

The Canoe Era



CULVER ACADEMIES

# 1969 Canoe Team





**Captain  
Mike Thrasher**



**Coach  
Francis "Bud" Lovett**

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# 1969 Canoe Team



CANOE TEAM: (l. to r.) FRONT ROW, Jeff Newton, Rick Gyzbowski, Clyde Killian, Don Giacchetti, Frazier Parker, Bob Moss; SECOND ROW, Spence Pope, Mike Godfrey, Carl Miller, Ian Munn, Dave Riley, Gilberto Rosas, Chuck Arthur, Harold Forbes, Ted Zajac, Jim Scieszka, Rich Carbaugh. THIRD ROW, Roscoe Howard, Rusty Zick, Harvey Koontz, Dave Swain, Chuck Barry, Steve Hagel, Chuck Eldred. NOT SHOWN, Mike Thrasher (Capt.), Clayton Woodard.

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*Canoe*

May 28, 1969

Memorandum to: Dean Benson  
Dean Nicholson  
Commandant  
Public Relations  
Tailor Shop  
Q. M. Store

Coach of Sport  
Company Athletic Officers  
Company Bulletin Boards  
Athletic Office  
Counselors  
File

Re: Canoeing

The following cadets have been awarded the Varsity and Reserve Letters in Canoeing for the 1968-69 season:

<u>Varsity</u>	<u>Org.</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>No. Yrs. Award</u>		<u>Reserve</u>	<u>Org.</u>	<u>Class</u>
			<u>Won</u>	<u>Placed</u>			
Blair, R.J. ✓	Band	1	2		Arthur, C.H. ✓	Bt.B	3
Coutin, R.F. ✓	Co.B	2	2		Barry, C.K. ✓	Bt.A	3
Forbes, H.C. ✓	Co.C	4	1		Brooks, W.M. ✓	Co.D	2
Giacchetti, D.J. ✓	Co.B	3	2		Carbaugh, R.R. ✓	Co.B	4
Gzybowski, R.W. ✓	Bt.B	1	2		Eldred, C.N. ✓	Co.B	4
Killian, C.B. ✓	Co.B	1	2		Epple, J.A. ✓	Co.B	2
Martin, H.A. ✓	Bt.A	2	1		Godfrey, M.G. ✓	Co.B	4
Marxen, J.L. ✓	Band	1	2		Hegel, S.F. ✓	Co.B	2
Newton, J.H. ✓	Co.D	2	2		Koontz, H.R. ✓	Co.B	1
Olsen, E.D. ✓	Band	2	1		Munn, I.A. ✓	Bt.A	3
Parker, F.A. ✓	Bt.B	1	2		Scieszka, J.A. ✓	Co.A	3
Riley, D.S. ✓	Co.D	2	1		Woodard, R.C. ✓	Co.B	2
Thrasher, M.R. - Capt. ✓	Co.B	1	3				
Zick, R.N. ✓	Co.B	3	1				

Athletic Department

**Varsity & JV Letters**

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## 1968-69 Racing Schedule

**Sept 28-29**

**Whitewater River  
Brookville IN – 16 Miles**

**C2 1st Brooks & Wesner  
3<sup>rd</sup> Moss & Thrasher**

**Oct 12-13**

**White River  
Indianapolis, IN**

**Slalom**

**C1 5<sup>th</sup> Mike Thrasher  
C2 2<sup>nd</sup> Moss & Thrasher  
C2 3<sup>rd</sup> Moss & Thrasher  
C4 4<sup>th</sup> Coutin, Gzybowski,  
Moss, Thrasher**





## Paddlers rank in state ratings

A small group of Culver fall canoers took part in the fifth annual Whitewater Canal and River Races held at Brookfield, Indiana, last weekend. Forty canoes were entered in the junior men's division of the 16 mile marathon race. Culver canoers Matt Brooks and Steve Wesner took first place. Team captain Mike Thrasher, at present number one in state canoe standings, and Bob Moss finished fourth. In fifth place were Don Giacchetti and Frazer Parker; Rafael Coutin and Rick Gzybowski were tenth.

Competition was so close that there was only a one minute, 15 second time interval between first and fifth place. Several places were separated by as few as two seconds.

The majority of canoe competition will be during the spring. New coaches Francis W. Lovett and Bernard G. O'Reilly feel that the Culver paddlers have an excellent chance of dominating the first ten state rankings as in previous years.

The coaches bring new ideas to improve the paddlers. Motion pictures of the canoeists will be used to develop more efficient form.

The next race for the Eagle canoeists will be held at Indianapolis on Oct. 12-13.

## *Canoers finish season; 3 teams place in top 6*

The Culver Canoe team traveled to Indianapolis Oct. 25, to participate in the Hoosier Canoe Regatta. Team captain Mike Thrasher placed third in the Men's Open Slalom course. In the Junior Men's 10 mile C-2 Marathon, Mike Thrasher and Bob Moss took second place, Ralph Coutin and Rick Gzybowski, fourth, and Eric Olsen and Dave Zeman, sixth. This marks the end of the fall canoe season.





## 1968-69 Racing Schedule

**April 12-13**

**Barren River Race  
Bowling Green, Ky**

### Sprints

		<b>Sr C2</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Killian &amp; Thrasher</b>
			<b>6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Gzybowski &amp; Parker</b>
	<b>Alum Jr C2</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>		<b>Coutin &amp; Erwin</b>
		<b>C1</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Mike Thrasher</b>
			<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Lew Erwin</b>
		<b>C2</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Killian &amp; Thrasher</b>
			<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Gzybowski &amp; Parker</b>
			<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Coutin &amp; Erwin</b>
<b>Jr</b>	<b>Slalom</b>	<b>C2</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Killian &amp; Thrasher</b>
			<b>Tie</b>	<b>Gzybowski &amp; Parker</b>
			<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Coutin &amp; Erwin</b>
<b>Sr</b>	<b>Slalom</b>	<b>C2</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Gzybowski &amp; Parker</b>
			<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Killian &amp; Thrasher</b>
			<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Coutin &amp; Erwin</b>
<b>Jr</b>	<b>Slalom</b>	<b>C1</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Lew Erwin</b>
			<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Mike thrasher</b>
			<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>R.W. Gzybowski</b>

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## 1968-69 Racing Schedule

**April 19-20**

**Culver's Tippecanoe River  
Leiters Ford, IN – 30 Miles**



<b>C1</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Mike Thrasher</b>
	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Don Giacchetti</b>
<b>C2</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Killian &amp; Thrasher</b>
	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Giacchetti &amp; Newton</b>
	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Blair &amp; Marxen</b>
<b>C4</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Giacchetti, Killian, Newton, Thrasher</b>
	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Gzybowski, Moss, Martin, Riley</b>
	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Brooks, Ireland, Moss, Pope</b>

**NOTE--- April-1969 Was The  
Last Culver Sponsored  
Tippecanoe River Race**

**Background and History**

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Rusty Zick

Mike Thrasher



Kevin Barry

Harold Forbes

Ian Munn

Jeff Newton

Don Giacchetti



Clyde Killian

Phil Mallory





Canoe Team Captain Mike Thrasher (left) and his partner, Clyde Killian (right), paddle to victory using one of two new wood strip canoes purchased this fall. Victory was nothing new for Culver's top team of Thrasher and Killian who captured the first place C2 trophies in the Fox River, Tippecanoe, and Mad River races.

Culver's top C-4 team of Thrasher, Killian, Newton, and Giacchetti work to move to an early lead in the Tippecanoe War Canoe race. This year the Culver Canoe Team has won 114 awards for placing in canoe races.





# 1968-69 Racing Schedule

## Indiana State Championships

April 26-27

Sugar Creek Race  
Crawfordsville, IN - 22 miles

Jr C2 1<sup>st</sup>  
4<sup>th</sup>

Giacchetti & Newton  
Blair & Marxen

Alum Jr C2 1<sup>st</sup>

Martin & Riley

Sr C2 3<sup>rd</sup>

Killian & Thrasher

Alum Sr C2 4<sup>th</sup>

Gzybowski & Parker

Sprints

Sr C2 3<sup>rd</sup>

Killian & Thrasher

Jr C2 1<sup>st</sup>

Giacchetti & Newton

3<sup>rd</sup>

Coutin & Olsen

4<sup>th</sup>

Blair & Marxen

C4 2<sup>nd</sup>

Giacchetti, Killian,  
Newton, Thrasher

3<sup>rd</sup>

Coutin, Martin,  
Olsen, Riley

4<sup>th</sup>

Blair, Gzybowski,  
Marxen, Parker





## Canoeists win trophies

Due to the college board tests, the canoe team will be lacking some of its first string this week for the Fox River Races. Following these races, on May 10, the canoeists will host the annual Mothers' Weekend Canoe Races on Lake Maxinkuckee.

On April 19 and 20, the Culver canoe team sponsored the Tippecanoe Races. This consisted of the C2 30 mile marathon won by co-captain Mike Thrasher and his partner Clyde Killian, the

C4 six mile race and the C1,  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile race. The team of Thrasher-Killian-Don Giacchetti-Jeff Newton placed first in the C4 race, and were followed by Frazier-Parker-Rick Gzybowski-Howard Martin-Steve Riley. In the C1 race, Thrasher placed second, and won the Culver Medallion for the best all-round canoeist in the races.

**STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS** were held at Sugar Creek on April 26 and 27. The Culver canoeists returned with thirteen trophies. The results of the Culver placements are:

Senior Men 2,000 meter, third place, Thrasher-Killian.

Senior Men Marathon, third place, Thrasher-Killian.

Senior Men's aluminum marathon, fourth place, Parker-Gzybowski.

Junior Men's C1 sprint, second place, Giacchetti.

Junior Men's C2 sprint, first place, Giacchetti-Newton; third place, Coutin-Olsen.

Junior Men's C2 marathon, first place, Giacchetti - Newton; fourth place, Coutin-Olsen.

Junior Men's aluminum mara-

**Vedette 5-2-1969**





## 1968-69 Racing Schedule

**May 3-4**

**Mid-America Canoe Race  
St. Charles, IL**

**C2 1<sup>st</sup> Killian & Thrasher  
2<sup>nd</sup> Gzybowski & Parker  
3<sup>rd</sup> Blair & Marxen**

**Background and History**

Scan Me





## 1968-69 Racing Schedule

May 17-18

Mad River Race  
Springfield, OH

Sprints



	Jr	C2	1 <sup>st</sup>	Killian & Thrasher
			2 <sup>nd</sup>	Giacchetti & Newton
			4 <sup>th</sup>	Gzybowski & Parker
Alum	Jr	C2	1 <sup>st</sup>	Giacchetti & Newton
		C1	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mike Thrasher
			3 <sup>rd</sup>	Don Giacchetti
Slalom		C1	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Don Giacchetti
			3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mike Thrasher
Slalom		C2	1 <sup>st</sup>	Forbes & Parker
			2 <sup>nd</sup>	Giacchetti & Newton
			3 <sup>rd</sup>	Killian & Thrasher
		C4	1 <sup>st</sup>	Giacchetti, Killian, Newton, Thrasher
			2 <sup>nd</sup>	Forbes, Gzybowski, Parker, Zick

Background and History

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## 1968-69 Racing Schedule

**May 25-26**

**Red River Race  
Lexington, KY**

<b>Sr</b>	<b>C2</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Killian &amp; Thrasher</b>
		<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Giacchetti &amp; Newton</b>
		<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Blair &amp; Marxen</b>
<b>Jr</b>	<b>C2</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Gzybowski &amp; Parker</b>
		<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Coutin &amp; Olsen</b>
		<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Forbes &amp; Zick</b>

**Background and History**

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### *Crimmins, Killian named co-athletes of year*

At the May 28 Awards Assembly, Clyde Killian and John Crimmins were named this year's best all-around athletes. Although the award usually goes to only one athlete, this year the 50th award was a tie between Crimmins and Killian.

Killian was a one-year letterman in football and a two-year letterman in wrestling and canoe. He holds several records in canoeing this year, and rarely placed below third in any canoeing competition.

Crimmins is a three-year letter winner in baseball, and a two-year letterman in football and basketball. He co-captained the basketball team to a 14-4 season and the baseball team to a 10-6 season, and was chosen the most valuable player on the basketball squad.

Vedette 6-9-1969

### Eagle canoe team wins 114 awards

The canoe team ended its season on Saturday, May 24, with races on the Red River in Kentucky. In the 18 mile aluminum canoe race, Rick Gzybowski-Frazer Parker placed first. Ralph Coutin-Eric Olsen placed second, and Harold Forbes-Russell Zick placed third. In the 18-mile fiberglass canoe race, Mike Thrasher-Clyde Killian were second and Don Giacchetti-Jeff Newton were third.

At the final awards assembly on May 29, Thrasher and Killian received recognition for winning second place in the national marathon championship and for returning the Blaho Trophy to Culver. Thrasher and Killian have never finished lower than third place in any canoe race, and third only when they had to compete in the senior men's division. Individually, Thrasher has won more awards than any other canoeist in Culver history.

This year, the canoe team has won 114 awards for placing in canoe races. When asked about the performance of the canoe team, coach Bud Lovett says, "This is undoubtedly the most powerful canoe team that has ever represented Culver. The real contributions the team has made have been outside the Academy. The team has some of Culver's best public relations representatives, who were invited to compete in canoe races not only because they were good canoeists, but also because they were good individuals."

Vedette 6-9-1969

## Canoeists end season

The canoe team traveled to Aurora, Ill., on May 3 to compete among the 428 entries in the race with five portages. In the man-boy class, where one of the canoeists must be under 18, Mike Thrasher and Clyde Killian took first place, Frazer Parker and Rick Gzybowski took second place, and Jeff Marxen and Jeff Blair took third place. In the boys' class, Russell Zick and Harold Forbes took first place.

**THE EAGLES** traveled to Springfield, Ohio, and competed in races on the Mad River on May 17-18. In the 18-mile Junior Men's Marathon, Thrasher and Killian were first, Don Giacchetti and Jeff Newton were second, Gzybowski and Parker were fourth, and Forbes and Zick were fifth. Giacchetti and Newton won the three mile aluminum sprint. In the same race, Thrasher and Killian sank. In the (C-4) War Canoe Race, the team of Giacchetti, Thrasher, Newton and Killian took first, and the team of Forbes, Zick, Gzybowski, and Parker took second. In the 18-mile Mixed Couple Race, Gzybowski teamed up

with Mrs. Joan Kludy of Dayton, Ohio, and won first place. Thrasher and Giacchetti placed second and third in the C-1 Thousand Meter Open and also placed third and second respectively in the C-1 Slalom. In the C-2 Slalom, Forbes and Parker tied with T. Ronemus and K. Ronemus of Springfield, Ohio, for first place. Giacchetti and Newton, and Thrasher and Killian placed second and third in the same race.

Looking over the performance of the canoe team, Coach Lovett says, "This is the best canoe team Culver ever had."

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Mr. Bob Hartman, Culver Historian



Roscoe Howard CMA'70





# The Canoe Era



CULVER ACADEMIES

