

Cub Scouts Pow-Wow At Camp Pretty Pond

BY SUSAN USHER

It was some pow-wow. Or, as Program Director Gina Spivey summed it up, "Cub Scouting at its best, that's what camp is all about."

Eighty Cub Scouts from all across Brunswick County donned headbands with feathers and carved totems last week as part of a week-long day camp held at Camp Pretty Pond, a regional Girl Scout camping facility at Boiling Spring Lakes.

Based in rustic cabins overlooking a calm blue lake surrounded by woodlands, each den of boys took on a tribal name—Apache, Tuscarora, even Tomahawk, and fashioned a teepee out front.

That was just for starters as campers combined having fun with learning in a week-long series of Indian-theme outdoor adventures. Activities culminated Friday, which was both parents day, competition day and sleep-over for the Webelos.

After learning how to use the sharp instruments safely, the boys carved totems using pocket knives they got to keep. Using hatchets, they chopped with the grain of the wood to begin hollowing out a cypress log canoe much like those used at one time in this area.

Camp allowed the Cub Scouts to finish off a lot of work begun in their packs, said Mrs. Spivey, and to start new activities that required team and individual effort such as first aid lessons, volleyball, water play and crafts.

When they were not so good, the boys hugged a tree for five minutes or so.

But when they were good, they were very good, challenging themselves to excel.

In one event, to shouts of "Come on! Go!" they raced along an obstacle course that demanded sliding on a suspended rope seat, climbing a fence rail, waddling across a series of tires, racing across an on-ground balance beam, wriggling through two barrels and swinging across the monkey bars before making a furious dash for the finish line.

When the Apaches (Den 7) won a knot-tying competition against a den of older boys Friday morning under the sharp eye of Camp Director Frank Blackmon, T.J. (Tony) Ward of Bolivia had a ready answer. "We practiced a lot," he said with pride.

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PAULA PERGERSON of Boiling Spring Lakes helps T.J. Ward lace a leather scarf ring as fellow camper Wesley Williams watches.



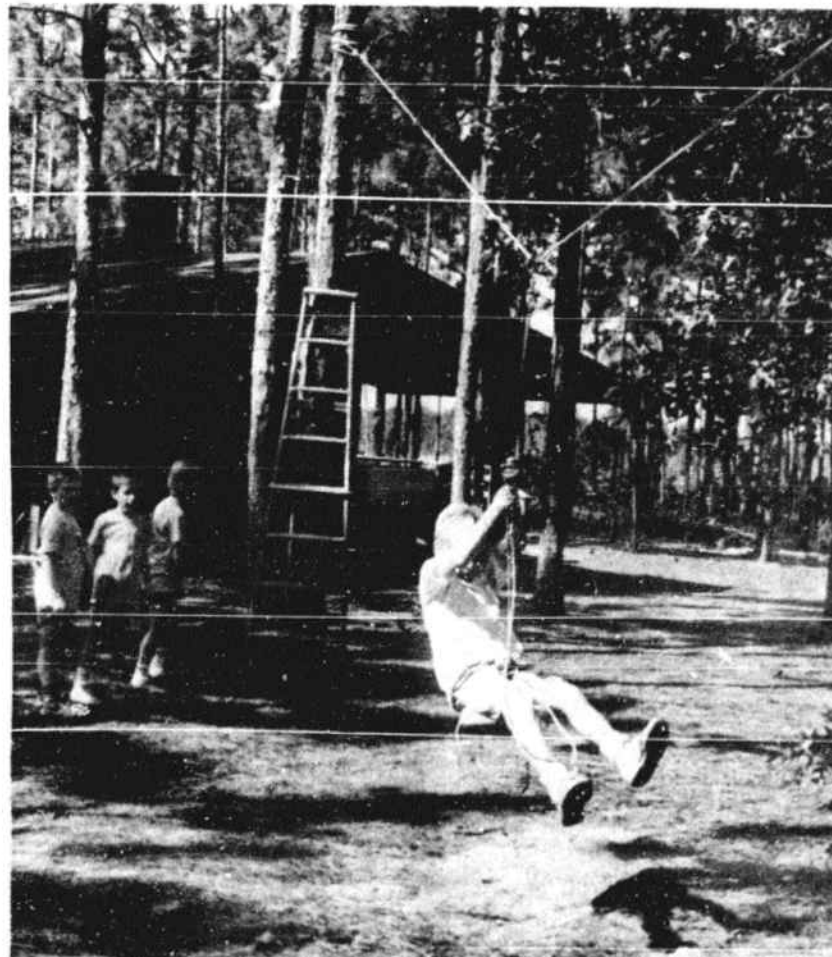
MATT SUTTON (left) and leader Charlie Cleary of Oak Island looks on as Josh Spivey of Den 5 (Tuscaroras) burns his name onto the back of a totem carved in camp craft classes.



WORKING WITH THE GRAIN of the wood, Jason Norris and Sam Mintz take a turn at hollowing a cypress log into a canoe similar to those used by Waccamaw-Sioux Indians and other early inhabitants of the area.



MORGAN VARNAM deftly ties a clove hitch in knot-tying competition. However, his den lost the match to the Apaches of Den 7 (seated).



STAFF PHOTOS BY SUSAN USHER

FITZGERALD HALL slides into a good start on the obstacle course, posting one of the best times for the morning at 56:5.

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