

The HYDROFOLLING Newsletter

Volume 2, Number 4: Winter 1998

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he Flight Worlds were a great success, as more than 60 riders from five countries competed for over \$4000. Everyone had a great time, and hydrofoiling is quickly establishing itself as the next up and coming watersport. Don't miss the all new 40 minute video with the World's best riders!

This newsletter is moving forward too. Thanks for your photos, tips, and help. Keep it coming! Another excit-

ing addition is the addition of Linda Posey as Flight's new advertising director. Go get 'em Linda!

Tony Klanch, D. C.

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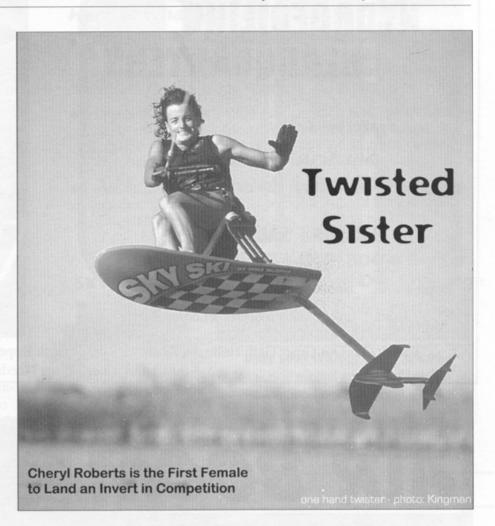
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The Feeling's Right

Women's riding is on the rise. For example, when Mike Mack was asked who he thought the most improved rider of 1998 was he responded "the women".

At the Flight Worlds this year the women's division was one of the most competitive, with about 15 riders. Most of the women are working on getting consistent with intermediate moves like skidders, one hand jumps, and the flying chicken.

A couple of women are forging ahead. Teresa Wilborn is consistently landing big jumps dismount gainers. Cheryl Roberts is leading the women with a host of jumps, backside wake rolls and front flip attempts.



Teresa Wilborn is One of the Top Women's Riders

photo: Lauder

Mike Mack's

HYDROFOILING **HEADQUARTERS**

Ski School & Resort on the Colorado River... Parker, AZ

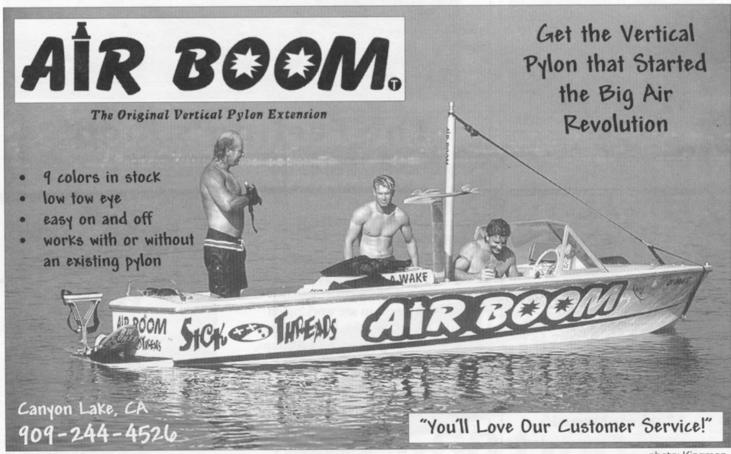
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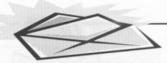


Kingman

Check Out Our Gear: Gath Helmets, Accurate Low Stretch Ropes, Full Line of Accessories & More. "For All of Your Flying Needs"



Letters



WOW!!!

You've come a long way baby!! Back in 1980, at the Marine Stadium in Long Beach, where (Ma & Pa) Mary and Nick Murphy were going round and round with their little boat, they towed their son Mike and grandson, Tony who perfected their hot dog water skiing. And then, only occasionally, when Mike or Tony were hungry, would we, Roger Crocker, myself, or mother Mary, get a ski ride in. But we always enjoyed watching in awe at the remarkable talent and new tricks they would always pull off while enjoying a hot dog or two with the friendly Murphy family. Other sons, Pat and Nick, and daughter would come too!

Now last weekend, September 19, 1998, I viewed the CROWDED beach at Lake Elsinore where the Flight Worlds were being held and stood in awe at all the fellowship and camaraderie that the Murphy family has brought together and this new exciting sport of SKY SKIING. I only had the honor of viewing the semi-finals on Saturday, in which there was a great display of talent from all over the world. AWESOME!! I looked down the beach and took photos and said to friends, "Wow, they're all here because of the Murphys!!"

I am privileged to know such great people. I'm proud to be associated and know all of you. All you Murphys should be soooooo PROUD!! I had major Goosebumps when Mary (80 years old) Sky Skied her pass with ease and when Cheryl from Rancho Cucamonga did the first women's flip I've seen and admired!! What about master and legend, Mike Murphy, who really brought us all there and Tony (the Man) Klarich!! Hats off to you boys!!!!!! And Mike Mack (3 time World Champ) Brian (River Rat) Vesely, Ingrid (the Woman) Buxton, Nick (yes) Murphy, and the new

(Awesome Air) World Champion Damon Moore. They gave a great show!!

What a grand day!! I'm sorry to have missed the finals...and Shonna Klarich missed defending her title in the finals too, as she and here husband Tony are having their first baby. CONGRATS!! And what a great family your baby gets to grow up in.

P.S. Mary Murphy - you are a legend, a hero, and an inspiration to all of us women of water skiing. You have raised a beautiful family all doing what you love and you skiing along side them. What an honor to know you and your family. I've skied and won the Catalina Ski Race on a race ski going fast, as not to be caught by the sharks—but for you to Sky Ski across the wide open ocean there and back going slow is the greatest accomplishment of all.

Lori Dunsmore - Boulder City, NV

Howdy

This heres one of them thar Texins remember us? That was a right fine shindig ya put on over thar in Californey. Seriously though, congratulations on putting together a great competition.

Speaking of competitions, we are trying to get hydrofoiling in the Texas INT league. We are getting as many people as possible to contact the TX INT coordinator. Can you too?

Todd Kyser greenrider@aol.com

Contact the INT to request foiling in your area. When enough people are interested they may add it!!
Contact the INT-League directly for the Texas State Coordinator:
INT Headquarters (253) 887-1606 int@wolfenet.com

Go Little

Thanks so much for the awesome trophy. I had a great time at the Flight Worlds. It was the most fun to actually compete in a real tournament. It was the most awesome experience I've ever had, and probably ever will have. Thanks again, I had tons of fun and really appreciate you putting the gig together!

Cameron Kephart Auburn, CA Age 11 - Flight Worlds youngest rider

Thanks

for putting on a VERY fun tournament! I can't remember when I've had so much fun! I LOVE THIS SPORT! Just watching all you pros really pumped me up to come back home and train harder.

Catch you later,

Rob Plamondon Hendersonville, TN RobPman@aol.com

Inspired

My three kids and I went to the Worlds and had the time of our lives. They can't stop talking about it. It was cute to see my daughter get home on Monday and want to go out that night and start trying the things she saw the pros do. Of course she started off with the flying chicken. We had never seen the type of tricks one can do so we all know we have a lot of practicing to do in order to improve. Congrats on an outstanding event!!!!

Dave Campbell Auburn, CA h2ofun@jps.net

Got questions or comments? Send your thoughts and words to *Flight* via mail or E-mail: hopro@ez2.net



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TOXIC FOILS

Toxic foils are made from a composite material designed specifically for hydrofoils. Designer Jon Walker, has been shaping foils for 10 years starting with windsurfing speed fins. This is where the material was designed and flex patterns developed for high-speed, high-load foils.

True-foil profiles have less drag than the commercial flat sided foils. This substantially reduces back strain and allows the foils to ride neutrally.

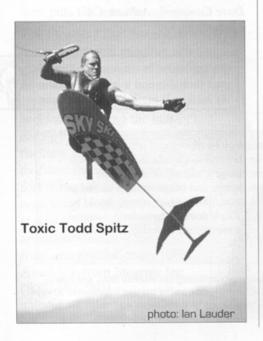
The shaped in twist gives quicker recovery for combo maneuvers. This also gives the foils a natural flex pattern that loads harder with less foot pressure. This flex absorbs shock for buttery landings.

Being a lighter composite reduces swing weight for more controllable rolls and flips-now you can really tweak and pull 'em.

Never polish your foils again!!! (need I say more?)

Toxic foils can custom build endless variations for the inventor that rides. Texas rules!!!

A press release from Jon Walker (915) 690-6649



Flight



The Northern Cal Crew: Meyers ,Gallegos, and Moore

Florida State Hydrofoiling Championships

Last October some of the nation's best foilers gathered on Tampa Bay for a great tournament. This event, sponsored by Motor Sport Management and Air Chair, was the first hydrofoiling tournament with both cash prize (\$2,000) and TV coverage! (previous contests have one or the other, not both).

It was breezy and rather rough in the Marina at the Pier, but the crew showed their stuff, once again demonstrating that foiling can be a rough water sport.

Several new tricks were performed for the first time in competition. Top finishers included Phil Dixon (vets), Willie Wolfe (amateur), David Meyers (masters), Jake Kinnison (mens), Cheryl Roberts (womens), Klarich (pro men), and Damon Moore (pro men).

Chip Reihl also burst on the scene with some huge moves rivaling the top pros. Geno Yauchler put on some entertaining exhibitions including some super rough water barefooting and a triple front flip



Low Rider Tower with Banner

bailout off a mini jump ramp. Ron Stack introduced his new low-rider seat tower complete with some innovative ad space! (look for a more complete story next issue on the lowered tower)

Watch for the whole event on Outdoor Life and/or Speed Vision early in 1999.

More ₹New Moves

In just three short months several new moves have been introduced:

Murphy: front flip-skidder combo.

Klarich: gainer floater, pogo combo, Flight of the Condor, Spirits Rise (undertaker floater), Rodeo Roll, high speed skidder, and Rolé (one hand behind back roll).

Stack: gainer-jump combo, slide grab, foil grab, RazorBack, Open Door, wrap to floater

Moore: triple barrel (FS roll combo), gainer combo,.

Do you have a new move? Send it to *Flight* on video or show it live!

Schorno Connection



Team Sky Ski traveled to Switzerland again for a country-wide tour, compliments of Peter Schorno. The Swiss adventurist loves Ferraris, Sky Skiing, and travelling to exotic places. Schorno and Murphy are good friends, sharing numerous common interests. Murphy is fond of saying "there would be no Sky Ski without Peter"... the Schorno Connection. Here are a few of my exciting memories of an incredible trip:

(Continued on page 13)

Ron Stack demonstrates the "Lazy Boy", one of the advanced moves based on the "Floater".













6

Photos: Kelly Kingman

Flotation Innovation

This trick is a crossover from a Moto Cross move. Instead of letting go of the handlebars, you're letting go of the handle.

To learn this move try your most comfortable outside jump. The idea is to jump and a foot or two before the highest part and think about pulling yourself forward and up and under the handle.

You have now gained forward momentum and slack in the rope. By doing this you should now be able to let go of the handle and it should hover in front of you.

Start by just opening your hands and quickly close them again.

Soon you'll be going for Lazy Boys (shown here), floating grabs, and floating Flying Chickens. Who knows, you might even invent a new "root beer float".



Lazy Boy

Key Points to No Falls

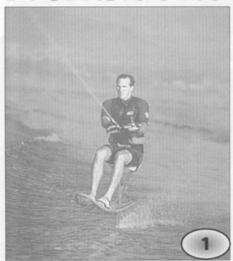
- A controlled jump
- handle close before letting go
- a small amount of slack in rope once you are in the air
- never push on feet while retrieving the handle
- use your peripheral vision to spot rope. Don't stare at it
- the higher you jump the longer you float

Good luck. I'll see you in the air!

Ron Stack is the inventor of the world's first vertical pylon extension - the Air Boom. He is also one of the top pro hydrofoilers with dozens of new moves to his credit.

Flight

Frontside Roll...



Keep your deck just above the water as you make a consistent approach to the wake.

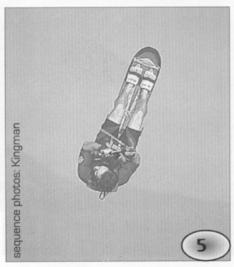


Bounce your board off the water while maintaining your momentum across the wakes.

with Tony Klarich



Make sure to ride the foil to the top before committing to the roll. Lead with your front shoulder.



Lead the spot with your head and eyes. Keep your handle in!



By now you should have a great fix on your landing. Prepare to land pointed across the wakes.



Swing your hips out so that you land in the same direction you are travelling. DO NOT pull the handle across your body!

Q: I have had my hydrofoil for only one season. However, I am jumping fairly high, doing the skidder, gainer dismounts, and attempting gainers and backside rolls. The first time I attempted the BS roll I landed square on the foil, but trashed anyway. Since then I have landed in every configuration possible, some good and some bad. I have even done a 13/4 (ouch that hurt!). I need help because I am not going to quit trying. I will get it! Sean Foster

A: Sean, here's some helpful tips: First, Slow your speed down 5 -6 mph from normal, Take your time and get a good approach to the wake. Second, Make sure you stomp a good jump! Third, When

you start your rotation try to keep your elbows at your waist and the handle low. Also, as you come around spot the back of the boat. Fourth, when you land be sure to look up (and that goes for everything). Good luck rolling! Ski ya... Fly-n Brian Vesely



Vesely Busts a Big BS Roll

tips&tricks



Let your foil bank around the back. Keep the handle in as you pivot around the tight line.



Get your weight centered as you land and maintain control of the handle. Be ready to ride!

I first performed the *Frontside Roll* in 1992, as a crossover move from knee-boarding. The rotation of this roll in its truest form is side over side. It is different from the Backside Roll in that the sideways rotation is initiated into the wake (shoulders forward) instead of away (shoulders away).

Set up for this roll about 25' outside the wake. Approach with medium intensity, board low (1), and bounce it in preparation for take-off (2). As the board rebounds, lean back for lift. The foil should exit at the crest of the wake for maximum lift (3). The strength of your jump should feel about the same as for a solid 3-4' wake jump. As the foil is leaving the water initiate your rotation by briskly throwing your leading shoulder down toward the wake at a 45 degree angle (4). Your trailing shoulder should move back and your head should turn away from the wake in anticipation of spotting the landing (5). A key to quick rotation is to pull the handle into your upper stomach as you become airborne, and throughout the move (6-7). Letting the handle out will slow rotation, keeping it in will speed it. Let your board and foil swing out behind as you roll. Spot your landing and twist your lower body so that the nose of the board lands in the same direction as your initial approach. Regain control on the water by pushing on your feet and leaning forward to ground the board after you land.

FRONTSIDE ROLL TROUBLE SHOOTING

Problem: No height on the jump.

Solution: Most commonly cause by throwing the move to soon. You don't need a lot of speed to the wake, but you must wait until the foil gets lift off the wake before throwing the roll. Throw up *then* down and across. The timing is critical.

Problem: Twisted rotation.

Solution: Control the line tension as you keep the handle in. To land, pull to your leading hip & twist your lower body out to keep the board pointed across the wake.

Problem: Landing pointed to the boat.

Solution: This is probably the most common problem I see. If you pull the rope in and across your body, you will incorrectly turn in to the boat. Keep the handle in, but don't pull across. Try this dry-land to see how handle position affects the angle.

Problem: Under rotation.

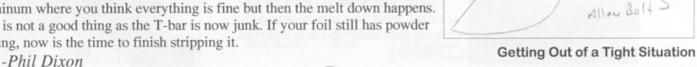
Solution: First you must have enough height to complete the move. If that's not the problem it may be that you are not being aggressive enough with your approach. In addition, get a quick, firm pull the rope to initiate the spin while *snapping* your head & shoulders forward.

Problem: Inconsistent landings.

Solution: Open your eyes! You must see where you are to adjust in the air. Hit and miss landings are also the result of inconsistencies in other parts of the trick. Try to get a consistent approach, takeoff, and line control to keep things the same.

Tech Tip

Here is a tech tip I used after finding my allen bolts frozen to the T-bar. If done properly the T-bar or blades do not get damaged. When the inside of an allen bolt gets rounded out, not to worry. Find a good welder that has a TIG machine (TIG is a must) Weld a 3/8" bolt 3/4" long to the head of the bad allen bolt (see drawing). The bolt does not have to be stainless. Now you have a strong head to put a wrench on to remove the rounded allen bolt. If the bolts still doesn't come loose heat the T-bar at the area where the threads are only with a torch. This will take an experienced welder. There is a point in heating aluminum where you think everything is fine but then the melt down happens. This is not a good thing as the T-bar is now junk. If your foil still has powder coating, now is the time to finish stripping it.



MasterCraft 1998 Flight Worlds of Hydrofoiling

- Ian Lauder and Bill Kinnison, photos Ian Lauder

t was the most anticipated hydrofoiling event of the year... The Mastercraft 1998 Flight World Championships. Riders from around the world had their foils tuned and skills honed to show why they get more frequent flyer miles as a group than any others. The competitors came from Australia, New Zealand, Mexico, Canada and the United States to the water ski city of Lake Elsinore, California.

This watersport gets the biggest air and these competitors were here to claim it. Four events were held to prove who was "the man" (or woman), McDonald's Free Ride, Sky Ski Tricks, Air Boom Big Air and the Chaparral Sea-Doo Challenge.

Prior to this weekend Mike Murphy and Tony Klarich have dominated this sport. By the end of the weekend, Damon Moore took his place in the winners' circle alongside Tony and Mike by winning the Free Ride. Damon had a perfect run, sticking grab gainers, combo rolls, and huge front flips. Klarich continued his winning ways with incredible poise, nailing tricks like a helicopter (both wrapped and handle passed), and FS Combo Roll to claim double victories in Pro Tricks and PWC Free Ride.

Ryan Augustine grabs a Hoochie Glide during the Hyperlite SoCal Invitational

Fifty year old Murphy scored his first World Title, winning the big air with an incredible leap of 18' (measured from the lowest point). The women have made giant leaps forward as it took an invert to win. Teresa Wilborn won Free ride with a smooth run and perfect gainer dismount. Cheryl Roberts took Tricks and made history as the first woman to ride out an invert in competition.



Free Ride Champ: Moore Playing to the Crowd and Going Huge

The half time show was an eclectic collection of water-ski tricks. Eighty year old Mary Murphy showed off her jumps to the tune of "Little Old Lady from Pasadena" and son Nick Murphy rode around on an old pair of combo waterskis converted to a hydrofoil. Roger Crocker impressed the crowd with body slides and front flips on a slalom ski while Charlie Saunders risked life and limb on a 100 mph speed run. Geno Yauchler showed his stuff with some backwards barefooting and Cameron Kephart, the event's youngest rider at eleven years old, showed off some nice wake jumps. A nice addition to the show was the Hyperlite Wakeboards Southern California Invitational, what they lack in height they more than make up for in style and difficulty.

It was amazing to see such diversity in the pilots. Everyone had their own style and favorite tricks. Ron Stack added an impressive number of tweaks and pokes to his tricks taking them to a whole new level. Damon seemed to hang in midair forever on his long stalled fronts.

One of the highlights of the competition was the Air Boom Big Air contest. The five riders who soared the

> highest were picked to see who could go the biggest. "Old Yeller", the Air Boom boat, was specially outfitted with a twenty foot pylon with markings every two feet. In three attempts pilots were to throw the biggest trick near the pylon so the three judges could eyeball the height. Flyin' Brian Vesely threw the highest roll of all but the air was thin up there and when he reentered the atmosphere he crashed and burned (resulting in the most

watched piece of video of the entire event). The old pro, Mike Murphy, rode away with the Air Boom Big Air Trophy, showing all the kids how a precision pilot flies his new hydrofoil, the Sky Ski.

The competition also gave a glimpse into what to look for in the future. Air Chair showed up with a new foil design piloted by Geno Yauchler and Toxic Foils showed off their radical manta ray inspired wings. Numerous new tricks were shown off including the method floater, frontside combo roll, and quad combo. The future

combo. The futu is looking way up!

World Women's Free Ride Champ Teresa Wilborne & Family





Most Improved Rider Ron Stack

Hall of Fame Inductees

Mary Murphy Bob Welsh

First Female to Land an Invert in Competition

Cheryl Roberts

Best Rig

Adrian Villarreal - Mexico

Best New Design

Farmer Brothers

Sky Ski Ambassador of the Year

Tony Klarich

Sky Ski Dealer of the Year

Tommy Phillips

Linda Posey Challenge

Linda Posey

Youngest Competitor - Age 11

Cameron Kephart

Best Crash

Kody Moore

Brian Vesely

For more Flight Worlds and Air Junky coverage including photos and video of the event check out the following web sites:

www.cyber-sea.com

www.airjunky.com

www.skyski.com





SKY SKI TRICKS

Amateur





MasterCraft 1998 Flight Worlds: Results CRICKS McDonald's Free Ride Cha

Amateur

	Kody Moore	12,627	1.	Kody Moore	
	Eric Bockmuel	10,270	2.	Eric Bockemeul	
	Trevor Sudweeks	10,092	3.	Rob Plamondon	
/Ie	n's		Me	n's	
	Scott McLean	8,570	1.	Jake Kinnison	
	Jake Kinnison	7,010	2.	Jon Walker	
	Scott Honkala	6,666	3.	Scott Honkala	
/Ia	ster's		Ma	ster's	
	Monty Mongold	18,580	1.	Dave Myers	
2.	David Myers	17,527	2.	Monty Mongold	
	Bob Rowland	15,870	3.	Bob Welsh	
Vet	eran's		Vet	eran's	
	Mike Mack	11,573	1.	Mike Mack	
	Ken Boyd	11,080	2.	Ken Boyd	
	Phil Dixon	7,990	3.	Phil Dixon	
)pe	en Women's	Open Women's			
	Cheryl Roberts	13,475	1.	Teresa Wilborn	
2.	Laurie Peterson	11,827	2.	Ingrid Buxton	
	Ingrid Buxton	11,435	3.	Marilyn Capel	
ro	Men's	Pro Men's			
	Tony Klarich	18,620	1.	Damon Moore	
	Ron Stack	18,410	2.	Mike Murphy	
3.	Mike Murphy	18,230	3. tie Ron Stack		
			3. ti	e Tony Klarich	
_					

CHAPARRAL SEADOO FREE RIDE

- 1. Tony Klarich
- 2. Mike Murphy
- 3. Geno Yauchler

AIR BOOM BIG AIR

- 1. Mike Murphy
- 2. Geno Yauchler
- 3. Tony Klarich

Hyperlite Wakeboards SoCal Invitational

- 1. Damien Klaas
- 2. Jeff Barton
- Ryan Augustine

Congratulations to All
These Champions

Get Ready For Flight Worlds 2000

AIR JUNKY

PHOTOS & STORY BY IAN LAUDER

You've heard the phrase, seen the stickers and checked out the web site. So just what is Air Junky you ask? Air Junky started as a company run by brothers Jake and Bill Kinnison in Redmond, Washington. A friend of the Kinnisons, Rob Plamondon originally coined the phrase "Air Junky" which was then adopted by the Redmond group. Air Junky carries hydrofoil related products like Traxx Padz seat and foot pads, offer foil tuning services and sell signature series

wakeboard benches to help fund their obsession. They even have waterproof business cards to hand out on the lake. Air Junky is always looking for ways to improve

their hydrofoiling. The Air Junkies are not just a company but also a dedicated group of riders intimately involved in the sport of hydrofoiling, both in riding and promotion.

So who are these riders? Jake Kinnison works for HO Sports and is involved in the production of the radical new Sky Ski hydrofoil. Jake is also the coowner of Air Junky and the most dedicated of the group to becoming a pro rider. Jake just rides, period. If he's not riding he's thinking of riding. He dreams of the day he lands the million dollar sponsorship with Value Jet airline.

By night, Bill Kinnison co-owns Air Junky and specializes in coordinating web sites for both Air Junky and Sky Ski. By day, mild mannered (yea, right) Bill is helping save the world from the infamous Y2K bug. Blaine Sholinder is the master foil tuner and hydrofoil in-

> structor hailing from Canada. Blaine aspires to be a pro hockey referee which he pursues in his off hours of being a pro slacker, car mechanic and international

playboy. Bill Curley is the big boy, weighing in around 260 pounds. This guy can still throw a big invert off the wake and consistently ride away. Curley applies his skills as an efficiency expert at Boeing to skillfully decapitating muskrats with his hydrofoil. It is rumored he is pursing sponsorship from Ginsu.



Jake Showing Off Sammamish Style

Kevin "stamina man" Thayer can easily throw over a hundred inverts in a single run. If anyone rides as much as Jake, it would have to be Kevin. Then there is me, always with camera in hand trying to capture the moment. I strive to promote the sport with my photography and by building the Sky Ski web site, waiting for the day Flight becomes a full color monthly publication and needs a full time photographer.

So where can you see one of these Air Junkies? Rain or shine, summer or winter you can spot them usually on Lake Sammamish in Washington (just a short hop from Seattle). Between all of us there is usually an Air Junky on the water seven days a week. Just look for the signature "Air Junky" or "Loose Cannon" t-top'd Mastercraft ProStar 190's. If there is someone upside down behind the boat or you hear someone yell "YOU ROCK!" you've spotted yourself an

Left to Right:

After making rounds as the silhouetted figure for Flight and Cyber-Sea, Kevin Thayer shows his face.

Bill Curley Goes Big

Blaine Sholinder is an expert with his hands!



IT ALL COMES DOWN TO

GETTING OUT ON THE WATER.

HAVING FUN. LEARNING

NEW TRICKS, LANDING MORE

INVERTS AND SHOWING OFF.





Air Junky. When it comes to big air it's safe to say Air Junky dominates the Pacific

Northwest.

So why do we do it? Simply put, we love it. It all comes down to getting out on the water.



Jake & Bill Kinnison

having fun, learning new tricks, landing more inverts and showing off.

> Anyone can be an Air Junky, odds are you already are. It's a state of mind, an attitude, a relentless pursuit of your own big air.







CYBER SEA

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1-800-718-7231 425-882-4754 425-867-5507 (fax)

www.cyber-sea.com sales@cyber-sea.com

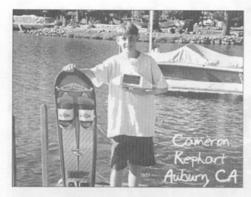
- Photography
- Web Design
- Screensavers
- Journalism

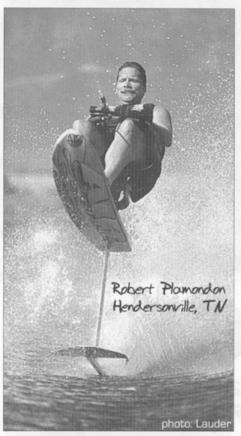
Creators

of the

Sky Ski web site!

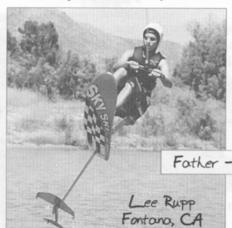
Reader's Photos

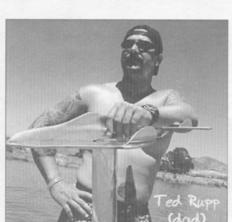




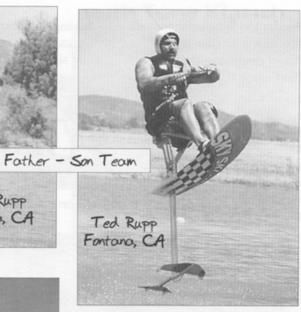


Keep Those Photos Coming!





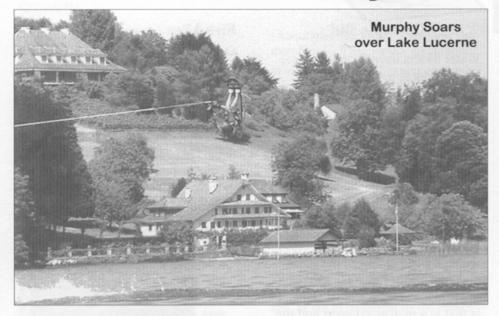


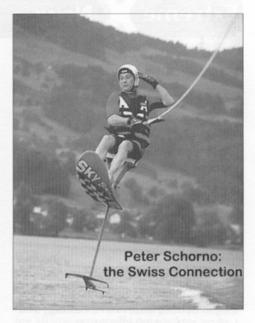






Flight









Two Thumbs Up.. Way Up

(Continued from page 4) Schorno ...

Getting a special **charter plane** with STOL for a day trip through the Alps to perform on beautiful Lake Geneva.

The **Ferrari caravan** to Lake Lucerne. Revving engines in the tunnels!

Riding behind a 50 foot boat with a huge wake and table drop off of about 3 feet. I nailed the **biggest**, **ballsiest front flip of my life**. Sheer adrenaline!

The bridges and tunnels of the Alps with Jon Wilborn at the wheel.

Doing foreign exhibitions with cool tunes and **topless women.**

Hanging with **top Euro Riders:** Peter, Fredy, Dino, Hanz, Barbara, and Bruno.

Peter Schorno was the perfect host, with tons of riding, first class food, a tour of his "lifestyles" homes, and much more.

Thanks Peter,

Tony Klarich

Kneeboard Video

Pistol Pete Parrillo and friends star in an all new kneeboard video "Crucified by the AKA". These renegade riders have led the way in extreme kneeboarding, weighting their boats for huge wakes, using a tall pylon, and hitting the double up. Ironically, their brand of riding has moved AKA officials to offer Expression Session in competition for the first time this year.

The video is very entertaining with ample action, innovative editing, and humor to boot (especially the frontside roll to revert!). There are numerous new moves to be found including the mid air double to back roll combo, back to back mobe, 1080 spin (3 revolutions), and quad combo. Hydrofoilers would do well to check out this video for the crossover connection. Whoever said kneeboarding was dead has yet to see this action packed flick. Contact Peter Parrillo pistolp219@aol.com

Tube Control

Interest in the sport of tubing is booming, and many riders are seeking new ways to push the envelope. A revolutionary new steerable tube now puts the tuber in control.

The Stearns "Zig" Steerable towable features a patent pending steering system that consists of four fins on its underside and a water ski style pulley handle. Steering is done by pulling the handle right or left which angles the tube and allows the fins to direct the tube. Little effort is required. Riders can now jump wakes and waves at will while avoiding hazardous obstacles. This is truly one revolutionary tube. Available from Stearns, Inc. (800) 697-5801

Olympic Bid

Water Skiers have for a long time been trying to get water-skiing included as an official Olympic sport since its brief introduction as a trail sport in 1968. Recently a group of 3 event skiers and wakeboarders got the chance to put on a demonstration for all the Olympic big shots including the full executive board and over 800 National Olympic committee delegates. Over 150 photographers were on hand to record the event southern Spain last June. One of the previous objections to skiing is that is a motorized sport and the human element of the driver can affect performances. Cruise control seems to have answered this question for many. Riders in attendance were Helena Kiellander. Patrice Martin, Jaret Llewellan, and Dean Lavelle. All seemed pleased with the performances, as water skiing moves to the next step to become a full medal sport.

Euro Extreme

Steer Your Tube

Palayas France hosted the second annual Festival International des Sports Extremes last Spring, drawing a crowd of over 55,000. This has been Europe's answer to the X games, with comparable sports such as BMX biking, skateboarding, barefooting and wakeboarding. Zane Schwenk represented the US in wakeboarding,

and put on a hydrofoiling exhibition to boot. FISE 3 is already planned for April 2-5, 1999 at the same venue.



Medhy Menad likes to play with fire. Known to his friends as the fire man, this French daredevil plays a starring role in Universal Studios WaterWorld Show. He also runs Showtime Entertainment Productions, specializing in PWCs. Menad was one of the team chosen to go to Russia in 1998 to perform for Unexum Bank (see Fall '98 Flight).



One Hot Act

To prepare for his fire act Menad puts on a heavy suit, complete with hood. He coats his face with something like Vaseline, then douses himself in gasoline. Next one of his "friends" puts a torch to him. The burn lasts about 20 seconds with lots of flames and belching black smoke. How does he put himself out? With a submarine of course. After hundreds of shows Menad claims to have received slight burns only 2 times when performing in windy 310-258-9957 conditions.

Wakeboard

This is the first year that wakeboarding has gone to an all expression session format, and most wakeboarders like change. All around nice guy Sean Murray took the World Title this year with moves like the Crook (whirly bird to revert) and Blind Judge (Raley to Blind).

In other news, Darin Shapiro surprised everyone, signing with O'Brien after almost a decade with Hyperlite. Of course the 3 year deal rumored to be worth 350K was quite an incentive.

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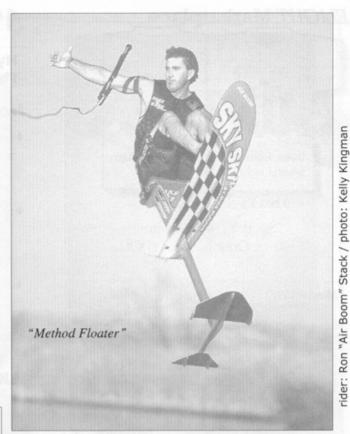
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