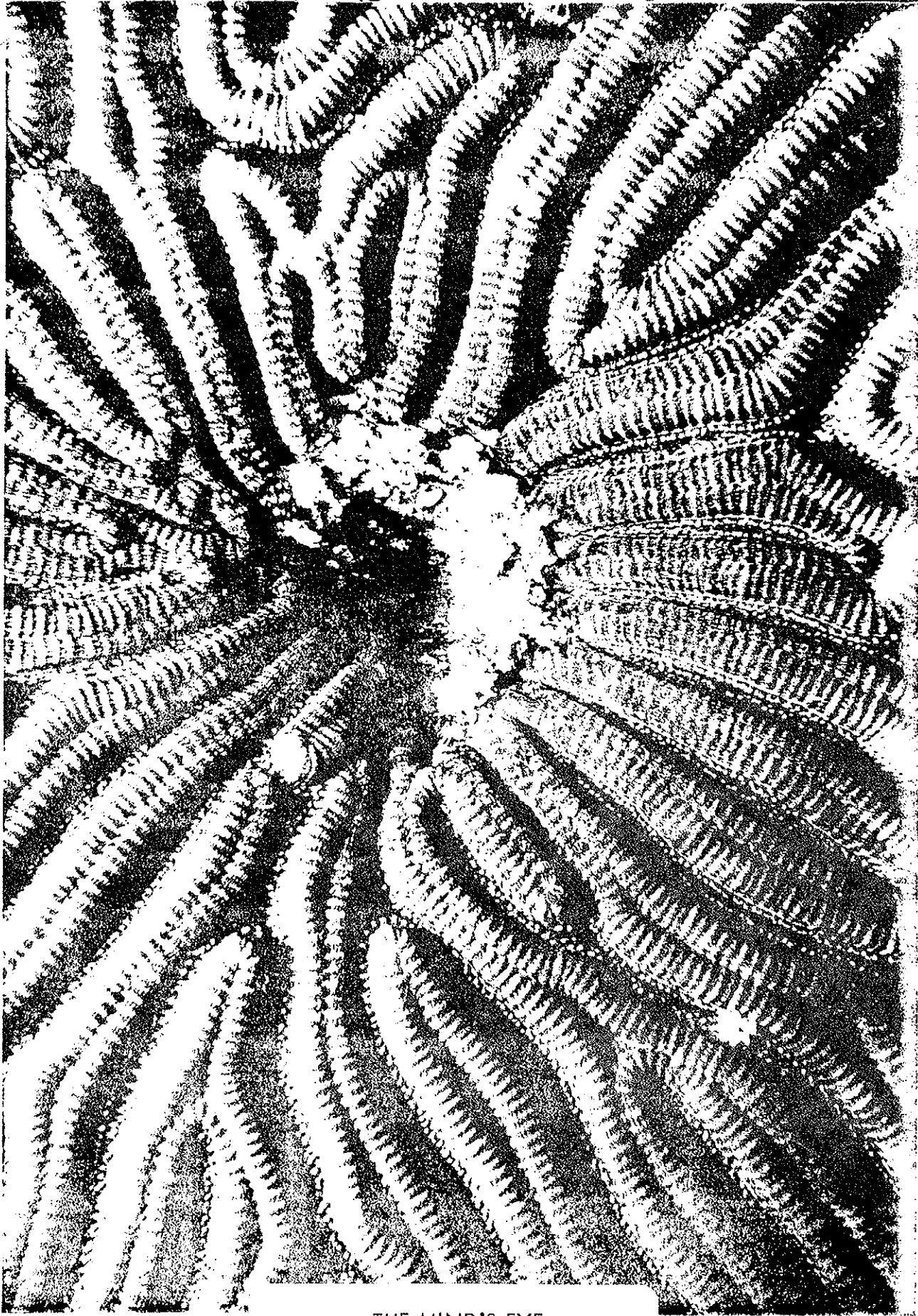


22



OFFICIAL VOICE OF  
SOUTHWEST COUNCIL OF SKIN DIVING CLUBS

THE MIND'S EYE

Photographed by Judy Friedel Crouch

# EDITORIAL

Diving seems to be picking up. Some of the VP's are now writing reports to the President with copies to SLATE. It still could use some improvement, see the President's Page - he seems to agree.

I attended a dive hosted by the Quitman Dolphins the weekend of 7-20-21 and it was well done and the Fish Fry was excellent.

The Aquanauts have plans for an Ecology Dive at Lake Hawkins on July 28 and both the Aquanauts and Dolphins are going on a Gulf Dive August 10th. Cap Blood has a class of 15 in progress and Bill Hutto is about through with one in Center, Texas. We are trying to catch up with our publication date of the SLATE, so please everyone try to get me your reports at once for the August Issue. Don't wait another week - DO IT NOW.

We could also use some more advertisers as the Council budget is getting very low.

Dick Wilgus

## SCUBA TRAVEL

Dacor Corporation, a major scuba diving equipment manufacturer, has announced the establishment of a new scuba diver travel club on June 1, 1974, called the Underwater Adventurers Association. The Association membership will only be available through the local Dacor dealer.

"The Underwater Adventurers, a non-profit corporation, will have scuba diver travel trips created for them by News Tours, Inc., a Chicago based travel wholesaler" said Harry Shanks, Scuba Travel Consultant and Public Relations Director of the Association.

The main reason for the Association is to give a minimum of two traveling divers the benefit of group rates and airfares to most of the planned locations. Sam Davison, President of Dacor, said that this travel program has been years in the planning for there was a definite need among divers who must dive as buddies and yet depend on large groups to get the best rates from the airlines and first class resorts. In addition, only groups had the "buying power" to work out planned diving packages at these resorts at economical rates. The Association buying power can offer these programs to just two divers.

See your Dacor Dealer for membership applications, cost \$5.00.

\*\*\*\*\*

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## ORCA TAMERS DIVE

June 29, 30, 1974

## POINT STANDINGS

Men's Spearfishing

Matt Wiley	IDA	26
James Permenter	IDA	22
Dennis Corcoran	IDA	20
Gordon Hubenack	IDA	16
Robert Lackey	Texins	15
Tommy Jourden	Orca T.	14
Wayne Mathewson	Texins	12
George Beach	Lawton	12
Bruce Mays	Lawton	12
Lee Bumpas	AAA	10
Wayne Williams	IDA	12
Charles Byrd	IDA	12
Ben Sleigh	LHDM	11
Jim Gale	AAA	11
John Graff	AAA	10
Bufford Love	Quitman	10
Clay Thorne	Little G.	10
Charles Crawford	Little G.	10
Mike Kornegay	IDA	10
Jack Echart	LTV	10

Women's Spearfishing

Carolyn Embree	AAA	26
Sandra Mathews	Orca T.	15
Jannett Chermely	AAA	11
Jane Hudsepeth	IDA	6
Myrna Jorgenson	Sherman	4

Novice

Greg Gross	AAA	16
Clay Thorne	AAA	14
Mike Timo	ArkLaTex	11
Bufford Love	Quitman	10
Gary Simpkins	Quitman	6

Non-Spearfishing

Ben Sleigh	LHDM	19
Tommy Herrin	Sherman	15
Roy Hudsepeth	IDA	12
David Barton	AAA	9
Gordon Hubenack	IDA	9
Elbert Jackson	AAA	7
Gary Hutchins	Orca T.	7

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

They started coming about 3:00 -- first a motorcycle, then cars, pickups and even a towtruck. The 1500 people of Quitman, Texas had never seen such activity.

The Quitman Dolphins and half a dozen East Texas Aquanauts turned out July 14 for the Dolphins' July Dive.

A week earlier invitations were sent out asking the "land lubbers" of neighboring Southwest Council clubs to join the dive ship Dolphin for its July voyage.

The invitations advertised the new Scuba Skills Obstacle Course, a beer dive (with gusto), and all the catfish, french fries and cole slaw you could eat for d "doubloons".

The obstacle course was a challenge to all the divers and had one well known Longview diveshop owner huffing, puffing and cussing when it was over.

To begin the course a diver in full gear snorkeled fifty yards to a bouy, at the bouy he submerged and ran a gauntlet of four underwater rings, the diver then swam another fifty yards to a waiting referee whom he then buddy towed to a tower. To finish the course the diver submerged, ditched his tank and swam through a tire attached to a tower leg.

Longview divers swept the contest, with Bob Hanson winning the first place trophy, Dick Wilgus finishing second and Larry Smith taking third. While the catfish were cooking the thirstier of the crowd dove for 60 cans of Schlitz. The food was as good as the invitations promised and most people left the dive with a 3 inch grin and 5 pounds heavier.

\* \* \* \* \*

At this time the Quitman Dolphins would like to publicly thank Anita Miller, Gene Gall, Hank Silvers, and Ed Long for helping to make the Dolphins first year successful. Special thanks goes to that little dive shop owner, Dick Wilgus, without whose many efforts and constant help the Dolphins would never have come to being.

# PRESIDENT'S PAGE

During the past two months I have done enough diving to last most people a year. It began in May by taking our two children to Cozumel for their first salt-water dive. I think Daddy got a bigger thrill from the experience than did the kids. We dove them on some shallow reefs and filmed their experience. I hope all of you can one day soon see the films. A child at the circus couldn't be more excited!

In mid-June I went with Louis Schaeffer aboard the Aqua Safari with several of our Club members to explore the wreck of the "Middleground", a sunken 110 ft. crewboat some 45 miles out of Port O'Connor. That diving was spooky, 'cause it required stage decompression at each dive, for the wreck is 160 ft. down. Then for fun we dove at Stetson Bank. I was lucky enough to recover two lovely oil drill bits which are now on display at our shop.

I was unable to attend Orca Tamers dive at Whitney and want to apologize to them publicly. I haven't felt too chipper of late and that Friday and Saturday preceding their dive was a low spot. My lovely wife hid my dive gear and car keys, so I was grounded. It seems to the illustrious staff at Baylor Medical Center that I have 2 "compressed" vertebra in my chicken neck and the resulting pain requires total rest for a while.

Last week before the doctor's diagnosis, I took a group of Zodiac boat owner-divers to Grand Isle, Louisiana. We spent several days diving on the off-shore rigs and I can say the spearfishing was super!

I hope to see you all at Lake Murray, if the sawbones and my "Simon Legree" wife will let me. In any case, I want to welcome a new Club into our Council. Braniff Air Lines has formed a new club which has petitioned the Southwest Council for membership. There seems nothing amiss with their application and unless I know of someone's objections, the officers of the Council will accept their membership at our next Executive Committee meeting. Meanwhile, they are going to compete with us in our contests pending final formal approval.

Vice Presidents----will you all please report to Dick and myself the doings in your Area. The "Slate" needs the news. Everyone wants to know what's happening and part of your obligation as a Vice President is to report monthly to me. If this is not possible then you should step aside in favor of someone who will comply with the Southwest Council's Constitution.

Where are all of you diving? Surely most of you are getting wet in interesting places other than your tub or swimming pool. Share your travels and dives with us in the "Slate". Our paper will be more eagerly read if you will share your experiences with others. You all know of my activities 'cause I love to relate them, but I, and lots more of us, would like to know where you are diving and send Dick pictures if possible.

Finally, will you keep an eye out for water pollution and report it to the EPA Office here in Dallas at: 1600 Patterson, Suite 1100, Dallas, Texas 75201. And, please, write your Congressman today about House Rule 11-16 in opposition or be prepared to pay 10% more for almost all sporting goods --- most especially underwater diving equipment.

Best regards,  
Hank

**"DIVING FEVER"**


**CAUSE:** Received latest issue of a dive magazine.

- SYMPTOMS:**
- (1) Gets up every morning with the "I want to go diving" blas.
  - (2) Sits hours upon hours staring at pictures he has drawn on his papers at the office.
  - (3) He shines and polishes his equipment until the shine "shines".
  - (4) He is grumpy and irritable at night because another day has gone by without getting even a minute with his underwater friends.

**TREATMENT:** One full week of diving at his favorite diving resort.

**Judy Jawfish sez,**

**"STASH  
YOUR  
TRASH"**

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**Divers**  
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100% Southwest Council Membership  
We Meet 2nd Wednesday Each Month At  
TIKI Restaurant, 7:30 - Visitors Welcome

JOURNEY TO TORTOLA  
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

If anyone has been wondering where Ed Ralston is, he has been busy on diving trips like the one to visit Chuck Atchison in the British Virgin Islands. Set amongst the blue waters of the Atlantic on one side and the blue Caribbean Sea, lays the green emerald Tortola, only an hours flight from San Juan, Puerto Rico. We travelled to historical land to take part in one of Chuck Atchison's "Custom-designed" diving tours from his second newly opened shop in downtown Road Town, Tortola (the capitol city).

Our trip was designed to carry us to the unusual, out of the way areas for photography. We dove vertical walls, mountain tops, coral, endless miles of reef and wrecked ships. All located in the warm clear water of tropic scenery.

One of the highlights of the trip was a three tank dive on the wreck of the Kelton, better known as the Roccus or bone wreck. It was carrying cattle bones to make bonemeal and porcelain dinnerware. She was wrecked in 1929 on the famous 17-mile Horseshoe Reef of Anegada. The port side of the bow still remains out of the water with the stern in 50 feet of water. She is covered with every type of growth and fish imaginable. Our first dive was late afternoon, followed by a dusk dive, then a night plunge.

On this set of dives, we met with Sammy butterflyfish, who is quite a ham for any camera carrying diver. There were snapper, angels, groupers and even "Old Tom" a six-foot black tip shark who tries to unmove divers by making an appearance. Our night trip opened up a new world of Polyps in full bloom, giant Parrot fish inside the wreckage. Green Morays hiding in pipe fittings and small Blemy asleep in the hollow of the guard rail on the stern, and all around the glowing phosphorescent particles in the blue-black surrounding area. Our lights hypnotise fish which are hard to get close to normally during the day time.

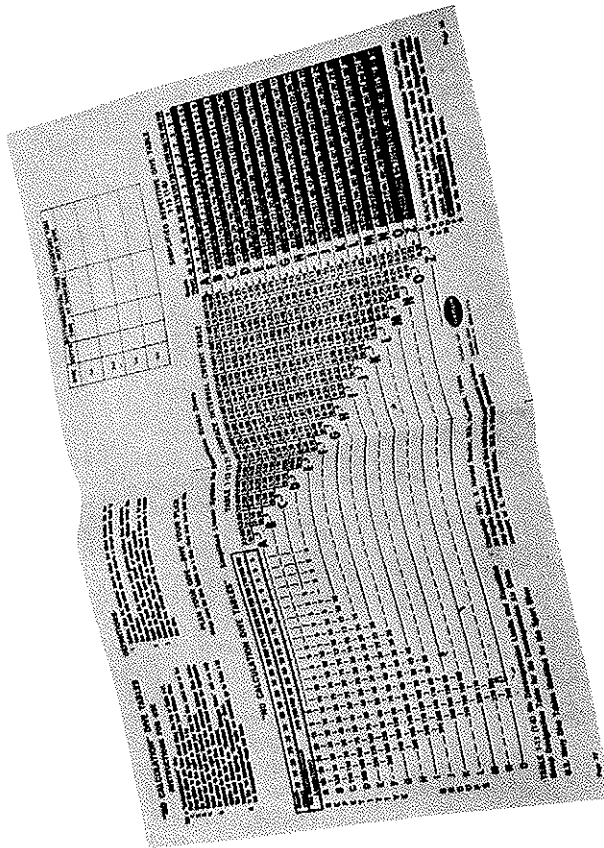
We photographed sponges of every size and color you could imagine. Found black coral in 40 feet of water, soft coral normally found in only deep water was at 50 feet. Schools of fish everywhere, huge Amberjacks came within two feet.

Chuck has incorporated everything into his diving and diver's services, from his giant compressor 3,000 PSI (just smaller than that of Scuba Point at Lake Travis) to a full service Pro Shop and dark room. He also features full travel service, hotel reservations, day sailing and custom designed diving to fill your every need, whether for one person or an entire group and offers courses from photography to instructor.

The area is still unspoiled and virgin territory for diving. We enjoyed our stay with Chuck tremendously and would recommend it to anybody wishing to make a Caribbean trip. This was our third trip to the area (the only place I have ever gone back to more than once). Anyone wishing a dream trip for diving should write to Chuck Atchison, P. O. Box 458, Long Look, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.

*Ed Ralston*

## NOW !! The Eleventh Edition of the SCIP DIVERS AND INSTRUCTORS MANUAL



The Reuter "No Calculation Dive Tables" as well as the standard U.S. Navy air decompression tables I-9 through I-14 are featured.

**THE SCIP MANUAL IS IN ITS ELEVENTH EDITION**, having been first published in 1963. Each succeeding year brought many improvements in the manual both in teaching techniques and technical aspects of diving. This latest edition, as before, reflects the newest in diving training technology, oriented to the beginning sport SCUBA diver.

**THE SCIP MANUAL PROGRAM HAS BEEN ACCLAIMED** by key leaders in the national certifying agencies. Its recognition is far reaching, finding wide use in NAUI, PADI, NASDS and YMCA classes. You will find the language in keeping with the philosophy of all top underwater instructors.

**THE WELL WRITTEN, CONCISE FORMAT CONTRIBUTES** to the popular acceptance of the SCIP Manual. The much illustrated material is arranged by subject and is presented clearly and with sufficient depth for ready grasp by the beginning diver. This, we feel, leads to a higher retention of

the point at hand, necessary to the class plan in today's instruction program. It is the intent that the instructor expand on the explanation in his class lecture and in his own style and manner. This freedom should be especially appealing to you.

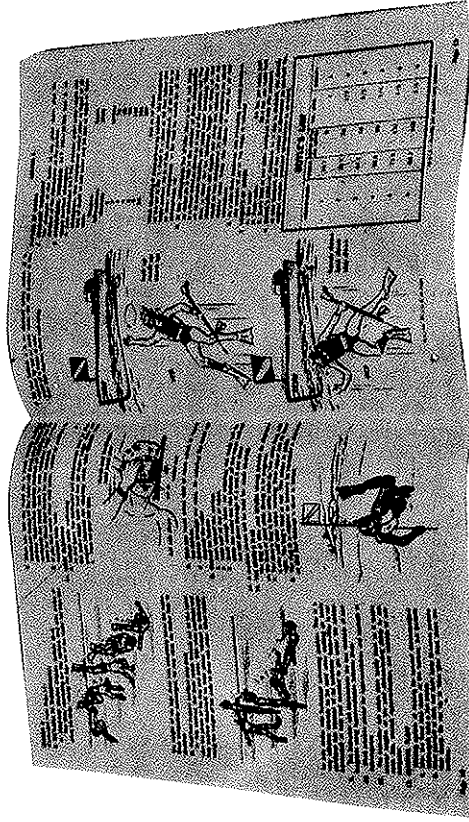
**THE SCIP MANUAL IS DISCOUNTED** to shops and instructors for the price of \$2.00 each. Funds generated from their sale will help perpetuate the SCIP scholarship, an aid to students of underwater research.

Send for your copies today. The SCIP Manual sales offices are:

**TOM HANLEY**  
14230 EDGECREST  
DALLAS, TEXAS 75240

**DICK WILGUS**  
804 NORTH HIGH STREET  
LONGVIEW, TEXAS 75601

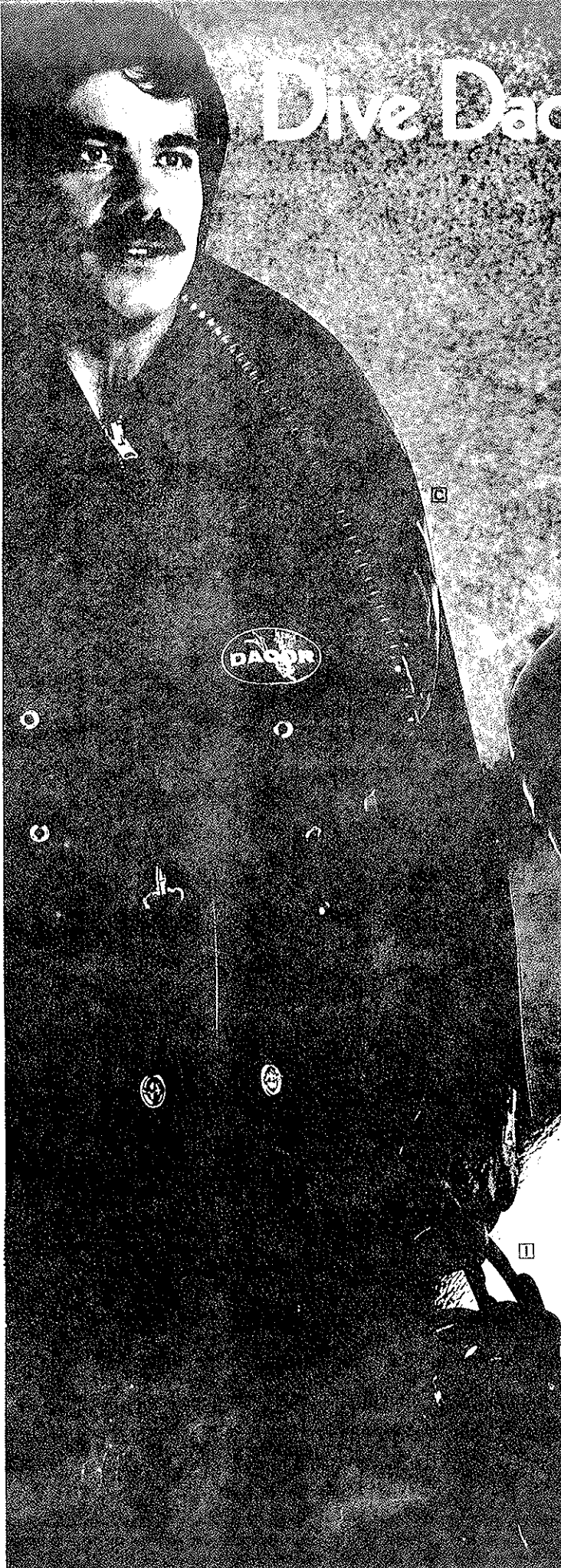
This brochure is a sample of the paper in the Manual, especially selected for its no-glare qualities and ability of high resolution of print. The manual is printed in the large 8½ x 11 book size.



The SCIP Manual is conveniently laid out in lesson form and well illustrated throughout

**ALSO AVAILABLE FROM SCIP**; three tests for your certified diver class. You can order tests "A", "B" or "C" each with different questions. These tests come with the standard Navy decompression tables and the Reuter tables but without the instructions, for 25c each. You can't duplicate your own for that. Answer keys furnished to the instructor for these tests.

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100,000 candlepower, 2-3 hrs. usable light, compact, 700' depth, floats beam up.

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Signal, distress, or warning use from surface to 275 ft., with battery & armstrap.

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Strong plastic, 3 unique hand grips, rubber lined stainless band, shoulder buckle.

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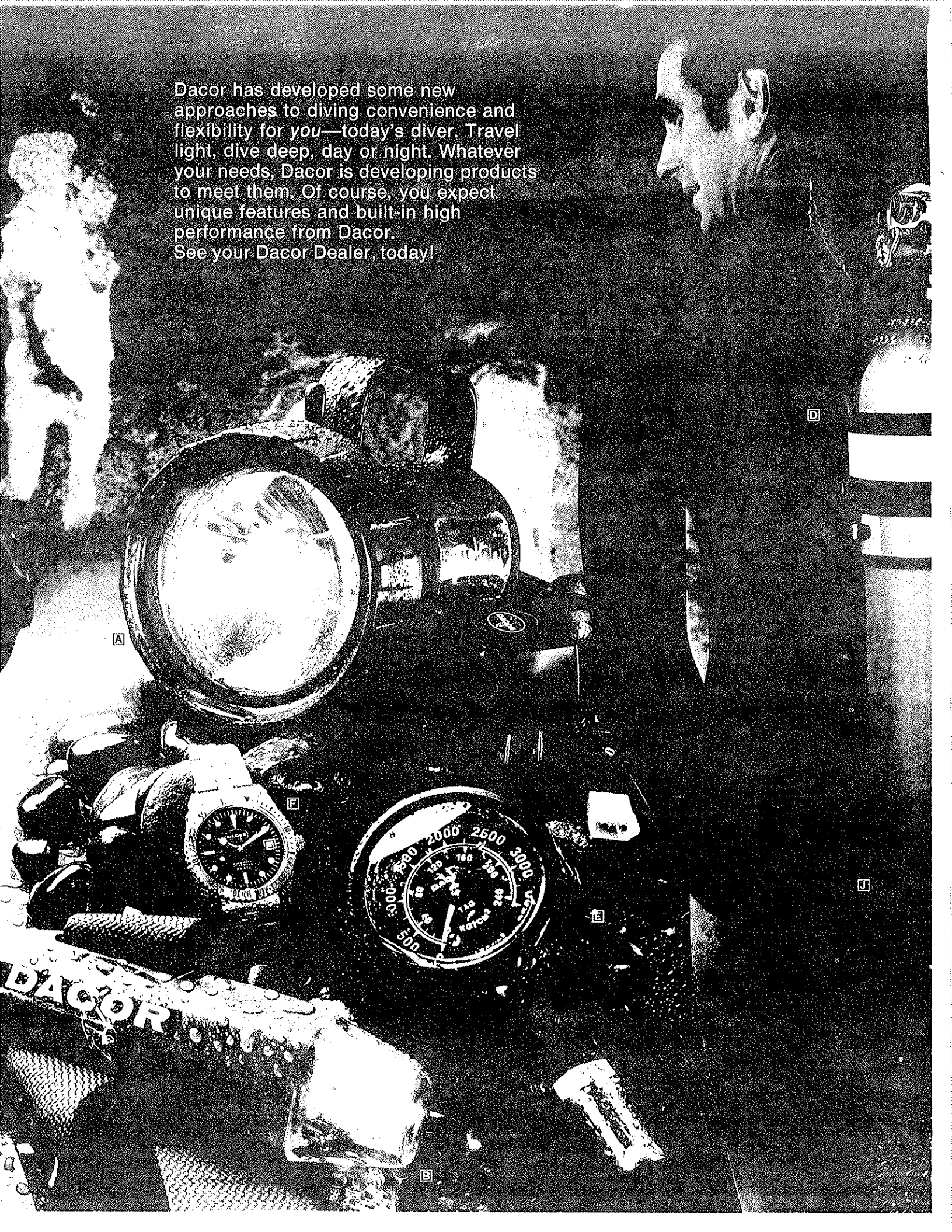
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Send \$1.00 for Dacor Diver's Kit. Includes '74 catalog, cloth patch, decomp. table, decals.

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A

F

E

D

C

B

DACOR

TREASURER'S REPORT  
for the period  
12-31-73 to 6-28-74

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Cash on Hand 12-31-73 \$2,054.52

Cash Receipts

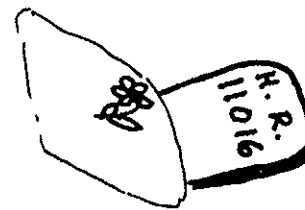
Individual Dues	\$920.00	
Club Dues	140.00	
Slate Ads	474.50	
Patches	5.00	
Elbert Jackson	11.00	
American Airlines	25.00	
Contest Receipts	118.50	
Total Cash Receipts		1,694.00
Cash Available		\$3,748.52

Disbursements

Trophies - Convention 1974	\$289.67	
100% Participation Pens	16.87	
Payment to Editor of SLATE for producing 12 consecutive issues	250.00	
Compensation for loss on SWC Convention to Dallas Divers	350.00	
Business Cards - Am. Skin Diving Council (C. Weatherman)	16.28	
Name tags for 1974 SWC Executive Officers	25.73	
Plaques, Trophies, Ribbons for 1974 SWC Convention	36.39	
500 Perforated Application Cards 1000 Envelopes (C. Weatherman)	35.20	
Letterhead Stationery	21.25	
Payment to Underwater Society of America for top 25 Spearfishermen	75.00	

SLATE EXPENSE

*Printing (3700 Copies)	142.63	
Xerox (2 copies)	.84	
Samples - Seamco	.88	
Phone Calls Regarding SLATE (D. Wilgus)	14.87	
Postage for Slate	24.82	



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IT'S TOO LATE. WIRE  
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YOUR MAN OF REPRESENTA-  
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-  
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(CONTINUED)

TREASURER'S REPORT - CONTINUED

## SLATE EXPENSE(Cont'd)

Bulk Mailing Permits	\$ 47.50	
Postage Due Receipts	10.92	
*Bus Receipt	4.55	
December Slate	346.90	
January Slate	287.54	
February Slate	262.26	
March Slate	302.63	
April Slate	281.36	
May Slate	255.74	
Total Disbursements		<u>\$3,099.83</u>

CASH ON HAND 6-28-74

648.69

\*NOTE - This expense was for reproducing the Divers Flag Poster which was sent via Bus to Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept. for distribution. D.W.

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*Meetings last Monday of each month  
at DFW Airport*

*President Secretary  
Elbert H. Jackson Carolyn Embree*

# Diver Says Friend Swallowed by Fish

CORPUS CHRISTI, Tex. (AP)—“He just inhaled him,” a fellow diver said, explaining how Steve Withers, 25, was swallowed head first and then spit out by an enormous jewfish in the Gulf of Mexico.

The modern day Jonah story was related today by veteran diver John Beard, who said the incident occurred last Sunday about two miles off Malaquite Beach near Padre Island. Withers' mother confirmed the story.

Beard said he and Withers were scuba diving near some old drilling pipes when they spotted what Beard called the largest jewfish he had ever seen.

A jewfish, also known as a grouper, can normally run six feet in length and weigh 600 pounds. It is described as a good game fish.

Beard said this one was at least four feet in diameter.

Beard and Withers moved in behind the fish, when it suddenly turned around, its mouth wide open. “He just inhaled him,” Beard said. Beard said Withers was so far inside the fish not even his swim fins could be seen.

“He said it was like hitting a brick wall. Everything went black,” said Withers' mother.

Withers was out of town and could not

immediately be reached.

Beard said he watched the fish head straight for the bottom, about 35 feet down, and disappear in a cloud of mud.

Beard gave up hope and went to the surface.

But he found a rather shaken Withers sitting on the boat. He was cut and scratched but alive and well. His oxygen tank was crushed and his spear snapped in two.

Beard and Withers think the diving equipment saved Withers' life by taking pressure off the jaws of the jewfish.

Withers has no idea why the fish disgorged him.

“He really doesn't know what happened. He felt himself pinned and all the sudden loose, and he shot to the top,” Mrs. Withers said.

“He came into the house and said, ‘Momma, look what happened to me. I got bit by a big jewfish.’”

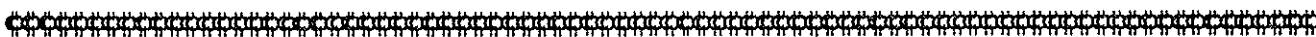
James Copeland, head of a local diving group, said Withers' tale was possible, though extremely rare. Copeland said he has heard of at least one other instance of a diver being partially swallowed by a jewfish.

Copeland said he had seen jewfish up to 800 pounds and 12 feet long.

## SCHEDULE of EVENTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SPONSOR</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
August 17-18	Blue Gills	Contest	Eufaula, Porum Landing
August 31-			
Sept. 1	Thunderbirds	Contest	Grand Lake, Disney Area
*August 31-			
Sept. 1	Lawton Divers	All Species Spearfishing	Chrystal Spgs., Lake Ouachita
*Dec. 7-8	E.T. Aquanauts	Jim Clark Mem- orial Gar Rodeo	Curleys Camp, Caddo Lake
*Jan. 11-12/75	Ark-La-Tex	Gar Rodeo	Bistineau

\*Council Sanctioned





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SOUTHWEST COUNCIL  
OF DIVING CLUBS

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Garland, Texas 75042

MEMBERSHIPS  
AVAILABLE

### AREA I REPORT

The LHDM Club is sharpening their teeth for the event of the year coming up Aug. 3 and 4 at Lake Whitney, The Challenge Dive with the Texins. Boy, are they in (Texins) for it. LHDM haven't forgotten about last year, to which I would not like to talk about. The program for the night was a film from Exxon on Corp. on drilling at the North Sea. The outing of last month to be held at Beavers Bend, Oklahoma was cancelled due to bad weather and rescheduled at Lake Whitney. It turned out great!

The Dallas Divers had another big crowd for the night. One of the main topics discussed was a party held at Judy Crough's house. Coors was flowing, guitars were playing, people were singing and a stalker went streaking. This month's party will be at Lake Dallas near Gene Gall's Boat House.

The Texins had a month off for summer vacations so a Club Meeting was not held. I do know they are preparing for the challenge dive with LHDM.

The Sherman Divers I have not heard from.

Phillip Rodriguez  
Area I V.P.

### AREA II REPORT

Area II members have been busy this month. They were well represented at ORCA Tamers Contest at Whitney. The contest had poor attendance for a new lake and fine weather, beautiful trophies and lots of fish. I.D.A. won the first four team places and most fish. The largest fish by I.D.A. Ladies Trophy was won by Orca Tamers, Sandra Matthews. James Permenter and Gordon Hubeneck took first team with over 160 lbs. Not a bad day for Area II. Whitney is the best carp lake I have dived in for a long time not to mention the excellent campgrounds and a well hosted contest.

West Side divers have been on diving trips to Galveston. Some I.D.A. members are on their way to Mexico for a good dive. I.D.A. has also set their film festival for Nov. 2 at the Tarrant County Convention Center Theater, with a Photo Workshop in the afternoon to be conducted by Bert Smith. Contact Matt Wiley for details, Box 152B, Rt. 9, Fort Worth, Texas.

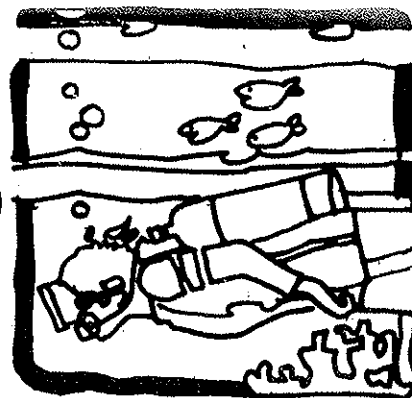
I hope to see everyone at Murry.

Dennis Corcoran  
Area II V.P.

# SPEARFISHING CHAMPIONSHIP

(SCUBA DIVING & SNORKLING)

Rough Fish Only — Carp, Buffalo & Gar



## Saturday, Aug. 17, 1974

Contest Will Run From 8:00 a.m. Until 5:00 p.m.

At the Narrows Boat Dock, Heber Springs  
Boat Dock & Dam Site Marina on  
**Greers Ferry Lake**

PRIZES — 1st Place — \$200.00 Cash Plus  
Championship Trophy  
2nd Place — Diving Cylinder

3rd Place — Wet Suit  
4th Place — Aqua Pack  
5th Place — Pair Of Skis

A Divers Watch Will Be Awarded To The Diver Who Spears The Largest Fish.

The First 5 Place Prizes Will Be Awarded For Total Poundage.

Entry Fee — Five Dollars Per Diver. All Prizes and Trophy will be awarded at 8:00 p.m. Saturday Night, 17 Aug. 74, at the Golden Anchor Restaurant in Heber Springs.

Divers May Register In Advance By Mailing In The Application Form Below Or At Any One Of The Above Marinas.

Mail this Form with a Check or Money. Order for \$5.00 to

**Bass Masters**  
521 West Main St.  
Heber Springs, Ark. 72543

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

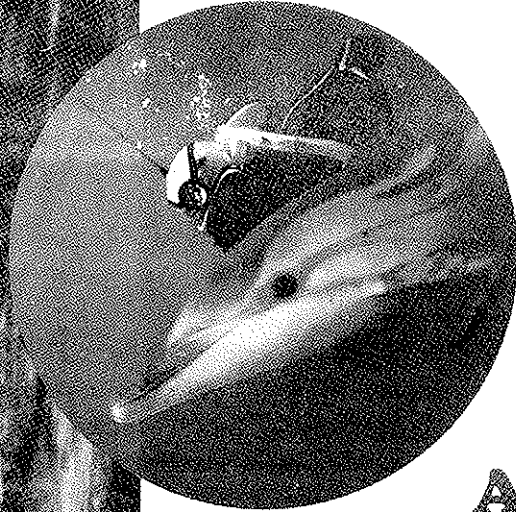
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Certification \_\_\_\_\_

#### Rules:

1. All scuba divers must be certified.
2. All participants must possess a valid Arkansas fishing license.
3. A diver's flag must be flown while diving.
4. All participants must wear a safety vest and a knife.
5. The buddy system will be followed. No one will be permitted to dive alone.
6. No nets, fishing gear or other means of taking fish other than spear gun may be in any contestant's boat. Roving patrols will check boats.
7. Only those fish in the weigh in line by 5:00 p.m. will be counted.
8. All laws of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and the Arkansas Scuba Divers Association must be complied with.
9. Spear fishing inside the Corps of Engineers park is prohibited.
10. Failure to comply with any of the above rules will result in disqualification.

For Additional Information Call 362-2450

# UDS-I System



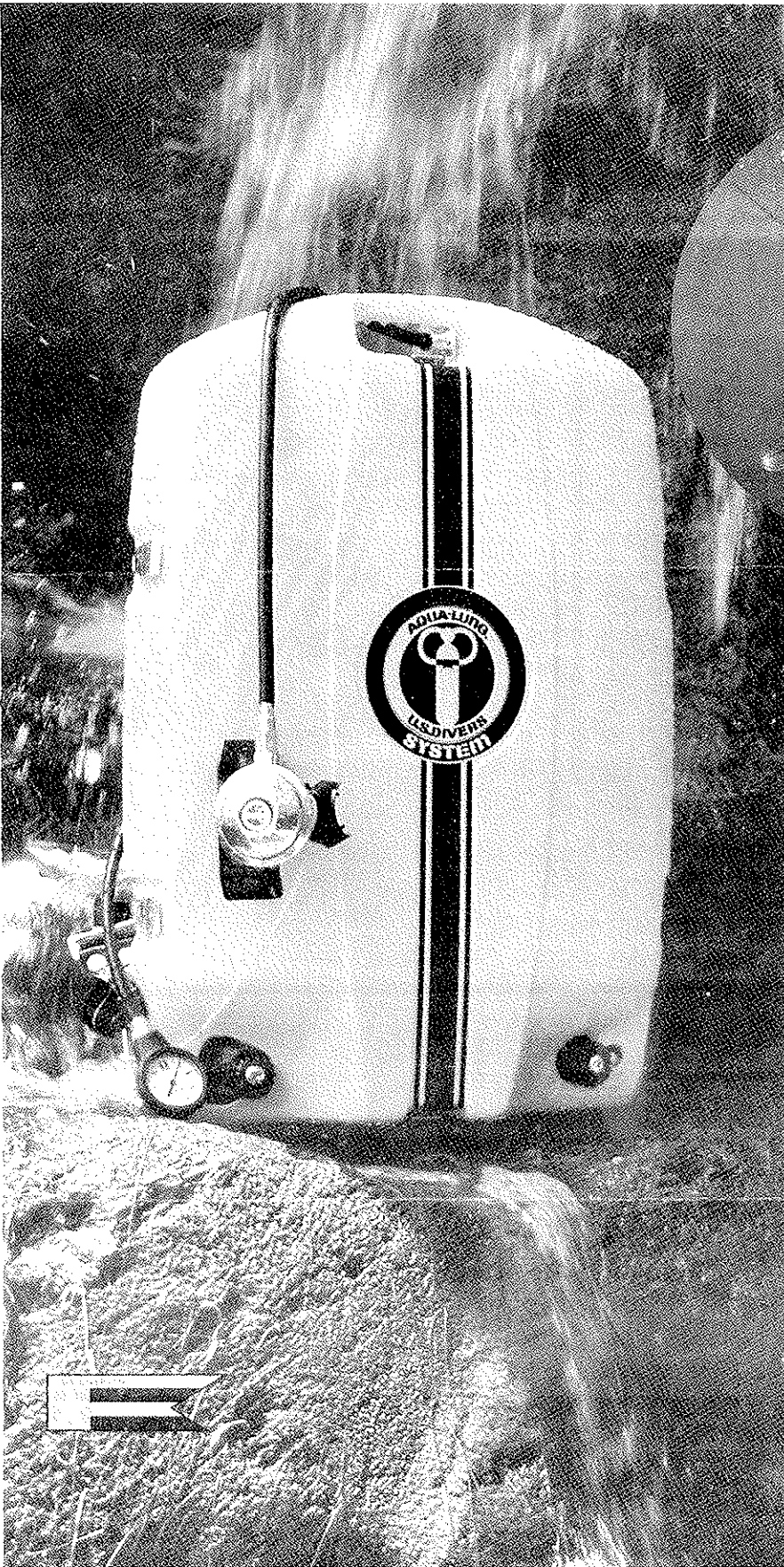
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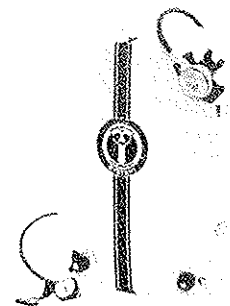
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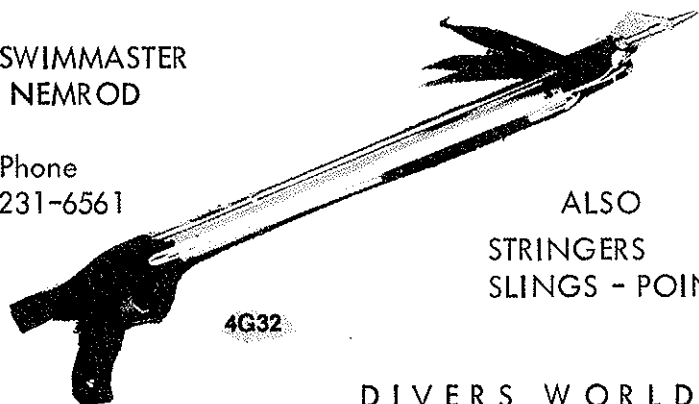
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