



Rafting on the Ocoee River in Tennessee: Hiram Ruiz, Timothy Green, Mr. Green, Michael O'Neill, Theodore Fontana, Jason Hardee.

### Order of the Arrow News



After the campfire skits on June 29th at Camp Thunder, the following Scouts were called out as candidates for the Order of the Arrow: Ian Barker, Geoff Britzke, Theodore Fontana, Matthew Silverberg, Brandon Sipes, Greg Spatholt, and also, Ms. Spatholt. All of these individuals,

along with Dominick Bezmen, Will Hall, Cory Keibler, Dan Mesich, Michael O'Neill, and Jeff Silverberg, were qualified to go through their Ordeal ceremony at Camp Coker, July 21-23. Inducted into the O.A. during that weekend were Ian, Geoff, Dominick, Will, Michael, Brandon, Greg, and Ms. Spatholt. The rest of the candidates from our troop are scheduled to be inducted during Santee Lodge's Fall Fellowship, **October 27-29** at Camp Coker.

### From Our Senior Patrol Leader

(Continued from Page 1) Eagle is not a rank that is given to a Scout. It is a rank earned by a Scout. On the same level, every rank, whether it be Tenderfoot or Eagle, should be earned. The skills you learn as a Tenderfoot are just as important as the ones for Second or First Class. What we are looking for, and what this troop needs are Scouts that want to be a part of Scouting; not necessarily are the best Scouts, but have the desire to learn and have fun. To be in Scouts should mean more than every Monday night. **BOTTOM LINE, IF YOU DON'T WANT TO BE THERE, DON'T COME!**

Our goal as a troop is to be successful. With support from parents and Scouts, this is achievable. Of course, things won't change over night, however, if we don't start now, who knows what will happen. It's time for change. And the Millennium is a great time to start!

**NOTE: FIRST REGULAR TROOP MEETING  
of the New Season: Monday,  
August 21, St. Stephen's Church,  
6:15-8:00 p.m.!**

### 50 Mile Canoe Trip

What a time we had trying to canoe where there was no water! (Tough experiences build character.) The Flint River was so low, we were only able to get through a small portion of the trip. Pulling, pushing, and carrying our canoes for hours at a time was just about the hardest work any of us have ever had to do. On the second



Geoff Britzke and Ian Barker find enough water to paddle for awhile as Jason Hardee and Michael O'Neill walk their canoe to a deeper spot.



Somehow, perhaps because they weighed less, Travis Collins and Russell Spatholt were able to paddle over, around and through areas where no one else could go, on the "Canoe Trip From Hell."

### NARC NEWS

#### Ms. Bezmen's Advancement Corner

This summer was no different than summers past in regards to advancement. There were many merit badges completed and a renewed interest in Scouting is showing. Remember, you cannot always complete all the requirements for your advancement during your troop meeting skills instruction classes. Some work needs to be done on your own. We have some new instructors all set and ready to help you with your progress through the ranks. I know this is going to be a good year!



Hiram Ruiz descending after his first trip 50 foot flight, on the "Giant Swing" at Gerald I. Lawhorn Canoe Base, Thunder Scout Reservation.

day, we didn't even reach our campsite. Instead, we just set up our tents on a small rocky beach.

To help make up for all this, Thunder Scout Reservation gave us a chance to play on their 50 foot giant swing on Thursday, and treated us to a free whitewater rafting trip on Friday.