MESQUAKIE LANGUAGE
Nah -- He or she is learning how to be
Chemaun -- Canoeist
Metosenehaw -- Hiker
Ke 'tci -- Great
Wa 'tci -- Easy
Che-man -- Canoe
Ke-ma-chke -- Chief
Wa-sfi-no-te -- Camp Cook
Bo-o-ne-ta -- Camper
50 miler -- Trip from Hopkinton to Joinerville
1 50 miler -- Has qualified for Boy Scouts of America canoe trip
First Edition -- First 100 medals off the die
I -- First year down the course
R -- Big rain on trip
r' -- Little rain on trip
r -- Sprinkle of rain on trip
hogo -- locomotion by waters; the idea of a conveyance
MESKWAKIE -- First spelling and still used in tribal communications.
THE MAQUOKETA RIVER

For those canoeists who desire a colorful and leisurely weekend, the Maquoketa River awaits with one of the prettiest canoe trails you'll find in Iowa.

The Mesquakie Canoe Trail 50 Miler covers the stretch of river from Hopkinton, Dunlap Park, named after H. J. Dunlap, in Jones County to Joinerville in Jackson County. This trail was established in 1972 as a memorial to Ronald Dalchow who lost his life in an automobile accident in 1960. His father, Dr. Marvin Dalchow, a former Boy Scout leader in Maquoketa, developed the idea of a 50 mile canoe trail with a corresponding 25 mile hiking trail.

The center of the river measures 48 miles from Dunlap Park to Joinerville. Boy Scouts working on their 50 miler can leave their duffle at Joinerville and continue on down to Camp Iten Boy Scout Camp and back to Joinerville.

The trail takes its name from the Mesquakie Indian tribe which was the original governmental unit in this area of the country.

The winding bluffs of the Maquoketa River provide a pleasing background for the vast array of birds and wild flowers that can be seen during the summer months. By late September the river is alive with brilliant fall colors.

The canoe trail begins just below the Hopkinton Dam. This can be reached by going through the town of Hopkinton, then left across the bridge over the South Fork of the river to the park on the south bank of the river where the canoes can be put in. Water and restroom facilities are available at the departure point.

Usually the current is fairly slow and the water depth is only two or three feet. In times of low water you may even feel your canoe touching the bottom for a brief instant. Sandbars appear frequently enough to provide a welcome place to stretch your legs and take a break.

The trip to the railroad bridge at Monticello takes about three hours. The Highway 38 Bridge is about 15 minutes downstream, and about 25 minutes later you will pass under the Highway 151 Bridge.

Soon after this bridge, you will approach the Monticello Dam. Here it is necessary to make a portage of about 100 yards. Just above the dam, on the port side, is an open area along the bank where you can take out. This can be checked out on your way to the starting point.

From below the dam to Picture Rock Park is about a two hour journey. Water and restrooms are available at the park. Water is also available about 45 minutes downstream at a Coon Hunters' Camp.

It takes about three hours to go from Picture Rock Park to the Upper Supple Bridge. From there to the Lower Supple Bridge is another hour, and from this bridge to Canton requires about an hour and a half.

The last portion of the trail extends 17 miles from Canton to Joinerville. Each year, just before Memorial Day, it provides the course for the Annual Mesquakie Indian River Trail Race. This race was first held in 1973.

Winners of the race have paddled this section in about two hours and 15 minutes, but at a more leisurely pace you can expect it to take a little over four hours.

From Canton to the Millertown Bridge is about one and a half hours. The Rorahtown Bridge is another thirty minutes, and from there to the Chenelworth Bridge is about 45 minutes. The Morehead Bridge which is the last bridge you will pass under is another thirty minutes downstream. From there to Joinerville Park is about an hour. Joinerville provides a good take out point with easy access by car.

Good overnight camping areas are Picture Rock Park, Buzzard Ridge, the Gilmore Pasture and Canton. If you would like to spend two nights out, Picture Rock Park which has good drinking water and toilets would make a nice place to spend the first night and the second night could be spent at Buzzard Ridge, Gilmore Pasture or the Canton area. See map for locations.
HIKING TRAIL

The Hiking Trail begins at Maquoketa at the home of Dr. M. A. Dalchow, 605 Emma Court, where the hikers will receive instructions on how to proceed.

The hike will take you straight west to the end of Platt Street, on over the bluff area and down to the dam at Lakehurst. Here you can travel by foot along the bluffs used by the Mesquakie Indians on the south bank of the Maquoketa River.

When you come to a slough, bear left to the bridge across the creek below the Wendel Ranch. At the bridge turn right to the river and travel the bluffs to the Spring Branch Creek. Here you have to go around another slough west and then back east to the river, north and around a bend or two to the old YMCA Blackhawk (now Jackson County Conservation Board property).

As you proceed up the river you will look to the right and see Cedar Ridge of Camp Iten Boy Scout acreage. There will be a marked trail either on the bluff or river side. The next twenty acres you travel along the river to Joinerville was donated by Melvin Joiner to the Jackson County Conservation Board. At Joinerville there is a well with good drinking water and toilets on top of the hill. A picnic and camping area also is located here.

The hikers now will enter some farming country and since the second farm is not friendly, turn off to your left. In this area one can find arrowheads, spearheads and other Indian tools after a rain. With the power equipment farmers use today, they do not find the artifacts that a hiker can.

As the farming pressures increase maybe the walker would be advised to turn south to Highway 64, then go west to the bridge across Bear Creek, make a 90 degree turn north on the gravel road along Bear Creek to the Chenelworth Bridge.

You can enjoy Frazier Canoe Stop for your noon meal by turning right just before you get to the bridge.

After you get across the Chenelworth Bridge, go north and east to the Maquoketa Caves and if you take the Bluff Lake Road you will come out just west of the Caves Park. If you go up the little creek you will come in the south end of the State Park.

Stay the rest of the day and overnight at the park where many traces of artifacts can be found in the caves and park of the Mesquakie Indians. The evening can be spent by a nice fire listening to the whip-poorwills, owls, tree frogs and maybe a coyote or a wolf. In the morning the many birds and forest friends announce their presence.

On the homeward trip go out the east end of the park to the Caves Road (Y-31 Jackson County) then to the second road south. On the right, you will come to a branch road, take the left branch to the river.
From here on for several miles down the river you will be in rattle snake country.

If this presents a problem you should stay on Y-31 to Highway 61 and then back into Maquoketa. The main thing in rattle snake country is to avoid high grass and open rocks on the bluffs. You should wear 12 to 18 inch high boots and do not step over rocks or logs without looking first, particularly on the sunny south side where they like to lay.

There is a Brassard and a Medal for both Hikers and Canoeists, the Medal can be imprinted to tell our story of the trip in Mesquakie Language. They are available from Dr. M. A. Dalchow.

Residence - 605 Emma Court, Maquoketa, Iowa 52060 -- Phone 652-2523.

The cost of the Brassard is $1.00, the Medal $2.00 and an imprinted Medal is $3.00 with Indian words used.
The cost of the Brassec is $1.00. The Medal is $2.00.

52060 - Phone 652-2623
Residence - 655 Emma Court, Maquoketa, Iowa

The Mequabi language. They are available from Dr. M. A. Baizuw.

Our story of the trip in Mequabi language, they and Caneezis; the Medal can be purchased to tell.

There is a Brassec and a Medal for both Hikers.

If you love hiking on the sunny side where they hike to
take a break to see the many birds and roast
days over rocks of logs without looking this par.

The main thing in the Main Smake Country is to walk
Y:13 to Highway 1 and then back into Maquoketa.

If this presents a problem you should stay on
will be in the Main Smake Country.

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After you get across the Chenuworth Bridge, go

Hiking & Camping Trail
Map of the Mequabi Lake
Some 40 Maquoketa area men and boys took a 50 mile canoe and hiking trip last weekend, June 17-19. The trip was set up as a memorial for Ronald Dalchow, a Boy Scout Troop 65 member, who was killed in an automobile accident in 1960.

The trip began at Hopkinton with overnight stops at the points marked by stars on the map. More pictures and a story appear on pages 6 and 7 of today's Sentinel.

Jackson Sentinel, Maquoketa, Iowa, Thursday, June 22, 1972

Maquoketa Boy Scout Troop 68 held a 50 mile canoe trip down the south fork of the Maquoketa River as a memorial to Ronald Dalchow, a former member killed in a car accident in 1960.

The three day trip started at the Hopkinton city park which is just south of Manchester. A sign reading “Mesquakie Canoe Trail 50 Miler” marks the sight where 27 canoers started out. The next couple days, more people and canoes joined the party until at the finish point at Joinerville, Sunday, June 18, 19 canoes and 40 adventurers totaled up at the landing.

Several trails were set up too, over the weekend, for hikers to follow. One started from Maquoketa and lead up the river to the Caves and back down again. Another one went up the river to the west, crossed four bridges and came down the opposite side.

The trails and canoe route were the work of Troop 68 and Dr. M. A. Dalchow, whose son is the one the trails are in memory of. Dr. Dalchow was also once the troop leader.

It is hoped the canoe trip and hikes will become an annual event with more participating each year.
Dr. Marvin A. Dalchow prepares Small Mouth Bass which were caught by members of the party. Helping him is Steve Mayberry, son of Wayne Mayberry. Steve outfished his father and everyone else on the trip by hooking four. Dr. Dalchow also prepared turtle steak at the same time. The turtle was caught by some other boaters who gave the turtle to the doctor.

Sherman Burns and his son, Mike, portage around the Monticello dam. They then had to return for their cargo and carry it to the canoe. This was the only spot on the 50 mile trip where the canoes had to be carried around an obstacle. Shallow waters waited on many turns but an alert canoeist could avoid them.
Dr. Marvin Dalchow

From Boy Scouts to those interested in national natural resource issues, people know Dr. Marvin A. Dalchow as a true conservationist.

Born in Lyons, Iowa on January 10, 1911, he attended the University of Iowa dental school from 1929-1936 and graduated as a practicing orthodontist. He and his wife, Viola, moved to Maquoketa in 1936 and set up his dentist practice.

Dr. Dalchow immediately became active in the local Maquoketa Valley Izaak Walton League and Boy Scout troops. In 1941, his conservation interests were temporarily halted as he was called to serve in World War II.

After returning to active practice in the late '40s, his involvement in scouting won him the prestigious silver beaver award presented by the National Boy Scout Council in 1948.

While “Doc” led local scouts through many exciting adventures, he also became a leader in the Maquoketa Valley Izaak Walton League. As a member, he contributed greatly to the local chapter’s activities and was elected president in 1953 and again in 1980. He became state president in 1963 and served until 1974 when he became national director. He led the national organization for six years.

Dr. Dalchow was appointed to the Jackson county Conservation Board in 1957 and worked diligently on local projects until his retirement from the board in 1982. His participation led to the purchase of a 120-acre wildlife production area — one of eastern Iowa’s finest. He served as chairman of the board from 1958 to 1962. He was elected president of the Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards in 1961.

As if this were not enough, “Doc” was recognized for his effectiveness in conservation and was appointed to the Iowa Natural Resources Council for a 6 year term. He was especially concerned over the problem of stream straightening in Iowa, and found himself on the stream-straightening review committee for 5 years. During this time, he helped protect many major streams.

Dr. Dalchow established a 35-mile cross-country backpack trail along the South Fork of the Maquoketa River. Today, this trail extends from Monticello Iowa to the south shores of Lakehurst Reservoir near Maquoketa. Other conservation accomplishments include helping plant hundreds of thousands of trees and shrubs with many conservation groups in Eastern Iowa, and serving as an instructor with the Maquoketa Valley Rifle and Revolver Club for 12 years. He was senior division president of the club for 1 year and a director for the club for 12 years.

Dr. Dalchow’s enthusiasm for natural resource protection led him onto many battlefields. His dedication resulted in the completion of many successful projects. It can easily be said that because of his encouragement, many young men and women have learned to appreciate Iowa’s natural resources.
First Canoe Race Is Sunday

**RACE HISTORY**

The Mesquakie Indian River Trail Canoe Race follows a portion of the Mesquakie Canoe Trail 50 Miler, which was established in 1972 as a memorial to Ronald Dalchow. Young Dalchow was killed in an automobile accident in 1960 and his father, Dr. Marvin Dalchow, a former Boy Scout leader in Maquoketa, developed the idea of a 50-mile canoe trail with a corresponding mile hiking trail.
Plains Progress For Canoe Race

The race is an event of the Green Bay Chamber of Commerce. Once traveling
through the city, the canoes will be back
in the city at the Green Bay Whitewater and
the Green Bay Whitewater Whitewater Whitewater
Center and then back to the finish line.

The race will start at 1 PM and end at 5 PM.

The course will be marked with buoys and
the runners will be provided with
water and snacks along the way.

The course will be divided into
sections, each with its own
water station.

The race will be covered by
televisions and cameras from
the Green Bay area.

The race will be open to
everyone, regardless of
age or experience.

Participants will be
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