

Norelco Rafter's River Champs

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police who manned the race reported ticketing a motorist for having an expired emissions sticker. But there were no reports of any serious incidents or injuries.

A total of several thousand racers, staff members, spectators and party-goers attended the event, race organizers said.

The results were as follows. In the Outer Limits class, the fastest class, the Terminator and the Seven Stars followed the America, the Exterminator and the River Queens. Those rafts raced on a four-mile course, while the others went on a 3½-mile course from Hurd Park in East Hampton to Haddam Meadows.

In the Cruising class, the top finishers were Wet Dream XII, the only raft to race in all 12 of the annual events, Son of Mianus, and Spirit of John Bissell.

The Intrepid Millenium Buz-

ard led the Horrendous class, which includes larger rafts. It was followed by Acid Reign Queen, a raft fielded by state Department of Environmental Protection employees, and the PPSP Violator. Members of that crew said the PPSP stood for an inside joke.

The Fearless Fools won the Sweeper class. Those rafts were allowed to carry motors and were supposed to tow any stragglers to the end. They were judged on the basis of their costumes, food and drink. The winning crew welcomed the judges to their raft with linen over their arms and a fancy table, according to Kimberly Fischburg, the race secretary and wife of race Chairman Kenn Fischburg.

The race's organizers also awarded their Mark Twain Award, which goes to the raft that looks most authentic, to the Logjam, a raft fielded by the

Connecticut Tree Farm Committee.

The committee built the raft out of forest products from all over the state in order to call attention to their work in encouraging the proper management of forest land, according to Tom Worthley, a Haddam forester and chairman of the state committee.

The raft looked like a floating log cabin, according to race official Charlene Maddocks.

Also, the PPSP won the Spacecraft Award for its unique piston-driven paddlewheel, which looked like a hand-driven rail car.

Fischburg estimated the race had raised nearly \$1,500 to be donated to Big Brothers-Big Sisters and other charities benefiting children.

The race was followed by music and a party in Haddam Meadows.



(Staff Photo by Kramer)
The helmsman of the Phantom III seems to have matters well in hand as he barks out rowing orders to his crew as they skim across the Connecticut.