

The winning raft paddling its way down the river.



ROLLING DOWN THE RIVER



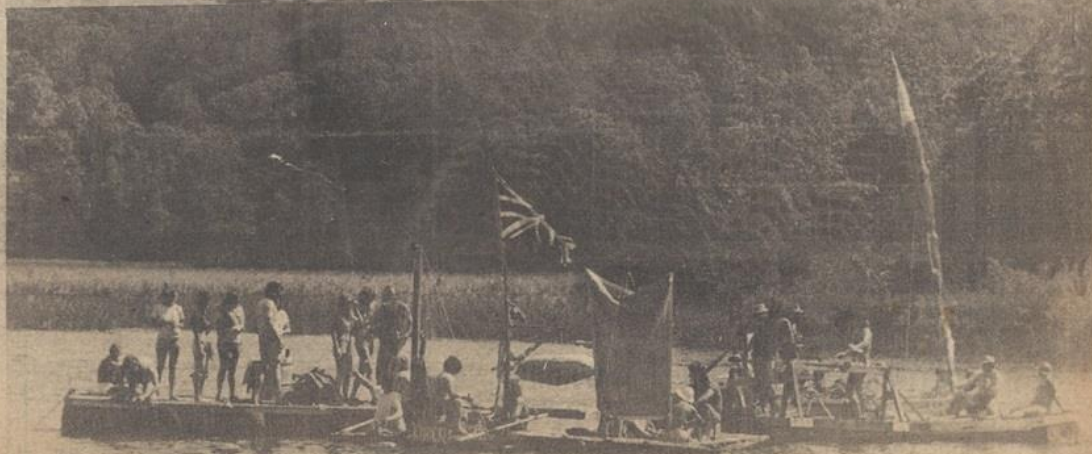
Four extremely suspicious-looking home-crafted rafts met on sunny Saturday morning at the Deep River Town Landing to participate in the first Down the River Raft Race, which benefited the Cancer Fund.

Under the careful planning and watchful eyes of Tim Eastland of Essex and Rocky Evert of Haddam, race and crew members found their way along the Connecticut River to their destination of Nott Island in Essex.

Skippers, if we may use the term so liberally, were Charlie Hosmer of Hadlyme who should get the "Most Sophisticated" award for his vessel which came complete with pedals, wheels and sails; Frank Burton of Old Saybrook, whose multi-oared rig won the race handily; Gary Pipkin of Lyme who stepped his "mast" as it were, at the last minute and whose sail consisted of a tarpaulin from a pick-up truck and Bob Muggleston and Stan Bates of Ivoryton whose

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Charlie Hosmer and crew were off to a great start.



The rafts rafted before the race. Left to right: Frank Burton's rig which placed first; Bob Muggleston and Stan Bates' "Knocker" which placed second; Gary Pipkin's split log variety which was last and Charlie Hasmen's bicycle-propelled craft, a third place winner.