

A Special Issue

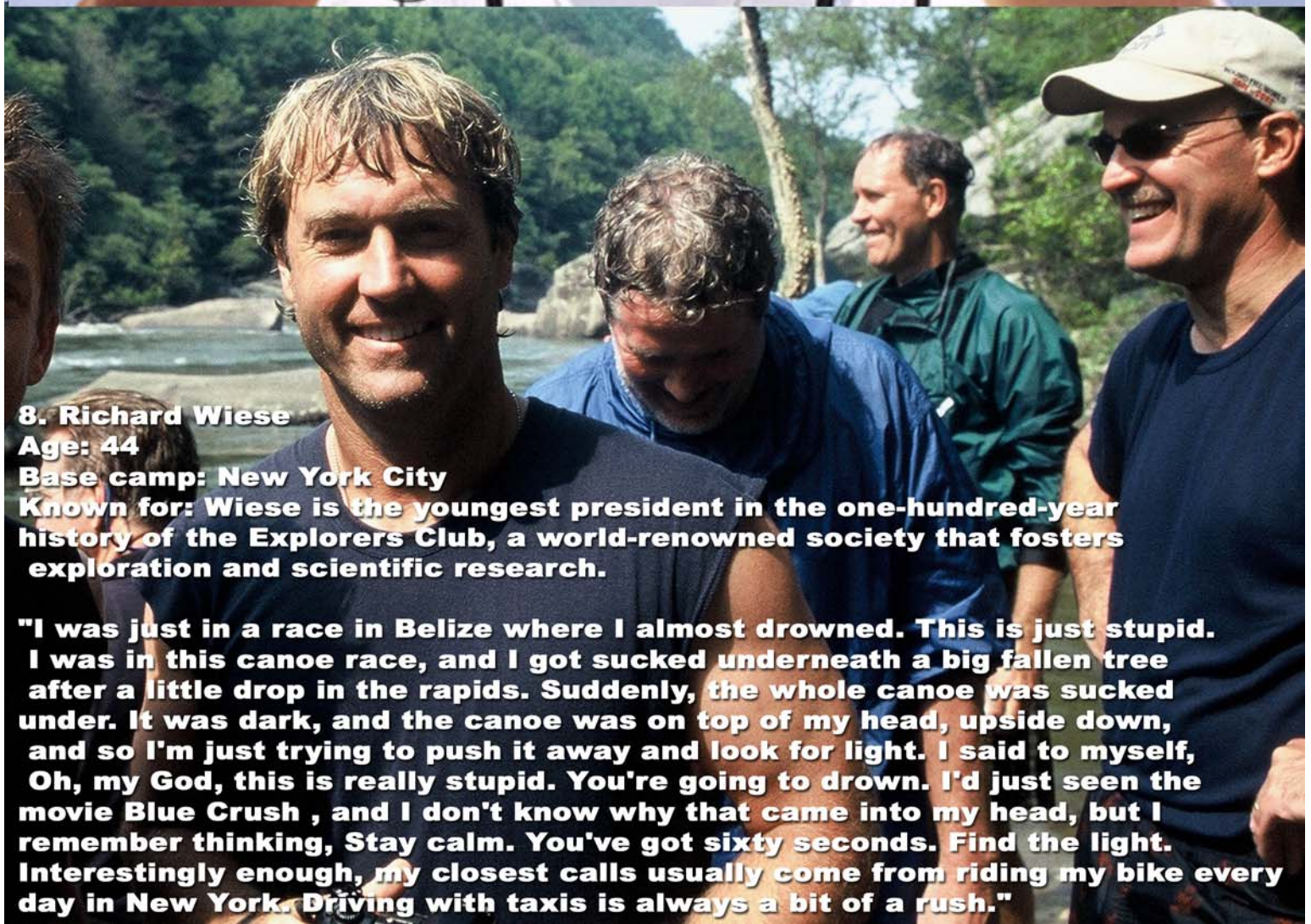
SURVIVAL

**TRUE TALES OF
MEN IN PERIL**

Esquire

Men at His Best / July 2004

Ten Tough Bastards



8. Richard Wiese

Age: 44

Base camp: New York City

Known for: Wiese is the youngest president in the one-hundred-year history of the Explorers Club, a world-renowned society that fosters exploration and scientific research.

"I was just in a race in Belize where I almost drowned. This is just stupid. I was in this canoe race, and I got sucked underneath a big fallen tree after a little drop in the rapids. Suddenly, the whole canoe was sucked under. It was dark, and the canoe was on top of my head, upside down, and so I'm just trying to push it away and look for light. I said to myself, Oh, my God, this is really stupid. You're going to drown. I'd just seen the movie Blue Crush, and I don't know why that came into my head, but I remember thinking, Stay calm. You've got sixty seconds. Find the light. Interestingly enough, my closest calls usually come from riding my bike every day in New York. Driving with taxis is always a bit of a rush."