

Toronto Surf Report

1991



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CONTENTS

- 1) SURF NOTES
- 2) SURF STORY
- 3) THE LOCAL SKIM SCENE IN 1990
- 4) LOCAL CONDITIONS
- 5) SKIMBOARDING'S POPULARITY
- 6) CONTEST RESULTS
- 7) WIPEOUTS

(Cover) Jeff Green in full wetsuit, puts up good spray off this large Lake Ontario wave.

(Below) Paul and Dave checking out the surf conditions at Ashbridges Bay.

Surf Notes

By Jeff Green

The popularity of surfing has increased dramatically around the Great Lakes area over the last few years. For example, in the mid-west, Eastern Surfing Association holds at least five surfing contests a year on Lake Michigan. In Toronto this increase in surfing popularity doesn't go unnoticed. For example, in Toronto the number of people who surf Lake Ontario has doubled in the last year. Another example that the surf industry has grown in Toronto is the fact that major surf shops around the city have begun to display and sell surfboards at a greater rate. In fact, one surf shop manager is even considering starting a surfboard rental program. It's obvious that the surfboard industry is on the rise, which means things can only get better for 1991.



Lake Ontario
Surf Fact

Whenever the winds come from the northeast, east, southeast, south or southwest, there is a good chance the waves are large enough to surf.

(Left) Jeff Green and Mike McKenzie surf it out for control of this wave.

(Below) Jam cutting back so he can take this wave down the line.

Both pictures taken at Woodbine Beach.



It was early last spring when I made a deal to fix up and sell a surfboard for someone I thought I knew. I paid a security deposit and took possession of the board assuring him it would sell.

Over the summer months I invited people to see it. They came or called, made promises, but no one ended up buying it. I used the board twice to see how it worked when friends helped me get it to the beach. It was fine but heavy and so long for me to keep, ten feet, so by mid September I called the owner back to tell him about it. I asked him to pick the board up and return my deposit but he refused saying I bought it for the money I gave him. I was tricked into keeping something I had no intention of buying so, I had to think of doing something positive with the board now that it was mine.

Right after I got off the phone I dragged the beast out and considered the possibilities. It was mine but I didn't want it so what could I do? I looked at it for a few minutes then took out the grinder a ground down the outer edge to the foam. I then tore back the glass and resin to expose the sun colored foam. Here was a great opportunity to make my own surfboard.

Over the following week I shaped, painted, and glassed my first surfboard. It was fun to see the reaction of friends when they saw what had become of the old board. It's beautiful and much lighter than the original. The day after I finished making it the winds came up and a friend and I went surfing. A week later winds raged and stirred up four foot down the line waves, I went surfing.

Now I have my own surfboard and am considering making more some day if someone is interested. Psssssst, Hey Buddy, Wanna buy a surfboard?

The Local Skim Scene In 1990

By Jeff Green

1990 was the wildest skim season to date. One reason 1990 was so wild is because of the effort each skimmer made every time the waves were up. Once that skimmer (See Over)

James (a man who feels no temperatures) is out for a skim session in early march.



set his mind to hitting those waves, not even the worst of storms could stop him. It is this flexibility and consistent effort by each and every skimmer that made sessions even on the worst of days fun. Another reason why 1990 was such a great year for skimming is because of the increasing number of days the waves were up. The number of days the waves were up in 1990 doubled, from the previous year. The pictures in this section will give you some idea how wild 1990 was.



(Right) Jam shows great form as he rips up this good sized wave. (Below) Ben Bach goes for some big air.





(Above) Dave Campbell goes all out to complete this ride.

(Below) Sal Orbita rides the roof of this wave. Sal completed this wave by going over the falls and landing on his board successfully.





(Above) Lino rides this wave like he rides all his waves, hardcore. Whenever Lino is at the beach he always gets the other skimmers stoked because of his hardcore style of skimming. (Below) Jam takes full advantage of the warm weather and large waves. This unusual combination of warm weather and large waves hit the Toronto shores for three straight days at the end of August 1990.



Local Conditions

For information on local wave and weather conditions call the Toronto Weather Office at 676-3067

Toronto Surf Report
© 1991 By Jeff Green
and John Morawietz

It's been almost one and one half years since I printed my last skimboard magazine. Since then the popularity of skimboarding has increased dramatically. By not producing a skimboard magazine over this time period, I have been unable to inform the public of how the skim industry in Toronto has skyrocketed. For example, Toronto held it's first "Skimboard Contest" in 1989. The contest was a great success. The following summer Toronto was represented by three locals who competed in the 1990 East Coast Skimboard Championships in Virginia Beach, Virginia. All three skimmers from Toronto finished strong, with Toronto native Ben Bach taking second in his age group. From such outstanding results in both contests, my feeling is skimboarding can only become more popular in 1991.

(Below) The Westbeach Skim Team, made up of Jeff Green, Dennis Marshal and Mike McKenzie.

WEST BEACH SKIM CHALLENGE

Organization: EASTERN SURFING ASSOCIATION, GREAT LAKES DISTRICT
Date: Saturday, September 9, 1989, 9:00am to 3:00pm
Location: Ashbridges Bay Park, Toronto
Weather: Partly Sunny to Cloudy, Air Temp 82 F, 28 C, Water Temp 60-65 F, Winds SW-S 10-15 knots, Waves 0-1 ft.
Sponsors: Special thanks to: WESTBEACH SURF COMPANY LTD., STINGRAY WATER SPORTS- Kitchener, Ontario. SEX WAX. FREE STYLE U.S.A. O'NEILL WETSUITS. BEACH CONCEPTS. BODYGLOVE EYEWEAR. SUNCLOUD. SURFING MAGAZINE. GORDON & SMITH SURFGEAR.

Contest Results: Judging based on the individuals' three best rides in a ten minute heat, using a 0-10 point system, with three separate judges scoring, maximum total 90 pts.

NOVICE SKIMBOARD RESULTS

1. David Longo- Toronto, Ont. 63.0pts.
2. Joergen Kuhn-Toronto, Ont. 58.5pts.
3. Daniel Burnett-Toronto, Ont. 55.0pts.

OPEN FREESTYLE RESULTS

1. Mike McKenzie- "The Rooster" and "The Westbeach"
2. Jeff Green- "The Greener"
3. Dave Campbell- "Biff"

INTERMEDIATE SKIMBOARD RESULTS

1. Mike McKenzie-Toronto, Ont. 69.5pts.
2. Corey Kinney-Toronto, Ont. 69.5pts.
3. Jason Glass 68.0pts.
4. Dennis Hugill-Mississauga, Ont. 57.5pts.
5. Matt Kurrer 48.5pts.

AMATEUR SKIMBOARD RESULTS

1. Dave Campbell-Toronto, Ont. 73.5pts.
2. Dennis Marshal 73.5pts
3. Ben Bach 71.0pts
4. Jeff Green 69.0pts
5. Doug Peppiatt 69.0pts
6. Brent Wilson 67.0pts
7. Damir Kaps-Mississauga, Ont. 65.0pts
8. Chris Hugill 61.5pts

For info on future E.S.A events call Oscar Wolfbrandt at (313)659-2459.





(Above) Ben Bach throwing a nice spray as the curtain on this wave falls.
(Below) Dave Campbell going down the line at high speed.



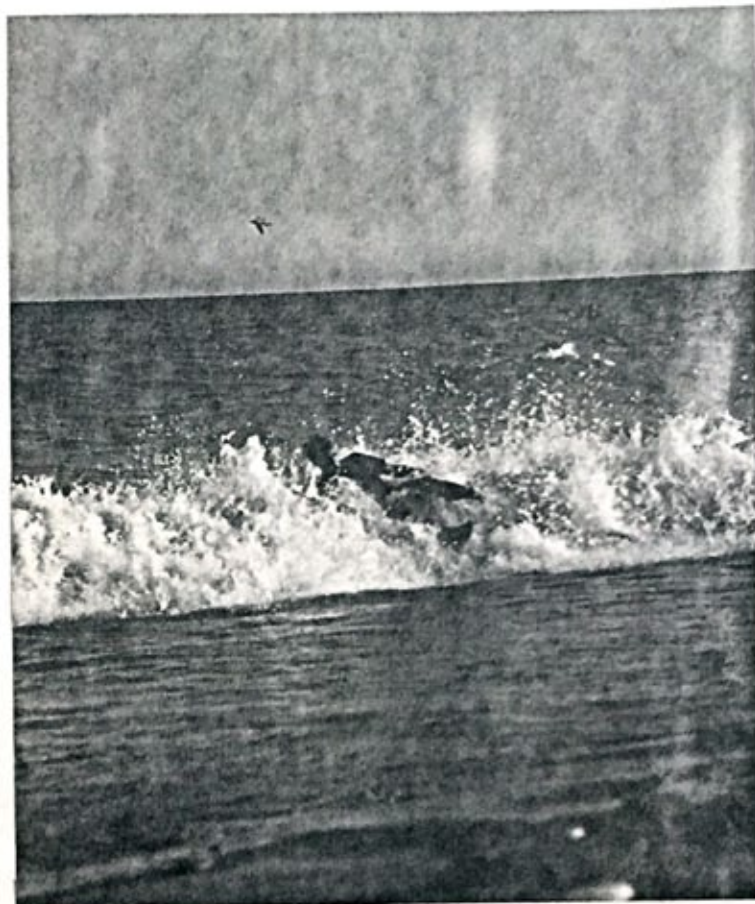


(Above) This shot of Mike McKenzie was taken a few weeks before the E.S.A contest. This practise session like many practise sessions before this one, prepared Mike so well for the contest that he ended up taking first place overall.



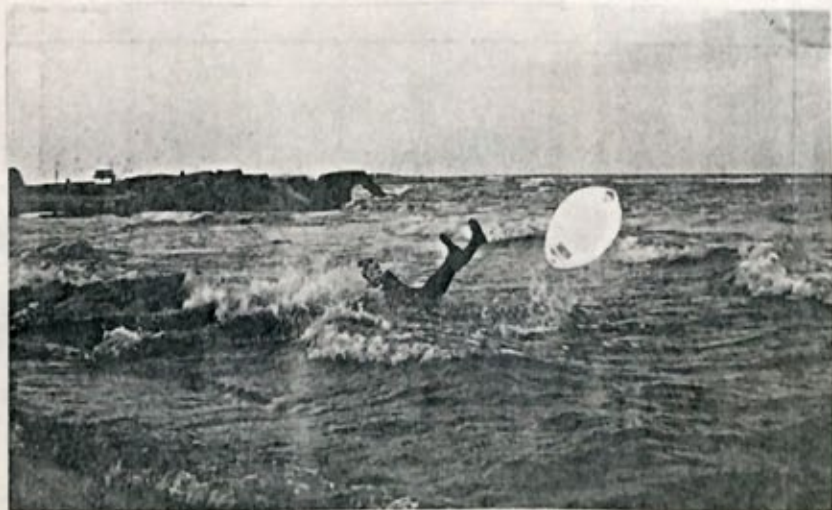
(Above) Jeff Green (left) challenges east coast champion Chuck Stapleford for this wave, during the 1990 East Coast Skimboarding Championships.

(Below) Cory Kinny has to "Flip out" to show everyone just how much he loves skimboarding.



(Above) Mike Mckezie takes the painful way in to shore on this wave. (Left) Jesse Shamata gets frustrated after his wipeout. (Below) Jeff Green lets his board go for a ride of its own.

* If anyone out there has some cool shots of wipeouts that they don't mind sharing with other locals, send original shots of the wipeout to: Jeff Green, 8 Hollis Ave., Scarborough, Ontario, Canada, M1N2C3.





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