

# water

AUSTRALIA'S PADDLESPO RTS MAGAZINE

ISSUE 2 2007

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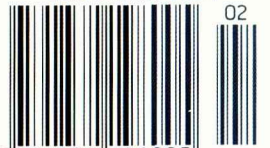
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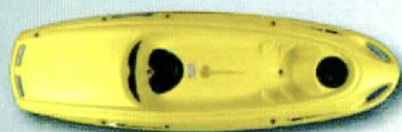
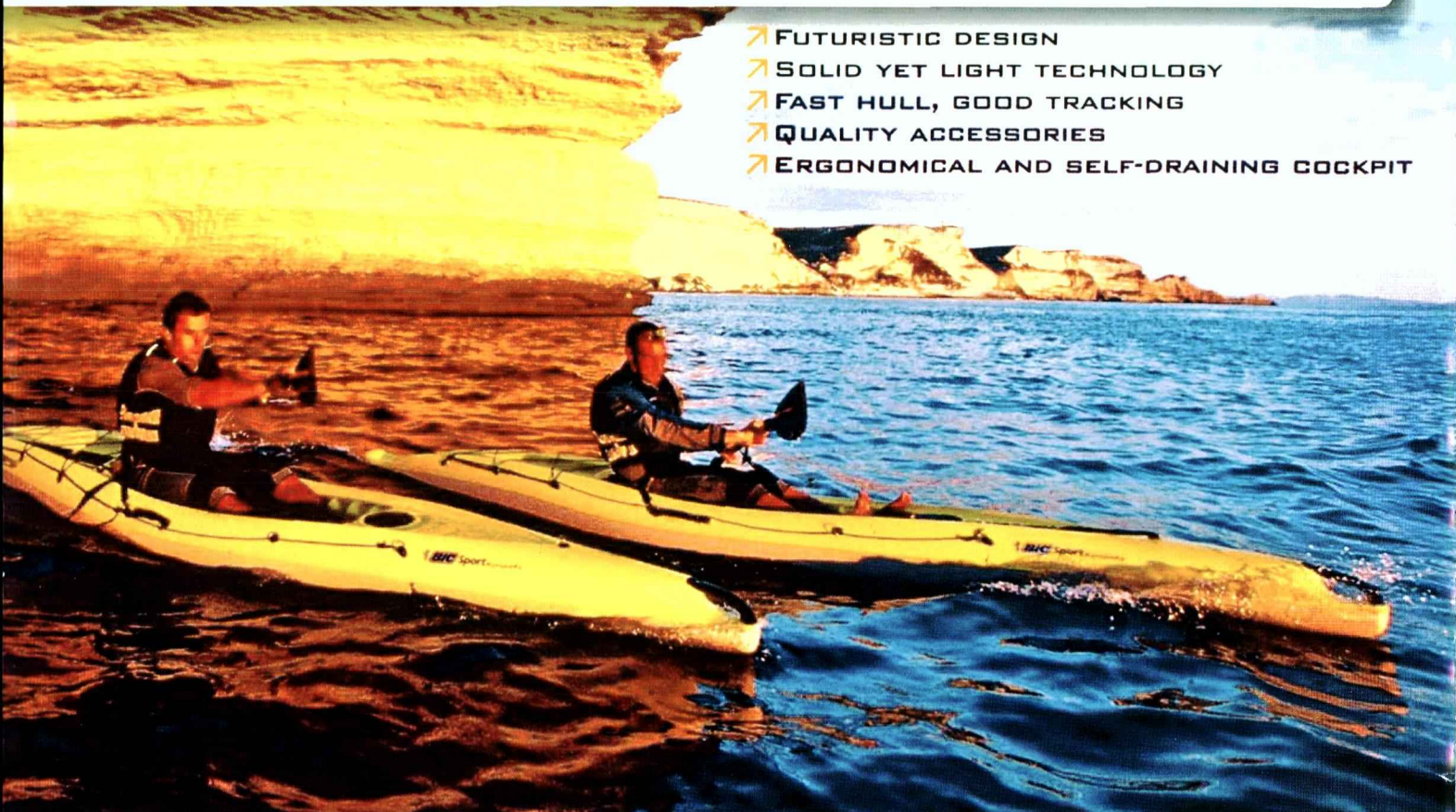


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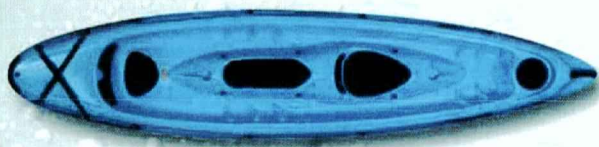


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FINALISTS / WINNERS

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CALENDAR

**Editor** - Stacey Marsh; [magazine@australianwhitewater.com](mailto:magazine@australianwhitewater.com)  
PO Box 36, Cockatoo 3781 VIC

**Advertising Manager** - Roy Farrance

**Advertising** - Stacey Marsh

**Production Manager** - Dita Pahl

**Graphic Design** - Nat Jeanneret; [nat@ausmusician.com](mailto:nat@ausmusician.com)

**Contributors** - Stuart Dry, Barbara Peers, Gary Maxworthy

Australian Whitewater enquiries; editorial comments to above address.

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# NEWS: IN SHORT

## Mine proposed on the Salmon River

The Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) will hear public comments on a proposal to mine state lands below the ordinary high water mark on the Salmon River upstream from Lucile ID. The hearing will be held on July 18th, 2007, and may prove to be enlightening. Mining activities below the ordinary high water mark are very destructive to the ecological health of the Salmon River. The loss of riparian vegetation and possible impacts to water quality could endanger flora and fauna such as listed salmon and steelhead populations.

Building of dams and mining along natural water courses has long since destroyed many ecological treasures in countries all over the world. In addition, the aesthetic and recreational qualities of the Salmon River provide valuable income for local businesses along with benefiting Idaho's tourism economy. This is a far more valuable resource to residents than the limited income from the proposed lease.

Lands below the ordinary high water mark are public trust lands owned by all Idahoans and should be managed for

the long-term protection of fish, wildlife and recreation. this is the type of fight that organizations such as American Whitewater have been fighting for years, with growing support. Any comments can be sent to:

Attn: Director - Idaho Department of Lands  
Secretary to the State Board of Land Commissioners  
954 West Jefferson, Post Office Box 83720  
Boise, Idaho 83720-0050 USA

## TEVA Extreme Outdoor Games 2007 Val Sesia Italy

The TEVA Extreme Outdoor games always have been one of the top kayak events every year over the last 6 years, but this year's event had grown much bigger than expected, especially in other sports like mountain running, downhill biking, bouldering and some more demonstration events. Media included local and international TV distributors. Kayaking events were heavily attended with 60 kayakers from 15 countries entered this year's kayak races. The event kicked off on friday with the team and individual

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downriver race on the Egua river. With a slightly higher water level than last year and a much more competitive field of paddlers, the racing times were much faster than

Pat Keller got bumped out of the kayak cross in the semi finals and with a 7th place in the little final, what meant that he was settled for 3rd place overall. Now it was up to Jacobus Stenglein and Hannes Brandstaetter to fight for the first and second place in the overall standing and the big price money. Jacobus took no chances and won all his heats including the semi finals always with a solid lead, only to get beaten by Hannes Brandstaetter and Honza Lasko (CZ) in the final heat of the kayak cross. But after dropping everyone's lowest score out of 4 races, the third place in the final event turned out to be enough points for Jacobus to win the overall title and 1000 Euros of price money. Hannes Brandstaetter took second and Pat Keller third place overall.

Christie Glissmeyer secured an overall first place and 500 Euros price money with her first place in the kayak cross. Katerina Migdavao just barely missed the women's kayak cross final but after dropping the lowest score it turned out that she earned enough points to win the overall 2nd place, closely followed by Anna Jankowfsky (Ger) on the third place, who got second on Sunday's kayak cross.

## International Whitewater Tournament a Boost for Tourism

The Saluda River in Columbia, Jennifer Lindgren

A unique international sports event was held in the US Midlands, July 18-21. The 2007 Junior Wildwater World Championship were contested on the Saluda River and the new Charlotte Whitewater course.

The race was brought to this area due to a collaboration and cooperation of the cities of Columbia and Charlotte, where the second half of the race - the sprints took place. 86 athletes from fifteen countries competed for title of best in the world in the five-day event. This is the first time the competition has been held in the United States, let alone South Carolina. "It's nice here. It's hot, but it's nice," said Paul Van Winssen, a member of the Canadian team. Organizers worked for two and a half years to get the International Canoeing Federation to choose the Saluda River as the 2007 location.

The event is said to be able to generate hundreds of thousands of dollars for local cities, even though, the wildwater championships seemed to be more about the attention, than the revenue. The event puts Columbia and West Columbia out internationally. media attention will be international, with coverage in boating and kayaking magazines.

In wildwater competitions, athletes in long, fast boats race against each other for the fastest time over both a long, downriver classic course and a shorter, faster sprint course. The classic race component was contested on a three-mile stretch of the Saluda River in Columbia. The sprint races were held on the challenging wilderness channel of the new US National Whitewater Center in Charlotte. Participating teams included Luxembourg, Netherlands, Belgium, Great Britain, and Republic of South Africa, United States and others. Those countries on the podium included France, Germany and the Czech Republic.

in 2006. Like last year, team Italy 1 (Francesco Salvato, Michelle Ramazza, Enrice Lazzarotto) took first again, followed by Germany 1 (Jacobus Stenglein, Benjamin Herrbrügger, Thilo Schmitt), and Team USA (Pat Keller, John Grace, Austin Rathmann) in third place.

The first place in the individual downriver race went to Italian paddler Michelle Ramazza, 5 seconds ahead of Pat Keller from USA and in third place Hannes Brandstaetter from Austria. In the women's division we saw a very tight race on the lower section of the men's race course with Katerina Migdavao (CZ) taking first, closely followed by Anna Jankowfsky (Ger) and Christie Glissmeyer (USA).

By Saturday water levels had decreased again and so the remaining events were moved to the Sorba river. The slalom race proved exciting with some major upsets due to disqualifications, like the one of last years winner, Michelle Ramazza who missed a gate. Pat Keller won ahead of Jacobus Stenglein (Ger) and third place went to Andrej Bijuklic from Slovenia. The women's class was taken by Lilli Winter (Ger), second went to Rosie Cripps (UK) and on third place Christie Glissmeyer.

The sprint in the afternoon was won by Jacobus Stenglein just half a second in front of Michelle Ramazza and 1.2 seconds faster than Hannes Brandstaetter, a very very close result !

Saturday's dinner and party saw a lot of paddlers staying up till the break of dawn celebrating another great TEVA Extreme Outdoor Games in the beautiful Valle Sesia in Italy and not caring much about their about next day's event, the kayak cross.

# NEWS: IN SHORT

## Bendigo Bank Academy of Sport US Cup Tour

The Bank Academy of Sport (BBAS) Team returned from their US Cup tour - arriving back to find cold weather and water, a good omen for paddling in the next couple of months. The slalom development trip encompassed the world cup site in Wausau Wisconsin, as well as numerous sites in Colorado, with grade 3-4 whitewater. The team performed very well with medals in both the US Cup races and the Junior Olympics during July.

In the first international outing at US cup 2 in Wausau, Loren Kluwer (VIC) managed to finish 5th in the final for US Cup 2, as did Harry Ward (VIC), while Ben Monkcom (VIC) finished 8th. The following day all competed in a Down River sprint, which was won Overall by Harry Ward, followed closely by Ben Monkcom in 2nd place. Coach Dita Pahl managed to place first in both the womens division of the US Cup and Down river Sprint.

Results were improved upon in the following week at US Cup 3 in Colorado, and the Grand Sprint Slalom. Loren Kluwer consolidated her form for 3rd place in the Grand Sprint 14 and under, while Harry Ward also took 3rd in the Junior class. Ben placed 6th, a great effort from all. Coach Dita Pahl Finished 1st in K1.

The Junior Olympics, proved a highlight, with all competing on a great grade 3 course in more than one class. This double header race was very tiring with the second day made up of US Cup 4 - the US Cup Final. Once again our quickly improving athletes showed their great calibre as new athletes on the international scene. Harry Ward placed 1st in Junior C2 and 3rd in Junior K1; Loren Kluwer placed 3rd in both Womens C2 and 14 and under womens K1. Ben Monkcom finished 5th in K1. Coach Dita Pahl finished 1st in K1.

Team Athletes will now move on to Victorian events in the lead up to the Victorian Schools Championships in early September. All have high hopes for a good showing. For more information on BBAS - [info@dagger.com.au](mailto:info@dagger.com.au)



The team at Rocky Mountain National Park



## Eric Jackson Wins Second Everest Award/ Australian Tanya Faux wins women's kayaking category.

For the second time in the three-year history of the event, freestyle kayaking World Champion Eric "EJ" Jackson was honored for his achievements with an Everest Award presented during the Teva Mountain Games at Vail. Known as the Oscars of the Outdoor Industry, the Everest Awards presented by Zest® are presented to the male and female adventure athletes with the most outstanding achievements of the past year. Jackson was also the inaugural recipient of the Everest Award for kayaking. In 2004, Everest criteria was different: candidates and winners were recognized as "pioneers, innovators, leaders, change agents and reflective of the soul of the sport."

This year Jackson continued his dominance of the sport by winning 10 events in freestyle, slalom and extreme creek racing. Most recently, this May on the Ottawa River's world-renowned Bus Eater wave, Jackson, 43, upset a field of 70 of the world's best, mostly 20-somethings, to claim his fourth freestyle kayaking World Championship. Everest Award candidates were nominated by the public via the Mountain Games web site. Finalists and winners were selected by a panel of outdoor writers and experts. Australian Tanya Faux was this year's female kayaker recipient of the Everest Award. All other Everest Award nominees in the kayaking category were Jackson Kayak sponsored athletes including Jackson's 17-year-old daughter, Emily, Ruth Gordon, Stephen Wright and Ben Stookesberry.

## Silver medal for Dan Hall at World Cup 5

Australia's Dan Hall has re-written his own record books and taken the silver medal in World Cup 5 (sprint) at Irvea, Italy. This is Australia's first Wildwater medal at senior level, only Australia's second medal in total after Andrew Tribe won Junior gold many years ago.

The Irvea course claimed some big names, with Mruzek, Marek, Slepica (CZE), Andrea (ITA) and Stiefenhoffer (GER) all well down the list compared to their results from earlier sprint World Cups this season. The tougher course played to Dan's strengths as a paddler of big water and steep technical creeks.

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# NEWS: IN SHORT

## Slalom World Cup Wrap

The World Cup circuit this year proved exciting, with 39 year old Stepanka Hilgertova again showing her brilliance to win the first race of the year.

The Czechs dominated the Kayak Slalom Racing World Cup with gold also going to Stanislav Jezek, and Vavrinec Hradilek, who is a mere 20 years old and making his debut in the Czech national team. Stepanka Hilgertova's son Lubos Hilgert, a year older than Hradilek, came fourth in the race. Results for Australia were not as brilliant - with no medals, but one close call for Robin Bell who finished 4th.

The second world cup held in Tacen, showed the leaders versatility with Hilgertova again finishing in the medals, behind Mandy Planert from Germany - who returned to the



World Cup circuit after having her first child last year. Husband Jan Benzien finished in the top 15 in the world.

Australia's hopes continued to be crushed with less than stellar performances by all concerned. Robin Bell again

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the brightest star with a 5th place finish, again narrowly missing the podium. K1 and C2 results were improved with Anthony Brown 19th and the C2 crew of Milne and Bellafiore 14th.

The last World Cup - held at the Eiskanal in Augsburg, Germany afforded the competitors yet another shot at the medals. This was the last competition before the Worlds in Brazil in September, and therefore the last chance to match skills against their competitors before then.

As expected, the Germans proved too strong with medals in most classes. Alexander Grimm and Eric Pfannmoeller led the charge with gold and silver in K1. Nico Bettge the gold in C1, followed closely by Australian Robin Bell in Silver, and Jennifer Bongart earned gold for the women, followed by countrymate Jasmin Schornberg

For the Australians Bells medal at the last world cup consolidates their hopes for seeing him on the podium at the world championships. The upcoming world championships are additionally an Olympic qualification event.

amount of tape and a pile of cardboard to build a kayak of any shape. No knives, scissors, or sharp objects are allowed.

The boat designs are many and varied with some looking like rejects from an experimental art class. Not only that, but all were named in the tradition of good seafaring ships.

This year teams came up with a couple of intriguing designs - one that could only be described as a floating banana, while another fashioned a sit-on-top arrow wrapped in tape. A team of traditionalists, came out with something that actually looked like a real kayak, with narrow bow and stern and symmetrical hull with a cockpit, while still others tried to paddle items that looked more like a wad of paper wrapped in packing tape that incidentally had a hole for a paddler to perch in. The surprising thing is it floated.



### Cardboard Kayak Race

An annual event on the West Coast of the US -The contest is simple. Teams of designers are given an unlimited

The teams lined up on the beach for a LeMans' style start, meaning the paddlers must run down to the water carrying their boats, leap in, and paddle off. They raced around a buoy anchored 100 yards out in the ice cold water. The winners were given the dubious honour of securing a place in the cardboard kayak Hall of Fame located at the

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- Dec 15, 2007 - NZ Mangahao, Southern Cup 2
- Dec 16, 2007 - NZ, Mangahao, Southern Cup 3
- Jan 10, 2008 - AUS, Victoria, Goulburn River, Southern Cup 4
- Jan 11, 2008 - AUS, Victoria, Goulburn River, Southern Cup 5

Points awarded to determine overall championship winners

For more information [www.dagger.com.au/southerncup](http://www.dagger.com.au/southerncup)

# GEAR REVIEW

## WINTER WARMERS

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### Palm Sidewinder

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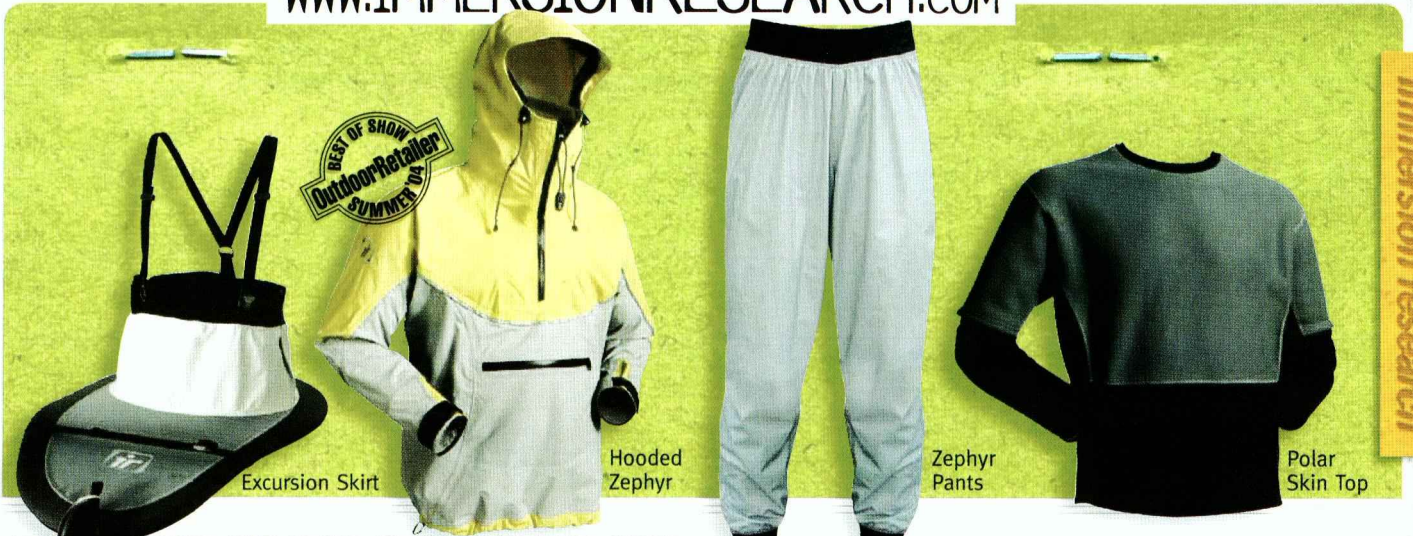
Kelsey Thompson - Solution Team Member

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# PADDLING IN PARADISE

TEXT: BARBARA PEERS  
PHOTOS: BARRIE PEERS

Yes, I enjoy watching the Teva Xtreme races held in our spectacular Cataract Gorge. Yes, I read every feature in this magazine and marvel at the mental toughness and physical strength needed to participate in something like the Mark Webber Pure Tasmania challenge. However, here in Tassie there is a growing number of paddlers in their 50's and 60's who just want to use their kayaks to 'enjoy nature' rather than 'challenge nature'. Is there a better place than Tassie to find the best nature has to offer? I don't think so. Let's face it, at this stage it's a challenge just getting in and out of the kayak, so

we can do without the thrill of the Reting Tsang-Po descent! It's also a challenge for our age group to look 'sexy' in the appropriate clothing and gear, so we just have to settle for 'eccentric'. Ah, but we do love the challenge of drifting close by platypus that live along the quiet rivers and lakes where the pristine forests lap the waters edge and appear as perfect reflections on the dark water. Sea eagles resting among the Huon Pines and Myrtles lining the rivers of the west coast are always aware of any movement, of course, but if we are very quiet and just drift gently by, they are very tolerant of our mute admiration.



# SECURITY CONVENIENCE PEACE OF MIND



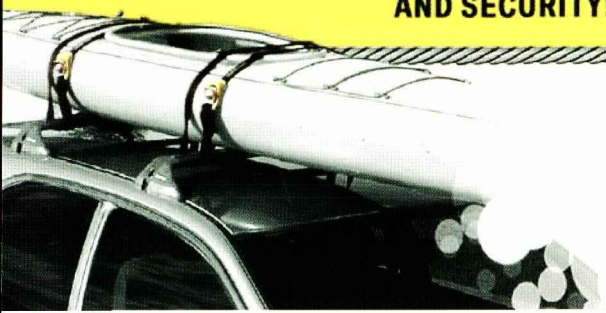
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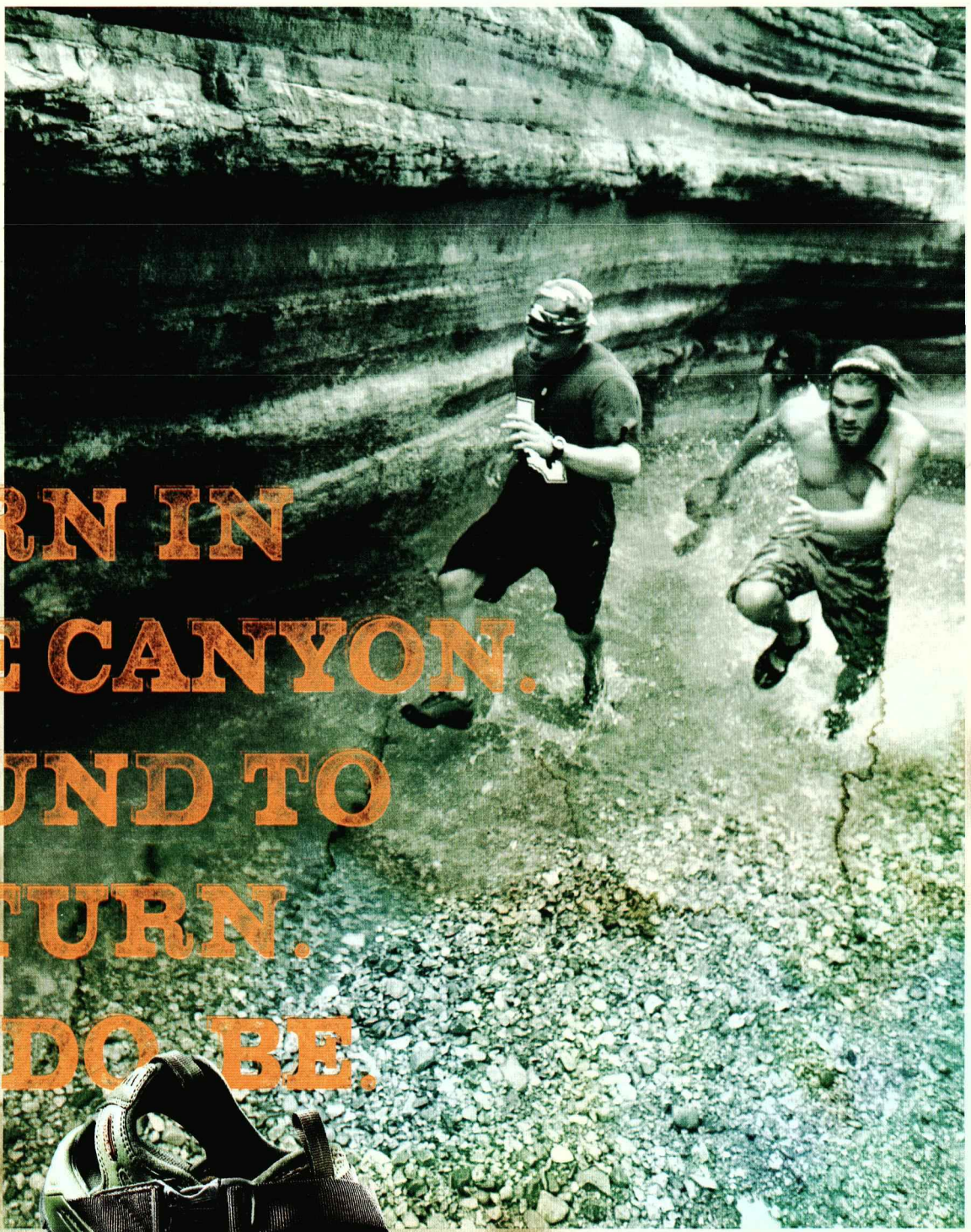


**1.** The weather at Lake St Clair (Cradle Mountain National Park) can make kayaking very challenging at times but when the wind drops and the sun shines it is heaven on earth. We have spent many happy days exploring the bays and inlets around the lake beneath the imposing mountains that surround it. There are endless places to set up camp for overnight trips and this gives us access to some bushwalking away from the crowded tracks.

**2.** The Pieman river on the rugged west coast of Tasmania offers majestic mountains softened by spectacular native forests of Myrtles, Sassafras, Blackwoods and Huon Pines that reach right into the water creating awesome reflections. We camp beside the river at Corinna, an old gold mining town dating back to the late 1800's. Most tourists come to Corinna in order to use the ferry that crosses the Pieman thus allowing them to continue their journey to the west coast towns of Zeehan and Stahan. Over the years we have camped in the informal little camp ground many times but have seen very few fellow campers there. Recently we paddled southwards on the Pieman, soaking up the splendor of the wilderness in perfect weather, and our biggest challenge was finding somewhere to get off the river for a lunch break. We finally found a suitable landing spot, and after lunch we had our usual 'nanna nap' before reluctantly heading back to camp. The next day we paddled west to the mouth of the Pieman, detouring along the Donaldson river on the way. We did pass the occasion-

**4.** Port Arthur

Photo by Chris Rainer



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Day 10, Mile 136; Rich, Marlow, and Anthony cut through Deer Creek Narrows. Tepeats limestone slots; freshwater creeks; shallow plunge pools drainage debris and gravel, exposed boulders and rocks, wide-high water



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al fishing boat on this section of the river, as well as the tourist vessel that plies between Corinna and the heads, but they only disturbed our tranquil tour for a few minutes. Another perfect day on the west coast of Tassie. This area is also ideal for overnight trips.

We have a secluded little spot where we like to camp. It's on the very edge of Lake Rosebery not far from Tullah, with water on three sides and a fabulous view of Mount Murchison. This gives us access to many days paddling past ancient temperate rainforests surrounded by craggy mountains, and we never miss a chance to slip into the nearby Murchison Gorge, one of our favourite places.

**3.** Silently gliding on the black water of the Henty River, also on the west coast of Tassie, can deliver many magical surprises for the observant paddler. Sea eagles resting above in the magnificent native forests that brush the edge of the water where platypus amuse us with their antics. The gentle birdsong and the smell of the forest are the drugs of choice for nature junkies.

**4.** Of course not all goes to plan, and sometimes we (usually me) get into uncomfortable situations. We were enjoying a day paddling around Carnarvon bay near Port Arthur on the Tasman Peninsular, and were just approach-

ing the 'Isle of the Dead' when the tourist ferry headed out from Port Arthur. We knew they headed for the Isle of the Dead but expected them to pass it on the eastern side so just maintained our course. Wrong! They came straight towards us at a million miles per hour (so it seemed) in order to pass the island on the western side. We paddled like fury to get out of the way, but we suspect the ferry captain was providing some entertainment for his passengers. Goodness knows what he was saying to them, but let me tell you, looking up at a large catamaran ferry looming towards you can get very exciting. The ferry did slow down as it passed close by us and went on its way. But wait, there's more. Just as we thought it was safe to head away from the island again, just like Jaws, the ferry was creeping up behind us again, which caused us another frantic paddle to get out of its way.

This is just a small sample of how we, the older and more sedate paddler enjoys the sport of kayaking. We have many more experiences to share, perhaps at a later date (Keep an eye out for more of Barbaras anecdotes in later issues -SM)

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# AUSTRALIANS IN KOREA

## WORLD RAFTING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2007

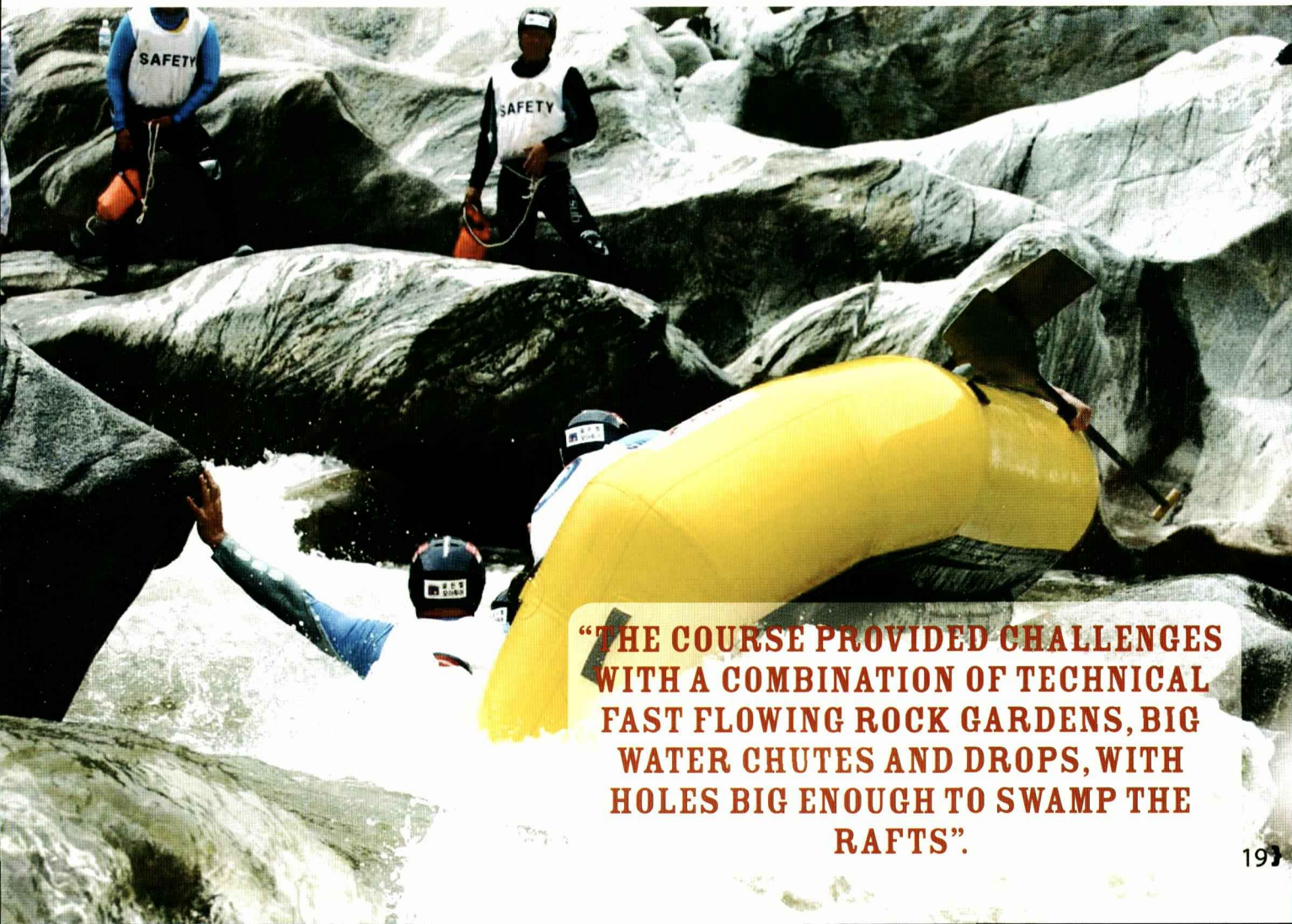
TEXT AND PHOTOS:  
STUART DRY

The 2007 World Rafting Championships were run over 3 intense days of competition on the Naerincheon River near Inje in South Korea with 29 Nations in attendance. The Australian contingent comprised of the men's team, Sam Norton, Keita Yagisawa, Kevin Richards, Stuart Dry, Jeremy (Jez) Blanchard, Jack Peard and Phil Benfield, and the women's team; Ali Parker, Una Fahey, Sandy Di Ciero, Michelle Blackwell, Kate Collister and Jodie Agius plus IRF judges, Graham Maifredi and Andrew Midgley.

The Teams arrived for pre-competition practice to find low water and a very technical course requiring teamwork and very precise raft control to navigate a fast line. While organisers and IRF officials struggled to implement contingency plans to compensate for the abnormally low rainfall, some teams chose to travel to the surf on the pacific coast for a break from the shallow technical conditions at the race site. Some others settled for intense flat water sessions and used the extra time to rest or visit local sights including an artificial ice climbing wall. Teams were housed at the Manhae Village Adventure Camp, which provided an excellent atmosphere and opportunities to foster inter-

national friendships. The organisers provided a number of cultural events for evening entertainment and then there were those that preferred a more home-grown style of entertainment. A number of teams displayed their talents in the Karaoke Lounge where green and gold tracksuits featured prominently.

The competition opening ceremony, held at Inje sports stadium, included cultural and fireworks displays with the highlighted being an impressively gymnastic performance of Taekwondo skills. But on day 1 of the competition, it was back to the low water. In the sprint event, it was critical for teams to gain the lead very early. A time trial over the sprint course decided pairings and choice of start lane for the first round of the finals with the top 16 men's teams and top 8 women's teams progressing. The Australian women's team raced into 9th place, which decided their place for the sprint event. The men's time ranked them 12th, pairing them against Italy, ranked 4th. Italy held the advantage of choice of start lane and prevailed, so the Australian men had to be content to maintain their 12th placing in the event.



**“THE COURSE PROVIDED CHALLENGES WITH A COMBINATION OF TECHNICAL FAST FLOWING ROCK GARDENS, BIG WATER CHUTES AND DROPS, WITH HOLES BIG ENOUGH TO SWAMP THE RAFTS”.**

## WORLD RAFTING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2007, CONTINUED

Day 2 of competition saw the river level rise enough overnight to have all teams pondering the changed conditions on the slalom rapid. The rise in water level gave the river enough power to cause some crews to wrap and flip at the "wrap rock" below gate 10 when the slalom got underway. At the end of the days competition, the Australian men placed 9th place in the slalom and the women, 11th. This put both teams into 10th place in the overall points tally for the championship.

The 3rd and final day of competition was greeted with much anticipation, and a briefing about the river conditions and the location of the days racing. Heavy rain was needed overnight to make the planned down river course viable, and it seemed as if the rain dances performed by several teams had paid off. By the 6am decision time the

river had reached the required 1.1 metre flow height at the down river site, and it continued to rise throughout the morning practice. So by race time, the course provided challenges, with a combination of technical fast flowing rock gardens, big water chutes and drops with holes big enough to swamp the rafts.

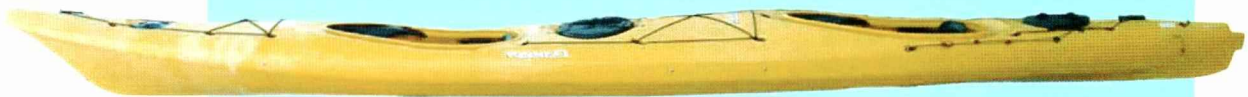
The race was run with 3 crews starting simultaneously in a running start. The Australian men's team started with the eventual winners the Czech Republic plus Great Britain. With 3rd choice of start lane the Australian men raced a nail-biting event to finally finish 11th. The Australian women started the Down River race from lane 2, against South Africa and Russia. Australia won the start and proved too strong throughout the race, finishing in 7th place in this event.



**“THE FINAL DAY WAS GREETED WITH MUCH ANTICIPATION, AND A BRIEFING ABOUT THE RIVER CONDITIONS”.**

The championship is decided by the points earned each of the 3 events and this year the Brazilian men achieved their goal but winning the gold medal ahead of the Czech Republic. The Australian men finished 10th overall. In the women's championship, consistently top performances across all three events gave the Czech Republic the gold medal for the third time. The Australian women achieved 9th in the points tally with consistent performances in all 3 events.

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# PHOTO COMPETITION FINA



LISTS

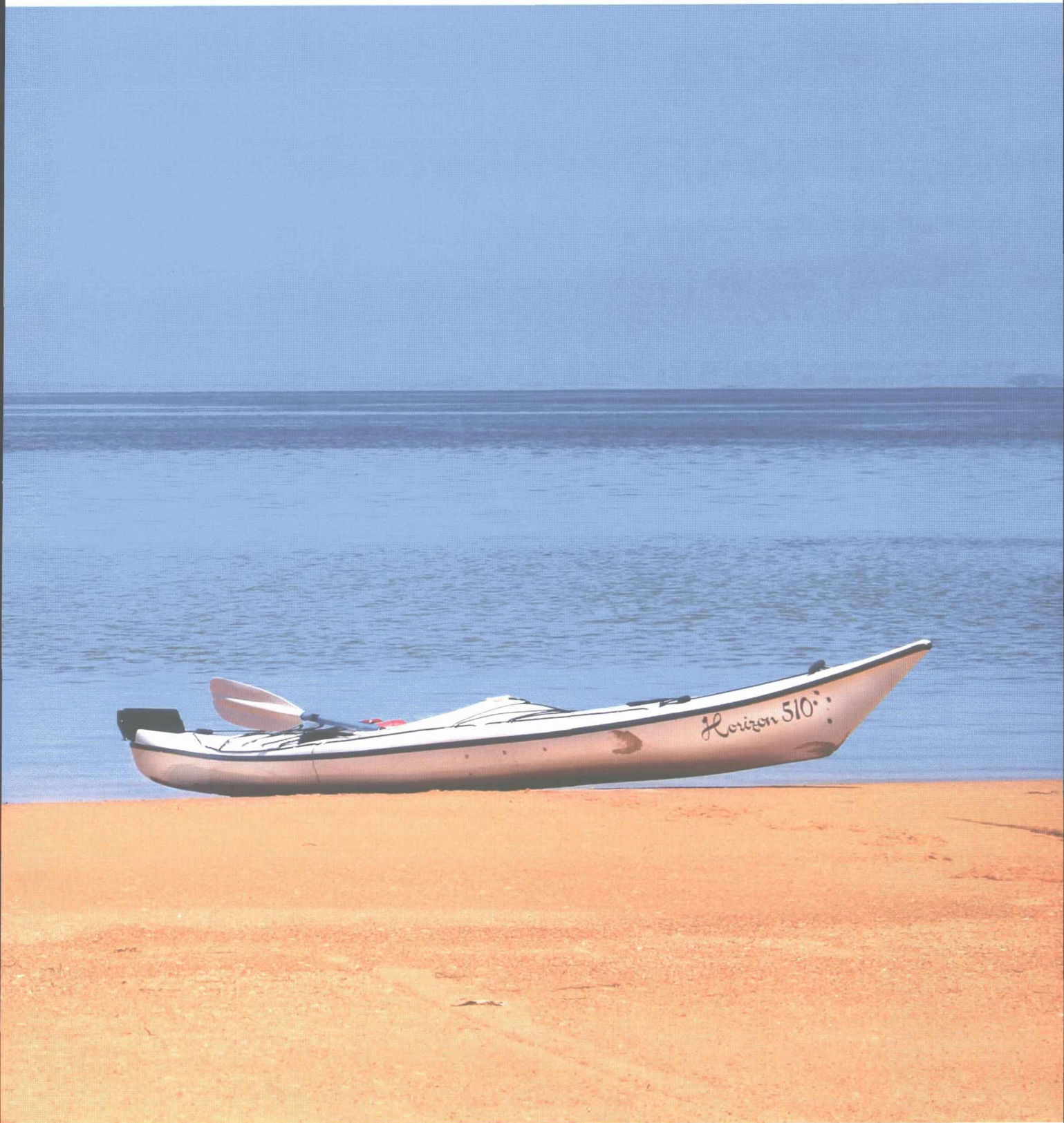


PHOTO: Nick Dooley, Tin Mine Cove, Wilsons Prom.  
Nick Dooley is the winner of the Olympus Stylus Camera and will also be notified by mail.

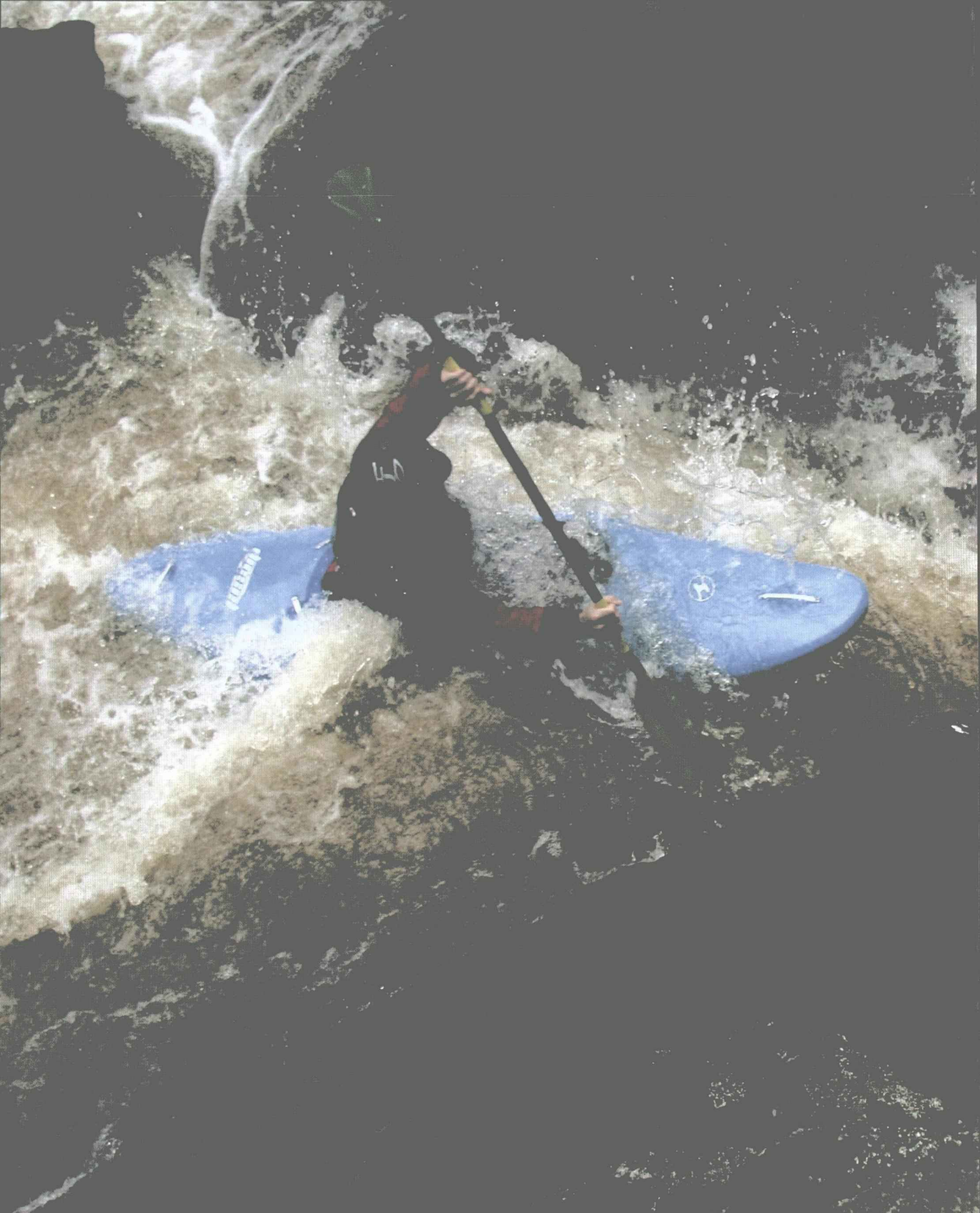






PHOTO: Mark Murray, Kimberley, Remote Western Australia..



PHOTO: Mark Murray, Little Island, Perth, Western Australia.



PHOTO: Nick Dooley, Bathurst Harbour, Tasmania.

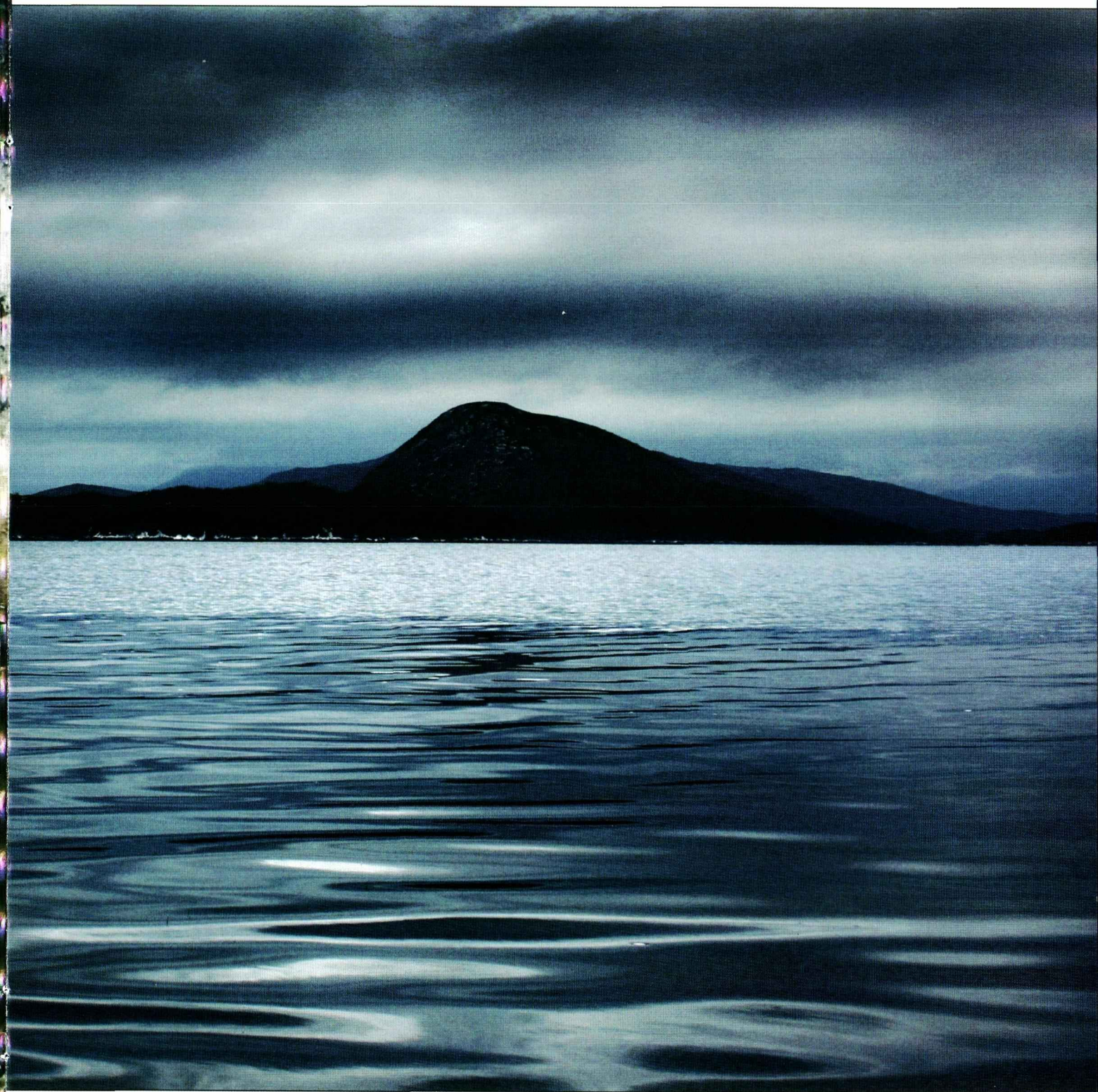




PHOTO: Jeanette Powell, Barron River, North Queensland.



PHOTO: Jeanette Powell. Barron River. North Queensland.

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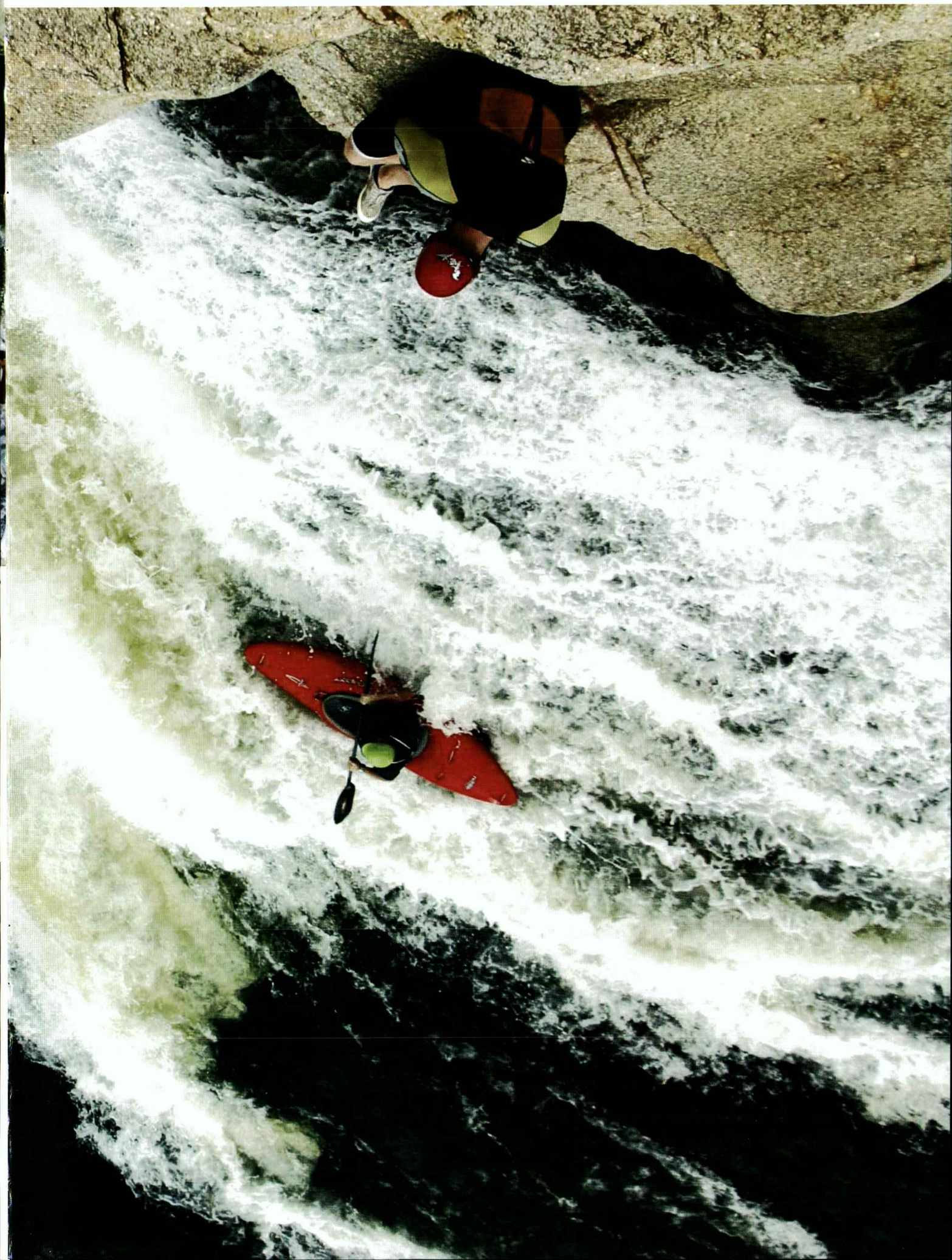
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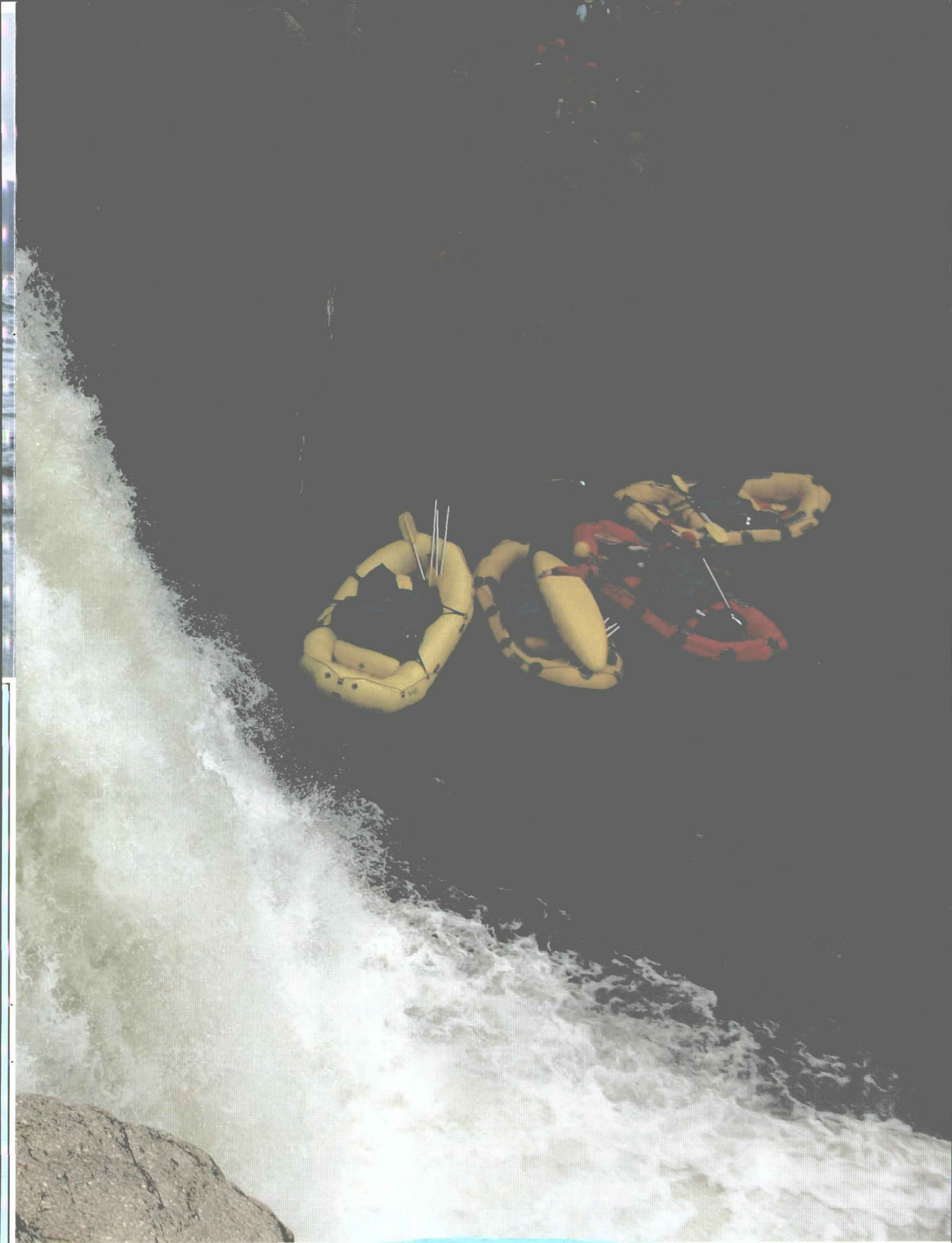


PHOTO: Tim Trevaskis, Bottom Falls, Herbert River, North Queensland,



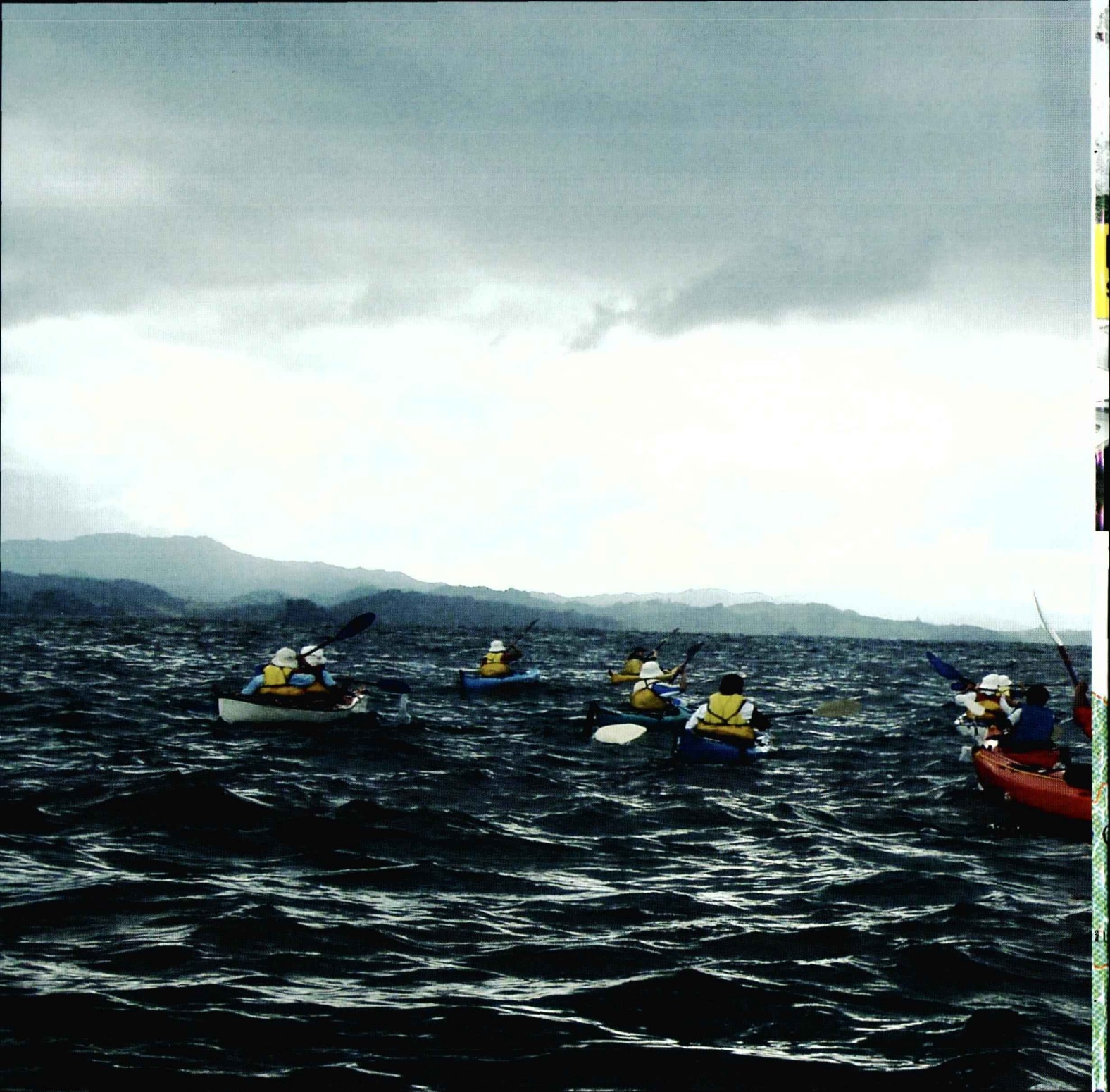
PHOTO: Rebecca Jennings, Canoe Polo Canberra Invitational. Previously published Issue 1, 2007  
Rebecca Jennings is the winner of the Solution Gear Pack and will also be notified by mail.



PHOTO : Iris River, Tasmania. Justin Boocock.



PHOTO: Tim Trevaskis, Kaituna River, New Zealand.



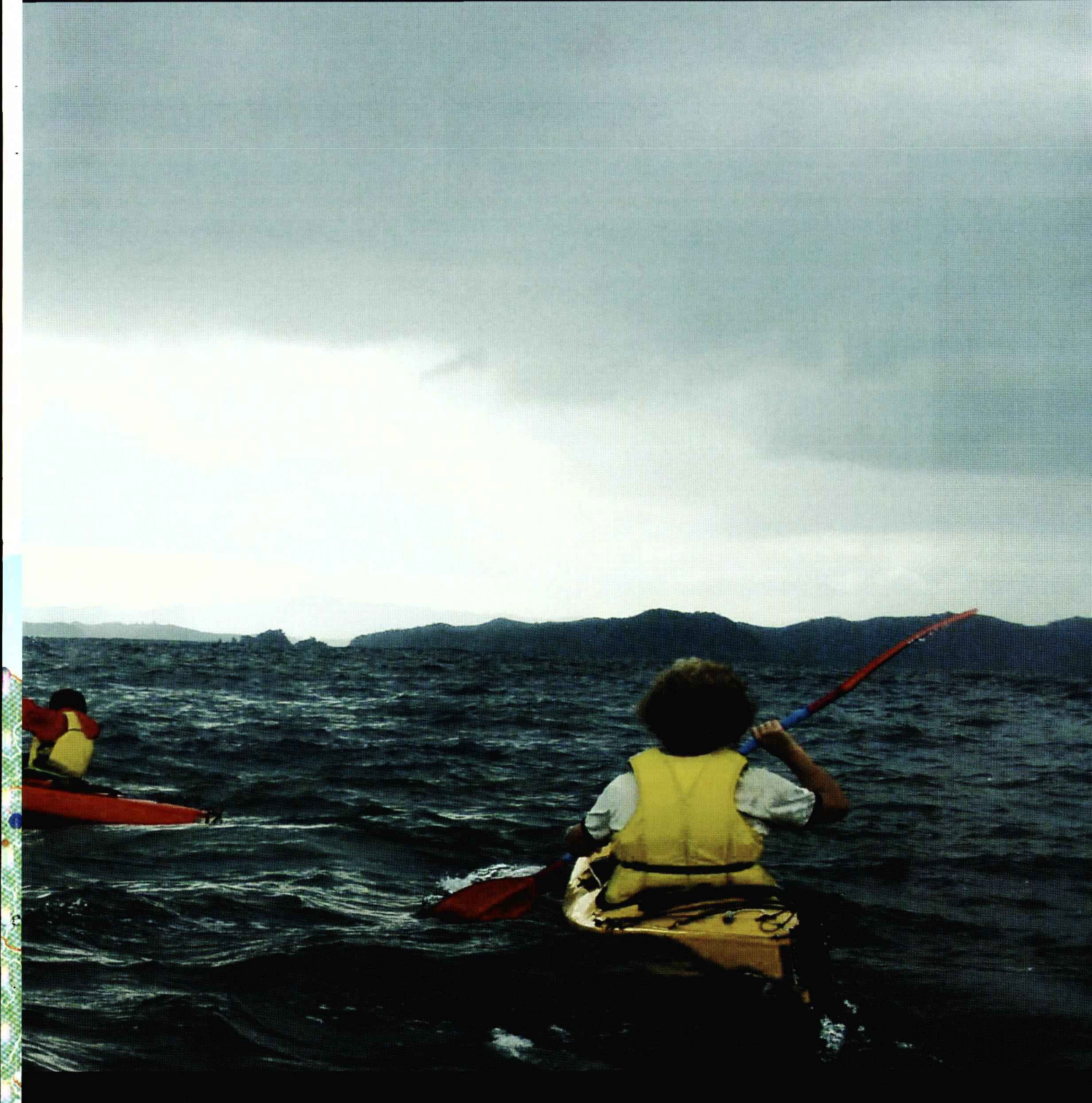


PHOTO: Sasha Joura. Mimiwhangata. Bay of Islands. New Zealand.



PHOTO: Dan Hall, Fish River, Tasmania

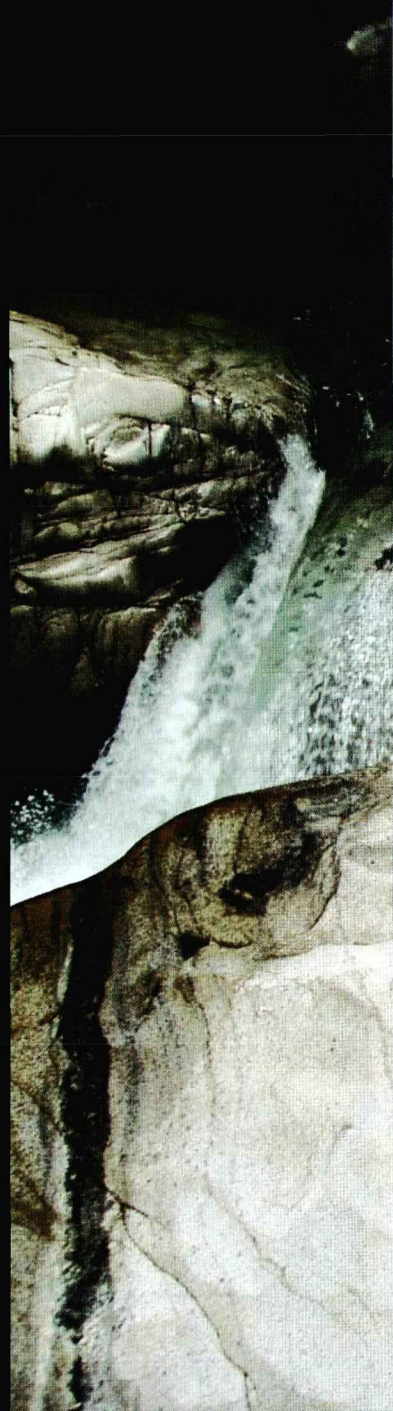




PHOTO: Steven Bates. Unknown River

## BRIDGING THE GAP GARY FAREBROTHER

The third installment of the Dirt Works 100Km Classic on May 6th was once again a resounding success, due in part to a new element in the race, a river crossing over a purpose built bridge made from ToyZ Voyager II's, some Just Straps and scaffolding planks. In previous years the river crossing was over a dry creek bed followed by a "hike a bike" down a goat track one year and a "hike a bike" up a goat track the next. So much was the pain brought on by this challenge that many a competitor enquired if this element was going to be in the race this year, thankfully the answer was no, you get to cross the MacDonald River instead, by bridge.

Building a bridge from scratch, to cross a 70m wide span of the MacDonald River was not a challenge taken lightly by the race organiser and owner of Max Adventure, Gary Farebrother. So much so that a practice run was undertaken in the Parramatta River weeks before, only using a quarter of the materials. The real deal required 23 Toy-boy Voyager II's, 24 scaffolding planks, 23 Just Straps, 4 stabilising ropes, a team of 5 and 3 hours to build. All this and it was built the day before the race. The building concept was simple enough, take one Voyager II, known for their great stability, strap two scaffolding planks to it,



push it out into the river a little ways and repeat. Factor in the outgoing tide, with some stabilising ropes to keep it straight and slowly but surely you have yourself one home made bridge, ready for mountain bikes to ride over. An inaugural crossing was made by Gary, on his mountain bike, not once but twice over the bridge, convincing himself that the bridge would hold and the race plans would remain unchanged.

The night before the race, the Voyager II bridge waited patiently and peacefully on the river, the morning bringing some minor bridge stabilising adjustments to make it race ready. On race day the rising sun tried to ease the morning chill, but did little to ease the excitement that was building around the bridge crossing. The competitors were not quite sure what was in store for them at the river crossing, they were soon to find out.

To walk the plank or ride the plank, that was the question? Those that valued their bikes and staying dry, opted to walk the "Bridge", while some 70 brave souls opted to ride their way across, of which 7 did not make the full distance, they instead were rewarded with a refreshing river dip. Throughout the day the stability of the Voyager II Bridge was tested, with up to 12 competitors plus bikes walking the bridge at any one time. Some competitors had their own fears and stability to overcome, as the bridge had a tendency to sway with each step, increasing in momentum as the number of people on the bridge increased. Walking or riding a bike over the bridge had its own meaning for each of the competitors, for those that succeeded and those that did not, many a gasp, laugh or cheer could be heard from the photographers and on-lookers.

At race end, the ToyZ Voyager II bridge had survived the Dirt Works 100km Classic, with about 700 mountain bikes and people crossing over it during the race. Sadly all that was left was the dismantling of the bridge, piece by piece, plank by plank, kayak by kayak. This took a team of 3 about 2 hours of unstrapping and loading of the gear back into the Max Adventure trailer, leaving the kayaks ready for their next adventure.



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# FEMALE FREESTYLE SUPERSTARS

THE PAST  
THE PRESENT  
THE FUTURE

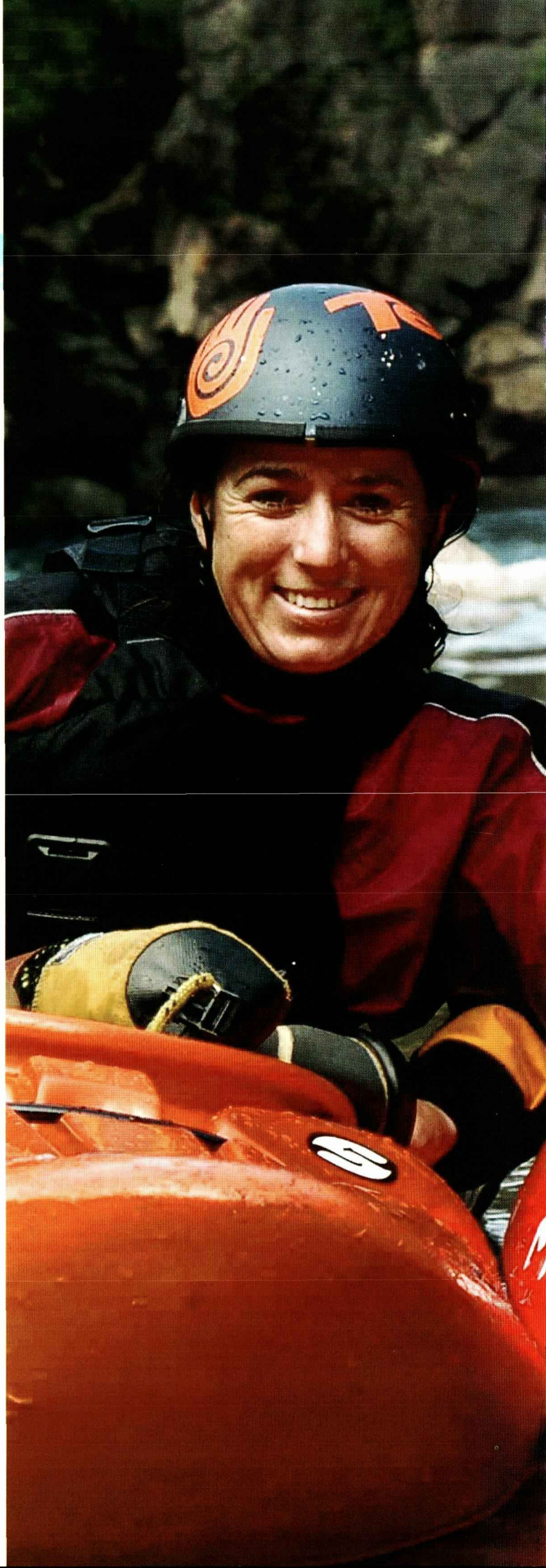
Women have hit the mainstream in whitewater kayaking. Although a long time coming, and although the southern hemisphere lags behind the rest of the world (we can claim little water), our women are no longer just running shuttle and working part-time at retail shops. They are not only competing in rodeos, and exploring new rivers and creeks, but are now showing everyone in the industry just how its done.

## The past

Today's top female kayakers would not have gotten to their current positions without a die-hard group of women setting the pace before them. But they have grabbed the baton and are taking it full speed ahead. Many of the women who paved the way for today's women kayakers are still in their boats today. Two-time Olympian Cathy Hearn is now National Coach for the US womens team, Dana Chladek took the Olympic silver on the Ocoee, and runs her own business. Long time competitor Danielle Woodward has returned to coaching Olympic hopefuls in Australia, while still others such as Nikki Kelly in New Zealand and long-time rodeo competitor Georgia LePlastrier also helped lay a solid foundation for today's female kayakers.

Just as this new batch of women have had to pay their dues, so too did their predecessors. Georgia LePlastrier finally retired from competitive kayaking to build up a new business running rafting and whitewater trips in Nepal with her Husband Ram.

Georgia leaves behind her a considerable legacy including at least 5 Australian Titles and countless trips to the world championships in freestyle and rafting. Her legacy extended to teaching youngsters to kayak and furthering womens participation in water sports with a 5 day expedition down the Yukon. Her passion for whitewater made her constant source of inspiration for others and certainly actively encouraged participation in freestyle.





THE NORTH FACE

NEIL JER

THE NORTH FACE

THE NORTH FACE

GO



## The present

Australia's Tanya Faux is one of those inspired by Georgia LePlastrier, and even taught by Georgia in the early stages on the Goulburn River in Victoria. However, Tanya's personality soon had her clamouring to be the best she could be. Dabbling in slalom to hone her skills, Tanya finally zeroed in on her forte of freestyle kayaking, with a little exploration thrown in for good measure. She was driven to accept new challenges and in kayaking there are always new challenges, to keep her interested and driven.

Her potential was seen early on when she claimed victory in the 1992 preworld freestyle championships, in Penrith Australia, but then disappointed as she failed to back up her win in 1993 at the same site. Later that year she was sidelined recovering from shoulder surgery, and many speculated that she would not return from such a hard blow.

Finally, she was able to consolidate a comeback, and certainly a hard earned victory – winning the world cup circuit in 2006, and then placing 2nd to achieve a silver medal at the World Championships in Ottawa in early 2007. Tanya is definitely our current pin-up girl, with a style more reminiscent of skater-hip, but certainly unmistakably her own. Her current success is illustrated by her appearances in various magazines. She also is one of Team Wave Sport's up and coming female paddlers.

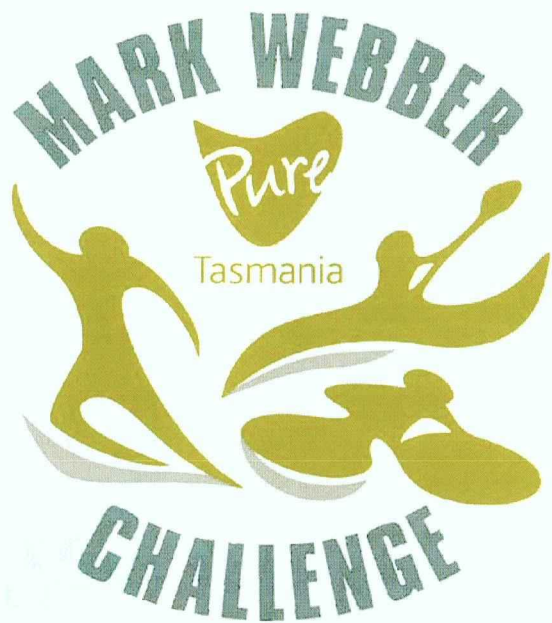
## The future

While Tanya at 29 may be the southern Hemispheres current glamour girl, there is certainly another young star moving up the ranks. Emily Jackson is by no means a newcomer to either competition or the freestyle scene, but at 17 has the potential to become a huge force in shaping the way women are viewed in the sport.

Emily also has had more luck than others, growing up with Eric Jackson as a father. EJ paved the way for Emily to develop into a solid athlete even before the age of 15, with opportunities such as tackling the Zambezi and Nile Rivers last year, while preparing for the 2006 World Cup.

The Jackson Family RV is a familiar sight parked alongside rivers in the US summer, where the whole family compete. Living and breathing whitewater for 8 hours a day is bound to help even the most struggling paddler. But, Emily doesn't just paddle for herself, she is also known to help out on the water, coaching or teaching when needed at clinics EJ runs, and last year raised \$15,000 for a medical clinic in Africa. Her sweet nature and bent on giving back to the wider community make Emily a sure hit. Emily paddles for Team Jackson (obviously).

# Are you up for the Challenge?



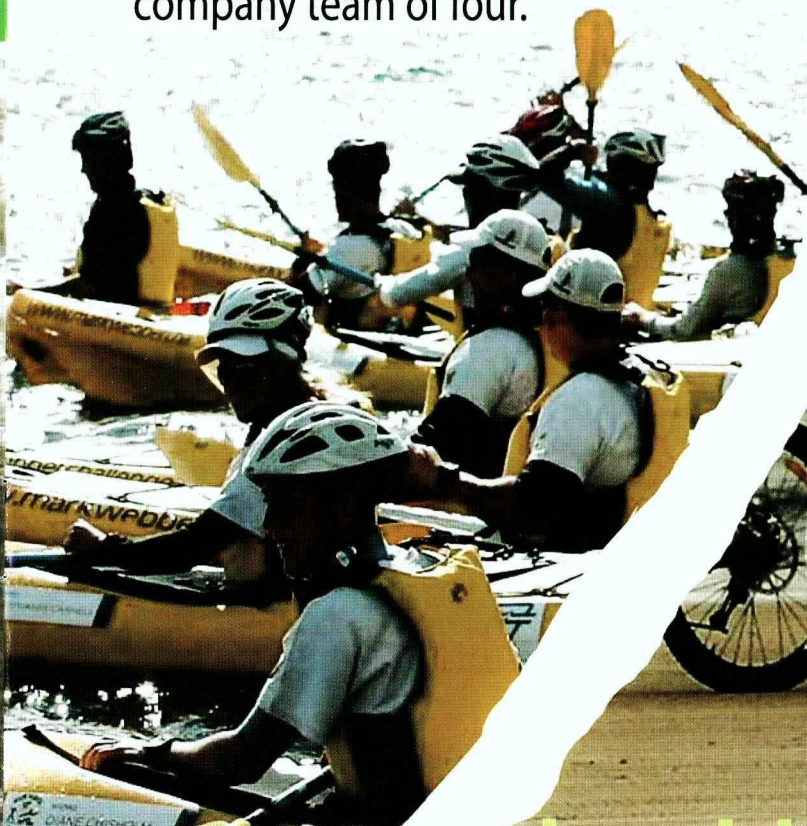
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# DVD REVIEWS:

## Built to Last

Lunch Video Magazine Issue 22

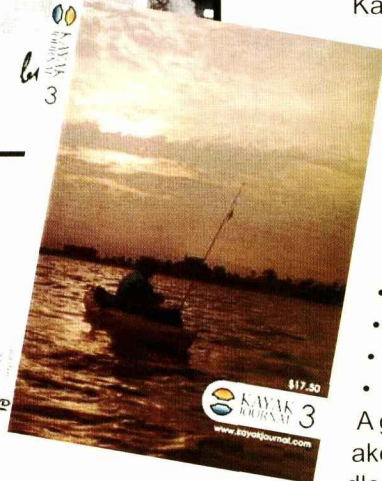


In the whitewater industry LVM is recognised as an innovator and leader in providing quality entertainment to viewers. Since it's home grown beginnings, LVM has been dedicated to providing a high quality DVD featuring the freshest and most exciting video footage of the latest expeditions, river trips, competitions and festivals, in addition to introducing many of the faces (and musings) of those whose lifestyles are immersed in the sport. Released quarterly each issue is a collection of visually expressive whitewater vignettes plus a feature documentary guaranteed to captivate and thrill the viewer. On issue 22 LVM has pulled out all the stops to remind it's viewers that it was "Built to Last". the DVD features:



- Updates from England, Norway, BC, and Tibet
- USA, Canada and Brazil first decents
- Nile freestyle festival '06
- And of course Lots More.....

## Kayak Journal Issue 3



Kayak Journal is the Touring and Flatwater Kayaking version of LVM. Released quarterly it features footage on expedition reports, product knowledge, kayak fishing and more. Issue 3 features.....

- Wisconsin Ironman
- Werner Gear Knowledge
- Vacation to Hell Update
- Teva Water Conservation
- Kayak Fishing in Texas
- The Russian Experience

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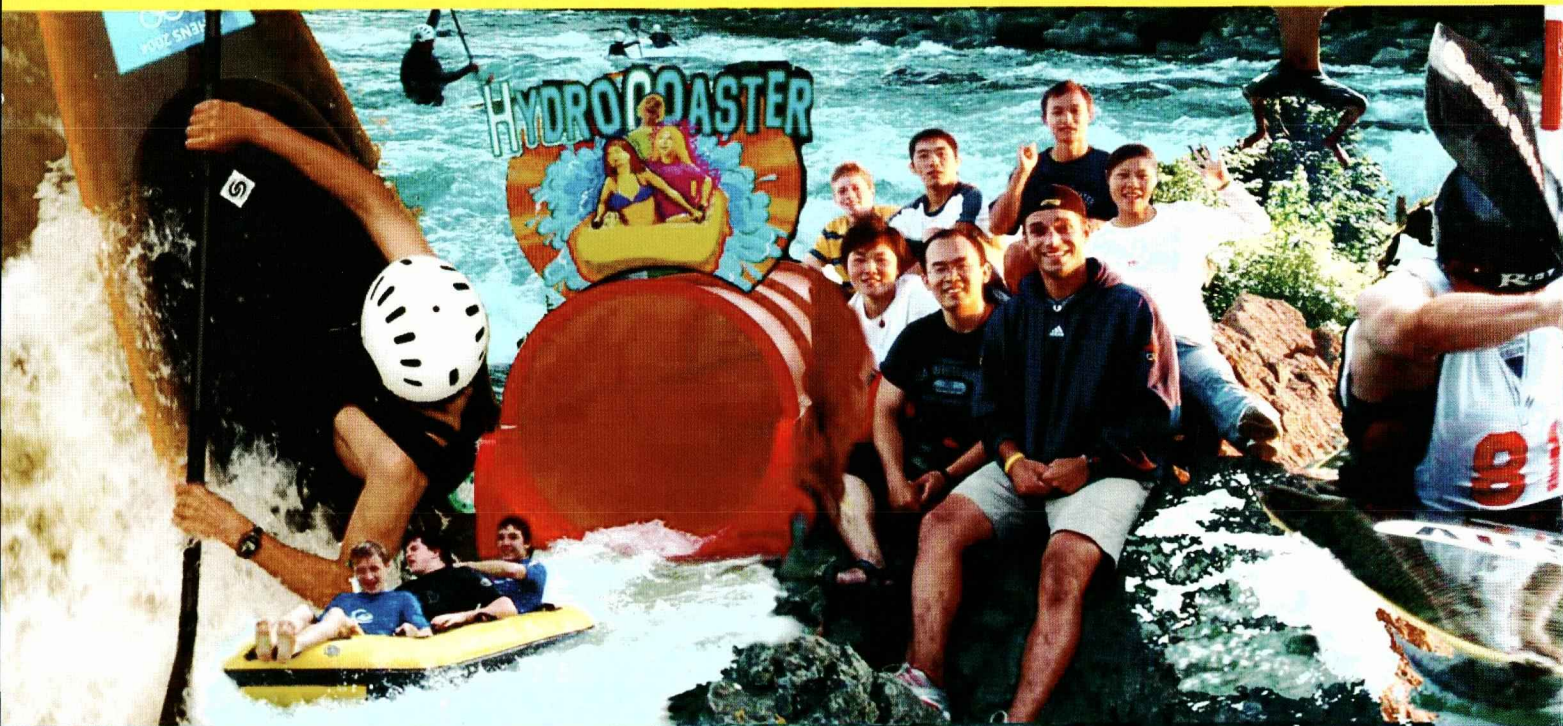


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"winning isn't everything. But wanting to win is."

Vince Lombardi

# DVD REVIEWS:

## Sick Line 4

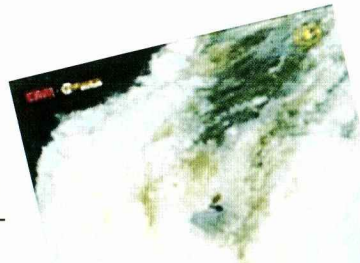
A Kayaking Film by  
Olaf Obsommer



Sick of waterfalls? Sick of steep rivers? Sick of thrilling lines? No? Then you wanna get your hands on this fourth film of the SICK LINE series for some extreme white-water kayaking...

The movie features tons of waterfalls, steep sections, boofing... well, all it takes for really sick lines and getting trashed (don't expect any playboating).

There are multiple camera views and creative camera positioning which allows the viewer to enjoy the runs from exciting views. There is plenty of footage of head or boat mounted cameras. The movie features rivers from the Alps, Corsica and Norway: Lech, Thur, Rissbach, Asco, Travo, just to name a few



## Hotel Charley

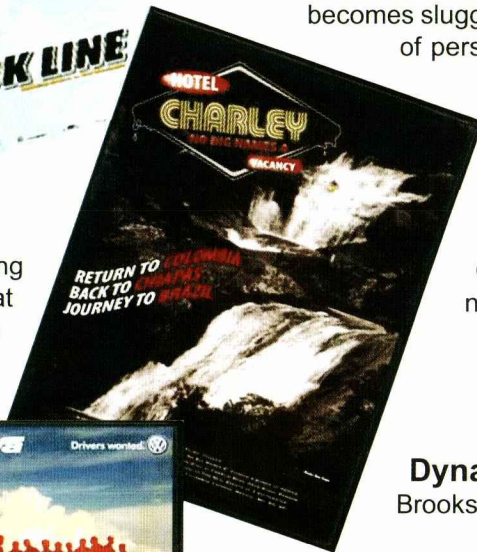
No big Names 4

Ben Stookesberry



No big Names might be right, and also a good idea, but it shouldn't be coupled with "no big name" cinematography. The video features some awesome drops and waterfalls, and some which no idiot would kayak, but is unfortunately held back by the lack of continuity in the film making, some bad lighting and angles.

The best section of the video was the first 5-10 minutes or so, after which the initial impetus and raging water becomes sluggish. Later in the video the lack of personality of the participants becomes evident and although there are some funny sections, and great footage of an inflatable surf board going down a steep waterfall, the majority is boring. Only watch this if you have nothing better to do.



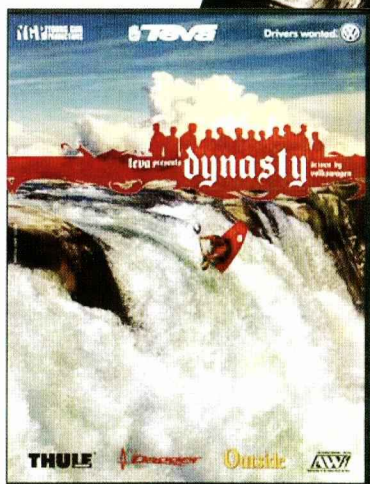
## B.EAST

Lisa Utronki



Great to see a film by a female videographer and kayaker, but it's a little short on excitement and long on paddlers liking to hear themselves talk. Who really cares about how they feel about spring???

The film started with a couple of previews, and then into the main item - which unfortunately was a boring section showing and talking to paddlers involved - no actual kayaking. The slow beginning then melted into even more talking coupled with annoying hillbilly music. Without any information on where the kayaking was shot - rivers or even country it was hard to stay interested. The best bit was the end!



## Dynasty

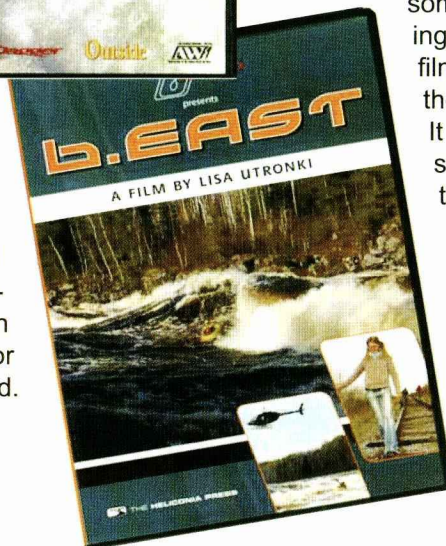
Brooks Baldwin



GREAT - finally a film that grabs you straight from the start. With fantastic music, vibrant and exciting footage, awesome camera angles and hardly any talking - this has got to be one of the best films of the year. Nothing detracts from the huge wave boating, tricks and skills. It is discretely edited to incorporate some small tidbits of knowledge from the pros.

The video is let down in parts by bad lighting and over-exposure, but more than makes up for this in showing some great creeking runs, and also some great "bloopers".

Great show if you want action and innovative camera angles.



# Calendar

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Organiser</b>
WW Race 3 - King River	4-Aug-07	Wildwater Committee
ACC Kingston-On-Murray	4-Aug-07	Adelaide Canoe Club
Multiplex Avon Descent	4-Aug-07	Royal Life Saving Society WA
Ben Lomond Descent 2007	5-Aug-07	Tamar Canoe Club Inc.
Karana Downs Race	5-Aug-07	Brisbane Canoeing Inc.
Twin Rivers Classic	5-Aug-07	Sutherland Shire Canoe Club
CCCC Winter Series Race 3	12-Aug-07	Central Coast Canoe Club
Winter Slalom Series Race 5/ WA Slalom State Title	12-Aug-07	Slalom
Slalom Olympic Test Event	13-Aug-07	ICF
Queensland Schools Marathon Championships	18-Aug-07	Queensland Canoeing
Brunswick Marathon	19-Aug-07	Cape Byron Canoe Club
Slalom Yarra Series 4	19-Aug-07	Canoeing Victoria
WMS Race 7 - Wyong	19-Aug-07	Central Coast Canoe Club
Yarra Series Slalom 4	19-Aug-07	Melbourne Canoe Club
*Murray Whitewater Festival*	25-Aug-07	Perth Canoe Polo Club
PWS Slalom Series	25-Aug-07	New South Wales Canoeing Inc
Hare and Hound Handicap	1-Sep-07	Australian Canoeing
Winter Slalom Series Race 6/ WA Schools Slalom	2-Sep-07	Slalom
Winter Series Race 7 - City	2-Sep-07	Fairfield Canoe Club
NSW Wildwater Championships (GLCC)	2-Sep-07	New South Wales Canoeing Inc
Slalom World Championships, Brazil	19-23 Sept 07	ICF
Yarra Descent	29-Sep-07	Canoeing Victoria
Slalom Yarra Series 5	7-Oct-07	Canoeing Victoria
Lea Xstream Race	13-Oct-07	Derwent Canoe Club
WW Race 7 - Goulburn River	14-Oct-07	Wildwater Committee
WMS Race 9 - Lane Cove	14-Oct-07	Lane Cove River Kayakers
Yarra Series Slalom 5	14-Oct-07	Melbourne Canoe Club
The Hawkesbury Canoe Classic	27-Oct-07	Hawkesbury Canoe Classic
Southern Zone Slalom Championships	10-Nov-07	New South Wales Canoeing Inc
Yarra Series Slalom 6	11-Nov-07	Melbourne Canoe Club
WMS Race 10 - Wagga Wagga	11-Nov-07	Wagga Bidgee Canoe Club
Vic Slalom Talent Identification Camp	16-Nov-07	Canoeing Victoria
Goulburn River Country Series Slalom Race	18-Nov-07	Melbourne Canoe Club
Glenbawn Slalom (PVC)	24-Nov-07	New South Wales Canoeing Inc
Victorian Slalom Championships	1-Dec-07	Melbourne Canoe Club
Canoe Polo Finals	1-Dec-07	Canoe SA
Intro to Kayaking	2-Dec-07	Swan Canoe Club
CCCC Winter Series Race 8. 11.35km.	2-Dec-07	Central Coast Canoe Club
Tasmanian Wildwater Championships	8-Dec-07	Canoe Tasmania
NSW Canoe Slalom Training Camp	8-Dec-07	New South Wales Canoeing Inc
Tasmanian Canoe Slalom Championships and Southern Cup 1	8-Dec-07	Canoe Tasmania
Wairoa Bill Ross Memorial Race New Zealand	11-Dec-07	Canoe NZ
NZ Junior Selection Race and Southern Cup 2 - Mangahao	15-Dec-07	Canoe NZ
NZ Junior Selection Race and Southern Cup 3 - Mangahao	16-Dec-07	Canoe NZ



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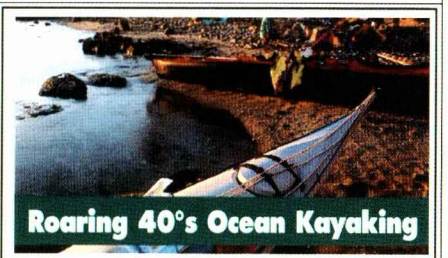
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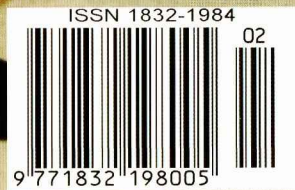
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