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tips&tricks: BIGGER Jumps Gainer Combos

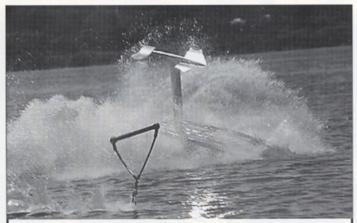
10 New Moves p.8 2 New Videos p.23 X-5HOW

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WINTER 2000 FLIGHT WORLD

Volume 4, Issue 4 U.S. \$5.95 CAN. \$6.95 DISPLAY UNTIL SPRING www.FLIGHTWORLOS.com

Fire Man: Kenny Richards



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light Worlds 2000 is over. The memories of an unforgettable event are etched in our minds. Thank you to everyone who helped on site. It was quite a large undertaking! In fact, it was very nearly too big to be organized by two guys (myself and Chuck Sacks). We gave it our all to put on a show like no other. The support from the hydrofoilers was phenomenal! Unfortunately for us were were in a serious \$ hole when the event was over. How could we have this incredible event, work our butts off, and end up owing money? It was mystifying. Later we found our losses were mainly due to two reasons: 1. It was so expensive to get on TV, and 2. We never really got the title sponsor we were looking for (someone outside the industry). But thanks to Mike Murphy and Sky Ski who stepped up at the last minute with some extra cash to become our title sponsor.

Talk about wanting to throw in the towel!!! However, you will all be pleased to find that the hydrofoilers insisted that the Flight Worlds survive!

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Many foilers gave back their prize money. Others stuck cash in our hands, and within a few short weeks we got several extremely generous contributions that helped us break even!!! Thank you so much to everyone!

It was about six weeks of depression for me including coming off my worst personal performance. Sometimes you have to lose and get rolled around in the dirt to appreciate being on top! I finally started feeling better after bleaching my hair out with Mike Mack. Blondes do have more fun!

Recently I have been putting the final touches on the Worlds Event Video, and am excited again. We had a great showcase for hydrofoiling, and are already planning for Flight Worlds 2002!

Tony Klauch, D.C. publisher

## Flight World

HYDROFOILING & MORE X SPORTS www.fliahtworlds.com

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#### Foiling's Youngest Flipper

Brett Speed, who turned 11 on August 7, is just a typical 10-year-old boy. He enjoyed kneeboarding and wakeboarding with his dad on the weekends at the San Bernard River in Texas, playing football after school, where his dad is the assistant coach, and playing with Brutus, his miniature dachshund. His favorite subject in school is math, and while he thinks school is OK, "it's kind of boring. I already know most of the stuff they are teaching."

But not so typical is the fact that Brett is the youngest hydrofoiler who is landing flips. Brett began hydrofoiling through an act of cruelty - when someone stole and vandalized his kneeboard.

"When we found it all that was left was parts of the knee pad," says Brett. "If someone hadn't stolen it, I would probably still be kneeboarding and would have never tried Brett likes to watch pro riders Thomas Freeman and Jon my dad's Air Chair."

Once he tried hydrofoiling, though, he was hooked. His wakeboard, and what was left of his kneeboard, are just gathering dust. While Brett has been involved with watersports for the last 2 1/2 years, he has been riding the Air Chair seriously since March, says his dad, Leland Speed, himself an accomplished foiler. In just three short months, Brett landed his first flip on June 10 in Tennessee.



10 year-old Brett Speed

"When I landed that first flip, the landing was so smooth I thought I was still in the water," he says. "It was the smoothest landing I ever had - I couldn't believe I landed it!"

Not every landing is so smooth, however. The first time Brett tried a flip, he said it felt more like a nosedive. "My feet came out and it didn't feel very good when I landed," he explained. "But it didn't hurt too bad, because if it did, I probably wouldn't have tried it again."

While Brett lands about 50% of his attempted flips, he can jump the wake, do floaters, lazy boys, and 180s and is in the process of perfecting his 360 spins. Although he hasn't landed a 360 yet, he is

confident that he soon will. "My dad and I go out every weekend on the San Bernard River. He teaches me new tricks and how to get better."

Wilborn because they "go really big," even if they do ride Sky Skis and not Air Chairs, his family's hydrofoil of choice. And although he doesn't have any sponsors for his hydrofoiling, he would like some. "It would be really cool to be a sponsored rider, maybe I could even get my own Air Chair."

- Mary Ann Rudnick

#### 15 Foilers Break a World Record

Thanks to all who came out on Saturday for the world record attempt. Unfortunately we were unsuccessful getting all the water skiers out of the water. We proved once again that all the power in the world doesn't make a bit of difference if we can't get the power into the water & get the boat to move. The huge twin 3000+ horsepower jets cavitated due to lack of water flowing into their intake. Had the ship moved forward, it's capable of 0-50 mph in just over 11 seconds. Standing on the booms while all those skiers drug behind the boat was better than ANY carnival ride you've ever been on!

The good news is that we were somewhat successful get-



A Huge Line Goes for the Record

ting the foilers up. Almost 30 riders made it up & rode for 30 seconds before a couple of the lesser experienced riders began having problems negotiating

the rather LARGE rollers & took out almost the entire left side. 15 riders made it the full mile to beat the old record of 12. Thankfully we had

only one minor cut besides a few of us get-



Spreading Out the Riders

ting chips in our foils (anyone know how to TIG weld?!).

So, lesson learned? QUALIFY every single rider! Only the people who can SAFELY fly the foil & negotiate the wake should get a chance in the future. That means that the boat that is used in the future will have to be able to pull larger riders, men, women or kids! After watching the video, I was one of the first riders to come up, at over 200 lbs.! I also believe that we have passed what any typical ski boat can handle. The boat that pulls the next record will likely have to be something larger, with more props in the water & have a stronger structure holding the ropes than we can setup on a pylon or tower. And the boom to spread the riders as wide as possible is mandatory!

Bill Kinnison-bill@airjunky.com http://airjunky.com

#### Sky Ski Featured in Sports Bar

By Jon Wilborn

Nino Iodice, Switzerland's 1999 and 2000 Swiss Hydrofoil Champion, has opened the first sports bar to feature hydrofoiling. Nino, who is 38-years-old and resides in Switzerland, opened the restaurant/sports bar in June, 2000, in Thun (a suburb of Bern), and named it "The Fly-In." The restaurant employs a total of 13 people and besides operating a full bar, serves a wide-range of American cuisine including hamburgers and hotdogs (food that's impossible to find in Bern!) and plays a wide range of music, including rock 'n' roll.

The overall dominating theme of the restaurant is boating, created by architectural designer, Peter Kislig. Scattered, broken pieces of planks line the ceiling, and the bar is a 1950 red, Italian-made, Toroni motorboat. Very cool!

The various sports themes featured include hydrofoiling, soccer, hockey, tennis, golf, boxing, and polo. Equipment from each sport is mounted on the walls in different sections of the



This Vintage Boat is the Bar!

restaurant, but the most prominent, of course, is the hydrofoil display. A brand new Sky Ski is mounted on the wall with a mannequin wearing a wetsuit and red helmet sitting on the seat. A ski rope extends from the opposite wall, with the skier holding the handle.

A giant screen dominates the west wall of the restaurant, with sporting news, games, etc., playing non-stop. Sky Ski videos have been included to play as well. While eating dinner there one night, I noticed a large number of patrons would stop and watch the screen whenever the hydrofoil tapes played.

I asked Nino how the idea came to him to call the restaurant "The Fly-In." He answered that he noticed how at the 1999 Parker "Fly-in," people came together to enjoy the sport they love and to enjoy each other's company as well. People leave the "fly-ins" having formed lasting friendships. He felt the same should apply for his restaurant as well.

The restaurant is very classy, with delicious food, and Nino tells us it has been highly successful. Congratulations on a great job Nino!!



The Guys: Mr. Foiler Nino Trevor Jon & Mike



#### **Upcoming Events**

4-5 / 4-8, 2001 "2nd Annual Florida Fly-In"
Lake Placid, FL (off Hwy 27)
Lakeshore Resort 863-465-2135 (on site)
or Ramada 863-465-3133 (3 min. by car)
Lake Grassy Motel 863-465-9200
Lake Placid Campground (RVs) 863-465-2934
Mention "Florida Fly In" / Airports: Orlando,
Tampa, Fort Myers, or West Palm Beach
Phil Dixon 561-432-7747

June 8-12, 2001 "The Tennessee Fly-In"
Byrdstown, TN (off Hwy 111)
Sunset Marina & Resort 931-864-3146
Houseboats, Cabins, Camping
Steve McCrary: 615-865-2359
Mark Pilkinton: 615-860-0918
Rob Plamondon: 931-528-2441

Sept. 14-17, 2001 "3nd Annual Texas Fly-In"
Brazos River just South of Weatherford, TX
Todd Spitz: 817- 475-3753 (days)
Todd Kyser: 903-566-2793 (evenings)
dizzyair@hotmail.com www.texasflyin.com
Hotel: Super 8 on I-20 at Hwy 171 (817) 594-8702

2002; "Flight Worlds" Lake Elsinore, CA

Events subject to change. Contact the organizers directly to confirm dates and locations!!!



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#### winter project:

# Build a Hydrofoil Rack

with Blain Sholinder

Q. One of the toughest things about owning a hydrofoil?
A. Storage!!!

So, here is a way to store up to four complete hydrofoils without taking up too much space.

#### **Materials Required:**

- 1 4x8 sheet of 3/8 or 1/2 " plywood
- 2 7' 1" x 1/4" pine board
- 1 28"x 80" carpet Contact Cement 2" screws
- 8 right angle brackets

#### **Directions:**

- 1. Start by cutting the plywood in half lengthwise
- 2. Cut both to 80" length
- 3. Cut remaining wood into 5" strips
- Cut slots into one 24 X 80 plywood these are the bottom slots and are 4" wide by 12" deep.

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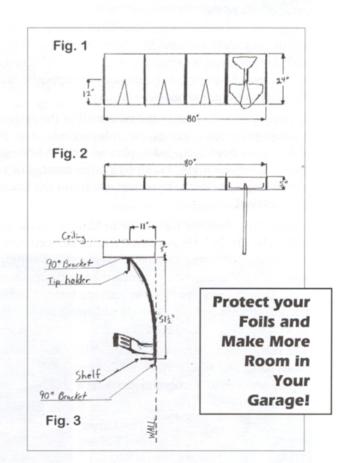
- 5. Cut and glue carpet to fit the top side of the bottom piece.
- 6. Mount five dividers to topside.
- Mount top to ceiling with dividers hanging down and screw to joists.
- 8. Mount bottom dividers with carpet on topside
- 9. Mount carpet to tip holder.
- 10. Mount tip holder to bottom 11" from wall using 90 degree brackets.

If you use heavy-duty 90-degree brackets to build the foil rack you will be able to hang assembled skis on the rack

Do not skimp on screws, as you do not want the rack to fall apart.

Blain Displays His 4-Ski Rack



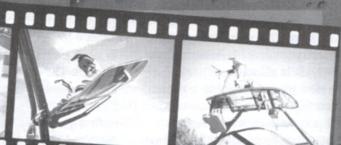


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# The Leading Edge

The Flight Worlds has once again started a feeding frenzy of new moves. With the pressure off, and the injury factor reduced with winter ahead, it's been time to get busy!!!

Geno Yauchler: Ying-Yang is the oriental phrase for opposites combining perfectly to create balance and symmetry. It is also a great name for Geno's new trick combining a gainer and front flip into one huge combo. Several people have whispered that this move may be possible, but Geno was the one to show everyone the path to hydrofoiling harmony.

Damon Moore: Moorebuis. The Mobius, a full twisting invert has been performed on most skiing devices; from freestyle jump skis to the wakeboard. Moore is the first one to land it on a foil. He has been trying for a couple years, and the falls have reportedly been tough. He finally landed this breakthrough move on the Delta in Northern California. You can check it out on video on the Sky Ski site now where it looks deceptively simple.

Mike Murphy: Backside Roll Combo - Sink Style Traditionally the backside roll combos have been performed with the swoop style entry. The blade enters the water nose down between flips. Murphy once again defied the status quo and did it his own way. Murphy lands his first backside roll tip up, and the foil sinks in at a slightly slower rate. He then throws the second roll immediately as his board hits the water. **Trevor Sudweeks** had been training with Murphy at the time, and took the lesson to heart. He soon had his backside roll combos up to 4 using the sink style.

Tony Klarich: Gainer to Heli Combo. The natural progression of the gainer-to-\_\_\_\_ moves led Klarich to combine two moves that at first glance do not appear compatible. He actually made the first one he tried, and has been about 50-50 since. He just missed making this move at the Flight Worlds, his first public attempt.

Gainer-to-Tail Grab Combo
This move was a stepping stone to
the Gainer to Heli because is required switching hands during the
gainer to prepare for the tail grab on
the boat side.

Todd Kyser: Gainer to Undertaker Combo. Kyser turned heads at the Flight Worlds with his strong riding and rarely seen moves. One move he nailed during his free ride had never been seen. He nailed his Gainer-to-undertaker perfectly, working it in nicely with other tough tricks.

**Thomas Freeman:** Front Flip Floater Freeman has established himself as one of the top pro riders with one of the best runs of the

Flight Worlds. It included his new signature move, the "triple F". Freeman first performs a laid out front flip. As the flip stalls he simply lets go of the rope as he spins over the top. Thomas earns bonus points for throwing kisses while doing this one. 5 Gainer Combo. Freeman nailed this move during his tricks run at the Flight Worlds. Unfortunately for him it wasn't on the tricks list yet. He cut out about 10 feet from the wake on the left and throws one after another perfect gainers, using his free hand to help keep things going. Incredible! Sandy Bertha Vertigo. It's not the name of a Hitchcock movie or a problem with balance. It's one of the first new moves submitted from a woman. Sandy's great skill on the water and her flexibility make the Vertigo a stand out move. It's basically a jump with the tip held up as far as possible. From the boat the board is nose up with the entire bottom of the board facing the boat, in a nearly vertical position.

Method Air Lazy Boy. Sandy has combined a couple of intermediate moves into one cool trick. She jumps and grabs method, them quickly release to a two hands on the head floater. Wow!

Trick points for new moves will be assigned this spring only after your video submissions have been reviewed and approved. Make sure to get your submissions in ASAP!!!





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### **Q&A with Air Junky's** Hydrofoil List - http://airjunky.com

#### **Pop Secrets**

Q. Sometimes blind luck makes the breaks. I finally learned what popping into the air is about. It is amazing... and it makes tricks way easier being higher in the air. I can not tell what the difference is between popping and not, in fact, it is not much different, just a slight movement... kind of just a feeling right after hit-

ting the board off the water and before the foil releases into the air. I just caught the tip of the iceberg yesterday and the rolls are much sweeter!!

So, the million dollar question I need answered is this... what am I doing different today that I did not do before? I can actually feel the foil rocket up (big time acceleration).

Thanks a million.

Hairy Hogknuckles

A1. It sounds like you have the dip and pop started. If you initiate your jump from a level riding position, you only use the foil a little bit. If you dip and pop, you are burying the foil much deeper before angling for the jump. This uses much more of the strut (1'6") water prior to the jump and sets you up for great air.

This explanation probably isn't the best; the pros can give better ones. Just think of it this way. If you use half the foil for a jump you get half the air. If you use all the foil, you get all the air.

Have Too Much Fun, Matt

A2. I've got to agree, it's all in the dip and takeoff. The most critical thing to learn is the timing. Getting to the right spot on the wake, combined with the proper pop produces the big

air. I lean forward slightly on the dip and then rock my

body back into the sitting position and lock here as I pop the board. My answer to your question on what you are doing different today is that you have found that "sweet spot" where the timing of all those elements come together. You now are on the quest to find it consistently and refine it.

Good luck, Royce Hintergardt goskyski@aol.com



Dip & Pop!



The Payoff

#### First Air Roll

Q. I had a great day out on the lake today jumping and trying to land a few gainers. Came close on a couple but did not hang on. Anyway, I was thinking about trying to throw an air roll just for the heck of it, but is it easier to start close to the wake after crossing it, or way way out on the flats?

Any advice on this one would be helpful.

Hugh

A1. Not sure what it is about that trick, Hugh, but I can land wake rolls all day long. Then I try them just outside the wake & over rotate them! Anyway, try them 5' out-

side the wake, the rope will play less of a role for you (still gotta keep your hands down on your knees though!). If you cut out wide & do it, the rope will go taught & tend to slow your rotation down, which means you'll have to "crunch" your abs more to get the foil down & around.

Personally, I'd try the wake backroll first. You should get more air & be more liable to land on the foil.

Good luck!

Bill Kinnison-bill@airjunky.com

A2. Hugh,

My thoughts on the air roll.

- 1 Ride parallel to the wake about seven feet out.
- 2 Get about 18" out of the water.
- 3 Dip hard and bounce the board off the water twisting the board 15 to 20 degrees toward the out side as it comes up.
- 4 Keep both hands on the handle and keep it low, close to the knees.
- 5 Turn your head over your outside shoulder and look for the landing.

My reasoning is that riding parallel to the wake takes the pressure off of you trying to time the jump and will provide a tight rope to rotate around. The board needs to be off the water far enough for you to get a good dip and bounce. Twisting the board will throw more spin into the trick so that

you won't do a gainer. Keeping the handle by your knees will help guide your body around into the landing position, whereas if you raise your arms, you'll probably over rotate and land on your face/side.

Good luck, Royce Hintergardt goskyski@aol.com



Arms in for Air Rolls

#### **Jump Back To Basics**

The unique thing about the hydrofoil is the ability to achieve such big air with very little effort. However, many people learn the basics of the jump and then quickly move on to more advanced moves, such as rolls and flips. While flips may impress the crowds, a well-rounded rider will be able to jump big anywhere behind the boat. Whether it's at the wake or in the flats, a bigger jump will benefit you with more air time to complete a trick, and a more comfortable feeling in the air when attempting new tricks. With some of the release moves and wrapped tricks, more air time is needed. A big jump will also have an impact on your inverts, sending you higher than ever before. Next time you ride, try to go the whole time concentrating on a bigger, cleaner jump. You will feel more comfortable in the air, and you will most likely develop the confidence to start throwing more advanced maneuvers.

Nathan LaRusso

#### "Gainer-to" Tricks

with Tony Klarich

In just the past few months there has been an explosion of new combo moves based on the gainer. It started with Ron Stack and his Gainer to Jump. I followed him with the Gainer to Backside Roll, Gainer to Tail grab, and Gainer to Heli. Todd Kyser has also added a Gainer to Undertaker. Thomas Freeman even did a 5 Combo gainer at the Flight Worlds! One of the most impressive moves is Geno's new Ying Yang; a gainer to front flip combo.

So what is the easiest way to get started with some of these moves. and how will you know when you are ready for them?

Flight first offered combo instruction in the fall 1999 issue. Ron Stack is shown doing a gainer to

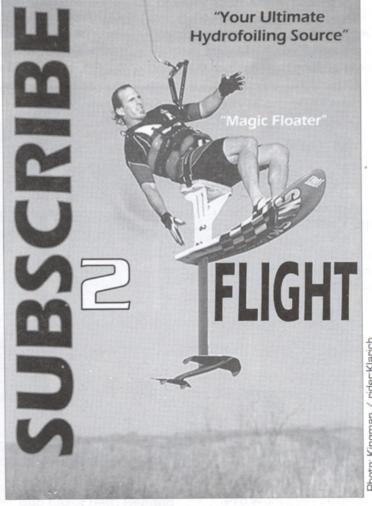
jump combo across the wake. Leave it to Stack to do unique moves, but his wake version of this trick is much more difficult than the air version.

Gainer to Jump Combo (Swoop) Before trying this combo you should obviously be very consistent with your regular gainers out in the flats. You should pay special attention to getting a good spot and controlling the line tension on your initial gainer. It's important to get as much end over end rotation as possible. It makes the set up to throw the second trick much easier.

To throw a gainer to jump you have to land with just a little bit of underrotation. You want the blade to come into the water tip down. Let your lower body trail just a little. It is a very fluid and natural movement to go into a second jump or flip. You have probably seen or done this your-



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Kingman / rider:Klarich

self when learning gainers or roll. It's easy to keep the ski moving.

A good spot is most important to getting consistent with your gainer-to-combos. You must know where you are in the air and be able to make slight adjustments to your rotation to get your ski and foil in the right position for the second part of the trick.

As the blade enters the water drive your lower body through. Keep the handle (which should be in your inside hand) in and move your elbow back with your arm at about a 90 degree angle.

There is a point in the move just before the blade hits the water that you must commit to the second part of the trick. Time and experience will tell you if you are in the right position.

The jump part of the move will be suprisingly simple when you get it right.

Once you have the basic move down experiment! You might want to try a tower grab or board grab on the jump.

Check out the tricks list (spring 2000 *Flight*) to get ideas of what jump variations you might try. How about a gainer to fashion air, gainer-to Floater, or Gainer to Flying Chicken?! There are many possibilities, only a few of which have been done!



Geno's Textbook Set-up for a Combo

Gainer to BS Roll Combo

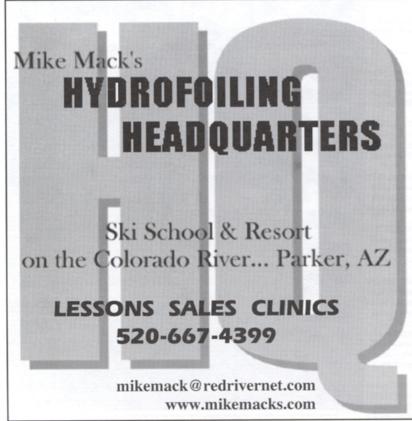
Obviously you should be very confident with both these individual moves before trying this one. Do a bunch of air backside rolls in the target spot out wide to get a feel for it. Do not take a hard cut into it so that you can simulate the feeling you will get when you do the combo. You should also be confi-

dent with your gainer to jump.

If you have all three of these moves down, then putting them together shouldn't be too hard. Set up on your normal air gainer. Do not commit to the roll unless you know you are in a good position to throw the backside roll. The beautiful thing about first learning the gainer to jump is that when you try the gainer to backside roll you will be able to tell if you are in a good spot to try the second invert.

If you do not have good body rotation and position, do not throw the backside roll. When I learned combos seven years ago it was a full commitment, right from the start. Now you can take it in steps, which is a much better way to learn!

The line tension is the trickiest part of getting this move down. My best advice here is to pay attention what is happening and try to adjust accordingly. You may have to take a bit of a harder cut on the set up, throw the gainer a bit sooner or some other slight variation to keep the line tight through the entire move.





#### Flight Worlds 2000: The Mother of Extreme Sporting Events

By Mary Ann Rudnick

The Sky Ski Flight Worlds 2000 lived up to its claim as Southern California's Ultimate Extreme Event. The event, held at Lake Elsinore's Inlet Channel September 8-10, had something for every extreme sport aficionado. Competitive events included hydrofoiling, wake-

boarding and arm wrestling. Other extreme sport demonstrations included stunt hang gliding, trick water skiing, freestyle motocross featuring members of the Metal Mulisha, skydivers, personal watercraft stunts and a perfor-

mance from "Banana George" Blair, who at the ripe age of 85 still has what it takes to rip it up as a worldrenowned barefoot skier.

"We had a great turnout at this year's event, with about 5,500 spectators over the course of the weekend," says Chuck Sacks of MasterCraft boats. Sacks co-produced of the event, coordinated the sponsorships and was responsible for all on-land planning aspects such as fencing, setting up

the motocross ramps and arranging for the exhibits. "Without a doubt, this event was about 75% larger than the 1998 Flight Worlds."

The numbers regarding the participants were also impressive. "We doubled the number of entries in the hydrofoiling competition, from 66 in 1998 to 136 representing five countries this year," says Tony Klarich, DC, co-producer of the event responsible for all on-water events. That dramatic increase in the number of entrants proves that hydrofoiling is making incredible inroads into the extreme watersports arena. Additionally, there were about 15 local wakeboarders, two of which made their way onto the professional circuit this year, who participated in the wakeboarding portion of the event.

"While hydrofoiling was, and always will be, the heart of the event, it is important to include other types of sports, such as the wakeboarding and motocross, to attract people who don't know much, if anything about our sport," says Klarich, a five-time hydrofoiling world champion.



FOR



Over 130 Riders From 5 Countries!

Aero Events (Canoga Park, California) provided four freestyle hang glider pilots and one ultralight aerotow pilot who demonstrated freestyle, (AKA aerobatic) hang gliding. The organization's director and founder, Dino

> DiNaso, said that his performers were very well received by the crowd. "The spectators at the event were a kick!" says DiNaso. "It's really cool to be diving straight down at the water from a high altitude and hear the crowd loudly cheering you on from far below."

"The entire event was a success," says Bob Eazor, owner of Eazor Sport Arm Wrestling in Canyon Lake, California. Eazor, who trained Sylvester Stallone for the movie "Over the Living Legend Banana George Top," coordinated the arm wrestling tournaments at Flight Worlds. "People from all

walks of life who normally wouldn't get together, all came together because of the variety of events and acts that were presented. It was a great mixture of both athletes and spectators."

About 38 people signed up to participate in the arm wrestling competitions, and Eazor, who holds a threetime world title in sport arm wrestling, says that people were always gathered



Juniors Were One of the **Eight New Divisions** This Year



FMX: a Crowd Favorite



Bob Eazor (left) Headed up the Arm Wrestling



**Pro Womens Tricks** was Very Competitive

photo: Lauder

around the arm wrestling tent to check out the action. "Of course, being right next to the

Miller Beer Garden didn't hurt things, either," he says. Eazor plans to play an even larger role in the next Flight Worlds. "We will have a major arm wrestling event next time, which will bring in even more spectators and contestants."

From the reaction of both the crowd and the spectators, it seemed as though everyone had a good time. "This year Flight Worlds was a lot bigger and had a wider variety of events and activities for the audience," says George Gallegos of Orinda, California. Gallegos won first place in the men's master tricks division this year, and in the 1998 Flight Worlds he

took a respectable 5<sup>th</sup> place. "The sport of hydrofoiling is really maturing, although it is still in its infancy. Tony Klarich did an outstanding job, and I hope he will be able to put on another event in 2002."

It looks as though Klarich and Sacks will continue the biennial event, and keep it at the Lake Elsinore location. "Lake Elsinore is just about the best venue for this type of event," says Klarich. "The city is easy to work with, the channel provides the best possible water conditions, it's in the heart of motocross country, and it's right in the mid-



Gallegos Won 2 Titles in the Highly Competitive Masters Division

dle of the Temecula Valley, which arguably has the best conditions for skydiving and aerobatic stunts."

Sandy Bertha of Encinitas, who earned second place in the Pro Women's Tricks division, said she felt that the whole event was well planned out and coordinated. "It was great to have such a variety of events for the spectators. The hydrofoiling, wakeboarding and motocross made for a nice mix," said Bertha. "My kids were really excited to see the motocross riders. It's also nice for my kids to see their mom out there competing."

And while Bertha, who plans to compete in Flight Worlds 2002, says she loves the camaraderie of being around the other competi-

tors, the crowning moment for her was meeting "Banana George," who worked the crowd by distributing Chiquita® bananas to anyone who wanted them.

"Banana George was great," says Bertha. "It was like meeting a legend. I have been watching him since I was a kid, and to finally meet him was fantastic. He really loves being around people, and it shows."

There were plenty of media in attendance, with both ESPN and ESPN2 covering the event with as many as

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#### Flight Worlds RESULTS

	rngn	L VVUITUS	, ,,,
Pro Mens Tricks	Figure .	Mens Tricks	
1 Damon Moore	19033	1 Scott McLean 1:	5833
2 Todd Kyser	16966	2 Jon Walker 9	416
3 Ron Stack	16633	3 Cameron Starks 9	266
Pro Men Free Rid	e	Mens Free Ride	
1 Damon Moore	89.5	1 Leland Speed 8	4.0
2 Jon Wilborn	84.5	2 Cameron Starks 7	9.5
3 Todd Kyser	79.0	3 Scott McLean 7	9.0
Pro Womens Tric	ks	Masters Tricks	
1 Cheryl Roberts	14733	1 George Gallegos 1	5833
2 Sandy Bertha	11600	2 Jim Vachal 1	4616
3 Teresa Wilborn	11433	3 Bob Rowland 1	4425
Pro Women Free	Ride	Masters Free Ride	
1 Cheryl Roberts	86.0	1 George Gallegos8	1.5
2 Teresa Wilborn	84.5		9.5
3 Sandy Bertha	67.0	3 Tony Christian 6	8.0
Air Boom Big Air	r	Veterans Tricks	
1 Brian Vesely	20'6"	1 Mark Pilkington 1	2058
2 Jon Wilborn	20'		0866
3 Mike Murphy	19'	3 Andy Stenderup 9	825
EMS Sick Trick		Veterans Free Ride	
1 Geno Yauchler		1 David Meyers 8	
wakeboard Ral	ey off Ramp	2 Andy Stenderup 7	
2 Ricky Gonzales		3 Bob Dunham 7	2.0
Hyperlite Wakeb	oarding	Disabled Free Ride	
1 Ricky Gonzales	72.56		6.0
2 Kyle Murphy	65.19		0.0
3 Geno Yauchler	63.15	3 Bob Whiteside 2	24.0
Juniors Tricks		Combined Amateur	Tricks
1 Ryan Stenderuj		1 Ingrid Buxton	10975
2 Andrew Pilking	gton 11900	2 Dennis John Pere	
3 Keith Peltzer	10183	3 Dave Cruthers	6033
Juniors Free Ride		Amateur Girls to 17	
1 Ryan Stenderup	72.0	1 Brooke Sudweeks	
2 Andrew Pilkint	on 71.0	2 Krista Kedroski	69.0

62.0

3 Keith Peltzer

3 Barbara Honkala

- 1	Amateur Women Over 17
	1 Ingrid Buxton 87.0
	2 Patti Clothier 80.0
	3 Laurie Petersen 70.0
	Amateur Boys to 17
7	1 Dennis John Perez 81.0
1	2 Jonathan McMurray 72.0
	3 Torey Narans 68.0
	Amateur Men 18-35
	Free Ride
	1 Dave Cruthers 84.0
-1	2 Glen Mitchell 80.0
	3 Brian Britton 77.0
	Amateur Men over
	35 Free Ride
	1 Charlie Saunders 76.0
	2 Jon Pszenitski 71.0
	3 Terry Gluckman 56.0
	Combined Intermediate Tricks
	1 Todd Spitz 10783
	2 Jay Paladino 9300
	3 Brent Roberts 8583
	Intermediate Men to 35
	Free Ride
	1 B.J. Healis 82.0
	2 Jay Paladino 80.0
	3 Kevin Peltzer 70.0
	5 Revini retaler voto

Free Ride

1 Todd Spitz 2 Brent Roberts

3 John Rowland

nine cameras rolling at once, says Sacks. "We had so much going on all at once, they didn't know where to point their cameras next. The people at ESPN were so impressed with the event, that they often air footage from the event when they have an available slot in their programming, which they don't contractually have to do."

And although Klarich was pleased with the media coverage, he feels he paid too much for it. "We learned from our mistakes and will know what to do better next time. In general, we tried to do too much, too fast. Starting the planning stages of the event much earlier will help, especially with securing sponsors, and most importantly, a title sponsor."

Miller Brewing Company was so pleased with the turnout, and beer sales, no doubt, that have committed to including the Flight Worlds on their events schedule. "That will be great publicity for us, and will hopefully bring in even more spectators next time," says Klarich.

The most wonderful thing about hydrofoilers, says Sacks, is that they are into the sport, not for the money, but for the fun of it. "The hydrofoilers are indeed a rare breed among the watersports community. When all the bills for the event were paid, we actually lost money," he says. "But in the end, we were really pleased with the way it worked out. The hydrofoilers stepped up to the plate when they heard we were in the red, and most of them donated their prize money. They really took the [financial] pain away."

#### **SPECIAL AWARDS**

Tommy's Slalom Shop Hydrofoiling Hall of Fame Inductee Mike Mack

> Most Improved Rider Trevor Sudweeks

Best Rigs Phil Dixon & Laurie Petersen

> Best Crash Damien Klaas

Youngest Competitor - 4 Ivan Honkala Brian Vesely, this year's winner of the Air Boom Big Air competition with a world record-setting jump of 20 feet, six inches, was one of those generous people. "This is a great event, the only one of its kind, really, and we just want to keep it going. If that means donating our prize money, it's not a big deal."

While not necessarily a "big deal" to those who gave back their prize money, all of those little donations, added to donations that were mailed in, put an event that could have been disastrous financially, back into the black, and back on the books for the planning stages for 2002, says Sacks.



Amphibian Stunts Organized the X-Show. More on p 20.

ohoto: Lauder

"We'll start planning the Flight World's 2002 beginning January 1, 2001," says Klarich.

"The Flight Worlds is pretty much the only professionally organized event of its type in the sport of hydrofoiling," says Vesely. "There are other, smaller fly-in type of events, but they are more like family reunions rather than serious competitions." Vesely placed fifth in this year's Free Ride event and has been hydrofoiling for the last nine years. His sponsors include JP Sports, Glassic Eyewear and Off Axis Wakeboard Gear.

"A lot of people helped make this event happen, and we'd like to thank them," says Klarich. "We had a staff of about 40 volunteers that did everything from work the beer garden to helping out with parking. The volunteers were really instrumental in making the event a success."

So, what do Sacks and Klarich have up their sleeve for the 2002 event? "I'd like to include surfing. It can be done," says Klarich. "This year's X-Show was a great starting point for what we want to do next time, which is create a stunt show, with boats jumping through hoops of fire. It's gonna be crazy!"

Mary Ann Rudnick is a freelance writer and editor based in Lake Elsinore, California. Reach her at 909-245-5259 or mededitor@aol.com

#### Eazor Sport Arm Wrestling Results

Right Hand - Lightweight

- 1. Cameron Gutieriez
- 2. Don Fowler
- 3. Scott Fogarty

Right Hand - Middleweight

- 1. John Stanton
- 2. Rick Gradin
- 3. Scott Partington

Right Hand - Heavyweight

- 1. Ricardo Palmerin
- 2. Joseph Heymann

Right Hand - Super Heavyweight

- 1. Dustin Phillips 2. Chuck Jared
- 3.Ernest Lopez

- Left Hand Lightweight
- 1. Scott Hall
- 2. Joseph Martin
- 3. Rick Gradin

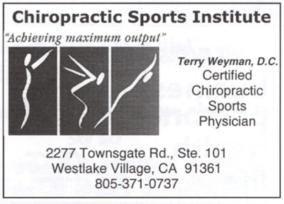
Left Hand - Heavyweight

- 1. Ricardo Palmerin
- 2. John Short

Women Right Hand

- 1. Theresa Ebert
- Mary Hall
- 3. Roberta Palmerin)





Flight Worlds 2000 Medical Director



#### A Letter from the TN Fly In Team

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the sponsors of the Tennessee Fly-In 2000 and let you know what a huge success it was. Fifty-four hydrofoilers from all over the country participated in the 5-day event with over 250 attending the exhibition on Saturday at the Sunset Marina on Dale Hollow Lake. The Fly-In and show included Sky Ski inventor Mike Murphy, Sky Ski team riders Jon & Teresa Wilborn, and Jake Kinnison. Other pro riders included Trevor Sudweeks, Leland Speed, and kneeboarder Billy Rossini. These guys were a constant source of advice and encouragement to all, not to mention a thrill to watch. 10-

year old Brett Speed set the world record for the youngest to ride away from an invert. Many other landed new tricks and several new riders joined the ranks. The Byrdstown-Pickett County Camber of Commerce commended evervone involved with the Fly-In and all those who participated, They viewed the event as "a huge success and enjoyed by Pickett Countians, young and old, which brought an enormous amount of enthusiasm and interest to the com-

munity".



Wilborn Shows Off



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#### Andrew Pilkinton is One of the East's Young Guns

Several articles on the event were features in the Lake Times-News. We also received a letter from Tom Allen of Sunset Marina thanking all those who participated, "I have been on Dale Hollow all my life and I have never witnessed such and exciting watersport. See both young and old (7 year old and 82 year old) ride the hydrofoils is a testament that hydrofoiling truly is a sport for all ages, The professionalism of your group was also com-

mendable, as it is great to see a group that takes their sport so seriously and is so safety conscious. Having the backing and being insured by the American Water Ski Association (AWSA) is very credible to your organization."

Again we thank everyone who participated in this event and hope to make the 2001 Fly In an even bigger and better event.

The Fly-In Team Mark Pilkinton

Steve McCrary Glen Mitchell Rob Plamondon

Mark Pilkinton 615-860-0918 home 615-202-8861 cell





# Flyin' Hawaiian Style

auai, the wettest spot on earth, is known for its inescapable beauty and soul soothing serenity. It also offers many opportunities for the traveler looking for adventure

or just a little R&R. One opportunity that can't be missed on any vacation is a visit to the Wailua River outside Kapaa. Not only does this river entertain those in search of the fern grotto or deep hidden waterfalls, it also provides a majestic ski haven for those longing for a little on-the-water activity.

Kenny and Kathy Terheggen own Kauai Waterski and Surf Company, the only authorized commercial Waterski School on the River. They offer lessons and ski rides with the option of slalom, wakeboard, barefoot, or even SKY SKI! You bet we were excited when we called and found out they had a brand new Sky Ski with a shock tower, and not only that, but a brand new Malibu Sunsetter LXI with a tower and wedge to boot.

Pulling up to the riverside, only kayakers and fern grotto boats could be seen strolling the waters. Kenny met us by

Kenny Catching Air on the Beautiful Wailua River

his dock with a cheerful smile and warm handshake as we took in all the river's beauty (and glassy water). It couldn't have been more perfect. No wetsuits needed here!

ON with the vest and off we went with kayakers and tourists gawking in amazement. There is no lack of spectators and cameras flashing here, but the best part is there are no other boats or PWCs to contend with...just truly epic riding!

Brent and I took our turn, with the hopes of seeing Kenny ride the Sky Ski also, but no time today. We planned

another session the next day with talk of gainer dismount practice for Kenny. Kenny had been doing dismounts over the wake for about two months (teaching himself with the help of *Flight*) and was ready to hang on. Something he should have done a long time ago, as sure

enough Kenny landed and rode away from his 3<sup>rd</sup> attempt!!! That cheerful smile turned into a big toothy ear-to-ear grin. That's a learning curve I wish I

had! Kenny had no lack of showmanship after that, as he landed several more inverts in front of passers by.

We enjoyed a few rides in between our other island activ-

ities, until before we knew it the week was over and it was time to say MAHALO (thank you) to Kenny for the best hospitality and fun we found anywhere on the island. Next trip we may even look into staying by the river in a small studio cottage Kenny offers out to skier for only \$65 per night (unheard of on Kauai).

# You can contact Kenny and Kathy at:

surfski@aloha.net

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Hawaiian Foiler Kenny Terheggen



Co-host of the Flight Worlds

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Tony Klarich

# Video Insight & Review: Flight Worlds on ESPN

Hydrofoiling has finally made it's feature competition debut on ESPN, and this 40 minute video helps to build up hydrofoiling by holding it up side by side with two other already popular extreme sports.

The Way Things Really Work

Let's say I'm an event promoter an have a great live event that's full of action and different from anything ever seen before (enter Flight Worlds 2000). You would think that networks would be scrambling for such choice programming. Unfortunately the way thing really work is that unless you are a big sport like basketball, football, etc., you are likely to actually pay for air time. At best, you might be able to get onto a network like Outdoor Life or Speed Vision with a trade. You trade the produced show, ready to go in exchange for air time and some commercial spots.

The way it worked with Flight Worlds was this. Chuck Sacks and I felt it was extremely important for the Flight Worlds to be seen on one of the majors, ESPN or FOX Sports. This would give us the biggest exposure possible

while giving credibility to our growing event. Having a show on one of these stations is great for advertising and is also very important for the sponsors. It is also a great tool for selling the show in 2002.

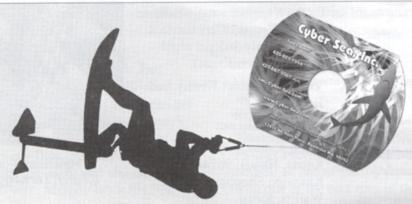
Anyway, we were getting down to crunch time, and had been unsuccessful in getting confirmation on any of the networks. We didn't really have a great track record yet, just the mainly hydrofoiling in the 1998 Flight Worlds,

and a promise top deliver a great show this time around.

About this time we had the opportunity to get involved with a production company call Athletes in Motion (AIM). They produce about 6 shows a year for ESPN. They buy air time from ESPN and deliver high quality shows that will meet the standards of the network.

So basically Flight Worlds paid AIM to produce the show and get it on ESPN2 for at least of 2 showings.





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A Vans Triple Crown event was cancelled, and it just so happened that AIM had one slot open for a show like ours. The only thing for us to really consider was the steep price tag.... \$30,000!!! We estimate that about half of that cost went to the production company, and half went to ESPN for the air time. It was now or never so we said yes to the deal.

During the event Paul Higgins of AIM (on air personality, editor, & more) asked about what needed to be covered. We talked about key elements that needed to be shown. There was a lot to cram into 22 minutes of TV time! The five man crew was very professional. We started out Sunday morning with a bonus show. The XBS Interview Show was being shot on location for the first time, and we were the lucky ones. Higgins sits and talks with top athletes from each of our sports, then runs clips from the events in between. The whole thing ends up being a half hour ad for the Event Show to come. After the morning interview/meeting the AIM crew was seen just about everywhere on site throughout the entire day.

When it came time for editing I was given very little input as to how the show turned out. In hindsight I see this as good and bad. While they did not cover the hydrofoiling as I would have done it, they did do a good job with getting plenty of action. It aslo made foiling look like it belonged right there with wakeboarding an FMX. Flight Worlds also got 1 minute of commercial time for our sponsors, and also got several banner ads throughout the show. You know the ones that are like "The Flight Worlds are brought to you by...", and then a logo pops up on the screen. This was all part of the 30K deal.

The crew, often jaded at filming so many events, was truly impressed with the intense action going on all day. The final show was not my vision, but the best work of a professional in bringing extreme sports to life.

We are already discussing plans our TV in 2002, and are actively seeking ways to reduce the price tag. One good possibility is something with MTV. Whoever it is, we will definitely be televised better than ever in 2 more years.

Tony Klarich



photo: Gunstenson

Klarich on the Set with Athletes in Motion

#### **ESPN VIDEO REVIEW**

This video is two "half-hour" shows combined into one tape (each show is actually about 22 minutes to allow time for commercials.)

The first show is the ESPN Event Video. This is the Flight Worlds as seen through the eyes of someone who covers extreme sports all the time, and knows what action is.

- ♦ The X-SHOW was given great coverage, but that's easy when you have 30 minutes of pulse pounding action. This section includes Geno Yauchler and his freestyle jumping, Aero Events Stunt Hang Gliding, impressive shots of the Air Blades Skydivers, an inspirational interview and ride with Banana George Blair, PWC distance jumping with Chris Hagest, Kenny Richards riding his jet ski on fire over the jump ramp, and more. (Read more on page 20 of this *Flight*). Peter Nelson & his Amphibian Stunt Team did a fantastic job!
- ♦ HYDROFOILING is just one part of this show. The Masters Division should be ecstatic with their coverage this time around. They were shown in depth, and their segment was longer and better than the pro mens! The women were given a nice segment too as were a couple other age divisions. It's worth checking out!
- ♦ WAKEBOARDING looked bigger and better than at the event, but that was a draw to pull in viewers we may not normally get for foiling alone. The local talent rode well, as did Geno. There's also an impressive interview with Hyperlite star Ricky Gonzales, one of the nicest and most professional riders around.
- ♦ FREESTYLE MOTOCROSS was given prime billing in this show, and surely got more eyeballs to tune in. Brian Deegon and the Metal Mulisha went off with Lake Elsinore as a unique backdrop for their high-flying stunts. Numerous camera angles and great editing makes this one of the highlights of the show.

BIG AIR & SICK TRICK were also given star billing. Brain Vesely is the new big air hero, while Geno impressed everybody with his wakeboard air raley off the jump ramp. The sick trick also made for some of the best crashes of the day.

The second show in this two part tape is the **XBS INTERVIEW SHOW:** Paul Higgins interviews Klarich, Gonzales, Feist, and Rourke. For hydrofoilers the highlight of this show will be the interview with Klarich. It is a insightful 5 minutes on what his vision is for hydrofoiling and how the Flight Worlds is helping achieve that goal. Action shots from the event are included with the interviews to keep things lively.

- Flight World

#### News Extreme

#### 30 Minutes of **Pulse-Pounding Action**

By Mary Ann Rudnick

The Flight World's 2000 X-Show in Lake Elsinore. California, had something for just about everyone's taste extreme water skiing, stunt hang gliders, parachuting stunts and even a human fireball who jumped a PWC off a jump ramp into the water below.

Sounding remarkably like the Christmas carol, "Twelve Days of Christmas," the X-Show boasted 11 trick water-skiers, six freestyle parachuters, four freestyle hang gliders and one ultralight aerotow pilot. Not to mention Peter Nelson and Mark Vanslow, who co-directed all of the acts that participated in the X-Show.

Nelson, professional stunt coordinator, owner of Amphibian Stunts and producer of the X-show at Flight Worlds, has produced such shows all over the world and has been featured on MTV's "Senseless Acts of Video" program. Nelson and Vanslow "jumped at the chance" to showcase this army of talent at the Flight Worlds. Incidentally, Nelson placed second in the master's free ride hydrofoiling division.

"This was a great opportunity for us," says Nelson. "Of all the acts we put

on at the Flight Worlds, one of the most memorable was the "human fireball" Kenny

Flight

Richards, a stuntman from Hollywood, who, after being set on fire rode a personal watercraft through a set routine for about 20 seconds. He finished off the stunt by jumping off the wakeboard ramp and 'submarining into the water, to douse the flames."

Dino DiNaso, director and founder of Aero Events in Canoga Park, coordinated nine demonstration flights over the two days of the event and performed such inverted maneuvers as loops, big rollovers and, of course, plenty of spins, which pleased the crowd of 5,000 over the weekend. "All of our pilots are experts, so we pretty much leave it up to them regarding the routine they will be flying." While most people are familiar with hang gliding, in general, many of them have never seen the aerobatic variety.

The parachuting exhibitions were organized by Reggie Eastaugh, owner and inventor/designer of Perris, California-based Air Blades. Essentially, air blading is a relatively new parachuting discipline, set up as a timed event, which uses highperformance canopies to fly through a set course as quickly as possible without hitting any of the air blades. Airblades closely resemble the sails of a windsurfer.

"We had the top five canopy pilots

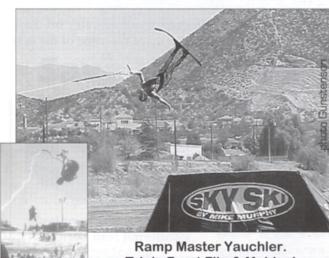
photos Gunstenser Loops, Swoops, and a Guy

on Fire: Aero Events Stunt Hang Gliding, Air Blades Skydiving, and Professional Stuntman Kenny Richards

from SkyDive Lake Elsinore compete in the event," says Eastaugh. "This type of sport is not easy. There are a full set of rules, and it's pretty tough to get through the course without striking the air blades."

"The first half of the course is set over water, for safety reasons," says Eastaugh. "And the average length of a course is about 325 feet."

Air blading, while a relatively new sport, is gaining in popularity because it is "so spectator friendly," says Eastaugh. "The typical speed of the blade swoopers (pilots) is between 60 and 70 mph, so it definitely is a sport that gets the blood pumping."



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Crocker Slides Again

Nelson says Amphibian Stunts plans to participate again in Flight Worlds 2002, and is already generating new ideas to top this year's X-Show. "I'd like to add more fire-related stunts, get multiple people on jump ramps and do some boat and PWC jumps, too. Another type of stunt that gets a lot of attention is fire diving, where people are on a 30-meter high platform, they light themselves on fire and dive off into the water below," he says. "



Over the Top Action!

#### The X-Show Performers

Directors:

Peter Nelson & Mark Vanslow
Amphibian Stunt Team
Banana George Blair - Barefoot
Roger Crocker - Hot Dog
Billy Rossini - Kneeboard
Geno Yauchler - Freestyle Jump
Chris Hagest - PWC Distance Jump
Kenny Richards - PWC Fire Man
Jon Wilborn - Hydrofoil
Jake Kinnison - Air Board
Mike Mack - Driver
Jennifer Diamond - National Anthem

THANKS!!!

#### FLIGHT WORLD

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## Flight

#### **Tuber Gone Bad**

with Tony Klarich

Team Tube went renegade again this year during the Catalina Ski Race.

Roger Crocker was at the helm of the 21' Mastercraft Maristar, Taylor was riding backwards, and our hopes were high.

After greeting a few of the top contenders it was time to rumble! The race started with a thunderous wave of about 100 boats.

Our start was good and we made it cleanly through the breakwater.

Next we cruised at 25-30 mph. We were actually racing with several other boats! This was a serious.

Our idea was to break our previous time of 2:15, and also try to go under 2 hrs. for the 52 mile ocean crossing.

Everything was perfect. The driving was on. The tube was handling extremely well. Every once in a while I would hit a series of bumps and get pitched up 4-6 feet 2 or 3 times in succession. About 3 miles from the island on the way out we hit another series of bumps. This time it was 5



Klarich and Crocker: 100% Business!

giant bounces, each one higher than the next. Whoosh!!! We had a blowout! We frantically tried to reinflate the tube, but it was no use.

Just 3 short miles from Catalina Island, we counted about 25 skiers behind us (last time we beat 2 skiers).

We were all sad, but it was a blast. Next time we'll beat that record!

Thanks to: Mike Murphy's Board & Ski Shop, California Skier, Air Boom, and HO Sports.



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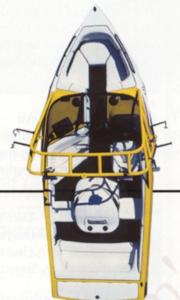
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