



# Oxford sailor wins 2018 LMLPA *Cardboard Boat Regatta*

Beloved Logan Martin event returns for the second summer, with plans underway for next year

Written by Laura Nation-Atchison  
Photographed by Bob Crisp

**P**atrick Hallowell used 22 boxes for his regatta-winning watercraft. Specifically, they were Milo's Tea boxes, held together with duct tape. Lots of duct tape.

Hallowell had developed a certain knack for applying the tape to the cardboard hull he named The

Hummingbird. He cut it into strips and braided them into 18-inch ties. And it gave him the edge to win the Logan Martin Lake Protection Association's 2018 Cardboard Boat Regatta.

Launching The Hummingbird from Lakeside Park in Pell City, Hallowell swiftly took the lead in the three-vessel



Entrants in the regatta prepare to launch their cardboard vessels onto Logan Martin at Lakeside Park.

race, making his way to the turning marker without wobbles, cutting the turn and heading for home in straight form.

In second place was the grandfather-and-grandson team of Paul Miller of Pine Harbor and Hudson Alexander aboard the "S.S. Diane." They also made the trip without mishap and came in just behind the leader.

Miller said he learned about the regatta while reading an article promoting the event in *Lakeside Living* and showed it to his grandson as a possible project. They agreed on the endeavor and spent several weeks working on their entry.

He credits Hudson with drawing up plans for the boat, which made the trip for the race with ease. Hudson's plans for the boat following the race were to try it out again back at home, Miller said.

For the third vessel, The S.S. Minnow, manned by Ava Nguyen and her mother, Emily Ann, the trip on the course was a short one, the craft going down shortly after leaving the shore.

The two enjoyed a little dip in the water as they

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The colorful S.S. Minnow enjoyed a very short foray before submerging below Logan Martin waters. Crew members returned to the shore unscathed.

gathered up their broom straw paddles and the somewhat soaked boat and laughed their way back to the mainland.

The pair got to work on their polka dot-decorated entry the night before the race, after just finding out about it and deciding to join in the fun.

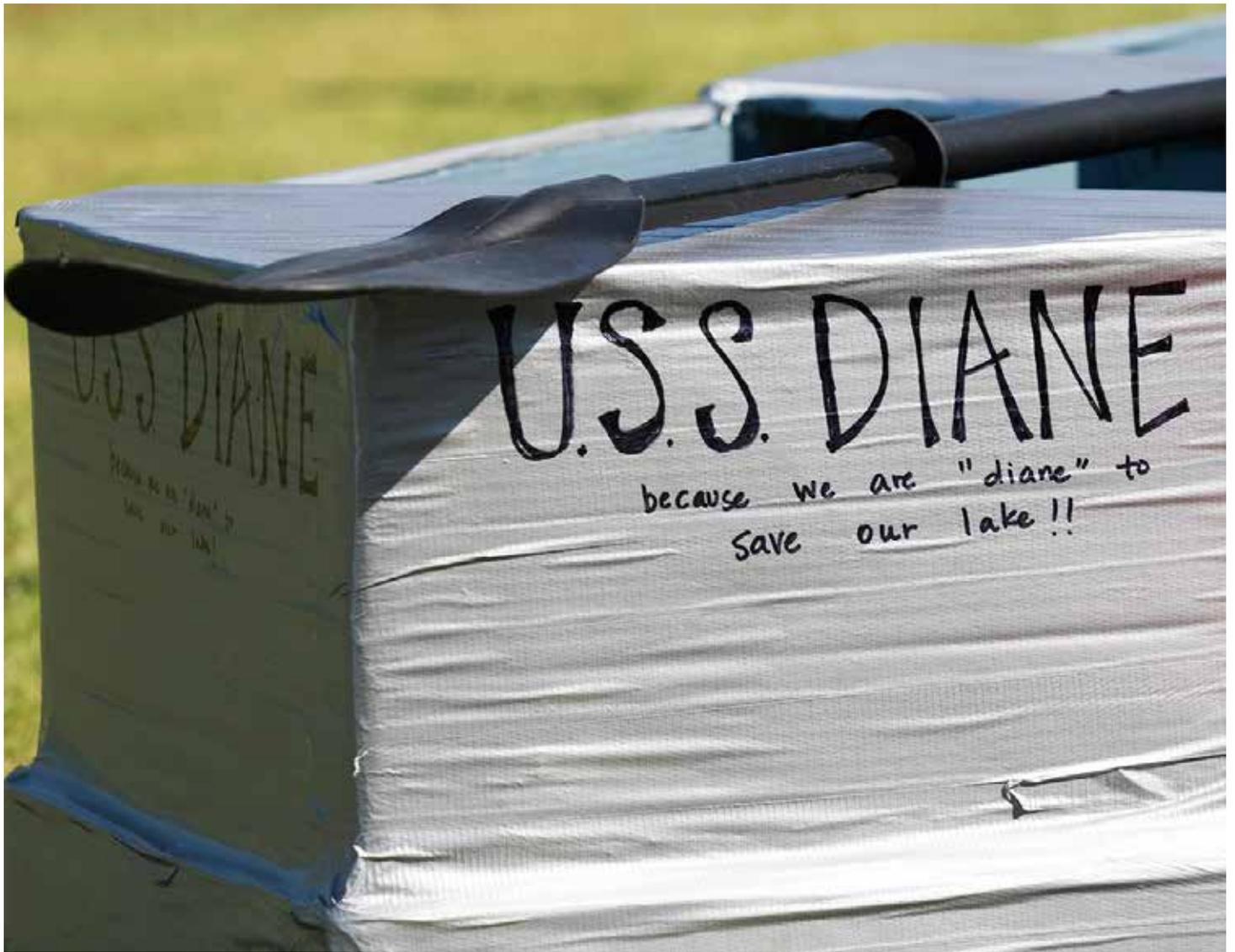
Hallowell's design included a dash and one small, tight spot for him to sit and paddle, with the sections of cardboard held together by drilling holes to hold the braided sections of tape.

He used some household paint he had left over from another project and said he probably had \$17 invested in materials to build the winning boat.

Hallowell is manager of the deli

Hudson Alexander and his grandfather Paul Miller paddled to a runner-up finish.





Miller and Alexander said they spent several weeks working on the U.S.S. Diane after reading about the regatta in an issue of *Lakeside Living*.

at an Oxford grocery store. He said after hearing about the event and having access to plenty of boxes, he wanted to give it a try.

"And I really want to do this again," he said.

LMLPA hosted the regatta for a second year, and organizer Deborah Cearley said it's on again for next year, along with hopes to add lots more entries and fill up the categories created to serve all ages.

The Logan Martin Lake Protection Association (LMLPA) was formed as a tax-exempt Section 501c4 corporation in 1995. LMLPA applied for and was awarded its 501(c)3 status in 2000. Contributions to the organization

are fully tax deductible.

There are now more than 450 members.

LMLPA recommends and supports legislation for the protection of waters and measures that will improve water quality and cleanliness.

Its mission statement is to "Advocate and promote the general welfare of Logan Martin Lake and that of the homeowners, businesses and users of Logan Martin Lake and the surrounding areas."

If you are not a member of LMLPA and would like to join, you may send your check for \$25 per household or business to LMLPA, P.O. Box 2002, Pell City, AL, 35125.