



SENIOR NEWSLETTER

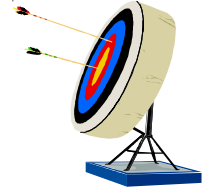
August 17, 2009



Greetings from the shores of Moose Pond! Senior Winona surged into the final week of the 2009 season with a strong showing at the George Sudduth Memorial Wyo/Winona Road Race. That Sunday morning was heavy with humidity, but low cloud cover kept everyone from overheating. The road race is the official start to Red/Gray week in Senior, and the Reds took the majority of available points thanks to **Isaac Bol Rik**, who took 2nd place overall. **Chris Miles** took 2nd in the Senior placings, **Liam Murphy** 3rd, **Andrew Vasconcelles** 4th, and **Matt Smith** 5th. Congratulations to all who ran!



That afternoon, with inclement weather threatening camp, the Reds and Grays continued their battle in the first activity competitions. Lacrosse was first up, and although the Grays proved to be the dominant team, the Reds were still able to hold them at four goals, with good sportsmanship by all. In Archery, the Reds were victorious by a slim margin.



“Be. And, at the same time, know what it is not to be. That emptiness inside you allows you to vibrate in resonance with your world.” - Rainer Maria Rilke



On Monday, staunch and true Winona trippers celebrated the last canoe trip of the season. Paddling waters that have never been touched by Winona, the boys put in on the Upper Saco in Bartlett, NH in the heart of the White Mountains. **Pete D'Agostino, Egor Ershov, Alex Poeppel, Harry Trask, Tristan Yerkes, Andrew Vasconcelles, Matt Koenigsberg, Nick Rockafellow,** and **Ramon Hernandez** were joined by **Uncles Mike Harrist** and **Gus Potter** for this outstanding day. The Upper Saco, usually too low to paddle in the summer, was flowing deep and fast from recent rains. Tight turns, quick water, and intermittent rapids made the paddle technically demanding and extremely exciting. Around every corner, a new challenge and a new view of the mountains greeted the troupe. Humphrey's Ledge, the Attitash Mtns., and the Moat Mtns. seemed to smile at them from above, while Mt. Washington winked occasionally from between several notches...

Uncle Mike Harrist added this personal note: “Thanks for one of the best tripping seasons ever boys! Won't forget the fun we had, the work we put forth, and the beautiful places we became part of...looking forward to 103. We've got more new trips as well as the best of the old ones on the list: Tidal, Allagash, Moosehead/Spencer, Moose River Bow Trip (Jackman area), Moxie/Bald, as well as some more whitewater day trips to new and exciting locations. I'm also working on a new eight day+ trip in the North Maine Woods that should enter the rotation over the next few years (Allagash Lake anyone?)!”



Intrepid mountain climbers **Matt Smith, Micah Heaney, Blake Randall, Connor Grant, Danila Uvarov, Webb Campbell,** and **O'Malley Bach** tackled the celebrated crags of Mt. Washington's Huntington Ravine on Monday, under the guidance of **Uncles Alex Fobes** and **Andy Baptista** with CIT **Adam Scherlis**. Departing camp before breakfast, the boys enjoyed the best weather of the summer and an epic scramble in a magnificent glacial cirque. From the top of the ravine they traversed the Alpine Garden and then glimpsed into Tuckerman's Ravine from Lion Head. A swim at the Swift River and hearty backcountry pizzas capped an unforgettable day.



Captain of Sports, **Uncle Max Zotz** led Senior soccer players **Doug Gardner, Niko Brattke, Francois de Froment, Arman Zaheen, Thiwat Thiwat, Eric Meisterling, Luke Howson, Pelayo Lombardia, Connor Cahill, Cam Perkins, Alvaro Nicolau, Emad Intiazuddin, Seth Curtis,** and **Aydan Strachan** to O-AT-KA on Monday. With a group of Senior's five week campers having just left, the team was low in numbers. The match was 9v9, and as the Road Race was just 24 hours earlier, the Seniors were exhausted. The first half ended with O-AT-KA up three goals to none. With lax bro turned soccer star **Aydan Strachan's** intensity, Winona came back with two goals scored by **Seth Curtis**. Unfortunately, it was not enough to capture the win. Fun was had by all!



Thirsty for a rematch after their loss to O-AT-KA in the first half, the Senior Winona Riflery Team got set to shoot on home turf Monday morning. The boys of Winona took full advantage of the situation. **Gordy Reffner** shot an astonishing 99, **Drew Erskine** a 95, **Nate Brown** a 90, **Sam Wiley** an 87, **Sean Mann** an 86, **David vom Lehn** an 83, and **Alvaro Sanchez** a 78. The top five scores were then

added, totaling 460 to O-AT-KA's 443. The Winona marksmen were thrilled to achieve a well earned victory against their rivals.

Red/Gray Week continued on Monday afternoon with the Reds peddling their hearts out to win R/G Mountain Biking, and the Grays galloping away with the win in R/G Riding.



Monday afternoon finished up with **Uncle Phil Clough** taking eight lucky men to shoot the big guns at the Waterford Shooting Range. With an arsenal including an AK-47, a Mowser, a .22 Hornet, a Mini-14, P38, Colt .45, and a .22 Pistol, everyone had a great time firing these high caliber guns. Special thanks to **Uncle Pat Lucas** for driving, and to **Uncles Phil Clough** and **Kyle Krivitsky** for supplying the weaponry.



On Tuesday, **Uncles Pat Lucas** and **Andy Baptista** ventured to Square Ledge in Pinkham Notch, NH for the final rock trip of the 102. **Tristan Yerkes**, **Drew Erskine**, **Tucker Wasuta**, **Aydan Strachan**, **Alvaro Nicolau**, and **Jay Mitchell** were there to compete in the Red/Gray Rock competition. After a gorgeous day spent climbing under bluebird skies, the Grays emerged victorious by a slim margin.

Every climber set fantastic routes and embodied staunch and true sportsmanship.



Rounding out a fine season of fun trips, **Uncles Alex Fobes** and **Scott Israel** with CIT **Adam Scherlis** led **Ben Clapp**, **Sean Mann**, **Anthony Maggiola**, **Matt Smith**, **Micah Heaney**, **Pete D'Agostino**, and **Webb Campbell** up sphinx-like Mt. Carrigain, the high point between the Swift and Saco Rivers in New Hampshire. Not one mile into the hike something

unexpected happened. Appearing from the trees above Whiteface Brook two black bear cubs crossed the trail! One of them climbed koala-style up a beech tree. The boys proceeded with cautious excitement, eventually gaining shapely Signal Ridge and the summit's spectacular lookout tower. Those who had spent the previous week exploring the Pemigewasset viewed much of their route, and all managed to identify distant Pleasant Mtn. The mighty current of the Saco River by Breeder's Pool offered respite from the heat, and a good time was had by all.



The final kayak trip of the season went out on Tuesday, the third of August, and it was the trip of all kayak trips. **Uncles Ben Hurd** and **Andrew Hey** decided to hold the Red/Gray kayak competition on the, oh so faithful, Limington River. **Nate Coffin**, **George Fowlkes**, **Andrew Vasconcelles**, **Harry Trask**, **Angus Bass**, **Hide Morita**, **Niko Brattke**, and **Matt Koenigsberg** paddled hard and hucked even harder. The Reds met the challenge with force, but the Grays ended up taking the race and the rodeo. As **Uncle Ben** reports: "even Red/Gray losses you can't get mad about when you're kayaking!"



On Tuesday, Winona's finest baseball players battled in a very competitive match against rival camp O-AT-KA. **Will Albright**, **Luch Bol**, **Isaac Bol Rik**, **Mason Clemence**, **Isaac Kouk**, **Cam Laughlin**, **Noah Rashkoff**, **Michael Rawls**, **Rob Roriston**, **Thiwat Thiwat**, **David vom Lehn**, and **Jackson Whiting** were led by coach **Uncle Josh Rosenblatt** and CIT **Tim O'Reilly**. Winona jumped to an early 3-0 lead thanks to hits by **Jackson Whiting** and **Will Albright**, but O-AT-KA battled right back to tie it in the 2nd inning. **Cam Laughlin** responded quickly with a solo home to straight-away center to keep Winona in front. **Thiwat Thiwat** struck out a batter but left the bases loaded with one out. However **David vom Lehn** saved the inning and pitched another, striking out two.

As the game wound down, tension rose. Fortunately, **Michael Rawls** hit a clutch two-

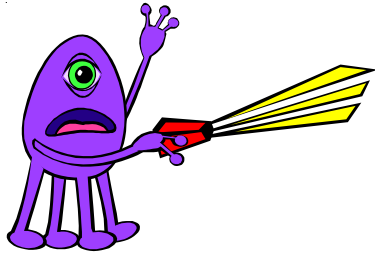
two-out RBI single to add an insurance run - his first career Winona base hit - and **Rob Roriston** followed with a crushing 3 run homer. O-AT-KA made a furious comeback to score five runs, but with the bases loaded and a full count, **Cam Laughlin** struck out the batter to solidify a 9-8 win for Winona. It was the most exciting match between the two rivals in recent memory, and due to errorless defense and timely hitting, the good guys came out on top.



This busy Tuesday continued into the afternoon with more Red/Gray events. The Reds showed the Grays a killer backhand, taking the win in Tennis. The Grays fared better at Swimming,



where strong skills set them apart. Inty and Senior both participated in a Red/Gray Biathlon, shooting knock down targets in three positions broken up by a running course. The final tally brought a Red victory by the slimmest of margins.



Rumors abounded all summer that Red/Gray Laser Wars would return to its' original format, Water Wars, due to the laser tag company going out of business. At breakfast on Wednesday, it was revealed to be a ruse, and upon hearing that the laser guns would arrive shortly, the dining hall was abuzz with unparalleled Senior excitement! The ensuing games, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, tested each teams'

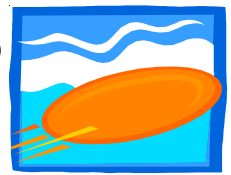
ability to strategically maneuver themselves throughout the camp, attempting to capture the other team's Headquarters, Hospital, and Jail. In the end, after spirited play and great sportsmanship, the Grays came out on top in both games.



Not wanting to let Wednesday evening go to waste, Senior pushed right on through to the Treasure Hunts! The Reds and Grays each split into A, B, and C teams to hunt for and solve clues, running through the night on different routes that took them all over and even off the camp property, eventually returning to the Senior Wiggy to find their treasure, a bag of candy and soda! Red B came in first, having solved their clues very quickly. Reds also won the C hunt, but a sweep was not to be, as Gray A returned to the Wiggy before Red A. Congrats to all who participated in this strenuous challenge!



With all the laser gun shooting and treasure hunting out of the way, it was time for a break, and **Uncle Big Game** roared into the Senior grove on Thursday morning with music blaring to let the Seniors know it was Beach Day! Everyone in Senior traveled to Crescent Beach near Cape Elizabeth, ME on a picture perfect day, enjoying the sun, sand, and surf as only they can. The Seniors closed out the day traveling to Fort Williams State Park, where they enjoyed a huge barbecue in the beautifully shaded cookout area, took full



advantage of the huge playing field for Ultimate Frisbee, and explored the fort. A good time was had by all!



On Friday morning, staunch Senior swimmers **Matt Smith** and **Jas Spearman** journeyed to Camp Micah's pool to demonstrate that real men train in lakes. The boys both put in solid efforts and returned to Moose Pond with more appreciation for the chlorine free nature of it's' waters!

Friday morning also brought more Red/Gray competition. Up on the basketball court, the Grays took another win in a hard fought game. Not far away, at the rifle range, the Reds hung on, shooting their way to victory.



All morning on Friday, something incredible was happening at the Cobb Memorial building. A hardworking team of campers and counselors were transforming the inside into a... jungle paradise? Yes they were! In preparation for the jungle themed dance at Wyo/Winona Playday 2009! Besides hanging up almost all the ferns available on camp property, Senior staff members also conceived a waterfall with real running water. The ladies of Wyo arrived after Rest Hour and enjoyed two activity periods with the boys, followed by a cookout dinner and the aforementioned dance, where everyone was enthralled by the spectacle of jungle decoration!

On Saturday morning the Grays dominated competition, successfully taking wins in Sailing, Canoeing, and Ironman.



In the afternoon, the Cobb Memorial put on it's second disguise of the summer, as the carnival funhouse of Senior Circus! Juniors and Intys alike were entranced by the parade of costumed Senior campers leading them to a delightfully deep-fried dinner at the decked out Dining Hall, and then to the Cobb, where the Seniors treated them to classic carnival games, casino indulgences, and a spooky haunted house, all set to circus music and the sweet taste of Necco wafers!



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Sunday morning was relaxed as always, but we still managed to squeeze in the final activity competitions of Red/Gray Week. The Reds grand slammed the Grays in Baseball, even as the Grays put one in under par for the win in Frisbee Golf.

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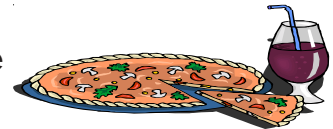
Red/Gray Week culminated that Sunday afternoon with The Great Relay. All the campers on each team compete in this relay that stops to perform a challenge at each activity Winona has to offer. Things stayed close during much of the relay, with the Grays holding a slight lead of five minutes, which grew to eight at Archery. Four activities later the Reds made a huge comeback, arriving first at Baseball and evening things up. It did not last though, with the Grays charging ahead at F-Golf and staying solidly ahead right through the boiling of the water at the end. Despite their win, the Grays respectfully stayed on, watching as the Reds completed their own wet day fire.

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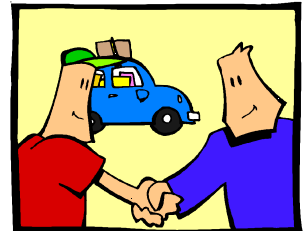
On Sunday night, Senior took some time to look back at the 102nd summer. Each counselor stepped up to recount what the summer had brought to their tent and their activity, in front of a roaring fire in the Wiggy worked up by our JMG graduates. From there Senior adjourned to the Cobb, where pizza and soda were on the menu to the tune of a slide show from Uncle Clay Miles that perfectly captured the faces and events of the summer. Then Senior brought the Cobb down with a perfect rendition of "Country Roads," and headed for bed.

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On Monday night, after a day of pack-out and pound and last activities, Senior gathered in the Dining Hall with the rest of camp, everyone dressed to the nines in their campies and whites for a delicious banquet. Then to the Senior cookout area, for Winona's first outdoor Awards Night since the 100th season, recognizing the best of the best from a phenomenal group of Senior campers and staff. Afterwards, everyone returned to their tents for the last time, and the staff sent up a Brix Brax for the campers, who then returned the compliment. Even the passion of these Brix Braxes could not foretell the emotional goodbyes of the next day, yet even behind the sad but smiling faces was this reminder:

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"Come camp with me in 103!"

It will be here before you know it.

'til next year, from 'the way life should be,'

Uncle Michael "Big Game" Frame
Senior Unit Director