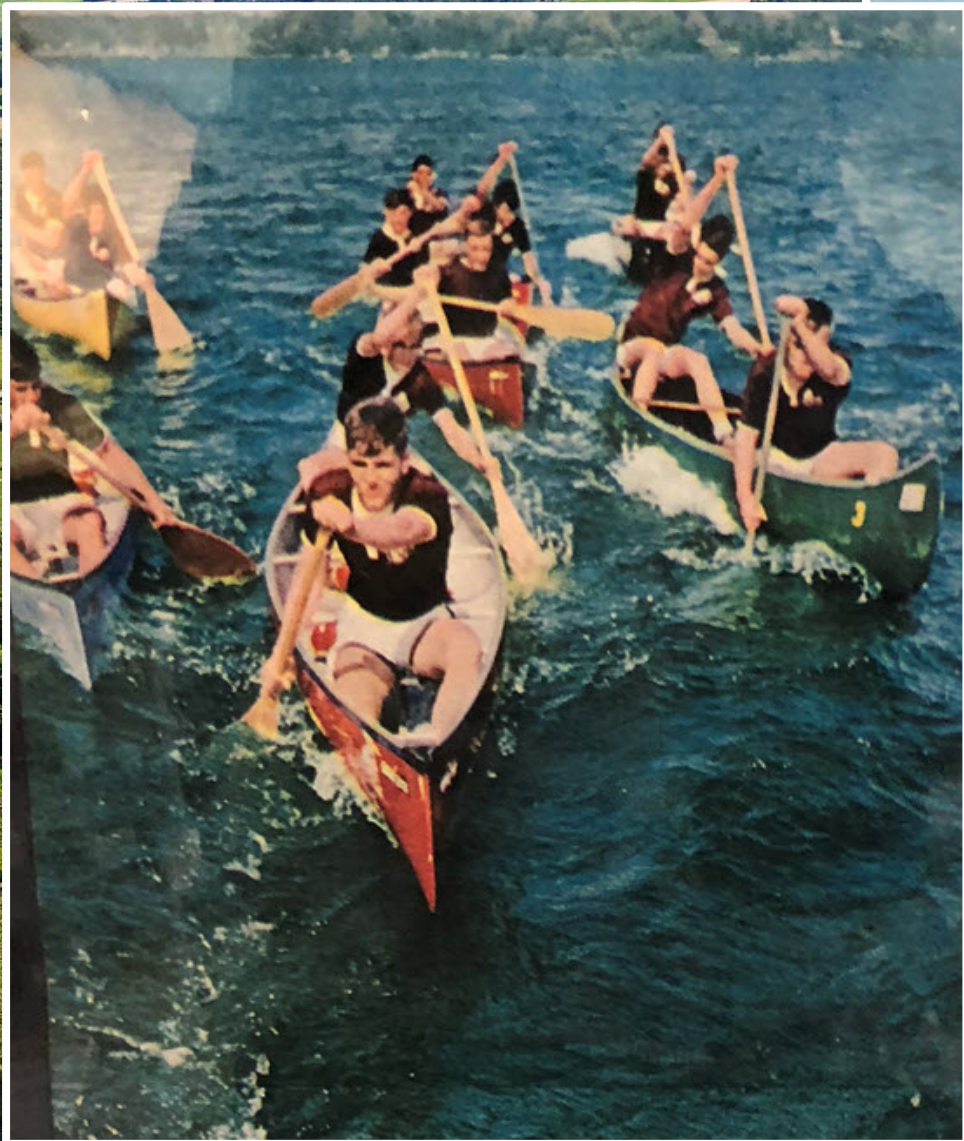


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Culver Alumnus

Summer, 1966



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Yonkers Canoe Club - NY

The Yonkers Canoe Club had dominated the National Races since 1886 relying on the expert training of several past Olympic Canoers

(source <https://http://www.yprc.org/yprc-history.html>)



Herald Statesman
Monday, July 2, 1973

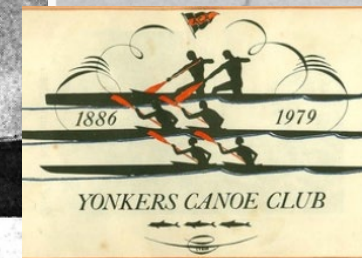


IT'S DOWN TO THE SEA IN CANOES AS THE 2ND ANNUAL HUDSON RIVER CANOE REGATTA HITS THE WATER
... War Canoe Race between civic organizations was one of the highlights of the day's festivities

— Staff Photo by Red Mori



WAR CANOE WINNER—In photo is pictured Steve Macknowski winning the war canoe race last weekend at Tibbetts Lake. Steve Macknowski is at the tiller as he guides to a sure win. (Read details on Gus Stahl's "Speaking of Sports" column at left).



Canoe Club In Nationals

The Yonkers Canoe Club will compete this Saturday in the National Championships in Washington, D.C., as they qualified with a commanding 61 points to lead area clubs in the Atlantic Division Championships at Lake Solomons.

Both men and women will compete, as the Canoe Club will face winners from around the nation in the two-day meet. This was the first year the club used women in competition and they responded with 36 points in the Atlantic matches.

The crew members landed area opponents from Wards, Lewes, Rehoboth and New York Athletic Clubs. The first three places earned berths in the national competition.

In the Junior singles, Wolfgang, Dierckx scored for the four corners and Joe Bercia placed third. In the four-man crew race, the Yonkers' Jackson topped first, with Greg Morshak, Jason Fawcett, Arlen Tarnasik and Joe Paretti coming in for the win.

In senior races, Dan O'Hearke and Joe Drenth won the two-man pull, while Paretti and

WINNING male members of the Yonkers Canoe Club as they ready for the National Championships this Saturday. Arlen Tarnasik, William Bercia, back row; Gregory Hanger, John Stenback, David Hanger, Brian Tremble, Bill Hanger and Paul Kuchinski, front row; Louis Constant, John Hoff-

man, Arlen Tarnasik, William Bercia, back row; Gregory Hanger, John Stenback, David Hanger, Brian Tremble, Bill Hanger and Paul Kuchinski, front row; Louis Constant, John Hoff-

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American Canoe Association (ACA)

Culver's team was racing in the Indiana Canoe Race Council (ICRC) in the Midwest for most of the year. It represented 8 states in the Midwest surrounding Indiana. The ACA who sponsors the National races did not recognize the river cruising races that were taking place in this part of the country. There was a growing conflict between the Midwest style of cruise canoeing and the ACA which was predominating represented on the East Coast. Therefore, any teams coming out of the Midwest were not considered formidable opponents.



News
from ...

Culver Military Academy
Culver, Indiana 46511
Telephone VI 2-3311

*General Spincy M.
Canoe*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CULVER, IND.--Culver Military Academy has selected nine winter school canoeists to compete in the National Canoe Championships in New Rochelle, N.Y., July 23 and 24. They returned to the Academy June 28 to take part in a rigorous training routine supervised by Kalman Blaho, director of canoeing at Culver and recently named coach of the American canoe and kayak teams.

The canoe team will drive to New York July 21 to spend a full day of training before the races. They are planning to compete in the junior C-2 races Saturday and the juvenile C-2, C-4 and C-8 war canoe races Sunday. They have their hopes set on the national war canoe title.

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(For further information, contact: David H. Gaskill, Public Relations Department
Phone 842-3311, ext. 350.)

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Culver's Canoe Team

Under the guidance now of the US Olympic Canoe and Kayak Coach, Kalman Blaho prepares the Culver Canoe team for a masterful challenge ahead.





1966 National Canoe Team - Training

June 28th

Having finished a successful Spring Canoeing season, 9 canoeist from the student body descend on the Culver Campus. 1 Junior, 7 Sophomores, and 1 Freshman.

June 29th

The National Canoe Team begins training from sunrise to sunset. On the lake twice a day and training in the gym 1-2 times. Coach Blaho pushes the team hard to get in the best possible shape for the race.

July 21st

The Team now prepared for the race, heads to New Rochelle, NY in time to have one day practice before the race. The famed Yonkers Canoe Club has thoroughly beat all other competition leading into this race. Culver clearly the underdog rated best at a second or third place finish.

July 23-24th

The Races



1966 National Canoe Team – The Race

The race was very close, but the Culver Team snaked past the favorite Yonkers, N.Y. squad to win the Junior National title by a minuscule one and one-tenth seconds over a 500 meter course. This was a new record time of 2:28:1.

The victory over Yonkers was a surprise for several reasons. Yonkers had so convincingly beaten other teams in the war canoe in a divisional championship earlier on the Potomac that no one expected any other team to come close to competing with this championship Yonkers C-9 team in the nationals. And Yonkers took advantage - which Blaho did not - of a general ACA rule permitting it's coach, the 1948 Olympic Gold Medal winner Steve Macknowsky, an old hand at training youngsters how to paddle their canoes, to sit in the stern, paddle and serve as coxswain.

Following this race, four boys from the Culver's C-9 team jumped into two-man cruising canoes, not racing hulls which Culver did not own, and won unexpected second and third places in the 5,000 meters race.

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**(R-L) Casper Martin and Rob Fogel race
against Steve Kling and Keith Oldham.
Both Teams won National Medals**

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Silver Canoeists Win First National War Canoe Race

Culver's canoe team brought home a first, second, and third place competition last weekend at the National Canoe championships in New Rochelle, N.Y.

Working under American Canoe Coach Kalman Blaho, who will be the U.S. team to East Berlin for the world championships next month, the Culver canoeists flashed home with a victory in a grueling race in the nine-man war canoe event. Since the war canoe competition is a new event, Culver's time of 2:28.1 established a record for 500 meters.

The Academy paddlers edged the Yonkers, N.Y. squad in the war canoe race after the New York team took an early lead. Coach Blaho described the race as "combat—all the way," but it was not until the final section of the event that Culver edged ahead. The Eagles edged the Yonkers by one and one-tenths of a second.

Culver's war canoe squad was composed of nine Winter School students who have been working on Lake Maxinkuckee for several weeks. They are: Robert Fogel, Attica, Ind.; Casper Marquardt, Elkhart, Ind.; Steve Kling, Chicago, Ill.; Keith Oldham, Durham, N. C.; Chris Greenleaf, Chicago, Ind.; James Etchen, Pittsburgh; John Benner, Culver, Ind.; Fred Mann, South Bend, Ind.; and Ted Frisora, Cherry Hills, Colo.

Along with the first place, four Academy paddlers placed in the 100 meter C-2, two man racing canoe competition. Fogel and Benner combined to grab a second place and the team of Kling

and Oldham won third in the same event.

This year's championship at New Rochelle is the first attempt by Culver in national canoeing competition. Coach Blaho, former Hungarian canoe champion and twice coach of the Italian Olympic canoe teams, joined the Culver staff last winter. He was named American canoe coach this spring by the American Canoe Association, and he has served the Olympic Development Committee as a consultant in canoeing.

Coach Blaho will take the American team to East Berlin for the world championships next month. He will be in charge here when the North American canoe championships are held at Culver, Sept. 17-18. The North American event will involve American, Canadian, and possibly Mexican paddlers.

Next year the boys hope to enter a kayak team in the competition. Although there is no official academy kayak team, Mr. Blaho has been coaching some students informally.



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1966 National Canoe Race Results

C9 – 1,000 Meter 9 Man Canoe Sprint 1st Place

**John Benner
Jim Etchen
Rob Fogel
Ted Frison
Chris Greenleaf
Steve Kling
Fred Mann
Casper Martin
Keith Oldham**

C2 – 5,000 Meter 2 Man Canoe Sprint 2nd Place

**Rob Fogel
Casper Martin
Steve Kling
Keith Oldham**

3rd Place

Nationals Team consisted of 1 freshman, 7 sophomores and 1 junior

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*Canoe
Couting*

August 5, 1966

Mr. Kalman Blaho
Culver Military Academy
Culver, Indiana

Dear Kalman:

This letter will arrive while you are in East Berlin, but I want to express my heartiest congratulations to you for the junior national championship won by our boys at New Rochelle. I am tremendously pleased with the way in which you have led the boys in the canoe program, and the victory at New Rochelle is simply further proof of your ability.

I have heard many excellent compliments about the canoeing program from boys and from their parents, and most of the compliments are directed at you, personally. You prove that our young men are willing to work hard if given the proper leadership and inspiration.

I hope that by the time you read this the American canoe and kayak teams have scored long-awaited victories in the world championships. If they don't make it this year, I am confident that with your guidance it will only be a matter of time before they dominate the sport.

Sincerely,

DELMAR T. SPIVEY
Major General, USAF (ret.),
Superintendent

DTS:rar

August 5, 1966

Mr. Steven Kling
Box 149
Wayne, Illinois 60613

Dear Steve:

I am sorry that I was not able to speak with you personally and at length upon your return from the national canoe championships last month, but I do want you to know that all of us at Culver are proud of the good job you did at New Rochelle. Though canoeing is a mere infant among the big Olympic sports, it will be from your age group that the sport can grow strong and take its place alongside track, basketball and other popular international sports.

Your victory in the national championships indicates to me that boys such as you are willing to work hard if given the proper leadership and inspiration by a man of Coach Blaho's experience. I watched you from my home and from the office during your many sessions on the lake prior to the nationals, and I must admit it has been a long time since any of our athletic teams worked quite that hard in 100-degree temperatures. But the workouts paid off at New Rochelle, and I want to extend to you my heartiest congratulations on your victory.

We all look forward to your return in September and hope that you will resume your work in the canoeing program.

Sincerely,

DELMAR T. SPIVEY
Major General, USAF (ret.)
Superintendent

DTS:rar

Letters from General Delmar Spivey

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United States Canoe Association Begins

The United States Canoe Association was formally organized by a meeting of mid-west canoeists January 6 and 7, 1968 at Turkey Run State Park in Indiana. It was an outgrowth of the Indiana Canoe Racing Council and the Illinois Paddling Council. Indiana Canoe Racing Council (ICRC) became the leader in promoting racing and by 1967 it was sanctioning races in at least eight states with hundreds of competitors from more than a dozen states. ICRC had outgrown state stature. The late Howie LaBrant, then an ACA officer, submitted an amendment to the ACA constitution to establish Cruising Canoe Racing as an autonomous National Activity Committee. The ACA rejected this activity and the hundreds of participant paddlers at its November 13, 1967 meeting near Philadelphia. Due to this rejection, a group of paddlers met at Crawfordsville, IN and decided to form a new national organization. This group included Gene Denzel of Missouri, **Jim Etchen of Pennsylvania**, Lynn Tuttle of Illinois, B.J. Williams and Thor Ronemus of Ohio, and Charles and Pat Moore, Bob and Bev Stwalley, Lewis Runnels, Bob Demoret, Howie LaBrant of Indiana and **Bill Garrison of the Culver Military Academy, Indiana.**

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The United States Canoe Association was formally organized by a meeting of mid-west canoeists January 6 and 7, 1968 at Turkey Run State Park in Indiana. Culver Military Academy had 33 founding members of the newly formed association

CULVER MILITARY ACADEMY (total 33, select 1 additional)

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------|
| Terry Adams | 55 Morningside Dr. | Laconia, N.H. | 03246 |
| Steve Bachman | 946 Lilac Lane | Highland Park, | |
| | | Ill. | 60035 |
| Jim Bloom | | Valparaiso, | |
| Graham Chesney | R.R. # 1, Box 129 | Ind. | 46383 |
| Richard Davies | | Etna Green Ind | 46524 |
| Lewis Erwin | P.O. Box 173 | Pittsburgh, Pa. | 15658 |
| James Etchen | Star Rt. South, Rt. 711 | Loesville, La. | 71446 |
| | Burnt Chimney Farm | Attica, Ind. | 47918 |
| Francis Eyre | 2121 Kings Road | Woodstock, Ill | 60098 |
| Robert Fogel | 210 Avenue One | Colo. | 80110 |
| Steve Frederick | 10912 McConnell Rd. | Culver, Ind. | 46511 |
| Ted Frison | 41 Martin Lane | | |
| * Wm. Garrison | R. R. # 1 | | |

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MEMBERSHIP LIST (cont.)

CULVER ACADEMY (cont.)

| | | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------|
| Matthew Garrison | R. R. # 1 | Culver, Ind | 46511 |
| Don Giacchetti | | Las Vegas, Nev | 89101 |
| Mike Hansen | 501 Maryland Pky. B-12 | Wayne, Ill | 40184 |
| Steve Kling | Sully Rd., Box 149 | Spencerville, O. | 45887 |
| Mark Krone | R. R. # 2 | | |
| Frederick Mann | 274 S. Highland | Memphis, Tenn | 38100 |
| Dominique Mantout | 6 St. Joseph Manor | Elkhart, Ind. | 46514 |
| Casper Martin | 620 Liberty St. | Van Wert, O. | 45891 |
| Jeff Marxen | P.O. Box 555 | Canden, Ala. | 36726 |
| Bob Mitchell | P.O. Box 1033 | Quito, Ecuador S.A. | |
| Bob Moss | 1250 Explanada | Mexico 10, D.F. | |
| Jose Muniz | 6508 Jenny Dee Pl. | Springfield, Va | 22150 |
| Keith Oldham | | Saugres, Mass | 01906 |
| Charles Parker Jr. | 52 Atlantic Ave. | Bloomington, Ind | 47401 |
| Steven Pinto | R. R. # 9, Box 295 | Evansville, Ind | 47714 |
| Mike Thrasher | 639 College Hwy. | Dearborn Heights, Mich. | 48127 |
| John Tisserand III | 7508 Nightengale | Buffalo, Wyo. | 82834 |
| Dennis Walsh | 300 W. Snider | Mexico 10, D.F. | |
| Dennis Wells | Sierra Canyon 320 | Sanbornville, N.H. | 03872 |
| Steven Weisner | Wheeler's Marina, | | |
| Anthony Wheeler | Lovel Lake | | |

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The Canoe Era



CULVER ACADEMIES

