

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

**The Editor sent a copy of this letter to the Author, and the reply is as follows:**

Sir,

I am amazed that experienced engineers such as Barbenel and Ferguson-Pell should make such detailed objections without first taking the trouble to obtain experimental data. From my considerable experience in this field, I think they will be embarrassed by the insignificance of the effects they describe. Until such time as they extend my investigations to include their particular designs of cushion, their comments should not be taken too seriously.

W. A. DENNE, D.Sc.

## BOOK REVIEW

**BOATING FOR THE HANDICAPPED—GUIDELINES FOR THE PHYSICALLY DISABLED.**  
By EUGENE HEDLEY, Ph.D. 1979. Human Resources Center, Albertson NY 11507,  
U.S.A. \$5.95. 114 pages.

Undoubtedly this book will encourage more physically disabled persons, including paraplegics, to view boating as an activity that is possible for them. Concentrating as it does on independence and safety afloat, emergency procedures, access and types of boats available, it attempts to answer the many major questions paraplegics amongst others will want answers to when considering boating as an activity.

The chapter on safety and independence is comprehensive but orientated, as would be expected, to the U.S.A. market. Unfortunately, the book lacks specific information on the problems some disabled persons have finding the correct type of buoyancy aid for them. The chapter on access is very good indeed and perhaps the section on the many types of boats available might have included some information about which craft are most suitable for which disability groupings.

Liberal sprinkling with photographs and line drawings and including a short section in braille for the visually impaired this book will surely find a place on the library shelves of all paraplegics and other physically disabled persons in any way interested in expanding their horizons to include water based activity.

R. A. STUART

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