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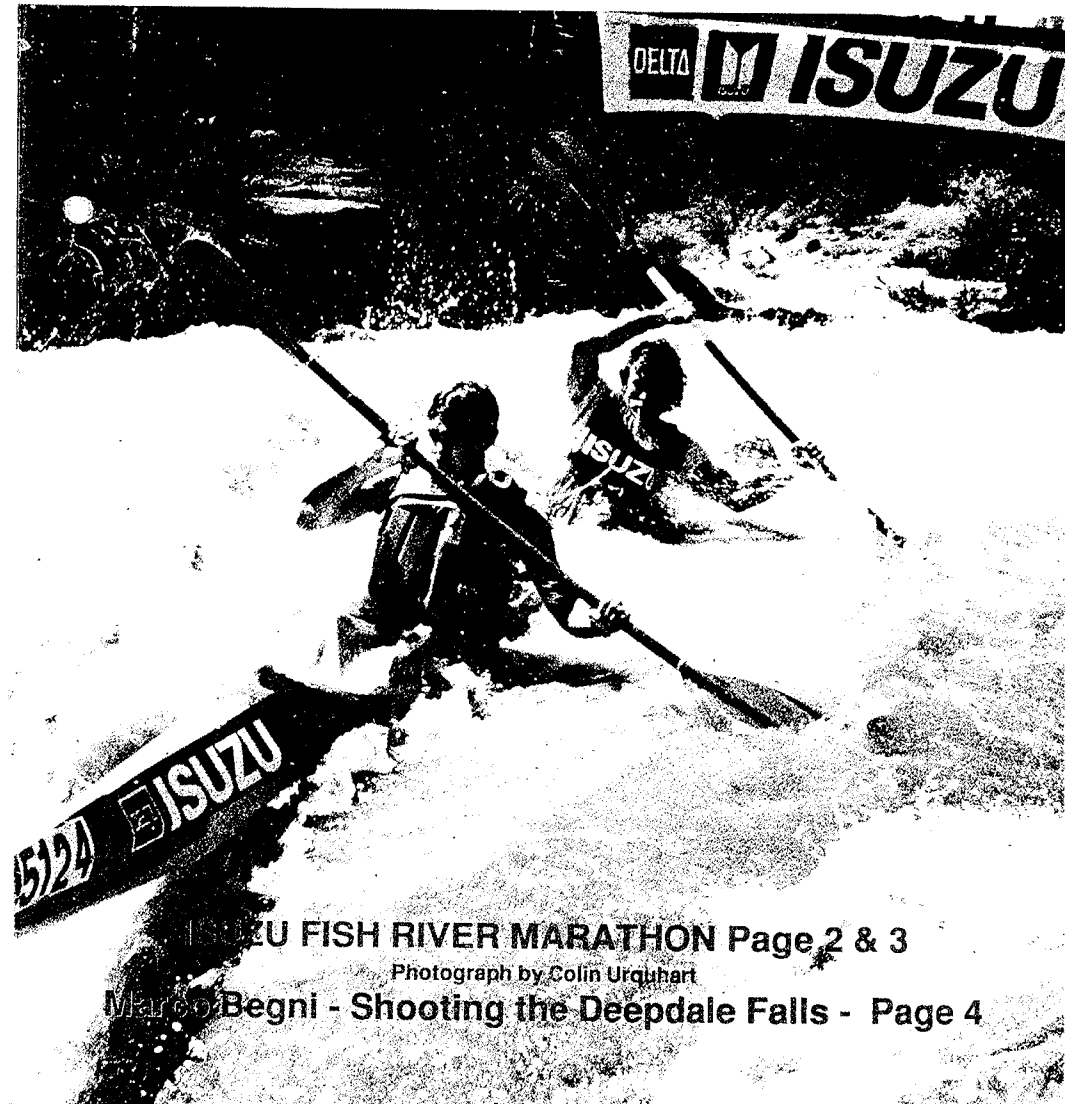
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NOVEMBER 1988
 118th Edition

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This column is free to all our readers, drop us a line with your information and we will gladly publish it.

DON'T ASK!

Peter Mountford of Kingfisher Canoe Club could well have had this in his thoughts, after finally making it to the first overnight stop of the Dusi a few years ago. Photograph Natal Mercury.



IRON/ULTRAMEN!



Natal Iron Man and Ultra Man entry forms for the Allied Midmar Mile Swim on Sunday 12 February 1989 will be posted as usual to all competitors accepted for the Dusi, together with their Final instructions and brochure in December.

The ordinary Midmar swim entry form must not be used by Iron or Ultra man participants.

The Natal Iron Man consists of the 1988 Comrades, 1989 Dusi and Midmar Mile, whereas the Ultraman competition concludes with the 1989 Comrades.

CLUB MEETINGS

First Monday of every month 3 October 1988
 Alex Wasps Canoe Club (19h30) Els Amics
 Crusaders Canoe Club Durban Crusaders Sports Club
First Tuesday of every month 4 October 1988
 Stella Canoe Club (19h30) Marine Surf Lifesaving Club
 Johannesburg Canoe Club Wemmer Pan
First Thursday of every month 6 October 1988
 Kingfisher Canoe Club KCC Clubhouse - Blue Lagoon
 Dabulamanzli Canoe Club Emmarentia Dam
 Umzinyathi Canoe Club Lahee Park, Pinetown
Second Wednesday of every month 12 October 1988
 Natal Canoe Club Liberty Tavern
Third Tuesday of every month 18 October 1988
 Victoria Lake Canoe Club Boat House
Third Thursday of every month 20 October 1988
 Fezela Canoe Club Natal Carbineers Drill Hall
Last Monday of every month 31 October 1988
 East Rand Canoe Club (19h30) Old Benonians' Club
Last Tuesday of every month 25 October 1988
 Peninsula Canoe Club (20h00) Club House
 Technikon Natal Kayak Club (17h30) Committee Room,
 New Campus, Natal Technikon

Time trials

Bloemfontein Canoe and Triathlon Club; first Tuesday of each month at Maselspoort (winter 17h00 - summer 17h30).
Johannesburg Canoe Club; every Tuesday at Wemmer Pan (17h45)
Peninsula Time Trials; every Tuesday (18h00) at Peninsula Canoe Club, Zandvlei.
Florida Lake Canoe Club; every Tuesday (18h00).
Victoria Lake Canoe Club; every Tuesday (17h45)
Hoeveld Kanoklub, Posbus 1448, Secunda. Tel: 46416
 Tydtoets Dinsdae; winter 17h30, somer 18h00, Trichardsfontein Dam Ontspanningsoord.
Bushmans Canoe Club; every Tuesday at 17h30 at Lambert Park. All welcome.
 All welcome to **Milnerton Dam "dice"** every Wednesday at 17h30
Dabulamanzli Canoe Club; every Thursday (winter 17h00 - summer 17h45) at Emmarentia Dam
East Rand Kayak Club; every Thursday (17h30) at Homestead Dam (Kei Road) Benoni
Oilfants Canoe Club; every Thursday morning (05h30) at Witbank Dam
Border Canoe Club; every Thursday (17h45) at the Nahoon River.
To any other clubs who wish to make use of this column; please let us have your details and we will gladly print them.

Please

Don't

Litter



Canoeist Details		Overall	Class K1 Senior Results		Overall	
Place	Name	Time	Place	Name	Time	Time
1	1014 Montleith G/Perron MJ	K2 Sen Natal Univ. Can	1	6352 Tarr G	5:59:19.8	5:59:19.8
2	1006 Herreveld R/Von Nassberg A	K2 Sen Natal Univ. Can	2	7165 Levin D	6:21:20.4	6:21:20.4
3	7355 Jameson SG/Edmonds J	K2 Sen Natal Univ. Can	3	7628 Hutson MR	6:25:42.6	6:25:42.6
4	3732 Fresaan SH/Venter AR	K2 Sen Natal Univ. Can	Class K2 Senior Results			
5	1005 Viljoen N/King E	K2 Sen Natal Univ. Can	Place Number Name			
6	5422 Beukes SF/De Maal JC	K2 Sen Natal Univ. Can	1	1014 Montleith G/Perron MJ	5:59:19.8	5:59:19.8
7	5122 Baker C/Vandrag J	K2 Sen Natal Univ. Can	2	7355 Jameson SG/Edmonds J	6:16:25.2	6:16:25.2
8	3929 Siegfried D/Vanders F	K2 Sen Natal Univ. Can	3	7373 Simpkins SC/Price S	6:19:27.4	6:19:27.4
9	7002 Pope-Ellis B/White KJE	K2 Sen Natal Univ. Can	Class K1 Senior Results			
10	5124 Conradie D/Engelke D	K2 Sen Natal Univ. Can	Place Number Name			
11	7013 Black R/Breen G	K2 Sen Natal Univ. Can	1	6352 Tarr G	5:59:19.8	5:59:19.8
12	5200 Van der Westhuizen E/Sleyn M	K2 Sen Natal Univ. Can	2	7165 Levin D	6:21:20.4	6:21:20.4
13	7356 Woodhead R/Borthwick D	K2 Sen Natal Univ. Can	3	7628 Hutson MR	6:25:42.6	6:25:42.6
14	5014 Basson JT/Collins A	K2 Sen Natal Univ. Can	Class K2 Junior Results			
15	1036 Attridge R/Fussell C	K2 Sen Natal Univ. Can	Place Number Name			
16	7353 Scotney BG/Whitfield T	K2 Sen Natal Univ. Can	1	2744 Williams FH	6:32:23.0	6:32:23.0
17	5046 Cleys RNS/Halberts D	K2 Sen Natal Univ. Can	2	7778 Galbraith RN	6:39:44.4	6:39:44.4
18	4512 Peddie G/Martin PGJ	K2 Sen Natal Univ. Can	3	1625 Leatherbarrow SG	6:42:09.6	6:42:09.6
19	5565 Bosch M/Theron J	K2 Sen Natal Univ. Can	Class K1 Masters Results			
20	7354 Starr R/Starr G	K2 Sen Natal Univ. Can	Place Number Name			
21	6723 Veckranes G/Davey R	K2 Sen Natal Univ. Can	1	4071 Hay M	8:26:45.9	8:26:45.9
22	1045 Bird DM/Bonhau B	K2 Sen Natal Univ. Can	Class K1 Veteran Results			
23	1048 Wise PJ/Crooke G	K2 Sen Natal Univ. Can	Place Number Name			
24	4006 Mallard J/De Kort J	K2 Sen Natal Univ. Can	1	6004 Maurer RS	7:14:05.4	7:14:05.4
25	4019 Heyns M/Heyns R	K2 Sen Natal Univ. Can	2	5266 De Wet MC	7:23:54.0	7:23:54.0
26	1039 Girdard PM/Torlage DJ	K2 Sen Natal Univ. Can	3	7355 Rawlinson PJ	7:25:13.8	7:25:13.8
27	6352 Tarr G	K1 Sen Defence Canoe C	Class K2 Junior Results			
28	4510 Fielding AC/Fielding PJ	K2 Sen Border Canoe C1	Place Number Name			
29	6785 Pople TW/Cameron CS	K2 Sen Peninsula	1	1006 Herreveld R/Von Nassberg A	5:59:19.8	5:59:19.8
30	5222 Duxin TR/Anderson HC	K2 Sen Univ. Stellenbos	2	1045 Bred G/Bonhau B	6:07:18.0	6:07:18.0
31	5173 De Tol EW/Du Toit CD	K2 Sen Johannesburg	3	6500 Lake BR/Dagg D	6:07:18.0	6:07:18.0
32	1008 Ollaris RJ/Davies C	K2 Sen Johannesburg	Class K2 Mx Results			
33	6681 Swingewood BR/Wardner A	K2 Sen Johannesburg	Place Number Name			
34	5190 Sichel GS/Von Riet M	K2 Sen Johannesburg	1	4019 Heyns R/Heyns R	5:54:29.4	5:54:29.4
35	6690 Lake BR/Dagg D	K2 Sen Johannesburg	2	1008 Murray C/Pillayon J	6:23:47.4	6:23:47.4
36	6482 Swingewood BR/Voitek M	K2 Sen Johannesburg	3	4011 Welsh SRH/Woodor J	6:26:02.4	6:26:02.4
37	6458 Finlay R/Berland M	K2 Sen Johannesburg	Class K2 Masters Results			
38	4401 Ruben M/Robinson A	K2 Sen Fish River Canoe EP	Place Number Name			
39	5153 Fischer K/Pflichter G	K2 Sen Milnerton	1	6010 Rank HF/Edward RJ	7:31:20.4	7:31:20.4
40	3473 Steyn G/Schepel H	K2 Sen Milnerton	Class K2 Veteran Results			
41	6237 Clarte G/Suzelle G	K2 Sen Milnerton	Place Number Name			
42	4565 Woods J/Boss M	K2 Sen Milnerton	1	6681 Swingewood BR/Wardner A	6:04:54.6	6:04:54.6
43	6002 Hughes CB/Delpert L	K2 Sen Milnerton	2	4505 House G/Ross H	6:11:12.0	6:11:12.0
			3	7010 Rasussen R/Stewart RE	6:14:01.2	6:14:01.2

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SA K4 CHAMPS 1988

MIDMAR DAM - 8 & 9 OCTOBER 1988

Pos.	Reg	Names	Total
1	910	Northern Tvl A	2:29:40.08
2	909	Western Province	2:29:53.59
3	908	Transvaal Sen B	2:30:29.46
4	911	Northern Tvl B	2:31:23.01
5	907	Transvaal Sen A	2:35:29.99
6	906	Eastern Province	2:36:25.82
7	901	Natal Senior B	2:39:12.57
8	925	Transvaal Jun A	2:44:43.28
9	821	Natal Jun B	2:46:14.51
10	915	Natal Vet A	2:47:31.69
11	916	Transvaal Vet	2:50:45.90
12	917	Natal Vet B	2:50:56.61
13	920	Natal Jun A	2:52:24.77
14	926	Transvaal Jun B	2:55:23.38
15	922	Natal Jun C	3:07:12.47
16	918	Transvaal Masters	3:11:23.40
17	923	Natal Jun D	3:12:24.23
18	919	Natal Masters	3:15:22.07
19	930	Transvaal Ladies	3:18:41.09

SA INTERCLUB K4 1988

1.	959	Dabulamanzani A	1:42:17.20
2.	949	Wits University A	1:42:17.91
3.	943	NUCC Pmburg A	1:42:40.82
4.	948	N Tvl Defence B	1:43:14.27
5.	954	Victoria Lake A	1:47:35.38
6.	942	Border Canoe Club	1:48:01.14
7.	958	Natal Canoe Club	1:49:31.11
8.	940	Stella A	1:49:35.34
9.	957	Durban Defence	1:49:38.69
10.	951	Umzinyathi A	1:49:39.02
11.	961	Milnerton Sen	1:50:56.38
12.	944	NUCC Pmburg B	1:51:15.00
13.	960	Dabulamanzani B	1:51:43.48
14.	946	RAU Sen	1:51:44.25
15.	956	Alex-Wasps	1:53:00.16
16.	941	Stella B	1:53:57.28
17.	950	Wits University B	1:55:28.02
18.	953	Fezela CC	1:55:55.04
19.	945	NUCC Pmburg C	2:00:16.38
20.	955	Victoria lake B	2:02:09.58

SA INTERSCHOOL K4 1988

1.	978	Maritzburg Coll A	1:14:51.23
2.	981	Hilton College A	1:15:37.10
3.	988	Florida Lake Jun	1:19:09.27
4.	977	Michaelhouse C	1:19:42.39
5.	979	Maritzburg Coll B	1:21:53.72
6.	986	Hilton College B	1:22:20.14
7.	987	Umzinyathi Jun	1:23:30.28
8.	980	Maritzburg Coll C	1:24:07.41
9.	984	Michaelhouse D	1:30:02.01
10.	986	Hillcrest High School	1:32:55.24
11.	976	Michaelhouse B	1:38:27.54
12.	982	Treverton A	1:45:41.18
13.	995	Stella Ladies	1:47:45.64
14.	975	Michaelhouse A	1:47:46.36

Kingfisher Jun 1:14:47.11 Disqualified.
Mixed team

LA MONTAGUE SURF SKI RACE

REPORT FROM MARK LEWIN

The race from Addington Beach, Durban to Willard Beach, Ballito, attracted a bigger field this year and I am sure will grow from strength to strength if the comments from the paddlers is anything to go by.

The race of about 45 km started in overcast conditions and for the first hour the front bunch of 5 doubles set a fast pace. Too fast for one of the favoured doubles who surprisingly dropped out of the race altogether. Much to the delight of the singles a light south westerly wind popped up and for the remaining two hours the entire field enjoyed playful running conditions to Ballito. The following wind tends to assist the single skis more than the doubles.

The winners in each category won weekends or meals at the Hotel.

There was a lucky draw cash prize and cash prizes for the minor placings.

The results were as follows:-

Doubles:-

1. Tony Scott/Malcolm Hall 2:57:05 2. Colin Simkins/Shawn Rice 2:59:47 3. Walter Chalupsky/Grant Woolaston 3:03:37 4. Ian Buss/Graham Holm 3:04:15 5. Mike Tocknel/McClachlin 3:07:22 6. G. van Dongen/Rob Davey 3:10:08

Singles:-

1. Mark Lewin (Marine) 3:08:46 2. Roger Tabone (Marine) 3:20:48 3. Sam Wyer (Tot) 3:22:15 4. Paul Chalupsky (Durban Surf) 3:28:09 5. Andre Theron (Marine) 3:28:56 6. Alan Ross (Pirates) 3:33:26 7. Victor Williams (Marine) 3:40:00

Juniors:-

Worth mentioning is a very good performance from the Junior Double Ski pair from Warnerdoone, the Tudor Jones (Brothers) 3:28:11

The next race on the calendar is the PE - East London Race Qualifier from Durban - Tinley Manor on the 6th November 1988.

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All correspondence should be addressed to:- The Editor, SA Canews, P.O. Box 257, Westville, 3630.

Correspondence may be sent using either of the two official languages.

We welcome letters expressing viewpoints both on canoeing and on our magazine. Even if a pseudonym is to be used, writers must supply their names and address.

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the information and reports in this magazine, the editor, the publishers, printers and distributors do not accept any responsibility whatsoever for any errors or omissions or for any effects therefrom. The views expressed by the correspondents are not necessarily those of the editor or publisher.

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SA CANEWS is a monthly magazine produced and published by a canoeist for canoeists, featuring current as well as topical events and general information. News and views, coming events and trade features on new gear, canoes and equipment etc.

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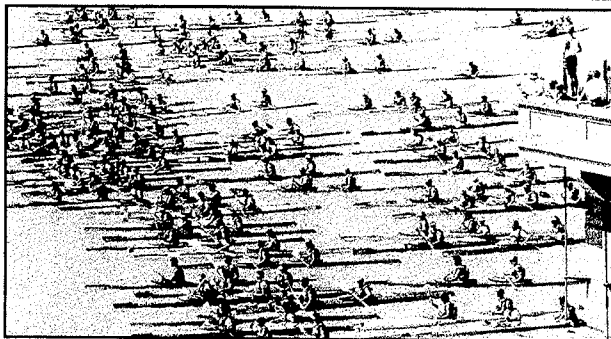
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IMPRESSIONS OF A GREAT FISH RIVER MARATHON.

by HUGO RAW

Photographs by Colin Urquhart



Start of the first day - Grassridge Dam

Most of the 600-odd paddlers who hitched, pedalled, drove or even flew in to Cradock for the "Fish" will have memories of the trip. For us it was struggling to keep awake, sleepy border guards, dodging potholes on tarr roads, sleeping rough in the park at Queenstown. I also remember battling to find something to eat in Queenstown.

When we got to Cradock it was hard to believe anything unusual was happening. We need not have worried. Hiding under the sleepy image there is a very organised group of people who made the Isuzu Marathon happen. At the camp site it was different. We met old friends and familiar faces from last year which made us feel welcome.

Wasting no time we shot up to Grassridge and on the way there was much discussion of the various obstacles on the course.

We looked at the start, the causeway, the Toastrack and note that Mr. Collett has improved the latter somewhat. Many thanks should go to him for his helpful involvement. But the big draw definitely



Winners: Graham Monteith and Mark Perrow from Dabulamanzi Canoe Club

was "Keiths Flyover". A continual stream of cars bumped along nose to tail determined to "check it out". There was a big Mercedes with a holed sump just pushed to one side and left. Reminds me of the 8th Army Retreat to Dunkirk! "Keiths" has a marked effect on me. Perhaps it is not easy to talk over the roar of intimidating water, or else it is that one's companions go off chattering excitedly about, "riding down the lateral and sneaking the big drop on the left". Whatever the reason I once again found myself alone and picturing the rendering and scrunching of my poor boat let alone me. Twice I had portaged around "Keiths". This time I was in the mood to take on this surly monster. Particularly as I had brought reinforcement along in the form of my irrepressible doubles partner, Dick Edwards. Dick didn't even bother to check out the river beforehand. "You're driving" he says happily, "we'll just take it down the middle!" So I studied "Keiths" one last time and made my decision. After all, it has been proved time and time again, you can swim "Keiths" just as quick as paddling through.

And so we went visiting every possible wier, rapid and causeway, until Cradock weir. There I got the impression that the drop was quite a lot less than normal. There must have been more water going over it or something, but the pool definitely seemed to reach higher up the wall. Back in the campsite



John Edmonds and Mark Jamieson of Natal University Canoe Club, going down "Keiths Flyover" - backwards!

everyone was talking at once. The food was good and even the queue was a good social point. Most of us soon headed for bed, completely stuffed in every way.

Early next morning we shanghied our attractive hostess into driving for us and joined the trek up to Grassridge Dam. I must say I enjoyed the laidback atmosphere. You have time to greet friends, smell the flowers and even watch the antics of a little buck which sadly was so terrified at our approach it tried repeatedly to charge down a very stout wire fence. It reminded me of something I saw at Kings Park once or twice last season!

Eventually we got on the water. There was the usual revved up bunch of seeded paddlers who did not know how to behave. Anyway, when the starter enquired of the start marshal, quite innocently "are you ready yet?" The sound of nearly 1 000 paddles digging in reverberated around the dam. When the honoured quest eventually fired the gun the race was already on. Talk about chaos. It took about 5 minutes to persuade the right hand side of the field that we were all going over to their right. There were some shunts, some groans and moans and a spin out or two before the pack disappeared like a herd of turtles into the middle of the dam.

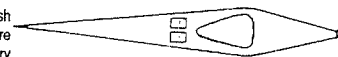
Well some impressions of the race were not so good. We encountered a funny attitude along the way. The

NATAL CANOE UNION - RACE INFORMATION AND RULES

Will all competitors please note that some of these rules were inadvertently left out of your official NCU Calendar and rule book. Please take note of the rules as published here. Editor.

- e. Only one paddlers number, preferably the front paddler, will appear on a K2.
- f. All other numbers must be removed.
- g. Numbers for Slalom, Wildwater and Sprints are issued at each event.

6/11/88 Ibis to Dip 3hr 45min
 13/11/88 Ozzie Gladwin 3hr 45min
 20/11/88 Clover Dairies Mini Marathon
 Midmar Dam 3hr 30min
 38.4/12/88 50 Miler 10hrs
 18/12/88 Khumalos Causeway to Blue Lagoon Qualifying time not available.
 These qualifying times could be adjusted according to conditions.



1. RACE ENTRIES

a. Once you have decided which races you wish to enter, check in your calendar whether they are pre-race entries, if so, fill in the appropriate entry form - forms for NCU races, with the exception of major races, eg Duzi, 50 Miler & Umkomaas, where organising clubs will distribute their own entry forms, can be found in this booklet - and either post it together with your entry fee to the address listed in the Race Calendar, making sure that it is posted early enough to reach the organiser before the closing date or deliver to one of the following collection points :-

- DURBAN - KAYAK CENTRE, 6 Franz Volek Rd, New Germany or PADDLERS PARADISE, 42b Brickhill Rd or Eric Clarke, 6 Bridge Pk, 316 North Coast rd**
- PIETERMARITZBURG - CANOE SPORT, 36 Clough Street or HUGH RAW'S G.P.S., 90 Victoria Road, or Canoe & Kayak Centre, 16 Sheffield Road, Willowton.**

LATE ENTRIES - It is entirely up to the organising club to decide whether they will accept late entries. For information on each race paddlers can contact the clubs via the contact telephone number for each race.

b. For MINOR RACES where entries will be taken on the bank, it is requested that you arrive early with an entry form already filled in to avoid congestion at the tables and if possible with the correct entry fee.

2. ENTRY FEES

standard Entry Fee for all NCU Races is as follows :-

- SENIORS** : R6 per paddle per day
 - JUNIORS** : R4 per paddle per day
- This fee includes levies for Valley Assistance Fund, NPB charges and Farmers fees. For major races the organising club may apply for increased entry fees, check your race calendar or special entry forms supplied for these races.

3. CANOE NUMBERING

- a. Your canoe MUST be correctly numbered.
- b. Your number for L/C racing is the same as your registered number on your competitors licence. e.g. 7133B
- c. Only canoes displaying the official numbers, printed especially for NCU and issued to you by your club, will be timed.
- d. Numbers must be displayed on BOTH SIDES of your canoe on the FRONT DECK.

4. SACF SAFETY RULES

- a. The wearing of Buoyancy Aids is compulsory on all 'A' grade rivers, namely, the Umkomaas, Bushmans (below Lambert Park) and Tugela, regardless of the river conditions.
- b. Depending on conditions, race organisers have the power to enforce the wearing of buoyancy aids and/or helmets by all competitors or by specific grades of paddlers e.g. Novices, Juniors and/or ladies at any event on any river or dam.
- c. The wearing of buoyancy aids and helmets is compulsory in all closed cockpit craft. This also applies to any registered member when tripping.
- d. Race organisers must identify danger areas and enforce compulsory portages when necessary.
- e. **Buoyancy Aids and Helmets MUST be taken to all events - rivers and dams.**

5. RACES

Arrive at races at least an hour before the start - For races with pre race entries :- report to the check in tables or boat pound official for your grade. He will check your competitors licence and boat number as well as buoyancy and safety equipment and check your number against the entry list as supplied by the computer. For races where entries are being taken on the bank :- Enter at the correct table for your grade/class before proceeding to the boat pound. **DO NOT FORGET TO TAKE YOUR COMPETITORS LICENCE TO ALL EVENTS - You will be forced to pay an additional R5 if you fail to produce it at the start.**

6. NATAL PARKS BOARD EVENTS.

When attending races in Parks Board resorts be sure to arrive especially early as long queues can occur at the gates. The fees for temporary registration of canoes are included in your race entry fee but you are still required to pay for entry into the resort at the gates. **PLEASE REMEMBER TO TREAT THE NPB OFFICIALS WITH COURTESY.** They are doing us the favour of allowing us to use their facilities and we cause them a lot of extra work.

7. QUALIFYING RACES

1989 HANSA DUZI
 28/08/88 Canoe Sport Classic 2hr 45min

1989 UMKOMAAS

Paddlers wishing to enter the Umkomaas Marathon will be asked for record of performances.

8. IF YOU ARRIVE AT A RACE

- A) LATE,
 - B) WITHOUT HAVING PRE ENTERED CORRECTLY
 - C) WITH AN INCORRECTLY NUMBERED BOAT
 - D) WITHOUT THE REQUIRED SAFETY EQUIPMENT
- YOU WILL BE BARRED FROM PARTICIPATING IN THE RACE - AND FACE A 6 MONTHS SUSPENSION IF YOU STILL RACE.**

9. AGE RESTRICTIONS -

Junior : 17 years or under on Jan 1
Veteran: 38 to 45 years on Jan 1
Master : 46 years or over on Jan 1

10. CLUB COLOURS -

Club colours must be worn by competitors in all organised events. **PADDLERS NOT ADHERING TO THIS RULE WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.**

11. GENERAL

- * YOU THE PADDLER - AND THE PUBLIC**
- * Get the permission of the farmer or landowner before driving through his land.
- * Stay out of cultivated lands
- * Do not pick any crops growing by rivers
- * Do not speed along farm or reserve roads. Please close gates.
- * Do not abuse local inhabitants
- * Do not leave your litter behind
- * Park your vehicle in a sensible and considerate way to avoid blocking the way of others.

COURTESY AND CONSIDERATION OF OTHERS COSTS NOTHING.

b. It is an offence to paddle on the same stretch of water being used for an NCU event or paddle a race without entering.

b. SECONDS -

Your seconds are your responsibility, please make sure they are aware of what is expected of them as far as courtesy, where they may or may not park etc.

c. DOGS -

Please note that no dogs are allowed in Parks Board areas, St Elmos or Henley Dam.

WHAT IF?

Photographs K Tanner

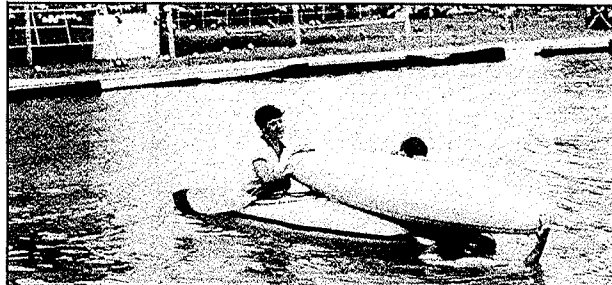
What would you do if you were paddling along with a few other fellows and capsized in the middle of a dam or open stretch of water?

Here are two possible ways in which to effect a rescue. The first picture shows getting the capsized boat into position, between two other boats. The second and third pictures show how the capsized boat can be emptied, firstly either by "rocking" it in an upside-down position using one of the boats as the pivot point, or alternatively by using two sets of paddles, positioned over the two upright boats.

During this exercise the two upright boats work together to maintain stability, which is further facilitated by "straddling" them with one or more sets of paddles.

Not yet mentioned is the golden rule that requires the boats to have adequate bouyancy. Without it you would simply "kiss your boat goodbye". Don't take the bouyancy aspect too lightly, even if you think you are a good paddler and are not likely to fall out. Even top paddlers swim occasionally, and if you should fall out in a dam, with the wind whipping up a few waves, it will not take long for your partly submerged boat to be swamped. Swallow your pride and invest in some bouyancy, it will definitely be cheaper than a new boat!

Also, not used in this illustration is the aspect of wearing a bouyancy aid or life-jacket. The slight discomfort of wearing one would be discounted a million times over, should the situation arise where for whatever reason you take a long swim, even in a dam.



ENDURO - THE OLD DAYS

By the time this issue of SA Canews reaches you, you may be among one of the "tough guys" (or gals) who took part in the Natal 8 hour enduro.

Well in the old days when men were still men etc. etc., we used to have a 24 hour enduro, around part of Midmar Dam. It was so misty that paddlers got completely lost, cut buoys, ended up paddling past each other in opposite directions and so on. Needless to say the event was not repeated again. This photograph, taken from the archives, shows one Mike Alvin receiving resuscitation in his tent during that epic event. He has since joined the Natal Parks Board, and is one of the friendly officials that make canoeing enjoyable and possible at Midmar.



FISH RIVER MARATHON



Gerhard Beukes and JC de Waal of Stellenbosch University shooting Cradock weir.

Follow-my-leader through the willows was hard to take on occasions and so, using our geriatric version of an interval we came up alongside the boat of a Natal paddler who promptly pushed the nose of my boat into a sunken log. Strange, thinks I, and we caught him up again. Giving him the full benefit of my charm we chatted merrily until he did it again, quite calmly and deliberately. So I got the message and rode his tailwave for a while. I wonder if that Umzinyathi padler knows how close he came to getting his nose put well and truly up the bank!

The end of the first day came not a minute to soon for us old chaps. Soup and sympathy soon had us interested enough to read the results - what great volumes that speaks for the organisers. That evening we argued incessantly with anyone who came within earshot that blind luck had everything to do with getting through "Keiths."

The second day was quite different. The start was for us a non-event. We didn't even hear it. So we paddled along in great rafts of canoes. Very social. The only impression that really stands out was the idiot at Marlow low-level bridge who did more damage to our boat pushing us over the edge and leaving the boat hanging on a knife edge than we suffered in two days on the Umko..

At the finish it was downhill all the way. Happy faces, food and "frosties", in that order. I introduced some new paddlers to the race this year and they all want to do it again next year. Well done Fish River Canoe Club. This was one of your better efforts.

You omitted to tell us about "Keiths" flyover - did you shoot it or not? Perhaps a sequel to this report in the next issue? Editor.

Many of the junior class teams that entered did very well, and in particular the K2 combination of Robbie Herreveld and A von Mansberg of Wits Canoe Club, who were placed second overall in a time of 5:5:45, only 4 minutes behind the winners Graham Monteith and Mark Perrow of Dabulamanzhi Canoe Club.

Race organiser Margaret Collett told SA Canews after the race that Cradock Weir had been a cause for concern at the level it was at for this years race. A decision will be taken by the organisers for next years race to either make the weir a compulsory portage, or alternatively lower the volume of water, which would then make the weir safer, but also result in a lower water level for the rest of the course.

The race had gone off extremely well, and plans were already in the early stages to ensure the success of next years event, which will also be the SA K2 Championships.

A brief summary of some of the results appear further on.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir

I would greatly appreciate it if you could publish this letter of thanks in the next edition of "Canews".

my partner and I would like to thank both cars from Eston Canoe Club who assisted us when we broke down on the way to the Jock Claasens Race last weekend. Although we do not know the names of the canoeists concerned we would just like to let them know their deed was greatly appreciated.

Much appreciated,
Michael Lundie and Ronel Olivier.
Stella Canoe Club.

THE STELLA DICE

Now in Durban a time trial with a difference!

Organised by Stella Canoe Club, each Tuesday evening from 17h30, this event is a pure race against time!

Paddlers are started at 30 second intervals and NO wave riding is allowed. It is amazing how many reputations have been bruised when the times are calculated at the end of each event!

As Stella are now affiliated to Bluff Yacht Club their dice is run, from the Yacht Club, in the Silt Canal on Durban harbour. Water is always guaranteed and shower and toilet facilities are available.

The record, four weeks old, stands at 35 minutes and 4 seconds and is held by top Natal Veteran, Alex McKenzie.

See you there, if you dare!

Phone Brian Moore (031) 253668 or Joey Bietje (031) 443956 for details. Novices welcome!

GRAEME POPE-ELLIS CHALLENGE

The organisers of this event, Stella Canoe Club, would like to notify all canoeists that NO entries will be taken on the bank, for this event. Please direct enquiries to Brian Moore on 031-253668 or Joey Bietje on 443956 between the hours of 6 - 8 pm.



The race is from Ibis to Dip Tank over 25 km, on the Umgeni River, on Sunday 6th November, 1988. All prizes will be directed at the K1 division.

DEEPDALE FALLS - WHAT NEXT?

By Marco Begni

Photographs taken by Faye Richardson



During a Deepdale trip a few years back, Corran Addison, Jerome Truran, Tim Biggs and myself discussed the eventualities of going over the falls.

Jerome decided to be rescue officer, Tim remembered he had a dinner date and I remained a neutral observer. Corran was eventually switched off when I advised him that if he screwed up, there were plenty umfaans to carry him and his equipment back to the car, while we carried on to Hella Hella.

That day still stuck in my mind though and a year later I dragged Faye Richardson to the falls as photographer.

After placing Faye where I wanted, I was finally on my own. It was an incredible feeling, where nothing but life was relevant. Emotions, finance even family and close friends were on another sphere. Living and not screwing up were real. What had to be done, had to be done.

The approaches were a little dicey but I still managed to go airborne where I wanted. Only that my boat was sideways while descending. Bad mistake. I hit the water and it felt as if I had smashed into a steam train. My lungs "imploded" and I had no energy. I could not manage a roll and made the near fatal mistake of abandoning ship. Never abandon something that floats.

Whilst I was underwater and coming up with snorkel lips, I was cursing myself for misjudging my landing. "See the good old wizards will have the last laugh, they knew it couldn't be done." That probably gave me extra breath.

After eventually crawling to the bank, retrieving my Dancer to discover a 2 foot slit, I took out the champagne.

The umfaans and I toasted with great gusto to how wrong some myths really are.

ANOTHER GREAT SUPPORTER OF CANOEING.

H. Lewis Trafalgar Estate Agents of Durban have, like their Time Sharing counterparts, sunk a large portion of their advertising budget into canoeing lately. With firstly, their generous sponsorship of the Natal Sprint team, a large complement of Natal Juniors were able to compete in the S.A. Sprint Championships at RodeoPlaas Dam earlier this season. The younger Natal paddlers were particularly successful in the under 16 division with their star performer, Mathew Bantjes, unbeaten in this division.

In the H. Lewis Trafalgar Mangrove Beach Centre Office, pride of place has been reserved for a large photograph of the 1988 Natal Team. Often the subject of discussion, the photograph has created a strong interest in our sport. So much that the individual agents joined forces in using their own advertising allocations to supply local club, Stella, with a brand new K4.

The K4 has already seen very successful competition, with the top Veterans combination of Tony Scott, Graeme Pope-Ellis, Alex McKenzie and Roger Vernon winning the recent South African K4 Championship in their class. The following day saw the only ladies team, in the S.A. interclub event, use the H. Lewis Trafalgar K4 to complete a very choppy and windy course.

The ladies, Jill Pocket, Joey Bietje, Anne Wolfe and Ronel Olivier are all members of Stella Canoe Club. They hope, next year, to have plenty of opposition from other ladies teams!

As most of you are aware it is always extremely difficult to find sponsors but even more so to keep them! So should you require property in Durban, in particular flats, penthouses or townhouses call the Estate Agents of H. Lewis Trafalgar and mention your canoeing connection. - Your sport needs you!

Brian Moore
(Chairman Stella Canoe Club)

Breede River Marathon



From top: The "hoardes" come out of the trees - start of "fish & chips" at Robertson, First Day. Brian Moore and Ian Klynsmith on flood waters at Silverstrand Holiday Resort. Their boat is next to a partly submerged "braai" construction. The water was even higher on the actual race. Ever used this sort of trailer to transport your canoe! Megan Murray with the beer coolbox stands guard.



**H. Lewis
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WE SUPPORT CANOEING.