

WAVE TEST

PAIPO: PART III • BY SKIP NEWELL

Your face is only inches from the side of a fast green tube . . . you're roaring along inside the curl and breathing the vapors from the very heart of the wave . . . that's what paipos are all about.

To bring this rapidly growing segment of surfing into clearer focus, SURFING Magazine conducted the most comprehensive research and testing program ever attempted.

Performance, design, and specification tests were made both in and out of the water on the contemporary boards available on the market today. The results and evaluations are now available for publication.

Each design performs differently and one may be better for your area and ability, not to mention your pocketbook.

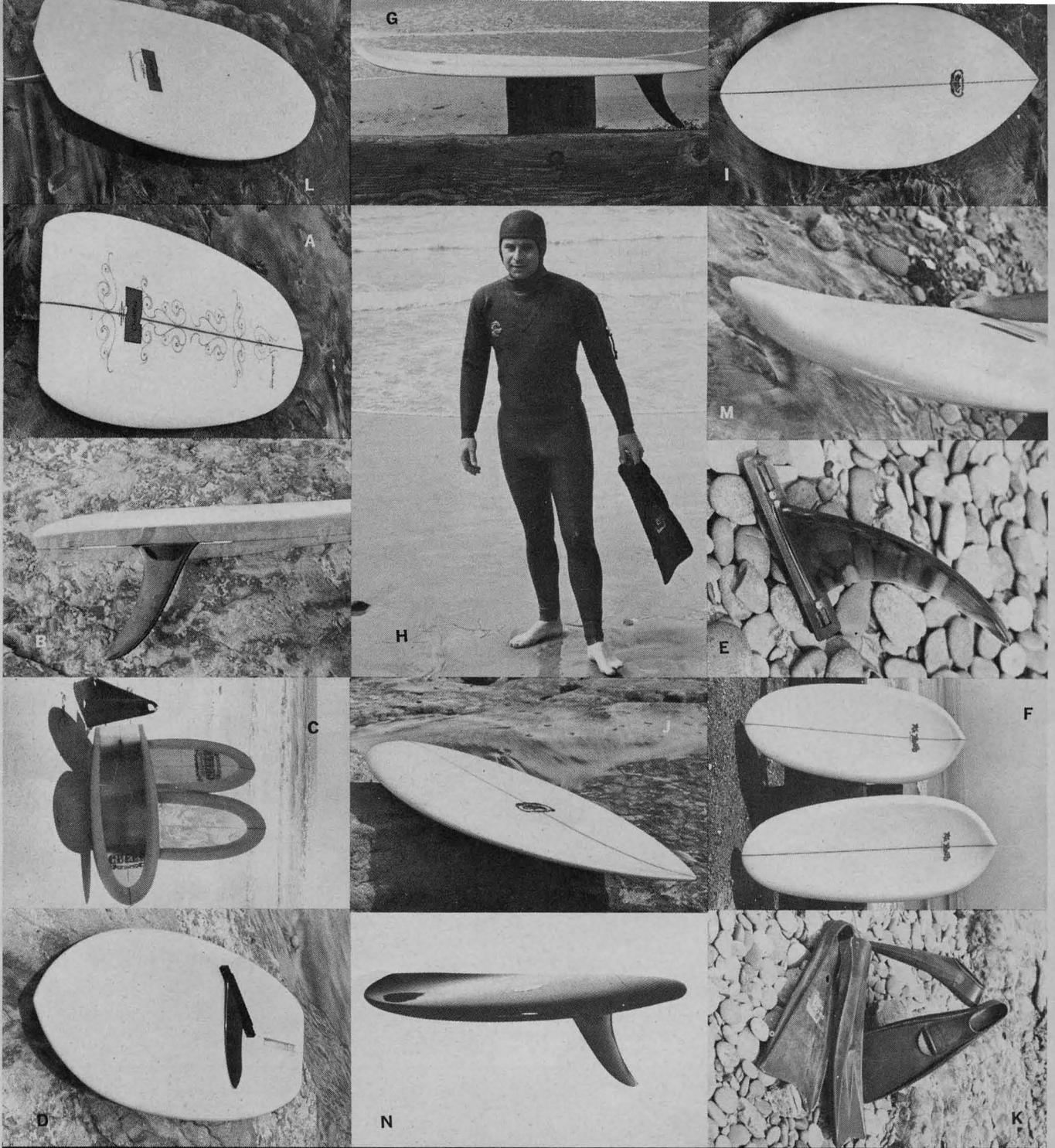
This knee rider is in perfect position and about to be righteously tubed at the Wedge.





A seven foot curling tube seems like ten to twelve feet to this knee rider, who is now praying mightily for speed! Although much shorter and lighter, having less momentum, paipos frequently speed past surfboards on Hawaiian waves. Photo by Alan Rich.

MAKE	MODEL	DIMENSIONS	CONSTRUCTION	GLASS	FIN	SPECIAL FEATURES	PRICE
El Paipo	Spoon 54	54" x 20½" x 1¼"	Foss Foam — ¼" redwood stringer	6 oz. 2 layers on deck	Removable Greenough Stage IV, Wave-lite or Wave glass fin.	Super thin fin box built especially for thin knee riders. Adjustable. Hollow spoon area in deck for knees.	\$75.00
El Paipo	Spoon 48	48" x 20" x 1¼"	Foss Foam — ¼" redwood stringer	6 oz. 2 layers on deck	Same as Spoon 54.	Same as Spoon 54.	\$65.00
Greek	Flex-Spoon	60" x 20 x varying thickness	Clark Foam and laminated glass	8 oz.	Permanent fiberglass fin.	Flexible rear deck section allows flex to alter flow of water past this section for added maneuverability.	\$85.00
Newport Paipo	Knee Vector	60" x 21" x varying thickness	Walker Foam — no stringer	8 oz. silene top and bottom	Permanent or removable fiberglass fin.	Dished spoon deck with divided knee stations and knee patch. Large spoon nose. Broad diamond tail.	\$75.00
Newport Paipo	Rick Newcomb	44" x 21" x 2"	Walker Foam — ⅛ redwood stringer	8 oz. silene top and bottom	Removable Fins Unlimited fin.	Rails drop sharply to wide planing surface. Square tail. Decorative scroll work on deck.	\$58.95
Jack's	Bellyboard	54" x 19½" x 1¾"	Clark Foam — ⅛ redwood	8 oz. deck patch	Permanent fiberglass fin.	Deck patch. Tail pulled in similar to a gun. Sharp nose outline.	\$49.95
Dynamic Pipo	Bellyboard	48" x 18" x 1¾"	Rotation molded polyurethane foam	Linear polyethelene	Removable/with molded-in fin box.	Virtually indestructible. Comes in seven colors. Removable fin.	\$29.95
Hawaiian Surf Products		56" x 20" x 1¼"	Rotation molded polyurethane foam	Ding resistant plastic skin	Removable lexan fin or fiber fill fin.	Spoon deck. Removable fin. Wide planing area at tail. Ding proof and almost indestructible.	\$49.95



A: Newport Paipo/Rick Newcomb Design, works best as a prone board, and features a square tail. B: Newcomb Design has dropped rails and is quite stable. Adjustable fin gives it versatility on all size waves. C: Greek Flex-Spoon is designed for serious knee riders and performs best on 4 foot waves. Minimum floatation, fast, but expensive. D: Dynamic's Paipo is fun, indestructible, and works best as a prone board. Offers molded-in box, removable fin, good for transporting. E: El Paipo Fin Box and Greenough Stage IV Fin. Besides fitting today's thin Paipo design, this combination allows sliding adjustment to suit varying wave condition. F: El Paipo's Spoon 48 (left) and Spoon 54 (right) are thin, light and fast. G: Because of El Paipo's spoon shaped deck plan, it's easy to assume knee position. H: Jack O'Neill's new "Dolphin Suit" was developed especially for body surfers, knee riders, and skin divers. Unlike other surfing wet suits, the Dolphin Suit is virtually a dry suit, with tight rubber cuffs and collar to keep out water. Features waterproof zipper across back which allows step in entry. Some mobility is sacrificed, but it's really dry. I: Jack's Bellyboard utilizes a flat deck contour with outline shape pulled in to a narrow nose and tail. Works well in chop. Can be used as a kneeboard. J: Deck patch for knee riding helps ding problem. The narrow design makes this board highly responsive and sensitive in performance. K: Healthways Cressi-Rondine competition fins and the Voit Viking competition model have the necessary flex and thrust needed for high performance paipo boarding. Enclosed heel gives added foot protection. L: Newport Paipo Knee Vector is long, with lots of floatation. This model has formed knee stations allowing quick and stable position on take-offs. The full, diamond tail affords stability, while the peak of the diamond provides a pivot point for easy turning. M: The Knee Vector utilizes a thick nose area with high rail line for free late drops. N: Hawaiian Surf Product's "Easy Rider" While having the durable qualities of a molded board, retains high performance characteristics thru its contemporary design.

(Note: See OCR readable text on next page.)



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