



# MOSQUITO EXPRESS



MANITOU SUMMER NEWS FOR OUR MANITOU FAMILIES

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## THE DIRECTORS' CLIPBOARD

It's hard to believe we are already winding down the first session with just a few precious days left



The theme of this week has to be that camp is exactly like the water. The lake is the perfect temperature- it's glistening and the its not too hot, not too cold , but just perfect. Camp has been the same; the weather is perfect, the energy is perfect. The vibe this week has been both high energy and positive energy. We have had few issues to work out with campers; they have been respectful and engaged, and are having healthy outdoor fun from morning to night.

We are most proud to announce that on Tuesday for the first time we had representatives from "ME to We" 'Free the children' come up to camp to do a special presentation to both the sophomores and the CIT's. The Sophomores learned about critical facts surrounding the world's population, wealth and food consumption and were shocked to find out that Europeans and North Americans combined make up 15% of the population but consume almost two thirds of the world's food. It was a fascinating interactive session. This is just part of the three day 'gratitude to attitude' theme and all units in camp throughout the summer will learn more about topics just like these. Tomorrow the entire camp will see special balloons holding popsicle sticks all over main field- these popsicle sticks have written on them facts about the children in the world and also how we can make the world a better place.

Camp is a wonderful place to have fun, make special friendships and learn new skills. But it's an even better place to grow and find out about the world around us, and have gratitude for what we have. That's all for now, we still have loads more to get done before our big 'Visitors Day' celebration in just a few short days...If you are coming for a visit, have a safe journey.

- Mark & Jeff

## MEDIEVAL CASINO

Several years have passed since Manitou campers gathered for a Casino extravaganza. So the C.I.T.s decided to take us right back to olden days for a medieval themed Casino Night (Knight?). Kings and Queens attended the special hall (otherwise known as the Hangar) for an evening of sports, games and yummy food. Yes, all of the casino classics were there for campers to play, from poker and roulette to blackjack and crown & anchor, there were options for everyone. There were also several carnival games such as "soak the jester" sponge toss and crown making for our young kings and queens. Sporting events were also available for wager, including horse races (with campers riding the backs of their counsellors) and a few epic boxing matches in the centre arena featuring a main event of Mark vs. Jeff. But we can't forget the food, so chicken nuggets, pogos and pizza rolls were all laid out with pop and even a little cotton candy. It was a night certainly suited to royalty, and a great night for all of our campers. Congratulations to our C.I.T.s who had all worked day and night to prepare for this event. They were proud of the results and certainly had good reason to be.



## SPECIAL GUESTS

With the Sophomores leading up to their big "Gratitude with Attitude" Program this week, Manitou was proud to welcome guest speakers into camp this to work with our kids. On Monday, we greeted Federal Member of Parliament for Willowdale, Martha Hall Findlay. A camper here in the early years of Camp Manitou, Martha was thrilled to be back and to get a chance to talk to all of camp for a few minutes, encouraging us all to be active in our efforts to build a stronger community, stronger country and a better world. On Wednesday, we had three speakers come in from the organization "Me to We." They joined the Sophomores for their evening program talking about how they can make a difference in the world. They also did a special session with our C.I.T.s. It all led into the Gratitude Balloon event going on as we go to print. We're already looking forward to Community Week in second session.

## THE SPORTS REPORT

What a packed week on our sports fields! After a huge focus on intercamp last week, we wrapped up the first season series with a trip to Tamakwa on Sunday. But in camp there seemed to be competitions and events going on almost everywhere.



The highly anticipated King & Queen of the Court tournament was held on Monday at Volleyball. New champions were crowned after a great day on the sand. Basketball offered a great tournament as well with their 3-on-3 event. Music was going all day long as Stanley watched over the various challengers vying for the title. The Baseball World Series was one of the biggest events of the week. After teams were created in a camper draft, all campers received contracts in the camp mail. Those contracts had them especially pumped to take the diamond as the series opened on Wednesday. But the granddaddy of them all had to be their Junior-MHL championship that was also held on Wednesday after an incredible season of ball hockey. Congratulations to the Junior Thieves Guild who took home the trophy in the first half of the summer.

Other sports areas were having lots of fun doing fun variations on their more routine activities. The Tennis campers were competing against staff in a series of "in the lake" challenges. On the golf green, Ben was holding Golfapalooza challenging campers to guess the word of the day while swinging their clubs. Some impressive trophies were presented to winning campers. At Aerobics, Julia has invented a whole new card game with exercises associated with each card in the deck. Meanwhile at Soccer, Head of Tennis Jose put together a team of international All-Stars to challenge Soccer staff Mike and his team.

On the waterfront there has also been a huge amount going on. The swim staff hosted their Music Day with C.I.T.s creating playlists (involving a lot of Michael Jackson). They have also been having great success with their advanced class they're calling "Swimland." In fact every one of the campers that attempted their Bronze exams this week passed the test. Sailors were also out and about this week as we launched our first session sail trip to McKellar. Campers had a great time and we're told particularly enjoyed snacking on chocolate bars on the town dock. The Sail staff also hosted a kite flying day this week as a bit of a different spin on harnessing the wind. Finally at Canoe/Kayak, there was a major regatta held this week with great success, but not nearly as popular as the annual Canoe-tar program that combined Canoe with Guitar.

## ARTISTS' CORNER

We're into the home stretch of first session which meant that our artists were working hard to complete projects as activities move into their final days. Our photographers have been out completing digital scavenger hunts while working on a Visitors Day gallery of their work. At Pottery, Visitors day has also been the theme of the week as sculptors work on getting all of their work painted and glazed. Up in Creative Art, Shrinkidinks have been the rage of the week with campers making all kinds of jewelry. But they have also been doing a lot of printmaking, especially stationary and cards, as well as various projects involving watercolour and charcoal. At Crafts, things have been a little more relaxed as campers have enjoyed tea parties and spa days this week and have even been making their own candles to help with the relaxation. We also can't forget Wood where campers have invented an upgraded version of the tennis racquets they've been working on, as well as picture frames and what we're told is a particularly beautiful chair. Campers have also been completing a working wagon that should be on display very soon.



On the performing arts side, we can't wait for the dance and theatre shows that are now only days away. But while campers in those shows go through their final rehearsals, there have been no shortage of performances for us to enjoy. Guitar campers kicked off the week with a song writing competition on Friday inviting musicians from all over camp to come and compete in the challenge. By Tuesday, those campers had wandered down to the riverfront to strum from a canoe during the annual Canoetar program. Rock campers were a bit more sad this week. They lost one of their electric guitars and decided to hold a funeral service for the instrument. Campers and staff spoke and played songs during dinner. After a procession, there were several more songs played on main field in celebration after flagpole. Radio hosted Marvelous Monday this week, a Jose themed day focused on Latin music. They also held Techno Bubble Wrap day and a Broom Ball tournament. But the show campers were all waiting for was the World premiere of the 3-D film "Manitar." Video campers have been working hard on this feature production throughout the session and it is hitting the screen in the Theatre as we go to press.

## WHAT THE UNITS ARE SAYING...

Freshkids were in an uproar this week as the evil conglomerate "Happy Corp" took over the unit. It seems campers had signed contracts with Happy Corp granting them triple tuck. Unfortunately, campers didn't read the fine print and when they went to collect, they learned that Happy Corp had replaced their chocolate, candy and chips with carrots, celery and lettuce. Campers spent two evenings working on protest techniques to overthrow the evil empire. Losing tuck was quickly forgotten though because Saturday brought Willy Wonka Day that ran throughout the afternoon and evening and had more candy than you could shake a stick at. Freshkids also held a Mr. & Mrs. Manitou pageant and Mock Beauty pageant this week. Cabin activities included mad libs, music videos and a paper bag princess activity and water & paint fights.

The Sophomores started off their week with an Infomercials activity then kicked things into high gear on Friday with their Avatar Training night. Campers were painted blue or green representing the Na'vi and the Earth Army. Campers had to hunt through camp to discover tokens earning sponges for their final battle. The team that had more paint washed off in the sponge battle would be defeated. Sophomores went on to participate in the game show Minute to Win It and then had an Airbands battle on the Basketball Court. But the highlight of the week happened only last night at the Gratitude with Attitude program officially launched with a visit from Me to We. They moved on with that theme into this morning as campers built balloon ships to show a dramatic visual spectacle of all of the things they are thankful for, along with some informative facts that they learned in their

## OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

For our adventurous campers, this week was a tough one to beat. Dani had Adventure Park campers getting into games of Samurai Intergalactica, but the real highlight was Adventure Swim on Wednesday with campers crawling across inner tubes on the water and being flung from the lycra tube into the lake. Ropes campers were moving even more quickly as they went zippin' down the zip line. Eco adventure campers were out on nature hikes throughout the week and back in camp started working on this season's eco shelter on camp house field. It was a great place to catch some shade by the time it was completed. Nearby, Greenhouse campers were germinating seeds to plant in flower pots that they had made with the help of the Pottery campers. Bottle Rocket competitions were also a big hit at Greenhouse this week. Finally we were proud to welcome home our group of campers that had returned from our first ever 12-day trip to Temagami. They had an incredible experience and we're looking forward to many stories in the days ahead.

Wednesday night session. (See photos on the back page.) Cabin activities including baking, a fairy tale hunt, photo shoots, gaga tournament, dodgeball and survivor.

It was a traditional start to the week for the Juniors as with a Mock Beauty pageant followed by Airbands. But they blew the lid off the place on Saturday as they joined with the Senior Unit for a Wakestock Festival. Campers all gathered on the waterfront for a Wakeboarding show. The show however, was only the beginning. Special games, food and music all were a big part of the festival as campers enjoyed their evening down by the lake. The unit split up on Monday as the girls put on an Anti-Pageant while the boys put on and MXS/Dodgeball event down on the waterfront. The week finished for the Juniors with Mr. & Mrs. Manitou as counsellors were dressed in crazy costumes by their campers. Cabin activities included slip n' slide, tubing, "black-ops" training and fishing. No doubt the highlight for the kids though was getting rained out on their beach day and instead hitting Parry Sound for a screening of Toy Story 3.

Airbands were taken to a whole new level by the Seniors this week. They put them on Thursday night, but had the performances video taped. The following night, all campers were invited to a presentation of the Airbands awards as the videos hit the big screen. After joining with the Juniors for Wakestock, the Seniors went back to the Theatre on Monday night for their special edition of the Ellen Show participating in many of the mini-games seen on the daytime show. The megaphone came out for the final night of the week as the seniors were given military commands racing across main field in their session of Battleship. Their cabin activities included baking, making curtains, the Chuck Norris challenge and several in-cabin games when the boys Dodgeball tournament got rained out.

C.I.T.s were working night and day this week organizing the epic Casino Night, but they also found some fun time for C.I.T.-recreations, including water games and salsa dancing. They also got to join in on a special staff rec with Magic Mike that came up from the city for a special show.