

# Tecumseh In The 1990's

**From 1991** - Over the course of camp history, Tecumseh has offered many high contact sports. Sports such as rugby, capture the flag, ammunition, McGin ball and Soccer Made in Harlem have been played. Another rough sport was Crosbee which involved teams trying to throw a Frisbee in lacrosse goals. Players were allowed to run with the Frisbee and opponents were allowed to tackle the player running with the Frisbee. It was a popular sport for many years. In 1991 however, Liggett Peake was tackled hard (and legal) during a Blue-Gray match. Liggett separated his shoulder and broke his collar bone. With that play, the sport of Crosbee faded away from camp. A few years later, the much less violent game of Ultimate Frisbee would appear on the scene.

**From 1992** - Mike O'Shea won the coveted Senior Tecumseh Boy Award. Ten years earlier, Mike's brother Tim won the award. They became the first brother combination to each win the award since 1949. Previous brother winners of the Senior Tecumseh Boy Award include Bob and Ted McDonald (1935 and 1938), Ed and George Stanley (1932 and 1939), Bill and Rich Ryan (1942 and 1946) and Richard and Bill Pugh (1945 and 1949).

**From E.J. McQuade, 1993** - I was 17 years of age at Tecumseh and going into my senior year at Moorestown High School. Ryan Tickner and I were junior counselors together and were also to be the captains of our high school's football and lacrosse teams together. After a few years of what I thought at the time was manhood, I had come to think that the smartest, toughest and most worldly person I knew was me. About two weeks into camp, Big Jim Fraser started to get a little frustrated with the effort of his JCs who were showing up late for activities, hung over too often, slacking by the dock and not performing up to expectations. As a result, Jim decided it was time to drop the hammer.

Big Jim decided the senior baseball diamond needed work. The grass around the diamond had to be removed, new dirt spread, solidified, sodded in certain areas and fit for CT play. This may sound like an easy task to those who have never done manual labor for Big Jim, but not to those who have known just how serious he takes assigned tasks and the attention to detail he pays to these tasks. As soon as we started, I noticed all morning and afternoon activities for the campers were centered around the senior diamond. He kept bringing campers of all ages over to tell them what we were doing. He was shouting instructions to us, correcting mistakes, telling us to redo certain areas and encouraging us to meet his timeline of two days. The younger campers were eager to help out and interact with the older people, especially the junior counselors they looked up. Jim also made sure we had plenty of water being it was early July. The junior counselors rotated, making sure everyone participated. Jim put us on the spot in front of several staff members, openly saying he wasn't sure if we had what it took to complete the task. Knowing Ryan and I were heading into a big senior year, he kept on top of us and continued to press us about what our leadership style was and if what he saw and what the campers saw was all we had to offer CT.

Long story short, we pressed through the heat, continuous change of plans and direction, worked all night and completed the diamond ahead of schedule. I believe we both felt that when Big Jim told the campers what he expected of us, we were afraid to let both the campers and Big Jim down. What he did was taught us a real life lesson of "Ductus Exemplo" or leadership by example. We knew that if we gave up on a difficult, yet attainable goal the campers watching us and encouraging us would be inclined to do the same. I have not spoken to Ryan in about a year, since I've been deployed with the United States Marine Corps in the Far East and he is both working and living in Philadelphia. I apply this principle regularly and encourage all my Marines to do the same. It is a lesson that can be applied in every aspect of our lives. I have a feeling that Ryan does the same. We went on to have a successful senior year athletically, academically and socially. Although we have inevitably drifted apart, this was an important part of our development as men. This was also my first realization that maybe I wasn't as smart, tough or worldly as I thought.

**From Tim Hidell, father of several Tecumseh Campers, 1994** - The best story that I have is the finding of Camp Tecumseh when we were looking for a camp for our oldest son Tim. Bix Bush attended camp Tecumseh (he is 62 now) and always spoke about the camp he attended when he was coaching and teaching me at

Wilmington Friends School. So, in our search for a camp, I called Bix and inquired about the camp that he always spoke about. He said, "Timmy, there are three things that made me the man I am today: Camp Tecumseh, the U.S. Marines and Lee (his wife)." Quite a recommendation. Bix suggested that I call Richard Roe, it was Richard's last year as Director. I did call and Richard accepted Tim. I was ecstatic and called Tim at the beach. I told him that he was going to the best sports camp in the country for seven weeks, up in New Hampshire. Tim responded, "That's great!!" We hung up and 30 seconds later Tim called back and inquired how he was going to get back and forth each day. I said, "You're not!" Tim replied, "Dad we've got to talk!" Needless to say Tim boarded a bus in Philadelphia that June, knew no one and went on to have five summers of Tecumseh bliss.

**From 1994** - The following is an excerpt from an article in *The Philadelphia Inquirer* on July 22, 1994:

"George Munger, 84, who coached football at the University of Pennsylvania when Penn football was the biggest game in town - and one of the biggest in the nation - died yesterday ... it was as Penn's head football coach, a position he held from 1938 through 1953, that Mr. Munger achieved his greatest success and, ultimately, a place in the College Football Hall of Fame ... Mr. Munger enjoyed a long, winning career at his alma mater, compiling a record of 82-42-10 while the Quakers were going against some of the nation's top college football powers ... In the heyday of Mr. Munger, only Ohio State attracted more spectators to its home games than Penn, which drew 60,000 to 80,000 fans for games at Franklin Field."

Said Hall of Fame Player Chuck Bednarik of George, "He taught me a secret - the secret of how to approach life. He was a jovial man who liked to laugh and would always act young. When I saw him a few years ago, it was like he had never changed, like he was still in his 40s."

Said Bill Deuber, another former player for Munger, "One of Munger's best qualities was that he took a personal interest in everyone. He was humble, he always gave his staff credit. Of course, it takes a great coach to pick a great staff. We always referred to ourselves as 'Munger Men.' It was a badge of honor.

**From Dan Leibovitz, 1994** - The most impactful day in my time at Tecumseh was a sad one; it was the day that word reached camp that Mr. Munger had passed away. Jim Fraser addressed the entire camp from the top of the hill, and gave a speech that I will never forget. We, as campers and counselors, knew of the Mr. Munger who was a gentle, older man, who had a love for his wife, his family, athletics and Camp Tecumseh. We knew Mr. Munger as the man who played horseshoes with us, rode horses, reported baseball scores from back home, and called us all "Squire," because he couldn't remember all of our names.

What some of us may not have known were his own accomplishments as an athlete, a coach, and a person who had a great history of molding young people. We heard about how his football legend grew at Episcopal Academy, and at the University of Pennsylvania. We heard about the tenacity and desire that he showed on the playing field, and how those same characteristics made him the ultimate taskmaster as a coach at Penn, and as a Director at Tecumseh. It was obvious and very fulfilling to see by the words that Jim used and the emotion that he showed, that George Munger had made a significant impact on his life.

What struck me most of all, beyond the picture that I have in my mind, with the lake behind him and the whole camp in front of him, were the words that he used to describe Mr. Munger as a mentor in his life. He referred to him as a gentleman and a scholar, and added that he was "all things to all men." I couldn't help but think about how great it might be to be described this way when my own time had passed. Those words will never leave me, nor will the appreciation that I had for Camp Tecumseh at that moment.

**From 1994** - I'm not sure exactly how accurate this story is, but the version of the story that I heard is worth printing, even if it is not completely accurate. A member of one of New Hampshire's governmental agencies drove up to Tecumseh's dock one day for some forgotten reason. As he arrived, he noticed that many of the people on the dock were completely naked. Astonished at this, he asked someone how long people at Tecumseh had been swimming naked. The person replied with a completely straight face, "Oh, about 90 years now." The government official was in shock and immediately demanded to see the director of camp. The officer immediately told Camp Director Richard Roe that he had 24 hours to have the naked swimming at the waterfront discontinued or he was going to go to jail. With that, the 90 year old tradition quickly faded into the history books. (Again, I am not sure how accurate the story is, but I love the reply that the Tecumseh person gave to the government official: "Oh, about 90 years now.")

**From Mike Haley, 1997** - The following is an excerpt from a prayer speech by Mike in 1997. The speech was found in a 1997 *Sunbeam*.

Over the past thirteen years that I have been at Camp Tecumseh, I have heard countless evening speeches during prayers on what makes this such a great place and why we are all fortunate to be here. I knew, as I was listening to whomever it was speak, that this is a special place and that I was extremely lucky to be here. However, I never gave serious consideration to why Camp Tecumseh was different and better than any other camp. I just accepted it to be because I had been told so ever since I was eleven. All I knew was that I loved this place with all my heart.

During the school year, my friends would ask me why I kept returning to Tecumseh year after year. I would try to explain to them the intricacies of camp; the Lodge, the waterfront and the operetta. They would all respond to my rambling by simply saying - so??? As I entered high school, my friends could not understand why I would come to New Hampshire and not to the Jersey shore. The only thing I could do was shrug my shoulders and say, "I cannot even begin to explain." Going to the shore for the summer, and not Tecumseh, never crossed my mind.

In college, my advisors were dumbfounded by the fact that I refused, despite their advice, to get an internship during the summer months. I would try to explain to them why I refused, but they responded by saying, "Mike, it's just a summer camp. You should be looking toward your future." Even as I graduated from college, I was trying to find a way to return to Tecumseh for as many summers as possible. I started looking for a teaching job because it would leave my summers free. That was how badly I wanted to insure that Tecumseh would actively remain in my future.

As I was driving up to Tecumseh this summer, I started to think what it was, for me at least, that made this place so special. I thought for quite awhile with no definitive answer. Then I thought back to all of the fond memories I had from my time at Camp. A fencing lesson on the porch of the Lodge with Maestro during a thunderstorm, having Maestro kick my butt during that same lesson. Going to breakfast every morning trying to find Mr. Munger to hear how the Phillies fared the previous night. Having Tim O'Shea bring down the Dining Hall each and every Pemi morning with a resounding version of "Owed To Pemi." Sitting quietly in the Lodge, listening to Mr. Fraser tell all of us the history of camp and doing charades in Glascott Hall during a blackout with a handful of counselors.

And then it hit me. I came to the realization of why this place is so special. It wasn't the Lodge, the noise in the Dining Hall or the Widdow. It wasn't Pemi Day, the operetta or 007. It is the people who return here year after year who make this piece of land so sacred. People who have dedicated a large portion of their respective lives to insure that we, the counselors and campers, are able to take away from this place as much as humanly possible. It is because of them that the traditions and the idiosyncrasies of Tecumseh are maintained. They are the ones who make former campers like myself want to return as counselors.

As a camper, I looked upon these men with great reverence and a little trepidation, especially when it came to working for Mr. Glascott on the kitchen crew. And now, as a counselor, I look upon these men with the same reverence and trepidation though this time, it is brought about by not wanting to let them down. And, most importantly, I look to them as friends. I used to view them as the men who more or less ran Camp Tecumseh. And now, after getting to know them over the years, I am able to see how passionately they care about this place, how much Tecumseh really is a part of their lives.

Their love of this place directly rubs off on the rest of the staff. This is evident by the number of counselors who return here year after year and by just looking at people like Peter Gillin, Mike Reardon and Wolfy. These three people love Tecumseh and what it stands for more than anyone else I know. And it leaves me content, knowing that there are people here who, when the time comes, will ably fill the shoes of the senior staffers and keep Tecumseh moving in the same direction. These people will have undoubtedly the same effect on the campers as the present senior staffers have had on me.

In closing, I would like to thank everyone for the past 13 summers I have spent here, from the oldest counselor to the youngest camper. To the senior staff for helping me to grow as a person. To the counselors and their friendships I have gratefully gained over the years. And to the campers who are the future of Camp Tecumseh. I hope that all of you are fortunate enough to take as much from this place as I have been over the years. I thank you all from the bottom of my heart. I could not ever begin to imagine spending my previous summers here anywhere else.

This is a very special place, a place that we collectively take for granted from time to time, and we need to be reminded every once in awhile of just how lucky we are that this place exists and that we are able to be here.

**From Charley Kurz, 1997** - (Charley is the parent of Chad Kurz, a camper and counselor during much of the 1990's.) Chad, Katie (my daughter), and I spent three wonderful days in Barcelona during Christmas and New Year's vacation in early 1997. We visited with both the Enrich and Segura families. They were most hospitable, entertaining us in their homes and giving us informative tours around Barcelona. It was a terrific opportunity for Chad to practice his Spanish with Pepe and Salva as well as to visit with Tecumseh friends with whom he had spent several summers in New Hampshire. Our connection with the Enrich and Segura families continues even today, six years later, having been enriched by several memorable days in Barcelona in early 1997.

Chad, Katie, and I have enjoyed more than a decade of close friendship with Rob Previti's family. Although Rob is two years younger than Chad, both boys were campers for the same period of time from 1992 onwards. Our family has a summer home at the New Jersey seashore near where the Previti family lives. Being able to get together with the Previti family on a regular basis has been a terrific experience since we both have enjoyed the opportunity of having dinners together during the year and keeping connected in other ways. In March, 2000, we traveled together for a few days of sightseeing in Milan and we always have a dinner at the Woodshed when we are visiting camp for Parents Weekend.

It has been a great joy for Chad and the Kurz family to help Tecumseh celebrate its centennial anniversary with the creation of the Kurz Family Scholarship Fund which is intended to benefit future needy campers who might not otherwise have the opportunity to attend Tecumseh. As a parent, I know that my son has been blessed by the Tecumseh experience, and Chad recognizes that our scholarship fund enables us to help make the Tecumseh experience available to future campers.

**From 1998** - The Camp Tecumseh web page goes online at: [www.camptecumseh.net](http://www.camptecumseh.net) The web page includes information about Tecumseh for prospective campers and their families, including the various program, activities and facilities at camp. Biographies of the senior staff are included. A yearly photo album is added at the end of each summer, containing pictures from the previous summer. Also, a pictorial history of camp is included. This "archives photo album" would eventually contain over 600 photos of camp from 1903 through 1999.

**From Mark Luff, 1999** - Every summer I look forward to Pemi Day, who doesn't? But there is one particular part of that special day that I treasure the most – my annual visit with Mr. Tom Reed, Sr. – the former Director of Camp Pemigewasset. Mr. Reed is a contemporary of Mr. Munger and in many ways is very similar. When I speak with Mr. Reed, it is as if Mr. Munger is right there with us. The same cherished values – work ethic, sportsmanship, and class – remain the centerpiece of each conversation and yet they are gently sprinkled with poignant anecdotes of former campers and competitions that conjure up nothing but goodwill between two great men and two great institutions. I can't wait for my next conversation!

Returning The Hat to Tecumseh on that late July evening in 1999 was an extraordinary moment. Holding Mr. Munger's bronzed Panama hat at full arms length above me for all to see, I was blessed with the opportunity to charge off the bus and head toward the middle of this deafening crowd, which had assembled on the basketball courts. The volume of the cheers, the width of the smiles, and the intensity of emotion surpass any possible description by word. And while the scene has been indelibly etched into my memory, I can no more describe it now than I could the day after it happened. It was AWESOME! Everyone who was there that evening will certainly remember the absolute and intense joy of the victory and the return of The Hat!

**From Nick Harmelin, 1999** - I was trying to think of a big story to tell of my great experiences while at Tecumseh from 1988-1999. There are so many little things that come to my mind while thinking back to my years at Tecumseh, and I believe that the culmination of all of my smaller stories is what makes my time at Tecumseh so great. Some of my favorite things while looking back were camp competition, mountain trips, the structure, the camaraderie, and the scenery of camp itself. Also, I know it sounds cheesy, but the friendships that I've made at Tecumseh are some of the strongest that I have. They are friendships that span many different age groups and years at camp, yet I still keep in touch with many friends from my years at Tecumseh. Two days ago I was hanging out with Matt Tousignant (1985-1997), and I was looking for a story to write about my Tecumseh experience. I came to the conclusion that the fact that Matt and I still get together to watch a Philadelphia Eagles game in Berkeley, California (approximately 3,000 miles from Center Harbor, New Hampshire) shows that the friendships that are made at Tecumseh go long and far from the "Greatest Place on Earth."

# Best Sunbeam Quotes Of The 1990's

Bill Keffer, 1990 - When you don't know where you are going, any road will take you there.

Bob Glascott, 1990 - It's not the crime, it's not the thought. It's if you get caught! Now you behave!

Christian Garnet, 1990 - Is the All Star game going to be played on the Junior or Senior Diamond?

Jim Fraser, 1990 - You could kill someone doing that. But, more important, you're using someone else's equipment.

Chris Eftychiadis, 1990 - I'm going to have to miss rest hour because I'll be in the nurse.

Borja Marimon to the Laconia Movie Theater usher, 1990 - Where is the widdow?

Jon Makler, 1990 - What years did Enrico Palazzo come to camp?

Songha Willis, 1991 - Your mom is so old that she went to the Prom with Abe Lincoln.

Mackey Pierce, 1991 - Can I have that shirt? I want it as a pimento of camp.

Tim O'Shea playing in a tennis match, 1991 - I didn't see that ball, but it sure sounded out.

Pete Wegener, 1991 - Is Al Piper a stud?

Jim Fraser, 1991 - Let's get all the pooppy drawers out of the corners of the cabin.

Matt Kelley, 1991 - Rub your toothbrushes against a tree so it looks used. It works.

Peter Cowan, 1991 - All the people that are born in October are born either two days before Christmas or on Christmas.

Don Triolo, 1991 - Where's The Widdow?

Brett Miller on top of Red Hill, 1991 - Here's to the greatest sunset that just was been.

Jim Fraser, 1993 - As you were ...

Clark Farley, 1995 - What are bacon bits made out of?

Jim Gibbons, 1995 - Don't drink, don't smoke, don't chase wild women.

Jim Fraser, 1997 - I came to Tecumseh when I was twelve years old and forgot to leave!

Jack Longstretch, 1999 - I read that on the radio the other day.

Bob Glascott, 1999 - Fifty years here? No way. I don't want to be like Pinky Shover, Ed Flintermann, Mr. Gager or Jim Fraser.

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## Quotes About Tecumseh From Assorted Staff Members, 1997

Sibby Browne - A place which, whether one is aware of it or not, creates a drive, humor, understanding of 'team', and an overall 'class' that is unmatched anywhere else on the planet.

Mike Dougherty - Rich in tradition. Great people involved in all aspects of the camp. Everyone loves what the camp stands for and the way young men are developed athletically and socially.

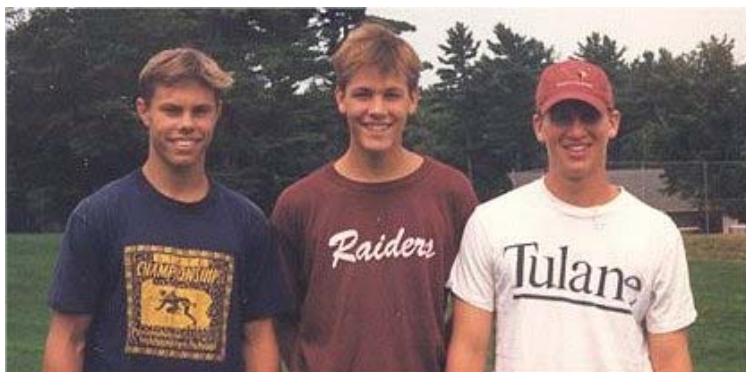
David Baruch - A place that teaches values, helps you grow, and provides you with an unparalleled opportunity to enjoy life.

Mike Reardon - A fraternity of rough and tumble boys who are committed to excelling in sports.

Hench Murray, Camp Director - At the end of the summer, our kids don't go home just feeling good, they go home feeling good about themselves and what they've accomplished.

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**From A Parent of a Tecumseh Camper** - My son didn't cry when he got on the bus on June 22, but he did when he left on August 10. That says it all.



Jamie Griffin, Will Nord and Nick Harmelin, 1993.



Camp Director Richard Roe with campers, 1993.



Winter skiing at Tecumseh in January, 1991: Mark Luff, Bob Gray, Bill Kefffer, Pete Gillin, Beth Glascott and Tim O'Shea.



Mike Reardon instructing at baseball clinic, 1993.



The football staff in 1997: Jim Fraser, guest instructor John Lyons (head coach at Dartmouth College), Steve Lamberton, Jimmy Carroll and Thacher Goodwin.



Camp Director Hensch Murray, 1997.



Left: The Infamous christmas card from "The Widdow Club" which was sent out at Christmas, 1991.

From The Widdow Club  
At Camp Tecumseh

From left: Brian Kammergaard, Charlie Erwin, Pete Gillin, Matt Tousignant, Mike Haley, Brett Miller (standing), Kevin Geiger, Ira Miles, Tim O'Shea and Biff Sturla.



Christmas Party, December 1991.

Standing: Lee Allman, Rob Ryan, Vic DiNuble and Tim Michals.

Seated in middle row: Bill Keffer, Greg Summers, Anthony Padula, James Degus.

Seated in front row: Charlie Erwin, Matt Tousignant, Pete Gillin, Dave McMullin.



Mark Luff helping a camper with her lines for the operetta, 1993.



Awards Day, 1998: Tommy Umstatter, Dave Delaney (Tecumseh Boy), Chris Haunss and Chad Kurz (Soccer Award).



Pete Gillin at lacrosse clinic, 1993.



Above: Mike Dougherty presenting a basketball trophy, 1998.

Left: Dan Ward and Matt Frekko on stage in the 1993 production of *H.M.S. Pinafore*.



Many of the Tecumseh staff made it to Tim O'Shea's wedding in 1993.

Standing: Jay Luff, Lee Allman, Dolph Tokarczyk, Jim Gribbel, Bill Keffer, Matt Tousignant, Mark McGinley, Mike O'Shea, Tim O'Shea, John Fraser, Mrs. Tim O'Shea, Peter Gillin, Edwin Van Dusen, Charlie Erwin, Vic DiNubile, Dan O'Shea, Bob Glascott, Terry Cooper and Jim Fraser. Kneeling: Don Triolo, Bob Gray, Mike Haley, Sibby Browne.

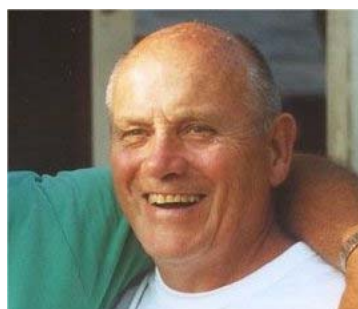


Members of the 1998 Tecumseh lacrosse staff. Top row: David Baruch (University of Virginia), Tucker Radebaugh (All-American at University of Virginia), Brian Dougherty (USA World Team goalie and former All-American at Maryland), Matt Kelley (Brown University), Pete Gillin (Head Coach at Episcopal High School in Virginia and former standout at The University of Virginia), Tyler Gilbert (Washington College, Division III National Champions) and Matt Crofton (University of North Carolina).

Bottom row L to R: Kyle Auch (Episcopal Academy), Eric Gregg (Gettysburg College), Geoff Watson (Harvard University and former All-American at The Haverford School), Chase Peterson (Duke University).



Blake Stabert  
Mike Haley  
Jack Armstrong



Jay Luff  
Mike Dougherty  
Bob Glascott

# Tecumseh - 2000 And Beyond

**From 2000** - The annual Pemi competition was probably the most exciting in the long history of the rivalry, which dates back to 1908. At lunch on Saturday, Pemi was leading 6-3-1. Jim Fraser made a very moving speech in the Dining Hall, trying to get Tecumseh rallied up for a very monumental comeback. After the next five events, the deficit was reduced a little, but Pemi was still leading 8-6-1. Rain and lightning hit both camps so the final five events were postponed until Sunday. Tecumseh needed to win four of the final events. Before the Pemi-bound age groups boarded the buses, Mark Luff gave a very passionate speech to the entire camp. The final events began with every play and every stroke having huge implications. Down at the Tecumseh waterfront, two swim meets were being held, both were as close as possible. Ira Miles had a walkie-talking on the dock to keep up with the 15's baseball game up on the Senior Diamond. Eventually, Tecumseh took all three events at home.

The winner of Pemi Day 2000 would be determined by the two events at Pemi. All Pemi participants at Tecumseh huddled by the Trunk Room, waiting for the results. All Tecumseh people huddled by the Lodge. Everyone was waiting for the call from Pemi to find out who won The Hat. The phone in the Trunk Room rang. Moments later, Tecumseh counselor Blake Stabert came out of the office and announced, "False alarm, it was only a parent from Philadelphia calling." Both camps waited and waited ... finally the phone rang again. This time it was Tecumseh Director Hensch Murray who came out. Hensch calmly stated, "I'm not sure how to best say this, but there was a split over at Pemi so Tecumseh keeps The Hat." The Pemi group dropped their heads in agony, the Tecumseh crowd went crazy with joy. After a few minutes, both camps showed world class sportsmanship by shaking hands and giving the other camp a loud cheer.

Pemi boarded their buses and headed home. Five minutes later, the clouds burst open once again. All Tecumseh people at camp joined in a huge mud slide competition down by the side of the Lodge. The mud slide was highlighted by Jim Fraser getting up a head of steam and zooming down the hill on his stomach, head first. When the buses from Pemi returned, there was a celebration of unequaled magnitude. Tecumseh had won by the slimmest of margins, 10-9-1.

**From Lee Allman and Jim Fraser, 2001** - Bob Glascott is back for his 50th summer at Tecumseh. The work he has done at Tecumseh has been truly amazing. He heads up many of the most difficult jobs at Tecumseh, putting in countless hours day after day at Tecumseh. Bob has the strongest work ethic of anyone I have ever seen at Tecumseh. All the dirty and difficult jobs, these are the ones that Bob has always done at Camp, from the widow, to the kitchen, to facility maintenance. This certainly speaks of his strength of character and his love of Camp

**From 2001** - Former camper and counselor Erik Weihenmayer became the first blind climber to reach the summit of Mount Everest. Erik, 32 years old at the time of the climb, first came to Tecumseh as a junior camper in 1979. He had very little eye site at that time. He lost total site at the age of 13 and took up rock climbing three years later. He was able to scale Everest by following the sound of bells tied to the jackets of his climbing mates and Sherpa guides. He had already climbed Mt. McKinley in Alaska and Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania. Weihenmayer had his picture on the cover of the June 18, 2001 issue of *Time Magazine*. Erik was a wrestling instructor at Tecumseh for several years.

**From Mark Luff, 2002** - This story took place during the past Christmas season at the Academy of Music. I watched *The Nutcracker* performed by the Pennsylvania Ballet. This may seem quite ordinary, as many of us go see this holiday tradition. However, this particular performance was unique. Ryan Merlini, a ten year old camper from Tecumseh, was the Nutcracker/Little Prince! Here was a Tecumseh camper on the stage at the Academy of Music, a well-known center for the arts in Philadelphia. As I watched Ryan slay the mouse king and fly away into the snowy night, I was reminded of the scene with former Tecumseh camper and counselor Thacher Goodwin wearing an "old school" Tecumseh T-Shirt in the movie *Stealing Home*! Numerous movies with John McGinley came to mind, as well! A conversation at intermission with Ryan's father Cornelius Merlini, a former camper and counselor himself, imparted to me the value of the Gilbert and Sullivan production in allowing Tecumseh campers the opportunity to try new things and gain the confidence to do what they want in their life.

**From Dave Delaney, 2001** - We have all been there. Mr. Fraser has one knee on the dining room chair, talking about the post meal activities. Your legs are shaking as you desperately try to squeeze them together. The four tacos you ate at lunch are starting to take their toll. You waddle up to prayers hoping that tonight's speech will be short and to the point. After the announcements, you break into a sprint towards the Widdow. With every step you take, it seems further away. By the time you reach the infirmary, you start to pick up the pace, not too sure if you are gonna make it. Finally, you fling open the squeaky screen door and pick a stall. But wait ...

#### *WHAT STALL DO YOU CHOOSE?*

Sunbeam field reporter Dave Delaney has done extensive research on the subject of widdow stalls and how they reflect your personality. Over several weeks, Mr. Delaney discovered the four different personality types associated with widdow stalls. By answering the following question about your stall, you may be able to find out more about yourself:

You have entered the Widdow. Which aisle do you choose?

- a) Far Left                      b) Middle Left                      c) Middle Right                      d) Far Right

This is the most important question. An individual at Tecumseh is defined by which aisle he chooses. The outer aisles have been known to breed "widdow spies." A widdow spy is one who pretends to be calling mother nature in an outer stall but who is in fact "spying," or listening in on a conversation in the middle aisles. Only extreme widdow spies actually try to sneak a peek over or under the actual widdow stall. Former Camp Tecumseh widdow spies such as Nick McAllister and Jack Longstreth were found to be spying during busy widdow hours; after sweep and before Blue-Gray. Anyhow, the four different aisles in the Widdow have their own distinct personalities. To find out what kind of person you are, find your category below.

*Far Left* - The far left aisle is the home to the moderately isolated and anti-social person. We are certain that these people have their insecurities about life, which is why they chose not to be seen by the others. Are you the kind of person who goes into the Widdow, sits down, gets the job done, and immediately exits? If you chose this aisle, then you most likely are. Without realizing it, these widdow-goers have chosen one of the two aisles facing the road, hence the society surrounding camp. They were probably born and raised in an urban setting and feel rushed through their daily schedule. Further research shows that those who choose the first and second stall on the far left aisle could be compared to certain prisoners of war. Some of these "run the wire" people (the term "run the wire" refers to those prisoners in Nazi concentration camps that gave up on life and would literally run into the electric fences) have given up on life; they don't care about camp or anyone else. They simply go into the Widdow and walk straight to the first two stalls, for no other reason except that they are the closest stalls. If you can, try to identify these people and talk to them - they need help.

*Middle Left* - Your personality is interesting. Did you previously check for widdow spies before you sat down? Probably not. By choosing a seat in the middle aisle, you unconsciously chose an aisle facing away from the busy road and society. You enjoy the serenity of the lake and the nature surrounding camp. Obviously you also enjoy taking chances and being open to the conversation of others. You chose an aisle that cuts off your view of who is entering the Widdow, so perhaps you don't really mind widdow spies as much as others. The widdow-goer is an exhibitionist and is open to new ideas and the conversation of others, which is why he chose a seat in the social aisle. Did you choose a seat with a black lid? Perhaps you have a history of abuse or neglect from your parents. You are trying to make an effort to socialize with others, but still hold back from a dark past. Others may choose a white lid simply for practical purposes, the fact that a white lid appears cleaner than a black lid.

*Middle Right* - Admit it. You love the Widdow. Your companions on this side of the aisle are also Widdow lovers. Being the extremely social and lovable person that you are, you enjoy being able to see who is entering the Widdow so you can call their attention to sit down and join you. The fact that this aisle is facing the road and the rest of society has not proved to have any significance with this widdow-goer. Unless you are choosing the last stall on this row, you will be sitting on a black lid, which again may not be significant to your past. Many former widdow spies making their transition from the outer aisles to the middle have been found working their way up this aisle from the last stall up. Anyhow, congratulations on choosing a row of stalls with the rest of the widdow lovers in camp. Long live the Widdow.

*Far Right* - Do you feel isolated? You have chosen this aisle for a reason. Perhaps you have failed in succeeding the rat race and have decided to turn your back on society and the American Dream. Finding refuge in the wilderness, you have been able to escape the pop culture and find meaning in your insecurities. Those who have chosen the fifth stall in this aisle have labeled themselves the most extreme left wing anti-socialists in camp. The majority of far right aisle people take their time in the Widdow. They don't feel rushed to conform to society's hectic daily schedule. As I said before, we should keep an eye on these widdow-goers. Widdow spies such as T. Ferguson have been found depressed and even suicidal in this aisle. Luckily, they have been able to cover up their problems with gimmicks such as wiping techniques or a simple fuzzy mustache. Be aware and afraid. Be very afraid.

**From Sibby Browne, 2002** - The following are excerpts from a speech made at evening prayers by Sibby Browne, a long time senior staff member at Tecumseh.

... Up here at Camp Tecumseh and back home at your schools and on your sports teams and in other activities, you hear a lot about goal-setting. And once those goals are set, you are told you must practice hard to achieve your goals. This is certainly true - anyone who has ever achieved a worthwhile goal will tell you that it came through much hard work and practice. Lately, it has occurred to me that this common story of practicing hard to achieve a goal is only half the story; that the practice itself is an important and often overlooked piece of the achievement puzzle. Take a look at Pele, who is considered to be the *best soccer player of all time*: "A marvelous talent," they said. "A true magician," said others. But the reality, if you talk to those who knew him well, was *practice* - he practiced more intensely than anyone. He single-handedly developed the concept of *cross-training* before it was ever a term. He loved practice itself - not just because it helped him become the greatest soccer player of all time, but for the sake of practice itself. He loved to practice, and he did it all the time. Pele was a genius on the soccer pitch, but it was his understanding of the importance of practice that made him great. ...

As I look around this room, I see friends, many folks I honor, respect, trust, and love. And I see all you campers with unlimited potential. But then I see some of you on the practice field feeling like you have to practice, like you don't really want to, but you know you should. I can't tell you how many Pinky's Pad members I have seen try to skimp on exercises or avoid doing what they know they should. And I think much of that comes from believing that practice is drudgery, that practice is something painful or harsh like bitter medicine. But until you practice with passion, with heart-mind-body-and-soul, until you begin to practice for its sake alone, your potential will remain untapped.

There is another belief that many campers at Tecumseh hold - that talent and mastery are inborn traits. There are people who believe that Brian Dougherty (brother of Mike Dougherty and Kathy Marshall) put on a helmet and gloves, grabbed a goaltender's lacrosse stick and abracadabra, he's one of the best goalies in the world. It doesn't work that way, that is NOT how it goes. Brian has put in more hours stopping the lacrosse ball from going into the cage than almost every goalie around. Because of his sincere and consistent practice, he can do things in goal that have never been done in the past.

... [From *The Life We Are Given*, by George Leonard and Michael Murphy] Top performance in any profound skill fills us with awe. To hear a master violinist in concert, for example, leads us to assume that such talent must be inborn, a gift from God. The primacy of talent in achieving mastery, in fact, has been assumed for centuries. Recent research, however, has shown that long-term focused practice, rather than talent, holds the master key to top performance in almost every field.

The recent study of top-rated, world class violinists showed that they had studied an average of 10,000 hours between the ages of 10 and 20. Second-level violinists had practiced 7,500 hours, and lower-level violinists had practiced about 5,000 hours. If you break down those numbers, the top-rated violinist has practiced an average of three hours a day for ten years with no days off. This type of practice and diligence is similar in every sport as well.

And so it isn't necessarily that there are fewer geniuses in the world, but rather that there are very few people willing to develop the kind of training and practice routine that will allow maximum potential to be achieved. And if you commit yourself completely to your calling, to your genius, the amazing abilities that lie untapped in each and every one of you will come forth. And, you will emerge on the other side transformed by the practice, and you will have new, higher goals which unfold from the practice. A short phrase from Leonard and Murphy states this point clearly, "Whatever practice calls you, answer that call whole-heartedly and generously."

Tecumseh gives each and every one of us a chance to experience seven weeks of consistent and focused practice. We are not allowed to slack before a counselor gets in our face and says "wake up!" And all the people who succeed here do so because they eventually get a deep understanding of the Tecumseh lessons that Marty Merlini spoke so well about last evening. The transformation that occurs up here can guide you to continue on that path during the rest of the year. Thank you. Please stand for the *Lord's Prayer*.

The following is a summary of Camp Tecumseh in recent years, written by senior staff member Mark Luff. Mark first came to Tecumseh in 1966 as a junior camper. He was a counselor at Tecumseh for many years. He ran the soccer program for many summers and later was in charge of the waterfront. He has been in charge of the Gilbert and Sullivan operetta almost every summer since 1979. Mark is Program Director at Tecumseh and probably the busiest person at Tecumseh every summer. Here is Mark's review, year by year, of the 2000's decade:

## **The Summer of 2000**

The summer of 2000 may have marked the start on a new millennium, but at Tecumseh it marked the last summer under the capable leadership of Hench Murray. Mr. Murray's fifth and final year capped a career that saw witness to significant improvements to the physical plant. The most notable additions were a roller skating surface and an all-weather track. But perhaps Mr. Murray's most important legacy will be his ability to strengthen the quality, effectiveness, and morale of Tecumseh's staff. First, he invested more time in the proper training of the counselors by expanding the orientation process before the campers arrive. He also empowered young college graduates who were early in their teaching careers, and he gave these young men an opportunity to share their opinions freely. Such exchange has strengthened both our program and staff. It has also ensured Tecumseh of a competent, caring, and effective senior staff for many years to come. Mr. Murray also instituted the Jim Fraser Award in recognition of that camper who exemplifies: class, effort, spirit, and commitment to Tecumseh. Two other awards for the counselors (Coaching Award and Spirit Award) were also started under Mr. Murray's tenure as Director.

There were numerous highlights during the summer of 2000. Pemi Day 2000 was as close as it gets. Tecumseh came from behind, trailing 6-3-1 at the halfway point, to win the Day 10-9-1. Winning 11 out of 22 Lakes Region Tournaments, Tecumseh also excelled in other outside competition; our final record was a remarkable 62-33-4. On stage in the Opera House, *The Pirates of Penzance*, a Tecumseh favorite, played to full houses and was a terrific hit! The Tecumseh staples: Junior and Senior League, trips, clinic and the Waterfront all enjoyed high interest and success. In Blue-Gray, the Grays won 52-31-3. Prayers continued to provide the campers with an intriguing opportunity to hear counselors present speeches on a wide variety of topics. As usual, the Sunday Awards Ceremony came way too soon. Numerous campers were honored, campers and counselors said their goodbyes, shed some tears, and started the long wait for the summer of 2001.

**Award Winners for 2000:** Tecumseh Boy: Kevin Dugan. Intermediate Tecumseh Boy: Barrett Abbott.  
Junior Tecumseh Boy: Chris Hearne. Jim Fraser Award: Chris Haunss

## **The Summer of 2001**

The summer of 2001 saw the seamless transition from Hench Murray to Jim Talbot. Mr. Talbot brought an enthusiastic hands-on management style. It was very clear early on that Mr. Talbot was able to put his own unique imprint on Tecumseh while at the same time maintaining the strong traditions that are so cherished here. Mr. Talbot also had an additional asset as Director – his wife Nina. She was instrumental in ordering camp clothing and working behind the scenes in helping her husband with certain clerical tasks involved with the smooth and efficient running of Tecumseh.

There were numerous highlights during the summer of 2001. Tecumseh received some excellent press in two local newspapers. There were informative and entertaining articles and pictures in both the *Concord Sunday Monitor* and *The Laconia Citizen*. The Tecumseh web site ([www.camptecumseh.net](http://www.camptecumseh.net)) expanded to include information about camp for prospective campers, as well as information for alumni to stay in touch with each other and keep abreast of the news at Tecumseh. It has also proven to be an excellent recruiting tool, as parents may explore a Tecumseh summer from the privacy of their own home. There is even an application. In 2001 Mr. Talbot also brought in several new faces on Tecumseh's staff. These new faces brought with them new ideas, new energy, and new contacts for future campers. Other highlights included: 11-9 victory on Pemi Day, an outside competition record of 54-32-1 with 12 first place finishes out of twenty-plus tournaments. Parents' Weekend closed another season with two spirited performances of the Gilbert and Sullivan show *Patience*, and the traditional Award Ceremony. By summer's end it was clear that the Talbot years at Tecumseh promised to be a period of continued success and growth! With his "freshman year" behind him, Mr. Talbot looked forward to the summer of 2002!

**Award Winners for 2001:** Tecumseh Boy: Alan Rego. Intermediate Tecumseh Boy: Kevin Smith.  
Junior Tecumseh Boy: Stephen Serling. Jim Fraser Award: Alan Rego

## **The Summer of 2002**

The summer of 2002 was Tecumseh's 100<sup>th</sup> season, quite a distinction! Jim Talbot continued camp's efforts to upgrade the communication systems of Tecumseh. Through donations, camp received several computers. Counselors could now access their email without having to travel to the local library. The computers also helped in the publishing of the weekly *Sunbeam*. Another Talbot innovation was the reinvention of the Creamery. This brilliant idea allowed the sugar-starved campers an opportunity to purchase a modest amount of candy after dinner. The proceeds of the venture went directly into the Blue-Gray Fund.

Other highlights included a "deceiving" win over Pemi. While the score for the day was a lopsided 14-5-1, most of the events were *very* close! The oldest camp rivalry in the nation remains energized, exciting, and very, very close! Our overall outside competition record was 59-22-3 with 13 first place finishes out of twenty-plus tournaments. On stage, Jim Talbot delighted the camp community when he joined the cast as the Mikado in the operetta of the same name. Both performances were terrific hits. Once again, the Sunday Awards Ceremony closed the summer with one notable difference. Tecumseh recognized the 50 years of service of Bob Glascott by establishing a new award. The Robert A. Glascott Award was given to that camper, who in the opinion of the staff has distinguished himself by consistently displaying an outstanding work ethic in all camp activities. Emotions are running high these days at Tecumseh! Not many institutions reach the remarkable milestone of 100 years in existence. Happy Birthday Camp Tecumseh!

**Award Winners for 2002:** Tecumseh Boy: Nick Hidell. Intermediate Tecumseh Boy: Sam Daly. Junior Tecumseh Boy: Colby Mattheson. Jim Fraser Award: Miles Dixon. Robert Glascott Award: Barrett Abbott.

## **Beyond 2002 - By Camp Director Jim Talbot**

Camp Tecumseh has thrived for the past one hundred years thanks to the values and traditions put in place by its Founders and wisely carried forward by their successors. An appreciation of natural beauty, love of sport and sportsmanship, a solid work ethic, the ability to make new friendships that often last a lifetime, and service to the community are the core values established by the Alexander Grant Colony in 1903. These are the values to be passed along to eager new campers for the next one hundred years.

To be sure, there are challenges ahead. Our beautiful lake has become more crowded. the summer season seems to be shorter each year, with families attempting to pack more into a shorter time. Competition for good campers is intense. Specialty camps abound. Some programs lose popularity while others become fashionable. Our facilities must meet new and higher standards for safety each year. Historical buildings like the Lodge and the Farm House that house so many memories need refurbishing to remain serviceable. Counselors need intense training to provide first-rate instruction for campers, and Camp becomes more expensive to operate each season.

Fortunately, Tecumseh continues to meet all these challenges and retains a full enrollment stocked with an excellent staff, most of whom are former campers. Mentors like Jim Fraser, Bob Glascott, Terry Cooper and the Luff brothers, Mark and Jay, pass along Camp's traditions each summer to both campers and new counselors, alike. Mary B. still makes an appearance now and then; Founder's Week recognizes service to the community; chants in the Dining Hall are more enthusiastic than ever; "The Hat" has retained its rightful spot in the trophy case. The Blue-Gray Scholarship program provides deserving youngsters with a chance to experience all Tecumseh offers.

With the continuing support of past and present parents, alumni, and a most loyal Board of Trustees, Tecumseh remains a Heavyweight in the camping world. It is both a pleasure and an honor to continue Alexander Grant's mission "to make good boys better."



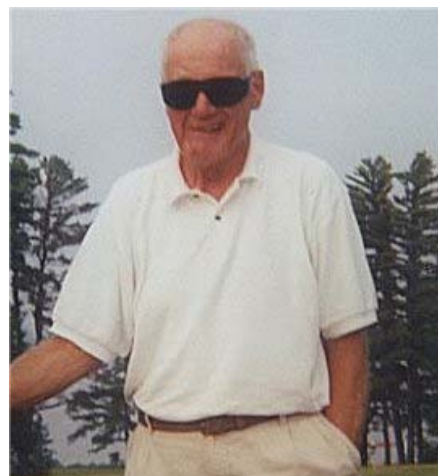
The 2001 Tecumseh Junior Counselors.



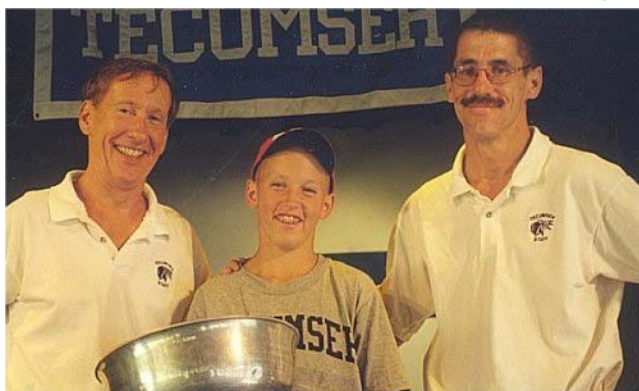
Camp Director Jim Talbot, 2002.



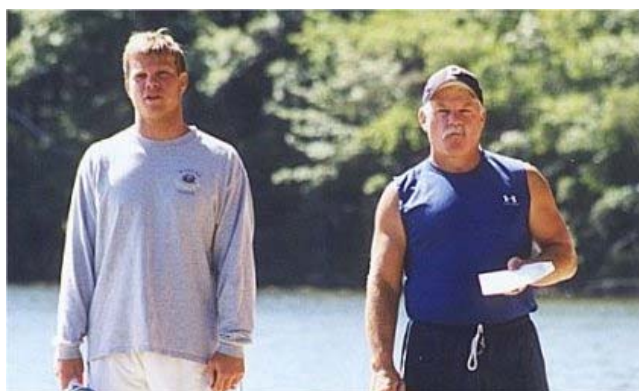
Staff members in 2002: Katie Gillin, Barb Dougherty, Ellie Smith, Marty Fraser, Debbie Smith, Billie Marshall, Sam Roberts, Heather Erwin, Kathy Marshall, Nina Talbot.



Tennis Director Terry Cooper, 2002.



Mark Daugherty and Mark Luff present the Drama Award, 2002.



Charlie Erwin and Vaughn Smith start the Iron Man, 2002.



Jim Fraser leading clinic, 2002. Easy Day. Way Down, Way Back. Two Feet, Two Inch. Pain Is Good, Pain Is Beautiful.

## 2002 TECUMSEH SENIOR STAFF



Jim and Nina Talbot



Jim Fraser



Bob Glascott



Mark Luff



Jay Luff



Mike and Barb Dougherty



Ellie and John Smith



Heather and Charlie Erwin



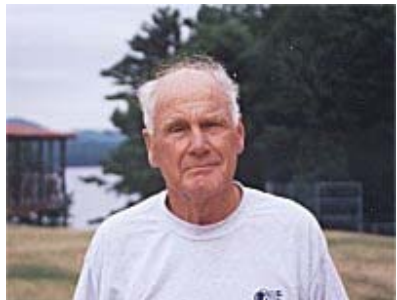
Pete and Katie Gillin



Debbie and Vaughn Smith



Mike Reardon



Terry Cooper



Sibby Browne



Kathy Marshall