

LE THE WILVY

First Ski of the Season

By Carolyn

I was so excited when I found out I was the co-head of waterskiing. Along with all the prep work we had to do, I was still able to learn how to drive the ski boat. I also had a chance to get on skis before camp started.

When I put my foot in the boot I felt a rush that I hadn't felt in a long time. Although the water was freezing, I still flew in as quickly as possible. I was nervous that I would not be able to get up my first try, but it was as easy as it was last summer.

The sun was setting, the water was calm and it was the perfect night to go for a ski. The feeling of my first carve across the wake was unbelievable, and it made me so excited to be back at Wilvaken for another amazing summer. It reminded me why I loved waterskiing so much as a camper. I'm so excited to have the opportunity to teach beginners the joy of the sport.



Fire-builders Stuart, Lauren and Cat spotted a porcupine perched high up in a tree on Tuesday night. The prickly guest arrived at the campfire early to claim the best seat! Artwork by Katherine

A Sloppy Soccer Baseball Game



The staff was able to blow off some steam after a long day of talks. Photo by Alana

By Kate

Team Two beat Team One 23 – 10 in Monday afternoon's soccer baseball game. The friendly competition was rife with rumors and gossip that attempted to explain the disparate score.

Charles revealed that Team One did not take the warm-up seriously, which he believed put the team at a disadvantage. He also cited a lack of communication and low chemistry as reasons for the team's subpar performance.

The recent rain resulted in an exceptionally sloshy playing field, but the athletes adapted by removing their shoes. According to Charles, playing barefoot allowed him a better grip – both on the ball and the field.

Sources say that Eric purposely slid in the mud as an excuse to show off his bare chest. When questioned, he stated: "I have never taken my shirt off in a game. I thought to myself: 'Yolo'."

There were a few epic slips that resulted in minor injuries, including a pulled femur bone muscle sustained by Chef. It is assumed that he will make a speedy recovery.

Aidan played terribly, with multiple slips and strikeouts. "I'm embarrassed," he said. "I feel like I let my team mates down."

Carolyn denied allegations that she was suffering from 'roid rage'. Rumors surrounding Carolyn's long history of steroid use remain unconfirmed.

Rencontrez Jonny!



Jonny n'aime pas les photos. Photo par Alana

Par Alana

Après avoir passé plus de huit des douze dernières années malade, John John Gaines, plus communément connu sous le nom de Johnny, a développé une manière très différente de voir la vie de la moyenne, dit-il.

Johnny, 56 ans, réside sur le bord du Lac Orford. C'est là qu'il a élevé seul ses deux fils: Mathieu 25 ans et Shawn 27 ans.

Ce fut très important pour lui d'être élevé ses fils près de la nature. Il aime tout ce qui est activité extérieure; il possède même quelques canots et kayaks chez lui.

Musicien dans sa jeunesse, son plus grand regret fut d'avoir arrêté de jouer de la musique. Ce ne fut qu'en l'enseignant à ses enfants, plusieurs années après avoir arrêté, qu'il a retrouvé sa passion. Il joue maintenant régulièrement et planifie même apporter de ses instruments au camp pour partager sa passion avec la personnel.

Il y a douze ans, il est tombé malade. Non seulement a-t-il eu deux ACV, il a ensuite souffert du cancer. C'est après avoir vaincu son cancer qu'il a décidé de laisser pousser ses cheveux, un "trophée" de son combat selon lui.

Ces cheveux sont aussi un emblème de cette confiance retrouvée au cours des années. Ayant eu les cheveux longs plus jeunes, dans ses temps de musicien, il les avait ensuite eu courts comme pour se conformer aux images qu'on peut avoir de la "réussite sociale". Ils sont maintenant longs parce qu'ils les veut longs. Sourire à la bouche il s'exclame: " J'aime sauté dans le vide, je veux savoir ce dont j'ai besoin et que personne d'autre ne me le dise."

Letter from the Editor

Dear Wilvaken Staff '13,

Thanks for reading the inaugural issue of LeThe Wilvy! I'm very excited to be starting a newspaper at camp, and I hope that all of you are equally excited to help get it off the ground. Don't be afraid to contribute your ideas, writing, photos and drawings, because we all need to put in some work to make each issue more awesome than the last.

A newspaper is a powerful tool because it unites communities. I hope that LeThe Wilvy will inspire campers and staff to express their thoughts and talents. That way, we will learn more about ourselves, each other, and of course, camp!

A big THANK YOU to our contributors this week: JJ, Alana, Jaden, Cat, Katherine, and Carolyn.

Love, Kate

Je n'aurais jamais connu la vie
sans la nature,
retrouvé parmi la faune et la flore
seul comme une fleur sauvage dans
la forêt,
entouré de mes pairs
jamais seul
les suisses me chuchotent leurs
secrets
les bambis me racontent leurs
histoires
et le vent, qui planne par dessus
la terre, me parle de ses
aventures: emportant avec lui tous
mes soucis
les effluves des marécages me
réconfortent
les boulots me caressent et je les
caresse avec tout mon être.
Le tonnerre applaudit mon existence
je souris.
Entouré de mes pairs, jamais seul.
La forêt
le foyer.

- Par JJ

Campfire, Necklace Welcome Staff to Wilvaken Family



Staff Campfire is a Wilvaken tradition. Photo by Jaden

By Jaden

The campfire started with some classic campfire songs, and even though I didn't know any of the songs, it was fun to sing along. By the end of the campfire songs, everyone was so loose and happy that it was easy to get up and sing the song the staff had chosen with their check-in groups. These were just as entertaining as the campfire songs.

After the check-in groups' performances, Maya Willis got all of the people in her "special little club" to sing us a nice song that I hope we can all learn properly by the end of the summer. Dave Willis also serenaded us with an old campfire song that he used to sing when he was a camper. Even though the song was before our time, everyone still seemed to know the chorus.

Then Dave got the stool out. He told us some great stories from when he was a camper and a basic history of how camp came to be - like how Melodie's great grandfather had helped Dave and his dad build the camp! It's amazing to think that there were ever people older than Dave.

There are some great traditions here at camp and one of my favorite, so far, has been the giving of the necklaces and the burning of our Wilvy spirit. These necklaces really are a great way to make people feel like they are part of something bigger. There were many people, when receiving their necklaces, who said a couple words. They all said the same thing: "Everyone here has been so accepting and happy to help. I'm very excited for this summer and to get to know all of you. Thanks a lot guys, you're the best."