

Parent newsletter – Week 1 2011

The first week of the 2011 season could not have gone better! Camp is full and bustling with activity!

Some **highlights** from the first week include:

New instruction and trips in canoeing and rock climbing

The return of National Hall of Fame fencing coach, Cathy McLellan, four times weekly

Will Powers, our Rifle instructor, who has reconditioned and upgraded our rifle program

A new “bouldering cave” in the farmhouse and an additional new climbing wall

A ten mile canoe trip for the Seniors with instructors Dave Henry and Andrew

Vinnenberg. They will take out canoeing expeditions all summer long – some for one day and some for overnights.

Rookie, Junior and Senior basketball leagues in full swing

Competition with other camps is already underway: several baseball, soccer and tennis matches and our 12 and under lacrosse team has been to a tournament in Maine with several Maine camps! We held our own rather nicely!

Probably the highest highlight of the week was the opening of our intramural Blue – Gray competition. Senior Counselor Bob Glascott, who has been at Tecumseh for 60 years, gave a biographical sketch of former director, the legendary George Munger, for whom our new sports building is named. Bob’s dedication was followed by an overtime basketball game attended by the entire Camp and the place was rocking! What an opening for Munger Hall! I’ve attached (hopefully) a picture of this summer’s color captains. Sorry if it’s a little fuzzy!

Each night after dinner we hear a counselor speak. The subjects vary, of course, but they usually convey a life lesson or a message for our campers. I have attached David Henry’s speech for you all to read and enjoy. He sets quite a high standard!

There has been a noticeable absence of homesickness this summer! We are delighted that your children have adjusted so well and so quickly to the rustic life in the NH woods! You parents have obviously done a great job preparing your children for their stay away from home!

I would add a request that if you use the email service, you send the emails in black and white and skip the fancy color bordering paper. They use up all our color ink! Also, please don’t give out the email code unnecessarily! We are getting more than one email a day for some campers from friends and neighbors. We would prefer one per day from a family member. The kids also love old-fashioned letters, so tell those relatives to send one of those!

Looking ahead: **Brian Dougherty**, CT alum, All-American and US National Team lax Goalkeeper arrives July 9 for two weeks!

Erik Weihenmayer, CT alum and the only blind man to climb the world's tallest peaks, will be here July 15-20. He will give climbing instruction and a Saturday night show to the camp July 16. He is an inspirational speaker!

The week ahead is filled with all kinds of activities, including July 4 Fun and Games, lots of outside comp in baseball, basketball, tennis, swimming, archery, and soccer. A rock climbing trip is planned for next Saturday. On Sunday 7/10 after the first session camp photo, 100 campers will head to Manchester to watch the AA minor league Manchester Fisher Cats play baseball!

I will report on those next week! Thanks for entrusting us with your sons. Our staff is excellent and has done a great job of keeping them busy, active and safe!

Jim and Nina