

Hancock County Cub Scouts Bring Armada to Annual *Raingutter Regatta*



Cub Scout Jason Apple powers his little sailboat with wind from his lungs Saturday in Charlottesville.

Plenty of Hot Air Blown Off in Charlottesville During Scouts' Boat Race

Like scouting's popular Pinewood Derby, the annual Raingutter Regatta ignites competitiveness in Cub Scouts.

Sporting assembled do-it-yourself sailboat kits, scouts from Pack 293 gathered Saturday afternoon at the Charlottesville Lions Club to test the seaworthiness of their tiny boats.

The contest pits scouts against one another two at a time. The boats start at one end of a rain gutter and are blown by scouts to the opposite end. Each scout is provided with a straw with which to blow.

It took several heat races to narrow the field down to the top three places. Parents and scouts cheered their friends on as racing continued for well over an hour. Corbin Jennings was the eventual winner, with Gabe Davis and Dylan Alkire finishing second and third, respectively. Scouts voted Noah Hite's boat the best of the bunch. Will Huffman got the Rookie of the Year award.

Pack 293 is sponsored by the Charlottesville Lions Club.



Karter Petry cheers on a friend during the Raingutter Regatta.



Cub Scout Will Huffman (bottom) takes the lead as other scouts watch.



Cub Scouts watch a demonstration prior to the start of Raingutter Regatta racing Saturday.



Cub Scout Mitchell Scott (above, left) nears the checkered flag Saturday. Tiger Leader Richard Walton (above, right) watches as Cub Scout Clayton Cochart starts a race.



Winners from Saturday's Raingutter Regatta include (l-r) Noah Hite, Scout's Choice boat; Dylan Alkire, third place; Corbin Jennings, first place; Will Huffman, Rookie of the Year; and Gabe Davis, second place.

Photos by Eric Cox