

## **Salisbury Students get their sea legs on class kayak pond trip**

*By Timothy Young*



*SU Senior Brooke Reese came with her class on a kayaking trip to Mill Pond in Salisbury, Maryland. She said that she was being given instructions on how to assemble the paddles among other information.*

*"I got anxious so I think that I reverted back to being a kid so focused on everything he had to say," Reese said. "I think my face just came across as being confused though."*

*Reese said that she felt restless up until the moment they got the kayaks out into the water.*

*"I really just hated that we had to set up everything. I just wanted to show up and get right into the water," Reese said. "I wanted the fun without all the tough work."*



*"We were walking to get the kayaks when all of the sudden, the wind hit me," SU Senior Chantel Walker said. "At first, I didn't think I would need the jacket, but I am so glad that I had it. The wind and the rain was so much."*

*Walker said that she had kayaked before, but the school trip was definitely her worst.*

*"There were just so many obstacles in the swamp we ran into," Walker said. "These were my trials and tribulations."*



*Salisbury Senior Brooke Reese was prepping for the kayak excursion when she took this photo of SU senior Smiley Williamson struggling to adjust the straps on his life jacket. Williamson remarked that he wasn't going to take any chances even if the water wasn't that deep.*

*"He eventually got it on, but it took a good while," Reese said. "He's got a lively personality and it shows in this picture. His name alone definitely tells his story."*



*1Brad Davis and his classmate Will Ovington made their way out of the swampportion of the pond when Davis decided to take a short rest and view his surroundings. "That swamp was really dicey," Davis said. "I don't think any of us got out of it unscathed. I mostly just had trouble staying focused; turning right also was kind of a struggle."*



*"I think I was yawning in this picture," said SU Senior Maddie Granger. "I was really hoping that Alexis would pick up my slack."*

*Granger said that when the group decided to turn and make their way back, she quickly became fatigued. Being zoned out while kayaking could prove treacherous when the group soon found themselves navigating through the swamp a second time.*



*"We had just stopped to take a little break when I took this picture," SU Junior Shannon Loughrige said. "I didn't even know this part of the Eastern Shore existed when we went on this trip."*

*After traversing a long path through the swamp, Loughrige and the rest of her classmates kayaked out into a wide area of the pond to find houses lined across the shore. She said that it was a nice little break from the hard paddling it took to get out there.*

*"I really like the look of the houses," Loughrige said. "It was so much more peaceful in comparison to Route 13."*



*SU Senior Rachel Taylor said that it looked like everyone was struggling at some point during the trip. She said that she had just witnessed a kayak collision take place across the pond when the photo was taken.*

*“We had been kayaking for so long and I was so tired,” Taylor said. “I didn’t know what else to do, so I just started laughing.”*



*"This photo captured the best moment of my entire day," SU senior Alexis Shapiro said. "I was so happy that the trip was finally over, I was ready to leave [my kayaking partner] behind."*

*Shapiro said that if she could do it all over again, she wouldn't, but if she had to she would have chosen a kayaking partner that knew how to steer.*

*"This was not my first time kayaking, but it was definitely the worst," Shapiro said. "I did the math and we kayaked three miles. All through rain, spider webs, thorns and more."*



*After the kayaks were brought back on shore, the students were asked to help load them back onto the trailer hitch so they may be transported back to campus.*

*"I think this photo was taken right as I loaded the second kayak on the rack," SU junior Will Ovington said. "I was less than happy to help."*

*Ovington said that his arms were already sore from the hours of kayaking and that doing more work was the last thing he wanted to do.*

*"I had fun and all that, but the loading was so much work because I was one of the few that wasn't tired enough to help," Ovington said. "It was very tedious."*