

Wisconsin Water Skier

A Publication Of The Wisconsin Water Ski Federation

NOVEMBER 1994

Fall Edition



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Wisconsin Water Ski Federation

Wisconsin Water Skier

NOVEMBER 1994

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DREAM OR NIGHTMARE?

The great outdoors - sand, water, wind, wide open spaces, and loud boat motors. These are the things most skiers dream of all winter long. The things that symbolize summer and the long awaited ski season . . . but; for some of us these are the things that our nightmares are made off! Who could we possibly be? Who associated with this great sport could not look forward to these wonderful signs of summer and skiing??

IT'S US - YOUR SOUND DUDES (& DUDETTES)!!
Assembling a sound system that can be heard by your entire audience and can withstand mother nature is a constant challenge. It's important as you look into sound systems that you consider all of three factor that naturally occurs outside. One of these factors is sound disbursement. The wide openness and blowing wind carry the sound away - what can you do? This problem requires more than jut increased power and increased volume. You must consider the number of speakers that you use and their placement more than just the volume. Your audience is very spread out. Sometimes on the ground and sometimes in the bleachers but always the first person to arrive sits right in front of the speaker and the second sits as far away from it as possible. For the entire audience to get the full enjoyment of the show without losing any of their hearing it is better to use more speakers strategically placed and pointed than to use fewer speakers and turn up the volume. You need to be able to cover the noise of boats (and of counting girls) for the entire length of the show course and the best way to do this is to spread your speakers out for that entire length. This also helps when the wind starts to blow- the more spread out the sound the better the coverage is going to be-even with the wind and if the volume is lower than you can turn it up some without having distortion interfere. Also by raising the speakers up off the ground you will be aiming more at the center of your audience and the absorption of the sound will be less by the people sitting closer to the speakers.

Secondly, water & sand electronics just don't mix!! But that's too bad - that's what we've got! I just love it when it's raining cats and dogs at a tournament and the wind is blowing and the plastic is flying and there's no one available to help hold it down and the sound system shuts down!! Then the show director comes up to you yelling, "What's wrong? Quick, fix it!!" Yeah right - GET REAL! There isn't anything that you can do somethings about mother nature but you should consider that these things will happen when you are buying your equipment. The best thing to do to get started is to go to an audio equipment supplier and explain just what the equipment will be used for and have them help yo to build a system. One thing that we have found, however, is that the most expensive is not always the best. We choose the cheaper tape decks that come in plastic because the plastic holds up better in the elements and just buy one good quality deck for recording (or use a local radio station studio for your recording) to get a good quality original tape. After a few years we sell the cheaper decks to club members for nominal price and get new ones without straining the budget. Also remember to consider the elements (and the playfulness of your skiers!) when choosing the site for your sound table and be sure to

have a covering close at hand at all times for the unexpected downpour or dousing!!

These are just a few of the things to think about and work on over this winter break; but, what is it that you want to know more about? I by NO means have all of the answers but my longevity has provided me with many contacts and I use them as much as possible!! So please let me know what kinds of things you are wondering about and I will try to find answers for you. We'll let you know the answer either here or at THINK TANK in March!!

Remember skiing and sound can create dreams and don't always have to be nightmares!!!

Susie Jensen
226 N. Pine St.
Janesville, WI 53545

✦ E • D • I • T • O • R • S

DESK
The pretty girl with the big smile on the cover is Kristen Heilman. Kristen, a skier with the Madison Show Team, racked up a host of awards this summer - and she did it at the age of 13.

She started off by winning the Wausau Invitational Tune-up Swivel Competition in Wausau in June. Then moving to Rockford, IL, in July she won the Midwest Regional Swivel Competition. Again in July, Kristen came to Wis. Rapids and our own State Show Tournament. Not only did she win the State Swivel Title, but with help from her doubles partner, Erich Parpart, they won the State Doubles Title. At this point most would agree that the summer was going very well, and it wasn't over, not by a long shot. In August at the Nationals in Rockford, Kristen landed a very respectable sixth place in the National Swivel Competition, but the topper was yet to come. On Sunday night when all the awards were being handed out, Kristen received the big one, the 1994 Wills Cook Award for the Outstanding Female Skier at the Show Nationals. On just a side note, she also made the "Faces in the Crowd" in Sports Illustrated this fall. Not bad for 13 . . .

Kristen, you're an outstanding skier and an outstanding young person. Keep up the good work and never loose that smile.

James Babcock, Editor

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T H A N K Y

AN EXTENDED FAMILY

This summer I found out I had an extended family in show skiing. The week before show nationals, my very normal pregnancy took a surprising turn. Since then, my doctors have ordered me to bed rest for the duration. This has been very difficult since I don't have a lot of practice at silting still!

Word filter out as it usually does in our sport. Shortly after nationals, cards, letters, and phone calls started coming in. I want to thank everyone for all their kind thoughts and words of encouragement. You have really helped me to get through these difficult months.

Gerry and I recently visited our Neonatal specialist and received very encouraging news. Our baby is doing just fine and is right on his growth schedule. We should have our new addition by the end of January! (He kicks like he wants to come out today).

Once again, thanks for helping me get through these slow months!

Sincerely, Cathy Luiting.

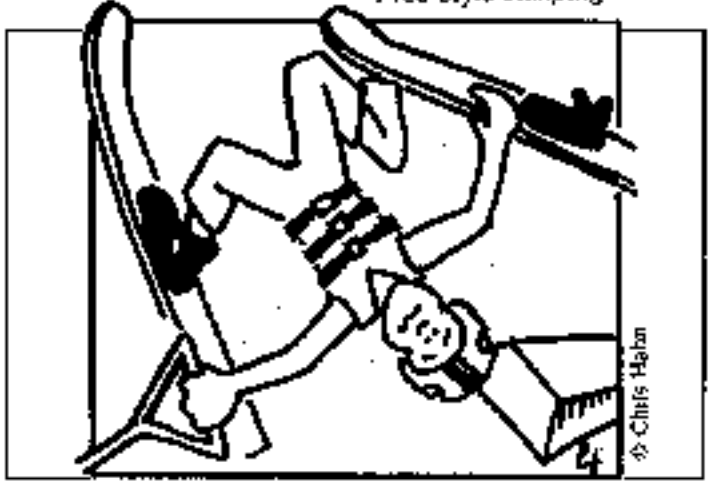


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SHOW SKI CAMP 1994

Once again the weather cooperated for Ski Camp 1994, it was a gorgeous weekend. The three teams who attended this years two day event were, The Lauderdale Lakes Aqua Skiers, Capitol City Ski Team, and the Wisconsin Rapids Aqua Skiers. The teams worked hard together early on Saturday to improve their individual and team performances. At the end of the day, Wisconsin Rapids Aqua Skiers, and the Lauderdale Lakes Aqua Skiers each put on a show with judges Bob Southard, Duane Snow, and Gerry Luiting recording helpful critiques. The judges sat down with the respective teams and reviewed the critique immediately following each teams show. On Sunday morning teams came back to work. First on team acts, then once again on the show. This time judges watched shows from Wisconsin Rapids Aqua Skiers then Capital City Ski Team. We wrapped up the weekend

with another judges critique and the teams were ready to face the competition in Wausau.

We have some new ideas on the horizon for Ski Camp 1995. If we get enough volunteers, we may offer ski camp at two sites. One in the north, and one in the south. This would allow up to six teams to attend ski camp. In order for your team to attend ski camp, you will need to volunteer and serve on the WWSF committee. Your team will also need to attend Think Tank. Teams with the highest percentage of attendance at Think Tank will get the first chance to go. You will also have to fill out the Ski Camp Registration form and get it to me no later than March 1, 1995. Please have your show director enclose a letter stating what goals your team will wish to accomplish at ski camp.

If you have questions concerning Show Ski Camp, please call me at (608) 755-0405. Applications and letters can be mailed to Cathy Luiting, 1419 Linden Ave., Janesville, WI 53545.

We look forward to seeing you at Show Ski Camp!

Cathy Luiting
Show Representative

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THINK TANK XIX

The Think Tank committee has already begun the planning stages for Think Tank XIX which will once again be held at the Stevens Point Holiday Inn on March 3, 4, & 5, 1995. If you have never attended Think Tank, now is the time to start planning for 1995. If you attended Think Tank last year, you know how quickly the Stevens Point Holiday Inn fills up, please make your reservations early! We have 100 rooms reserved at other area hotels again this year, but those will also fill up quickly.

Last year we asked attendees to fill out a questionnaire concerning Think Tank areas that need improvement. The Think Tank Committee spent hours sorting through all of the suggestions and this year we hope to accommodate many of your ideas.

One of the most common suggestions that attendees had was to redo the schedule. This year's schedule will be different than past years. The same types of clinics will be offered, but with a new approach. We will also be asking more instructors to prepare handouts for you to take home. This should help with the information overflow may of you are experiencing.

As for the week cold water showers in the morning, the hotel says too many of the attendees are showering at the same time in the morning. (I bet if you get up at the same time as Skip, you will avoid the cold shower).

This year the Think Tank Committee is planning more forms of entertainment throughout the weekend. We will be putting together some (fun) competitive games for team and individual prizes. More details will come in the next issue of "The Wisconsin Water Skier."

Looking for something to do that weekend? We will once again be looking for people to volunteer a few hours of their time and help the WWSE. We will need door monitors, ticket takers, raffle and lotto ticket sellers, people to introduce clinic speakers, security, registration help, and miscellaneous odds and ends jobs. Please help us out and volunteer!

Is your team looking to buy or sell some used costumes? We will once again have space available. Plan now, get your inventory or money together. We will also need someone to run this booth, if you are interested, have your team rep contact the Think Tank committee.

If you have any suggestions for new clinics, or ideas on how to change current clinics, please don't hesitate to call. I can be reached at (608) 755-0405.

In the next issue of "The Wisconsin Water Skier" you will find all the information you will need to register for Think Tank. In the mean time, make your travel plans and hotel reservations. When you call the Stevens Point Holiday Inn do not use the 800 number, they will tell you the hotel is booked. Instead use (715) 341-1340. Please tell the reservationist you are with the Wisconsin Water Ski Federation.

With the help of all the members of the WWSE, we can make Think Tank XIX the most successful event yet. We look forward to seeing you at another record Think Tank.

Cathy Euting
Think Tank Chair

Gary Damp
Think Tank Co-Chair



★ HALL OF FAME ★

JEAN MATTHISEN AND BRUCE NEVIN INDUCTED INTO HALL OF FAME



Jean Matthisen and Bruce Nevin were inducted into the Wisconsin Water Ski Hall of Fame at the ceremony at Tommy Bartlett's in Wisconsin Dells this past August.

Jean was recognized for her pioneering accomplishments in barefoot skiing, while Bruce was recognized for his many accomplishments in traditional skiing. Both skiers were warmly received by the crowd as they were introduced by Mack Roberts, the master of ceremonies.

Also in attendance were Hall of Fame members Allen Bubolz, Jack Lukas, and Dick Matthisen. Tommy Bartlett was

with us in spirit only, as he was resting from his previous day celebration of his 80th birthday.

A highlight after the induction ceremony, was the invitation to tour the Tommy Bartlett memorabilia. Thanks Keith.

A special thanks to all of the committee for putting the ceremony together and to all the skiers who came to help us honor Jean and Bruce.

Bob Marx
Hall of Fame

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WISCONSIN STATE BAREFOOT TOURNAMENT

July 9th and 10th were the dates slated to be the Wisconsin State Barefoot Tourney. Well, few if any, thought only one day would be needed to run the Premier State Barefoot Tournament in the Nation.

With only 26 entrants (20 Wisconsin, 6 Out of State) it took a mere 3 hours for each of the three divisions. Jump finished by noon, slalom by 3:15 and tricks were done at 6:30 p.m.

Wham Bang - Tourney over. It really makes us wonder about the future of Wisconsin Barefooting? For the first 30 years of competition barefooting, Wisconsin was always #1 in the USA.

In the 1960's, barefoot endurance was the thing, held mainly at Rest Lake in Manitowish Waters, sponsored by the Skiing Skeeters.

Then in the 1970's, start methods were added as well as a few tricks (tumble, turns, etc.) and the numbers continued to grow.

Then, 1978 ushered in the new era of Barefoot Tournaments, with Wake Crossing, Tricks and Start Methods. Tournaments were held at Eagle River (Chain Skimmers), Twin Lakes (Aquanuts), Manitowish Waters (Skiing Skeeters) Lodi (Isthmus Ski Team), Neosho Pond and Waukesha (Badgerland and Janesville (Aqua Jays & Badgerland).

In 1986, jump was added. Start methods were tacked onto the tricks division. Through virtually each of these era's the skier involvement steadily increased.

What is so baffling is the tremendous drop that 1994 brought us. From 62 entrants in 1993 (our best years in the late 80's were pushing 100 entrants) all the way down to 26 in '94. Why?

If you can explain this, please send me your thoughts - more importantly if you have any idea that offer a solution to the "declining enrollment", lets hear from you. We want Wisconsin once again, to flourish in the sport of which it gave birth... Competitive Barefoot Water Skiing!

Following is the list of state winners. If you have any questions regarding Competitive Foot'n - call or write me.

Mike Gissibl
W15920 Menomonee Ave. #206 - Menomonee Falls, WI 53151
(414) 253-0965

SLALOM/First	Second	Third
Girls - Heidi Otterholt		
Women III - Barb Knight		
Boys - Ryan Trout	Aaron Rowley	Jason Schacht
Men I - Gary Smith	Bryan Huls	
Men II - Terry Schuler	Rod Negus	Mike Arnstad
Men III - Tom Rowley	Jim Sluka	Glenn Knight
Men V - Bob Mueller	Russ Boerner	
Novice - Scott Stouffer		

TRICKS/First	Second	Third
Girls - Heidi Otterholt		
Women III - Barb Knight		
Boys - Ryan Trout	Joel Trough	Aaron Rowley
Men I - Gary Smith	Bryan Huls	Danuy Rau
Men II - Mike Arnstad	Terry Schuler	Rod Negus
Men III - Tom Rowley	Jim Sluka	Glenn Knight
Men V - Bob Mueller	Russ Boerner	
Novice - Scott Stouffer		

JUMP / First	Second	Third
Boys - Ryan Trout	Joel Trout	Jason Schacht
Men II - Mike Schoenke		
Men III - Gary Schacht	Tom Rowley	
Men IV - Mike Gissibl		
Men V - Bob Mueller		

OVERALL STATE CHAMPIONS

- Girls - Heidi Otterholt
- Women III - Barb Knight
- Boys - Ryan Trout
- Men I - Gary Smith
- Men II - Mike Schoenke
- Men III - Tom Rowley
- Men IV - Mike Gissibl
- Men V - Bob Mueller
- Novice - Scott Stouffer

1994 NATIONAL SHOW SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS

TEAM PLACEMENT

(1) Little Crow Ski Team	2034
(2) Rock Aqua Jays	2015
(3) Badgerland Show Ski Team	1996
(4) Ski Broncos	1881
(5) Aquanuts Water Shows	1877
(6) Wonder Lake	1838
(7) Backwater Gamblers	1834
(8) Lauderdale Aqua Skiers	1614
(9) Waterboard Warriors	1608
(10) Madison Water Ski Show Team	1495
(11) Minnelska (Whitewater)	1457
(12) Capital City	1455
(13) Aqua Skiers (WI Rapids)	1426
(14) Five Seasons Ski Team	1192

SPECIAL AWARDS

Best Ballet	Backwater Gamblers	399
Best Barefoot	Backwater Gamblers	399
Best Jump	Little Crow	416
Best Dock & Equip.	Little Crow	423
Best Pick-up crew	Little Crow	426
Best Tow Boat Crew	Little Crow	859
Best Announcer:	Rock Aqua Jays	1095



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LAMBS FARM WATER SKI SHOW TOURNAMENT

JUNE 19, 1994 LIBERTYVILLE, IL

TEAM AWARDS

Rock Aqua Jays	2040
Badgerland	1961
Twin Lakes Aquanubs	1869
Backwater Gamblers	1669
Ski Broncs	1588
Minneiska (Whitewater)	1559
Lauderdale Aqua Skiers	1448
Wonder Lake Ski Team	1385

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Dock & Equip.	Rock Aqua Jays	255
Pick-Up Boat	Rock Aqua Jays	250
Tow Boat Driving	Rock Aqua Jays/Twin Lakes	515/515
Announcing	Badgerland	615
Barefoot	Badgerland	255
Showmanship	Rock Aqua Jays	725
High Ind. Club Act	Badgerland	270

WAUSAQUA INVITATIONAL TUNE-UP '94

JUNE 25-26, 1994 WAUSAU, WI

TEAM AWARDS

Division I	
Wonder Lake Water Ski Team	1988
Madison Water Ski Show Team	1767
Minneiska Ski Team	1701
Waterboard Warriors	1587
Aqua Skiers	1417
Shermalot Water Ski Team	1370

Division II	
Eau Claire Ski Sprites	1710
Capital City Ski Team	1422
Browns Lake Aquaducks	1119
Wausauqua	844
Bald Eagle Show Team	793

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Division I		
Dock & Equip.	Wonder Lake	255
Pick-up Boat	Wonder Lake	260
Tow Boat Driving	Wonder Lake	598
Announcing	Wonder Lake	650
Showmanship	Wonder Lake	735

Division II		
Dock & Equip.	Eau Claire	225
Pick-up Boat	Eau Claire	215
Tow Boat Driving	Eau Claire	435
Announcing	Eau Claire	525
Showmanship	Eau Claire	630

MIDWEST REGIONAL SHOW TOURNAMENT

JULY 9-10, 1994 ROCKFORD, IL

TEAM AWARDS

Division I	
Wonder Lake Ski Team	2039
Backwater Gamblers	2005
Ski Broncs	1944
Madison Water Ski Show Team (out of region)	1724

Division II	
Five Seasons Ski Team	1577
Illinois River Skiers	1300
Waterhawks Ski Team	1259
Kusto H20 Ski Team	1160

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Division I		
Barefoot	Wonder Lake Ski Team	226
Ballet	Backwater Gamblers	238
Dock & Equip.	Wonder Lake Ski Team	255
Pick-up Boat	Backwater Gamblers	250
Boat Driving	Ski Broncs	525
Announcing	Backwater Gamblers	680
High Individual Club Act	Wonder Lake (1st Pyramid)	260

Division II		
Barefoot	Five Seasons Ski Team	191
Ballet	Five Seasons Ski Team	179
Dock & Equip.	Five Seasons Ski Team	195
Pick-up Boat	Five Seasons Ski Team	165
Boat Driving	Five Seasons Ski Team	400
Announcing	Five Seasons Ski Team	480
High Individual Club Act	Five Seasons Ski Team	199



"No Face Plant For Me"

WISCONSIN STATE WATER SKI SHOW TOURNAMENT HISTORY SHEET

DATE & SIDE INFORMATION

28th Annual - July 15, 16 & 17, 1994
Lake Waubesa, Wisconsin Rapids
Hosted by: Wis. Rapids Aqua Skiers;
Bob Marx - Tournament Chairman

OFFICIALS:

Chief Judge: Sam Casey
Chief Scorer: Mike Mecha
Scoring Judges: Larry Connor, Cam McNeill, Jack Lukes,
Bob Southard, Sherm Schraft, Nick Ghiloni, Gary Stout, Tom
Ghiloni, Barb Taugner, Jan Thomas & Duane Snow.
Scorers: Sue Connor, Robin Richter, Nancy & Jim Lauzon,
Jan Thomas & Barb Snow.
Safety Director: Steve Haner; Asst. S.D.: Jim Babcock
Official Timer: Chuck Thomas
Announcer: Mark Roberts
Staging Marshall: Mike Stark

RESULTS / AWARDS

Division I	Points	
1st Badgerland	2143	
2nd Rock Aqua Jays	1996	
3rd Aquanets	1866	
4th Madison Water Ski	1686	
5th Lauderdale	1595	
6th Minneiska	1572	
7th Aqua Skiers	1567	
8th Waterboard Warriors	1535	
9th Capitol City	1519	
10 Shermalot	1335	
Division II	Points	
1st Twin Bridge	1453	
2nd Wausauga	1417	
3rd Ski Cats	1337	
4th Ski Sprites	1316	
5th Webfooters	1242	
6th Aqua Ducks	1093	
7th Chain Skimmers	935	
Division III	Points	
1st Chain Skiers	1151	
2nd River City	1023	
Award	Team	Points
Best Dock & Equip.	I Badgerland	436
	II Ski Cats	327
	III River City	153
Best Pickup/Safety Boat:	I Badgerland	425
	II Twin Bridge	343
	III River City/Chain Skiers	140
Best Boat Driving:	I Badgerland	895
	II Twin Bridge	655
	III Chain Skiers	290
Best Announcing:	I Badgerland	1085
	II Wausauga	740
	III Chain Skiers	341

Best Ballet Line:	Badgerland	389
Highest Barefoot Act:	Badgerland	423
Most Original Act:	Webfooters Tennessee Roll	*
Tommy Bartlett Clown Award:		No Award

WISCONSIN'S THIRD ANNUAL INDIVIDUAL EVENTS COMPETITION

This summer, at the Wisconsin State Show Tournament in Wisconsin Rapids, the 3rd Annual Wisconsin State Event's Competition was held.

The event consisted of three areas of individual competition: **FREESTYLE JUMPING • SWIVEL SKIING • DOUBLES.**

Freestyle Jumping

(3) individuals competed in the Freestyle Jumping event.

1st Place = Jon DeBelak	584.90 points
2nd Place = Todd Renn	528.35 points
3rd Place = Scott Susek	452.45 points

Swivel Skiing

(12) individuals competed in the Swivel Skiing event.

1st Place = Kristen Heilman	15.40 points
2nd Place = Rachelle Suslick	14.23 points
3rd Place = Jenny Rezin	13.90 points

Other competitors were Sue Jacobson, Carrie Michael, Kathleen Kroul, Laura Bernstein, Jessica Ogden, Nicole Bokos, Sarah Maternack, Shari Hahn, and Rene Wadnell.

Double Competition

(5) Couples competed in the Doubles Skiing event.

1st Place = Kristen Heilman/Erich Parpart	13.27
2nd Place = Shannon Giese/Marty Campbell	13.50
3rd Place = Stacey Connolly/Kevin Michael	13.23

Other competitors were Kelly Czuchowicz/Dave Stock and Amanda Anderson/Mark Anderson.

A special Thank you goes out to Jeff Thomson of Fort Fremont Marine and Ski Brendella for sponsoring this first time event.

Plans are already underway for the 1995 event, to again be held in conjunction with the Wisconsin State Show Tournament, July 14th, 15th, and 16th.



"Are Our Boyfriends Watching?"

Past National Show Ski Champions

Top three places since inception of the tournament in 1975

1975 ♦ Janesville, Wisconsin

- 1st Capital City – Madison, Wisc.
- 2nd Chain Skimmers – Eagle River, Wisc.
- 3rd Hodag Water Skiers – Rhinelander, Wisc.

1976 ♦ Janesville, Wisconsin

- 1st Capital City – Madison, Wisc.
- 2nd Chain Skimmers – Eagle River, Wisc.
- 3rd Hodag Water Skiers – Rhinelander, Wisc.

1977 ♦ Janesville, Wisconsin

- 1st Capital City – Madison, Wisc.
- 2nd Rock Aqua Jays – Janesville, Wisc.
- 3rd Aquanuts – Twin Lakes, Wisc.

1978 ♦ Janesville, Wisconsin

- 1st Capital City – Madison, Wisc.
- 2nd Aquanuts – Twin Lakes, Wisc.
- 3rd Rock Aqua Jays – Janesville, Wisc.

1979 ♦ DuQuoin, Illinois

- 1st Rock Aqua Jays – Janesville, Wisc.
- 2nd Capital City – Madison, Wisc.
- 3rd Aquanuts – Twin Lakes, Wisc.

1980 ♦ DuQuoin, Illinois

- 1st Capital City – Madison, Wisc.
- 2nd Rock Aqua Jays – Janesville, Wisc.
- 3rd Minneiska Ski Team – Whitewater, Wisc.

1981 ♦ Janesville, Wisconsin

- 1st Rochester Ski Club – Rochester, Minn.
- 2nd Wausau Water Ski Shows – Wausau, Wisc.
- 3rd Chain Skimmers – Eagle River, Wisc.

1982 ♦ Janesville, Wisconsin

- 1st Aquanuts – Twin Lakes, Wisc.
- 2nd Rock Aqua Jays – Janesville, Wisc.
- 3rd Silver Lake – Fenton, Mich.

1983 ♦ Janesville, Wisconsin

- 1st Aquanuts – Twin Lakes, Wisc.
- 2nd Rock Aqua Jays – Janesville, Wisc.
- 3rd Silver Lake – Fenton, Mich.

1984 ♦ Moline, Illinois

- 1st Aquanuts – Twin Lakes, Wisc.
- 2nd Rock Aqua Jays – Janesville, Wisc.
- 3rd Minneiska Ski Team – Whitewater, Wisc.

1985 ♦ Janesville, Wisconsin

- 1st Rock Aqua Jays – Janesville, Wisc.
- 2nd Aquanuts – Twin Lakes, Wisc.
- 3rd George's Ski & Social Club – Odessa, Fla.

1986 ♦ Janesville, Wisconsin

- 1st Rock Aqua Jays – Janesville, Wisc.
- 2nd Aquanuts – Twin Lakes, Wisc.
- 3rd Ski Broncs – Rockford, Ill.

1987 ♦ Rockford, Illinois

- 1st Rock Aqua Jays – Janesville, Wisc.
- 2nd Badgerland – Merton, Wisc.
- 3rd Aquanuts – Twin Lakes, Wisc.

1988 ♦ Janesville, Wisconsin

- 1st Rock Aqua Jays – Janesville, Wisc.
- 2nd Ski Broncs – Rockford, Ill.
- 3rd Aquanuts – Twin Lakes, Wisc.

1989 ♦ Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin

- 1st Rock Aqua Jays – Janesville, Wisc.
- 2nd Badgerland – Merton, Wisc.
- 3rd Backwater Gamblers – Rock Island, Ill.

1990 ♦ Janesville, Wisconsin

- 1st Rock Aqua Jays – Janesville, Wisc.
- 2nd Badgerland – Merton, Wisc.
- 3rd Backwater Gamblers – Rock Island, Ill.

1991 ♦ Janesville, Wisconsin

- 1st Ski Broncs – Loves Park, Ill.
- 2nd Rock Aqua Jays – Janesville, Wisc.
- 3rd Backwater Gamblers – Rock Island, Ill.

1992 ♦ Janesville, Wisconsin

- 1st Badgerland – Merton, Wisc.
- 2nd Rock Aqua Jays – Janesville, Wisc.
- 3rd Ski Broncs – Loves Park, Ill.

1993 ♦ Janesville, Wisconsin

- 1st Rock Aqua Jays – Janesville, Wisc.
- 2nd Badgerland – Merton, Wisc.
- 3rd Aquanuts – Twin Lakes, Wisc.

WANTED

Please send any articles about waterskiing, Notices of Boating Ordinances or Proposed Ordinances on DNR Violations (especially boating/waterskiing type of violations) you may happen to come across in your local newspaper or magazines to: Phylis Biever, 1965 Rambling Lane Drive, Rhineland, WI 54501.

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NEWSP

KWAHAMOT WATER SKI CLUB

Our Kwahamot Water Ski Club of Tomahawk, Wisconsin has just completed our 34th season entertaining the residents and visitors of the Tomahawk area. Char Seaton, Director of the Tomahawk Regional Chamber of Commerce, said that the Kwahamots are a prominent tourist attraction in the Tomahawk area.

Our season began Memorial Day weekend and ended with our Traditional Labor Day picnic. Our shows were performed every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday night at 8:00 p.m.

Through out our season the Kwahamots perform many special shows. Our water ski show is the kick off event for the Annual Lions Pow Wow Days 4th of July celebration. On the 4th of July we participated in the Lions Pow Wow Days parade, building our three high pyramid through out the parade route. Afterwards we performed our annual 4th of July show. This years show for the first time in 19 years included our eight man jump team going over our jump.

Through out the summer our club as a community service and in partnership with our area parks and recreation department offer ski lessons to area residents and guests staying in our area. This year 40 young people learned to ski here at our ski site.

July 23, 1994 was the 26th annual Kwahamot Timber Shrine Club Benefit water ski show. The proceeds went to the Shriners Hospitals and Burn Centers. This year the Zor Indian Shriners group announced that they as a club had donated \$100.00 in the the Kwahamots name to their 100 Million Dollar Club in appreciation of our clubs many years of service to the Shriners Hospitals and Burn Centers.

July 23, 1994 was also the 4th annual Tomahawk Fly in. The Kwahamots provided assistance to the Friends of the Tomahawk Airport, in addition, to displaying our boats for



their guests to see.

The past few years have brought many changes to the Kwahamots Water Ski Club. Last year with the help of the City of Tomahawk and other area businesses, the Kwahamots built a new building at our ski site. The Chamber of Commerce donates \$1000.00 each year from the city room tax money to help pay the mortgage of the new building. This is one example of the commitment the community has to the Kwahamots.

The officers for the 1994 - 1995 ski show year will be: Mike Biever, President; Todd Wenninger, Vice-President; Nikki Dittmer, Secretary; Mike Hilgendorf, Treasurer.

Well, our season has ended. Our skiers have returned to school and college, some will be leaving for a few years as they enter the armed services, the river will be freezing in a couple of months. That does not mean that Tomahawk is closed. Its a great time to come and see our area (finally, water skiers get to vacation). We have great fall colors, when the snow falls our cross country trails and snowmobile trails are beautiful and with spring comes the wild flowers, so come on up and visit us in Tomahawk. Char, at Tomahawk Chamber of Commerce, 1-800-569-2160 would be happy to send you information about our area.

Hope to see you soon.



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TUNE-UP '94 SHOW SKI TOURNAMENT

The Wonder Lake Water Ski Team of Wonder Lake, Illinois placed first in Division I at Tune-up '94 with a grand total score of 1,988 points. Wonder Lake's Show theme was based on the age old story of the feud between the Hatfield's and the McCoy's. Wonder Lake made a clean sweep of the box scores with the highest scores in dock and equipment personnel, pick-up boat crews, tow boat driving, announcing, showmanship and overall show.

Placing first in Division II and with the second highest total score of 11 teams competing on Tune-up '94 were the Ski Sprites of Eau Claire, Wisconsin. The Ski Sprites scored 1710 points. Like Wonder Lake, the Ski Sprites swept the Division II box scores.

Finishing 2nd in Division I with 1707 points was the Madison Water Ski Show Team, Madison had the 2nd highest scores for its pick-up boat crews and had the 2nd highest scoring individual act as they re-enacted the Badgers Triumphant 1994 Rose Bowl Season.

Placing a very close 3rd with 1701 points were the defending champion, Minneiska Show Team of Whitewater, Wisconsin, with their version of Robin Hood/Sword in the Stone. Minneiska had the 2nd highest ratings for its dock and equipment personnel, its tow boat drivers, its announcing, its overall show and its showmanship.

The Waterboard Warriors of Green Bay, Wisconsin had a very respectable 4th place showing in Division I with 1587 points.

A 3rd place rating for their dock and equipment personnel and the 3rd highest individual act highlighted the Waterboard Warriors performance.

The other teams competing at Tune-Up '94 in division I were the Aqua Skiers of Wisconsin Rapids with 1417 points and the Shermatol Water Ski Show team of Rome, Wisconsin with 1370.

The Capitol City Ski Team of Madison placed 2nd in Division II with 1422 points. Also competing in Division were the Wausau Water Ski Show Team of Wausau and the Bald Eagle Water Ski Team of White Bear Lake, Minnesota.

Tune-up '94 was the third largest Show Ski Tournament in the United States in 1994 with an abundance of teams competing. Six of these teams went on to compete at the 1994 Show National Tournament in Rockford.

Duane Snow served as Chief Judge of Tune-Up '94 with Chuck and Jan Thomas, Bob Southard, Barb Taugner and Deb Alexander serving as scoring judges. Jim Babcock was the Safety Director and was assisted by Gene Damp. Brad Springbrum got his first tournament as Chief Scorer under his belt. Barb Snow served as a scorer, Andy Snow as time keeper, Kathy Lenard as Stating Marshall and Mark Enselman as master of ceremonies. Kay Babcock, Nancy Fredel, Jayme Lang, Sandra Lindell and Polly Nemeec were the judges secretaries.

Major Sponsors of Tune-up '94 were the Wausau Inn & Conference Center, County Market, Mello Yello, and the Wausau Eagles Club.

Tune-up '94 was organized and hosted by the Wausau Water Ski Show Team with assistance from the Browns Lake Aqua Duck Ski Team.

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GREETINGS SKIERS . . . LET'S TALK ABOUT, "THE THEME!"

For years a well skied water ski exhibition would win tournaments left and right. Then shows slowly transitioned into the addition of music to these exhibitions creating more entertainment value to each act.

Next we saw the addition of stages and backdrops to the shows to give spectators a feeling of being there while watching. The combination of these three items produced a very good water ski show that was interesting to watch. — But!

Show were prime for the one ingredient to make them cook as an overall, well produced, entertaining water ski show that people wanted to come and see again and again. It was, "THE THEME."

Boom! The race was on to, "Themesville." While some themes seemed to fit water ski shows very well, others, well you had to have a vivid imagination to tie the theme to the show. It took a couple of years for show directors to tune in to what themes worked with ski shows. Some still haven't.

For instance, the light, easy to follow, upbeat themes have an advantage over the heavy or deeply involved theme with lots of script and dialogue to follow. Consider some of these questions when you are considering a theme:

- A.) Is this theme easy to follow?
- B.) How difficult will costumes be to create?
- C.) How much script/dialogue will be needed for the announcer/skits?
- D.) Will music/sound be easy to find?

E.) Will backdrops/props be easy to assemble and build?

Obviously, there are more questions about the theme, but these few questions will weed out many potential themes. All of these questions will lead to a theme that's easily identified, fun to watch and creative.

When your team enters a show tournament, "the judges," recognize your efforts regarding your theme. For instance, how long it takes to set your theme up, does the music fit, do costumes compliment the theme, and does the script coordinate the theme and what is being skied?

If your club chooses to ski to a particular theme, be sure to give that theme lots of thought and talk amongst other team members. Once your show is on the water, however, the only people who should be avidly concerned about the theme are, the show director, the announcer, and the sound crew. The skiers need only concern themselves with the job at hand, — to water ski the best they can!

Remember to keep your theme light, easy to follow, full of energy, and entertaining. Then your show will be fun to ski and watch.

Ski Ya
Duane Snow
NSSA Senior Judge

Congratulations Champions

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CHERYL BERMEO ANSWERS YOUR SWIVEL QUESTIONS

Recently, we combined a list of the most asked swivel questions and sent them down to Cheryl Bermeo. For those who have never met Cheryl, she is a long time show skier for Cypress Gardens, she also runs a ski school specializing in swivel. The following are her responses to your questions.

Q: My 8 year old daughter wants to learn to swivel. Our team owns a swivel that is full size. Is it OK for her to start on this, and if she shows real commitment, purchase a swivel that is more for her size?

CHERYL: Yes, it should be OK if you are testing just to see if she is interested. Although it will be difficult since the ski will be bigger and heavier than her. Once she shows interest, buy a small board. Usually, you can find small boards that other young girls have outgrown. As far as the binder is concerned, buy a regular binder and re-adjust the front rubber toe piece. You can make it smaller. Do avoid cutting the excess off (unless it gets in the way) so when she grows you can put the toe piece back to its regular size.

Q: I just bought my first swivel, now I need a rope and handle. What should I be looking for?

CHERYL: First make sure you know the difference between a swivel and trick handle. The tricks braid is much heavier and the strap may have a heel hold on it. You do not want that. The swivel rope should be light by using no more than a three rope braid. A double is perfect. The rubber from the handle should come down the sides about an inch so you don't get rope burns on the sides of your hands. Make sure the "V" is even on both sides and that there is no large break in the "V". The canvas toe strap shapes nicely to the foot, although most beginners find it rough on the foot. If so, some of the canvas straps come with a soft, thin material on the inside.

Q: I'm trying to put together my water routine for a show tournament, what things should I be considering?

CHERYL: When putting a routine together, make sure to know the time allowed and practice the patterns with your driver if possible. When thinking of which moves to put in, think VARIETY: Don't do the same move over and over or if you don't have a lot to work with, show different versions of the same move. (E: Flip extend and extend flip.

PRETTY LINES: Straight legs with turnout and pointed toes along with good body positions is a big plus over doing a

move that you made sloppy.

UNIQUENESS: Something that no one sees or rarely sees, yet very nice. (E: Creativity in your transitions (how you get from one move to another), arm or leg movements to go with the theme or music, new moves or a different versions of a common move, dock start or landing.

Try to enter the audience with your face or open side. Do your less appealing moves furthest from the audience. Don't have your patterns out of audience site.

Overall, your routine needs to flow and be uplifting.

Q: I've just started doing a new trick, it doesn't look perfect, but I make it. Should I put it in my routine for shows and tournaments, and hopefully it will start looking better?

CHERYL: I would be careful of what you put in your routine. Habits are hard to break. You may always rely on the sloppy way of making it. If you know it's not pretty, work on it. Perfect it during your practice. You will then be much more constant and feel more confident when you do put it in shows and tournaments.

Q: I just started doing overheads, but I can't make my 180 tricks look good on 360, so I squat to unlock my ski to my overheads. Help, how do I get out of this habit?

CHERYL: The first thing you need to do is learn all you 180 moves on 360. If you jump ahead of yourself you end up in a predicament like this, as well as getting frustrated with learning harder moves. The learning process is done in a progressive manner. You learn one thing and then the next becomes easier.

By squatting down to unlock your binder, you show the audience what you can not do.

Good luck and ski Safe!

Cheryl Bermeo has an instructional swivel tape out. This make a GREAT CHRISTMAS PRESENT! If you are interested, they can be purchased through LAKE ELMO SPORTS. Their phone number is (612) 779-0550, ask for Tom or Karl. If you are interested in personal lessons, come to Think Tank, Cheryl will be instructing the swivel clinics.

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List additional family members (18 yrs. & under)

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Please complete form and mail to:

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KAY BABCOCK, MEMBERSHIP
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Application and renewals are due to Membership by June 1st of each year.