Homeland Security on the Waterfront

Hyperbaric Facilities

Disaster in the Gulf

NEWS
DIVING MEDICINE
EVENTS
CONTINUING EDUCATION
AND MORE!
Greetings –

Did you hear the news? A deep water oil well blew up off the coast of Louisiana. It is still leaking, or gushing oil, and they can’t shut it off.

April 29 BP officials reported that the leak was between 1,000 and 5,000 barrels a day. On May 14, reports were released that indicate the leak could be as little as 1,000 barrels and go up to over 50,000 barrels a day – that would be 2.1 million gallons a day.

Listening to the news and talking heads on TV it is hard to understand exactly what the problems are or why the accident was not prevented in the first place. But, that is how news is reported these days.

Depending on whom you listen to or read all life as we know it on the planet is going to die. Or, all of the coastal industry, wet lands, recreational and tourist beaches are going to be covered in a mass of tar and sticky weathered oil goop. The effects are going to be seen when the oil or goo hits shore. There are projection maps available that give some graphic imagery of how bad this event could be or get. Go to the NOAA site tracking the Deepwater Horizon Incident, Gulf of Mexico to see or download the forecast maps.

So let’s put some perspective on the news that is being reported. Depending on how bad they want it to seem, they either report the leak in gallons per day or in barrels. A barrel might not be what you think, so here are the units of measure and how they convert.

I still can’t do metric conversions but 1 gallon is equal to 3.785 liters. There are 55 gallons in a drum. There are 42 gallons in a barrel. I looked it up and one barrel is equal to 158.987 liters.

On April 20, 2010, the Deepwater Horizon oil rig, developed a problem, exploded, caught fire, collapsed and sank two days later. Since it was a floating rig, the pipe feeding from the ocean floor went with it. It is not supposed to sink and the pipe is not supposed to bend, fold, break, tear or do it in multiple places. The device that is supposed to stop the flow of oil into the pipe doesn’t seem to work either.

According to the media blitz and the panic it is driving, we are totally screwed. But wait – there’s more.

If we compare the Deepwater Horizon to the mentioned oil spill disasters maybe we can get some perspective on how bad this manmade disaster really is.
In 1979 an oil rig off the coast of Mexico designated \textit{Ixot 1} blew out. It was in only 150’ of water, leaked 30,000 barrels of oil a day and took 9 months to cap. The oil eventually reached a good part of the Texas coast line. This could fall into line with the worst case estimates but we need to remember that the Deepwater Horizon leak is about a mile underwater. If we go to the other end, at 5,000 gallons per day, it will take almost 4½ years to be equivalent.

In 1969 a \textbf{Union Oil rig} blew out off the coast of Santa Barbara, California releasing 4 million gallons of oil (95,258 barrels) that took 8 days to contaminate 40 miles of southern California coastline. Seals, birds, dolphins and indigenous and migratory wild life were killed off in those areas. The flow from the Deepwater Horizon spill at worst case scenario (50,000 gallons a day) will match that in 80 days. At 5,000 gallons a day it will take a little over two years.

In 1989, the \textbf{Exxon Valdez} hit a reef that split the hull of the ship. Around 11 million gallons (261,904 barrels) of oil was released and more that 1,200 miles of coastline was affected. The oil bath killed off sea otters, seals, marine mammals and a quarter million or so seabirds. At 50,000 gallons a day, it will take the spill at the Deepwater Horizon 220 days to match the Valdez spill. At 5,000 gallons a day it will take 6 years.

And let’s not forget the worst oil spill in recorded history. In 1991 Iraqi forces deliberately opened valves or sabotaged oil wells and pipelines in Kuwait when the US took a stand to support the country against an Iraqi invasion. The oil slick in the \textbf{Persian Gulf} was reported to be around 100 miles by 42 miles in size and was 5 inches thick. This was estimated to be around 520 million gallons of oil or 12,380,952 barrels. At 50,000 gallons per day, it will take the Deepwater Horizon 28 years to match the devastation in the Persian Gulf. At 5,000 gallons a day it will take 285 years...

The coastal businesses are going to be hurt. The Mississippi Delta estuaries could be devastated. The marine life in the Guff of Mexico and the birds that migrate to the coastal areas affected could suffer enormous casualty.

They could be right –this could be the beginning of the end of mankind and the world as we know it. But if the release of oil into the Persian Gulf was the largest spill in recorded history ... shouldn’t that part of the world be dead now? How could fish and birds still survive there much less people?

Maybe it is just me but even though I expect this to be an epic disaster before it is over, I am not cashing in my retirement account or stocking up on water and MREs like some did when the calendar changed from 1999 to 2000.

If I am wrong then I will be like the rest of the world – screwed...

Stay Safe,
Mark Phillips
Editor / Publisher
PSDiver Monthly

If you would like to discuss this topic or any other, join our discussion group at: CLICK HERE TO JOIN
Homeland Security on the Waterfront

One key task in securing any jurisdiction, facility or area (such as a waterfront), is to perform a vulnerability assessment to identify potential security gaps and/or shortfalls that need to be mitigated. The Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX), as part of the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium, funded by the Department of Homeland Security/FEMA National Preparedness Directorate, offers no-cost training courses to every jurisdiction in the US in a variety of homeland security topics. Waterfront vulnerability assessment is taught in the Enhanced Threat and Risk Assessment course.

Ports and waterfront areas pose special challenges because access to the facilities from the water is typically open to all watercraft, with limited (if any) standoff or restricted access. This is particularly true for public boat ramps, pier areas that are tourist attractions, and commercial marinas. Use of floating barriers, including those capable of stopping high-speed surface craft, has become more common at military sites. Adding complexity to the waterfront protection problem is that attacks can come via ground, surface watercraft, from the air, and from below the water’s surface.

High speed surface craft approaching from the waterfront pose a significant threat because of the extremely limited time to respond after detection, and the craft’s ability to carry a large payload. Floating barriers are the most effective existing method to delay and deny access to high speed craft.
The U.S. Coast Guard Maritime Safety and Security Teams (MSST), operating at critical U.S. ports, are equipped with Integrated Anti-Swimmer Systems that include components for all phases of the deter, detect, delay, assess, respond process. Waterfront security is a complex challenge that requires significant investments in personnel, organization, equipment, training and exercises to be effective, however as with many areas of homeland security, coordination between local emergency responders and those that live and work in waterfront areas is the most important first step.

As part of the Enhanced Threat and Risk Assessment (ETRA) course, students perform a basic site assessment on one or more facilities (buildings, parks, or waterfront areas). Public safety divers interested in training in how to perform vulnerability assessments are encouraged to attend a no-cost ETRA if one is offered in their jurisdiction, or recommend to their jurisdiction emergency managers that they contact TEEX to schedule a waterfront-specific ETRA course delivery. These courses are open to public and private sector participants from all of the 18 Critical Infrastructure/Key Resources sectors.

For more information:  http://www.teex.org/ogt
Karl Rehn  Karl.rehn@teexmail.tamu.edu
Training Manager - Threat and Risk Courses
Texas Engineering Extension Service
http://www.teex.org

Drowning is island's first of season
http://www.galvnews.com/story.lasso?ewcd=d2ba45db600efee0
March 29, 2010 By Nick Cenegy Contributor

GALVESTON — A Houston man died Saturday evening and another was taken to the hospital after the two were caught in a rip current, marking an earlier-than-usual first drowning victim for Galveston’s tourist season, authorities said.

Mehmood Zeghan and Asim Hyder, both 19 and from Houston, were visiting the beach Saturday along with about a dozen college-age friends, Galveston Island Beach Patrol Chief Peter Davis said.

Witnesses told authorities Zeghan and Hyder waded into choppy water from the beach and began swimming near the 51st Street jetty. About 6:36 p.m. bystanders called authorities because the two men appeared to be in trouble, Davis said.

A rip current swept the men west down the shoreline, toward the rocks of the jetty as both struggled to keep afloat, witnesses reported. As the
current dragged them nearer to the rocks of the jetty, a bystander visiting from Greenwood, Ind., managed to open a safety box nearby and pull out a throw rope and circular buoy.

Heaving the buoy into the water, he put it within reach of Hyder. The young man grabbed ahold, and the bystander pulled him up on the rocks. Before the man could gather the rope for a second throw, however, Zeghan was swept out of reach, Davis said.

Within a few minutes, Beach Patrol and the Galveston Fire Department arrived and used personal watercraft, a human chain and rescue divers to look for Zeghan. After a 35-minute search, firefighters discovered his body washed well down shore near the 47th Street jetty. Firefighters started CPR and handed over Zeghan to EMS. He was pronounced dead en route to the University of Texas Medical Branch, Davis said. Hyder also was transported to the medical branch for treatment of cuts and scrapes. He was treated and released, Davis said.

The cooler water temperature largely has deterred swimmers up to this point, he said. Easter generally is considered the beginning of the season — and of the swimming accidents — but it was expected that the water temperatures, which have not yet reached 70 degrees, would keep swimmers on shore.

The beach was under a yellow-flag caution Saturday, with choppy waves at about 2 to 3 feet high, Davis said. Swimmers need to be careful of strong currents and be sure to obey warning signs and stay clear of piers and jetties, Davis said.

About 80 percent of drownings in surf conditions are due to rip currents, he said. “They probably would have been fine except for the rip current,” Davis said. If a person gets caught in a rip current, the best thing for him or her to do is relax and focus on staying...
afloat, he said.

The current likely will bring him or her back to shore at some point, he said. Fighting the current can exhaust even the best of swimmers, Davis said. If a person sees a swimmer caught in a current, it’s best to throw a rope or line from shore, he said.

A large number of drownings occur in pairs or small groups because would-be rescuers wade into the water and end up overcome by the same current as the person they are trying to save, Davis said.

Remains found in Everglades identified as Tampa family
http://www.abcactionnews.com/mostpopular/story/Remains-found-in-Everglades-identified-as-Tampa/YRCj734ChkWwlQvm9vC-ig.espx
4/01/2010 Reported by: Ellen McNamara

Related Links
- New details released in I-75 human remains case
- Possible human remains found in Zephyrhills
- Remains found in Everglades identified as missing Tampa woman and children
- Remains found in Everglades may solve Tampa cold case
- Ex-husband of missing woman found in Everglades speaks out

BROWARD COUNTY, FL -- The medical examiner for Broward County has tentatively identified the remains found inside a van found in the Florida Everglades as that of a missing Tampa woman and her two young daughters.

DUI RISK MANAGEMENT SEMINARS

One of the most important things a dive team can do is to keep learning and training.

Diving Unlimited International (DUI) offers many Risk Management Seminars that allow teams to combine learning this new information with actual training dives. The seminar begins with a presentation on the most current information available to minimize your risks by identifying contaminants and other hazards in the water, what is the proper exposure protection for the operation, developing decontamination protocols, extending the life of your equipment and the pros and cons of different exposure suit materials for different applications. DUI focuses on teaching dive teams how to be more effective and safe by giving them current facts in the field of exposure protection and decontamination. You will also get the chance to actually operate the latest in decontamination equipment and see how it can benefit your dive team as well as other areas of your department.

This comprehensive seminar wraps everything up with a discussion about grants available to all dive teams and some fantastic tips to increase your chances of being awarded.

As most of these programs are conducted at a local dive site, DUI offers the opportunity to try the latest in drysuit technology as well with in-water demos. Your dive team can conduct realistic training operations and test drysuits of various materials and configurations at the same time. Don’t miss this incredible opportunity to improve your team readiness and capabilities!

WWW.DUI-ONLINE.COM
Police say an algae covered Dodge Caravan was registered to missing pregnant mother Nelta Jacques, who went missing with her two daughters Johanna and Juanita, nearly 12-years ago. The two girls was 7 and 5 years old when they died.

"The body was largely skeletonized and so were the other two bodies advancey skeletonized.\" said Dr. Joshua Perper, the medical examiner. He said it appears their deaths were an accident. Officials said June 2nd, 1999, the day they went missing, was stormy and when the caravan was pulled from the murky water, the windshield wipers were still on.

They were driving from Ft. Lauderdale to Tampa, after leaving her father’s home, when they disappeared.

A dive team discovered the van during a training drill in a canal along Alligator Alley yesterday. Investigators had covered the van's tag, but one law enforcement official at the scene said it dated to 1999.

That's the year Nelta Jacques and her two young daughters disappeared.

For Jacques ex-husband, Jean Luc, 11 years of hoping he’d see his girls again came to a tragic end. "I think she take off or don't want them to see me," Jacques said at his Tampa home, "And she say that she said anytime we separate you not going to see the kids."

Jean thought Nelta had finally made good on her promise, and he thought she'd taken off with the kids. The couple's 4-1/2 year marriage was over & a divorce was in the works before the accident.

But Jean says he always believed they were alive right up until Thursday's news. "Always hoped to see them" he said. "She's a person you never would forget about." said Sonia Chevalier of Hollywood, who is Jacques's cousin.

Appearing grief stricken with her head resting on the doorway, she took some solace in the fact she finally knows what happen. "Before that, we cannot say, oh where is Nelta she died or she's in love, "Chevalier said prior to the ME's statement, "and now like 80% certain can say she died or she passed away."

The cold case was finally cracked on Wednesday, when rescue divers in training discovered an algae covered van 18 feet deep in the canal. "It was going routine." said Mike Jachles of Broward County Fire Rescue, "We got up
to the dock, we discovered the remains in the vehicle."

Sonie said she was back in Haiti at the time Nelta disappeared. She wished investigators spent more time searching along the everglades, sparing her family years of grief. "I would never forget about her she was a good woman."

To those who knew Nelta and her girls, they’re glad to finally have closure, but Jean says there is no peace for him. He’s now forced to mourn his daughters who took their last breaths 11 years ago in the waters of Alligator Alley.

http://www.mvrecordjournal.com/meriden/article_38fcf5b8-40c3-11df-9a46-001cc4e002e0.html
April 5, 2010 By: Andrew Perlot

Meriden - State police have determined that there was no criminal wrongdoing involved in the sinking of a car in Black Pond last week.

Meriden firefighters responded at around 2 a.m. Wednesday after state police dispatchers received reports that a car had crashed into the pond, which is located on the Meriden-Middlefield border.

Firefighters found a man standing near the edge of the pond at the boat launching area in Middlefield, police said. The man initially told authorities that a car was in the water and no one was in it, but then changed his story and said there was a woman in the vehicle.

Fire Department divers entered the water and found a woman in the submerged car. The divers broke a car window and were able to pull out the woman, who was unresponsive. Paramedics treated the woman and took her to MidState Medical Center, where she was expected to recover.

No further information was available on the woman Monday morning, but state police spokesperson Trooper Kelly Grant said there had been "no criminal aspect," to the event. The incident is still being investigated, she said.

Divers search canal for robbers' knife
http://www.thisischeshire.co.uk/news/7991023.Divers_search_canal_for_robbers__knife/
8th April 2010

DIVERS searched the Bridgewater Canal after criminals fled from Moore Village Store and Post Office.

Two robbers targeted the store on Runcorn Road, Moore, at 5.20pm on Saturday, making demands to staff before fleeing empty-handed.

The shop owner followed the raiders out of the store and believed one of the men threw a knife into the canal. Nothing was retrieved by police divers.
on Saturday, however.

Anyone with any information should call the police on 0845 458 0000 or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111. Two people have been charged with robbery.

Inquest: Man arrested for murder after dead woman's mobile phone traced to Lanzarote

http://www.eastlondonadvertiser.co.uk/content/towerhamlets/advertiser/news/store.aspx?brand=ELAOnline&category=news&Brand=northlondon&Category=news&itemid=WcED07%20Apr%202010%20%2017%3A03%3A23%3A573

08 April 2010 by Victoria Huntley

A THIEF who stole a woman’s mobile phone was arrested on suspicion of her murder after a body was pulled out of the River Lea, an inquest heard.

Mark Smith was arrested by police when he arrived back from holiday in Lanzarote the day Musonda Chimfwembe’s body was recovered. Police traced Smith after he made calls from the 21-year-old’s mobile phone after she went missing more than three weeks earlier.

But charges were dropped after Smith said he stole the phone, bank cards and Oyster card from Musonda’s handbag when he found it lying on the footpath at the side of the river on December 13 last year.

Yesterday Det Sgt Robert Kidd told Poplar Coroner’s Court Smith had not realised the Zambian student had drowned after plunging into the icy water as he cycled along the river bank. He said: "He had been calling with her mobile and had also tried to withdraw cash using her bank cards but had not been successful.

"His story has not faltered and we are convinced that he had nothing to do with her death. "He admitted theft and we have issued

Marine Sonic Technology, Ltd.

"CENTURION" Side Scan Sonar System

Small, compact and rugged, the NEW "Centurion" Sea Scan® PC Splash Proof Computer System sets the industry standard for a high resolution, portable, self-contained, low cost sonar system. Designed with the Search and Recovery Community in mind, the system can be operational within minutes and only needs a 12 VDC power source. The software is user friendly and the daylight readable screen allows for easy target detection and identification. Incorporating many of the proven features found in the previous splash proof, the NEW "Centurion" has been updated to provide state of the art electronics and connectivity.

New Features

- Computer is 13"x11"x6" and weighs only 12 pounds
- High-Bright, daylight readable, 10.4" color flat screen display
- Increased connectivity, network and USB compatible
- 500 MHz Processor, 1 GB RAM, and 160 GB Hard Drive
- Operates on a 12 VDC power source
- Case and connectors are fully waterproof and designed for increased durability and shock resistance
- Fully compatible with all previous MSTL towfish and cables

WWW.MARINESONIC.COM
him with a caution; he has been banged to rights for
that."

Musonda was reported missing on Sunday, December 13,
2010. She was last seen by her family when she left her
home in Roach Road, Hackney Wick on December 10.
Sister Ivy said: "She seemed irritable and left the house
without saying goodbye or telling me where she was
going, which was unusual. "I asked what was wrong
because I felt like I was treading on eggshells but she
said it was nothing and left a few minutes later."

Investigations show that Musonda spent time with friends
in Clapton and Greenwich after she left but was last
captured on CCTV a quarter-of-a-mile from home on the
evening of December 13. Police believe she entered the
water a few minutes later. Her body was found by police
divers on January 5, near the
spot Smith found her handbag.

The cause of death was
drowning and she had no other
injuries.

Recording an open verdict,
Coroner Dr Andrew Reid said:
"The circumstances under
which she went into the water
cannot be determined.
"Although we cannot rule out
the possibility of suicide there
is no evidence available that
proves she intended to take her life or harm herself in
any way.

"She may simply have slipped and fallen in and in this
case we must give her the benefit of the doubt.

River Level Allows Thorough Search
http://www.gazettevirginian.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1000%3Ariver-
level-allows-thorough-search&catid=34%3Anews&Itemid=54
08 April 2010 Written by Staff

A little less than one year since her disappearance, the
search continues for Hattie Gertrude Brown, with Virginia
State Police Search and Rescue divers searching this time
in the Hyco River at the East Hyco Road bridge on
Thursday.
Halifax County Sheriff’s Office and South Boston Police Department personnel assisted in the search activities Thursday, according to Sheriff Stanley Noblin, who said the river level was such that a thorough search could be made.

Brown was last seen May 16 at the Sheetz gas station at the intersection of Route 501 and Route 58 in Riverdale.

A video camera captured the 48-year-old woman and her car at the gas station at approximately 2:33 a.m. Investigators found that she was accompanied at the gas station by her nephew, who law enforcement officers have called a “person of interest” in the case.

Hattie Brown is a black female with brown eyes and black, shoulder-length hair. She is approximately 5 feet 4 inches tall, 155 pounds, and was last seen wearing a sleeveless top and pants with side stripes. The investigation into her disappearance also indicates that she left her residence without her purse or critical medication.

Medical dart missing after attempt to euthanize whale
April 9, 2010 By Meg Miller, CNN

STORY HIGHLIGHTS

- Baby humpback was beached near East Hampton Village, New York
- Whale was too debilitated to survive on its own, official says
- Medical dart bounced off and washed away; it could pose threat to swimmers

(CNN) -- Police were searching for a wildlife medical dart off the coast of New York on Friday after an unsuccessful attempt to euthanize a beached baby humpback whale Thursday night, according to East Hampton Village Police Chief Jerry Larsen.

The dart bounced off the whale and ricocheted into the Atlantic Ocean. Larsen said Friday afternoon that the dart is encased in stainless steel but that it could pose a serious danger to swimmers in the months ahead. "We're sending divers ... to retrieve the needle as soon as the surf dies down," Larsen said. Police also closed the area of beach, saying the dart might wash ashore.

The whale was found on Main Beach in East Hampton on Tuesday and was deemed too sick to save, according to Charles Bowman, president of the Long Island-based Riverhead Foundation for Marine Research and

http://t-rescue.com
Preservation. "The whale was debilitated," Bowman said. "It was a thin and a young juvenile still dependent on its mother and couldn't survive on its own."

By Friday, the whale was unable to free itself from the beach, and Bowman's foundation advised the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration that it was appropriate to euthanize the whale. It's heartbreaking for us. We're used to saving animals, getting them back in the ocean," Bowman said. "It's just one of these situations that there's just no chance for it, [and we are] trying to get people to recognize that."

A NOAA official shot and killed the whale Friday morning.

**Facing grim reality of what lies beneath**


April 13, 2010

UNDER WATER ANTICS: Lincolnshire Police's underwater search unit can be involved in anything from recovering stolen cars to searching for dead bodies. Dealing with the death of four children at Tattershall Bridge is just one of the grim roles of Lincolnshire Police's underwater search unit.

It is one of the toughest and wettest jobs in the county, but for the officers involved, the view is that someone has to do it. The team of 10 trained divers face death on a frequent basis as they sift through murky county waterways. As they readily admit, they are not a rescue team. Instead, their job often requires them to make the grim search for dead bodies.
It is no role for the faint-hearted. But the crack team – one of only 12 left in England and Wales – plays a vital role in county policing.

Co-ordinating Lincolnshire's team is PC Mark McKay, who with 19 years of experience is one of the UK’s most seasoned police divers. He was at the scene in the aftermath of the death of the four children at Tattershall Bridge in 2007. He also played a role in helping to solve the murder of pregnant 18-year-old Kim Newson in 2002. Her remains were discovered in the River Witham. He explained: "We had a job to do in the Newson case. Yes, it was grim, but that was our job."

PC McKay says there are few waterways in the county that he has not had to search. Everyone on his team has had to deal with dead bodies. But he says resilience is a key requirement for the job.

The divers are regular policemen who are called out on diving jobs about three times a month. Yet their job is not just about recovering bodies. In recent weeks they have had to pull six stolen cars from a reservoir near Spilsby.

The team also offers its help to other forces in the country, including those that do not have their own diving team. Inspector Andy Ham said divers played a crucial role in policing in the county.

He asked: "Without them, how could you get the job done? The road traffic collision at Tattershall – how else would you deal with that? "Unless Lincolnshire Police makes the investment in kit and training, what capacity would there be from our organisation to deal with such incidents?"
"It's a dirty job, but the reality is, it's the dirty side of police work."

An unsolved mystery: Is Adam Emery really dead?
http://www.projo.com/news/content/ADAM_EMERY_04-18-10_N6HQV42_v110.37c6807.html
April 18, 2010 By Tracy Breton Journal Staff Writer

Laura Emery received the invitation by telephone. It was shortly after the Rhode Island medical examiner issued a death certificate for her brother, Adam. His in-laws were planning a memorial Mass at the same church in West Warwick where Adam and Elena Emery had been married. A luncheon at the West Valley Inn, where the couple’s wedding reception had been held, would follow.

No criminal element to Black Pond car sinking
No one in the Emery family attended, except Laura, his only sister. She was shocked at how many people did show up. “At least 60 people were there,” she recalls.

The Rev. Richard A. Bucci, the priest at Sacred Heart Church, says Elena’s family, the DiRoccos, asks him to celebrate a Mass for the deceased “at least once a month in Adam and Elena’s memory.”

But there is no proof that Adam C. Emery is dead.
On Sept. 14, 2004, Superior Court Judge Daniel Procaccini declared him deceased. He “has been absent from his usual place of residence and his whereabouts have been unknown for at least 10 years,” the court order reads.

Three months later, the State of Rhode Island issued a death certificate.

But the judge who presided over Adam C. Emery’s murder trial is not convinced. Neither are some law enforcement officials. There’s still a warrant out for Emery’s arrest and the FBI is about to place him back on its Wanted List.

Adam Emery — together with his wife, Elena — disappeared on Nov. 10, 1993, the same day a jury pronounced him guilty of murder. The victim of the homicide was 20-year-old Jason K. Bass. The two men were strangers; neither had ever been in trouble with the law. Their paths crossed on Aug. 31, 1990, at Rocky Point Park in Warwick. Adam and Elena Emery were sitting in their black Thunderbird, eating chowder and clam cakes when a car sideswiped them, breaking the left taillight. Emery gave chase, pursuing a red 1975 Ford LTD driven by Bass, who’d gone to the amusement park to pick up the brother of his girlfriend.

A chase ensued for 1.7 miles. It ended with Emery stabbing Bass through the heart with a double-edged military knife that he’d bought for his wife, for her protection.

Paint scrapings would later prove that the car that had hit the Emerys’ Thunderbird did not belong to Jason Bass. But at his trial, Emery claimed the killing was in self-defense. The jury decided it was a premeditated homicide. The crime, second-degree murder, carried a sentence of 20 years to life imprisonment.

After he was charged, Emery
spent eight months behind bars before being released on $270,000 bail — property his parents, in-laws and wife’s sister and brother-in-law had put up. After his conviction, he remained free on the same bail.

About four hours after the guilty verdict, Adam and Elena’s green Toyota Camry was found abandoned on the Claiborne Pell Bridge, about 200 feet over Narragansett Bay. Inside the car, the police found the clothes the couple had worn to court that day, a pair of Elena Emery’s high heels, a wallet, a purse and 10 credit cards in the couple’s name, each broken in half. They also found the Emerys’ checkbook with all the checks torn in half.

Ten months later, fishermen dredged up a skull. Dental records proved it was Elena Emery’s. None of Adam Emery’s remains have ever been found. So the mystery has endured for almost 17 years: Is Adam Emery really dead or is he alive somewhere, a fugitive from justice?

The Emery and DiRocco families have always been convinced the couple committed suicide together. The police thought, at least at the outset, that they might have staged an elaborate hoax.

Jack McMahon, who prosecuted the murder case, says that Emery had vowed to a guard at the Adult Correctional Institutions — when released on bail before his trial — that he’d never return to prison. He says he’s always believed that the couple jumped to their deaths because Adam Emery was “a complete narcissist who was in complete shock after he was convicted of second-degree murder.” He’d rejected a pretrial deal that would have let him serve 20 years if he pleaded guilty to manslaughter because “he believed he was innocent.”

“All they had was each

WWW.BLUEVIEWTECH.COM
other,” says Melinda Apollonio, Elena’s sister. “These kids were like totally in love.” Once the jury found him guilty of murder, Adam knew that he was facing perhaps decades behind bars. McMahon says that he learned, after the Emerys disappeared, that “Elena Emery had been talking about suicide for nearly a year before the trial.”

One of the biggest skeptics was Detective Kevin P. Hopkins of the Rhode Island State Police.

As state police divers probed the deep water under the bridge that links Jamestown with Newport, Hopkins created a timeline and started combing through what the couple had left behind.

Adam Emery was convicted on his 31st birthday. After he was found guilty, he and his wife left the Kent County Courthouse and drove to Kelly’s Sporting Goods in Cranston. They bought 80 pounds of weights, black hooded sweatsuits and two pairs of white socks. A cash receipt says it was 3:53 p.m. Fifteen minutes later, the couple drove up to a nearby Burger King. Elena Emery ordered food to go. They then drove to Newport where they bought a bottle of wine.

At 6:53 p.m., the Emerys’ Camry was found on the Pell Bridge facing west, in the direction of Jamestown.

Three days later, the couple’s families received letters in the mail from Adam and Elena. There was no mention of “suicide.” They asked only for forgiveness. “They said they didn’t understand what had happened; that they felt if they had told the truth [at the trial] everything would
be okay. They said that hopefully they’d be going to a better place...,” Laura Emery remembers. The police searched the couple’s East Avenue apartment in Warwick. They found $650 in cash, their passports and a folder full of birthday and anniversary cards that Elena Emery had purchased in advance for family members. They also discovered a cache of financial records. The couple had taken $55,000 and split it up into eight bank accounts in the names of family members and friends, says Hopkins.

Adam and Elena were saving to buy a house. Perhaps, Hopkins thought, they were trying to protect their nest-egg in case the Bass family sued them. But after they disappeared, Hopkins discovered that there were cash withdrawals from the various accounts. “It was unclear where it was going” and who was making the withdrawals. “It looked like they were on the run,” he says, and maybe someone was sending them money.

The search for the Emerys moved from the waters of Narragansett Bay to Fornelli, Italy, where Elena’s parents had immigrated from to make a better life for their five children. Adam Emery had studied Italian while awaiting trial in the ACI.

“America’s Most Wanted” aired a show about the case. Hopkins traveled to Florida tracking the money trail. One day, not too long after the couple disappeared, McMahon got a phone call from the detective. “Kevin was all excited. He told me there were detectives who had staked out a house. He said he was confident that within an hour’s time he’d have Adam Emery in custody.”

But Adam Emery was nowhere to be found. As it turned out, the Florida house belonged to an underwater diver...
who’d been paid by the DiRoccos to look for Adam and Elena in Narragansett Bay.

Over the years, area fishermen have hauled up human bones in their nets that have been sent for testing to see if any of them belonged to Adam Emery. One day a Newport lobsterman found two human leg bones about 400 feet northeast of the Pell Bridge. They were bare except for some blue and gold striped material that appeared to match the stripes on the white socks the Emerys had bought at Kelly’s. But the legs weren’t Adam Emery’s.

The bones retrieved from Narragansett Bay were stored as evidence. New advances in forensic testing have allowed FBI scientists to conduct mitochondrial DNA testing on them. To do the tests, Hopkins had to get blood samples from Adam’s mother, and then from his sister to compare with DNA extracted from the bones.

The 9/11 attacks caused a huge backlog at the FBI crime lab, Hopkins says, so it has taken years to get some results. Last November, Hopkins, who’s now retired from the state police, was still getting calls from an FBI agent to tell him there were “no matches.”

It took awhile, but Hopkins says he’s now convinced that Adam Emery is dead. “I’ve investigated different crimes for the Rhode Island State Police and worked with the FBI and been able to track people all over the country and abroad. If he was alive, we would have found him,” he says.

In 2004, 10 years after Adam and Elena Emery vanished, Laura Emery called Hopkins for help. The families were having financial problems. It had been 13 years since

---

**Tritech International Limited**

is an innovative company, specializing in the production of high performance acoustic sensors, sonars, video cameras and mechanical tooling equipment for professional underwater markets. We have a range of products for search and recovery applications, including:

**StarFish Side Scan Sonars**

StarFish 450F side scan sonar is currently the smallest towed side scan on the market. StarFish will give you the ability to conduct a wide search of lakes, rivers and other waterways.

**P-Sea, Modular Underwater Control System**

is a compact diver-held console; P-Sea may be integrated with the full range of Tritech cameras, Micron and SeaKing sonars.

For more information, please visit: [www.tritech.co.uk](http://www.tritech.co.uk) or for our seabed imaging system, StarFish, please visit: [www.starfishsonar.com](http://www.starfishsonar.com)
they’d put up their houses so that Adam could be freed on bail; the liens were preventing them from selling the real estate or getting any credit from banks. “They were both good kids,” he says of the murder defendant and his victim. “They actually were all good people,” he says of their families.

Hopkins recommended that the Emerys contact West Warwick lawyer Biagio L. Longo, whom he’d become friendly with when their children played Little League together. Longo petitioned the court to remove the liens and for a death certificate to be issued.

“There is nothing...that creates any reasonable doubt that Adam C. Emery is alive,” Judge Procaccini wrote in declaring him dead.

Four months later, another Superior Court judge, Vincent A. Ragosta, ordered that Adam Emery’s bail be discharged and the liens removed.

The DiRocco family didn’t wait for any court order before giving their daughter and son-in-law a proper burial. After Elena’s skull was recovered, her parents purchased a gravesite for Elena and Adam in St. Ann Cemetery in Cranston. The gravestone says they both died on Nov. 10, 1993 — the day Adam was found guilty of murder and he and Elena vanished — and that they’re now “Together Sharing God’s Eternal Love.”

Two more DiRocco family members have since been buried with them. Elena’s only brother, Domenic “Mimmo” DiRocco, who was 35, died in a car accident in Scituate in July 2002. In May 2004, her sister, Maria Williams, who was with the Emerys when Adam killed Jason Bass, gave

Flipfins® are patented, award winning, high-performance scuba fins, swim fins, rescue fins, Special Forces fins and Public Safety Diver fins. They are the world’s only fins that provide total mobility in and out of the water.

While Scuba diving using Amphibian® scuba fins, you can walk fully geared into the water, move freely on the dive boat, climb ladders and do other movements as easy as wearing ordinary shoes.

Stealth® and Stealth Max® rescue and military fins are currently being used by Navy Seals, Special Forces and rescue divers in US and around the world. These fins are essential during airborne water entries as in helicopter water rescue and Special Operations water jumps.

The mobility of the fin allows a PSD team a speedier response in emergencies especially if the responding diver needs to move to another location quickly. The fins NEVER have to come off!

Click HERE to see a video of the Flipfin in action!

Fire Rescue Magazine Review!

WWW.OmegaAquatics.com
It’s been almost 20 years since Barbara Bass went to Ann & Hope to buy a suit to bury her son in. But time has done nothing to ease her pain. She still cries whenever she talks about Jason, her boy who had a passion for cooking, who hoped someday to open his own diner. “He was a good boy. He was a happy kid,” his mother says. She remembers the day he took off his brand-new sneakers and gave them to a homeless man. She rattles off the things that gave him joy: freshwater fishing, family outings to Roger Williams Park, Halloween. “He would always paint his face white and it glowed in the dark,” then do the makeup for his younger brother, Matthew, who has special needs. bara was born prematurely to a five-month-old girl. The baby died at birth. She was named Elena Nicole and is now buried with her aunt and two uncles.

Jason Bass’ gravesite is six miles away, in the North Burial Ground, in Providence.

It’s been almost 20 years since Barbara Bass went to Ann & Hope to buy a suit to bury her son in. But time has done nothing to ease her pain. She still cries whenever she talks about Jason, her boy who had a passion for cooking, who hoped someday to open his own diner. “He was a good boy. He was a happy kid,” his mother says. She remembers the day he took off his brand-new sneakers and gave them to a homeless man. She rattles off the things that gave him joy: freshwater fishing, family outings to Roger Williams Park, Halloween. “He would always paint his face white and it glowed in the dark,” then do the makeup for his younger brother, Matthew, who has special needs.

His sister, Diana Bass, likes to reminisce about Jason singing and dancing with his young nieces in the cramped living room of their first-floor apartment on Federal Hill. His favorite song was “Unchained Melody” by the Righteous Brothers. Many members of the Bass family still live in the triple-decker where Jason was raised — his mother, a retired jewelry factory worker; his father, a one-time security guard; two of his five brothers, his sister and three of his siblings’ children.

Every December, Barbara Bass takes out the big Santa Claus cookie jar that Jason gave her, the one he won at a church raffle. The family’s artificial Christmas tree is 32 years old but they have decided not to replace it because it’s the one Jason used to decorate. Jason’s stocking is still the first to be hung by his family each year “and it’s the last we take down,” says his niece, Crystal Bass, a student at Rhode Island College. She was only 5 when he was slain. But her
memories of her Uncle Jason are vivid. Last fall, she wrote an essay about him and the case against his murderer that ended without a final conviction. The professor gave her an A.

The Basses feel betrayed. They say no one from the state police or the attorney general’s office has contacted them since the day Adam Emery was found guilty. No one bothered to tell them about the court hearing that led to a death certificate for Adam Emery. They found out about it four years later when someone dropped a copy of a magazine in their mailbox with an update about the case.

Time has not been kind to the Emery family either. Adam’s parents divorced. Days after that, his mother died of cancer. For years, Bertha Emery, a religious woman who was a faithful parishioner at St. Paul Church in Edgewood, had tried to get a priest to hold a funeral Mass for her son but was continually rebuffed, Laura Emery says, because there was no proof he was dead.

She says she understands why the Bass family remains upset. “My brother felt terrible about what happened and wanted to say he was sorry” but was told by his lawyer “not to show any emotion or try to contact the Bass family” while the case was pending, she says.

FBI Special Agent Gail Marcinkiewicz, spokeswoman for the bureau’s Boston office, says Adam Emery’s disappearance “is still an ongoing investigation.” An agent remains assigned to the case “to handle any leads that come in. As far as the FBI is concerned, he is not dead. We will keep looking for him ... until such time as we find out he’s actually dead,” she says.
Superior Court Judge Judith C. Savage, who presided over Emery’s 1993 murder trial, declined a request for an interview because “someday I might have to sentence him.”

“If we had full confirmation of death, that would be the end of it,” she says. “But I don’t want to be making comments about a case that could raise its head ... There’s been no final chapter. ... The mystery has prolonged itself. Maybe it will be the mystery that never resolves. ... It’s so bizarre. I don’t know whether it will ever be over. How could I be sure?”

TIMELINE Emery Case Chronology

Aug. 31, 1990: Adam Emery and his wife, Elena, mistakenly believe that 20-year-old Jason Bass hit their Thunderbird while it was parked at Rocky Point Amusement Park in Warwick. Emery gives chase. He cuts off Bass on Tidewater Drive. Bass, in a panic, throws his car into reverse. As he clings to the car door, Emery stabs Bass twice, once through the heart.

Sept. 14, 1990: District Court Judge Francis J. Darigan orders Emery held without bail although family and friends testify during a bail hearing that Emery is a peaceful person.

May 3, 1991: Emery is freed on $270,000 surety bail after family members agree to post three pieces of property to secure his release.

Nov. 1, 1993: Emery’s murder trial begins. John Gorman, a passenger in the Bass car, testifies that Emery ran to the car after he cut them off, shouting, “I’m going to... kill you.”

The SeaBotix vLBV300 is the latest addition to the successful LBV line of MiniROVs. Unlike any other system on the market the vLBV300 incorporates vectored thruster configuration and dual vertical thrusters into a sub 20kg vehicle. Incredible performance and flexibility make this the ultimate small ROV.

Variable Vector Configuration
The vLBV300 incorporates the proven Brushless DC thrusters that have been used on the LBV for years. Standard prop diameter is the 76mm with an option for 95mm props to add even more power. The thrusters can be varied from 45º to 35º to 20º vector in minutes for application optimization. At 45º vector the vLBV300 has exceptional thrust in all horizontal directions. Dual vertical thrusters offer greater power as well as active roll compensation for increased vehicle stability.

Flexible Platform
The vLBV300 incorporates enhanced electronics with four video inputs, multiple fast serial ports and Ethernet. This new technology enables the vLBV300 to be equipped with a range of cameras and sensors. The modular construction has built in payload for most sensors with ease of adding floatation modules internally to greater increase the payload capacity.

Intuitive Controls
The vLBV300 utilizes the same operator controls as the LBV. This intuitive control console has over the years become regarded as the simplest to operate of any ROV on the market.

WWW.SEABOTIX.COM
Nov. 10, 1993: Adam Emery is convicted of second-degree murder. His wife, Elena, who is in the courtroom, murmurs, “There’s...he ll to be paid.” Superior Court Judge Judith C. Savage agrees to let Emery remain free on bail. About four hours later, the couple’s Toyota Camry is found at the high point on the Claiborne Pell Bridge.

Nov. 23, 1993: The Rhode Island State Police hire a lip reader to review a news videotape and determine what the Emerys said to each other upon hearing the guilty verdict. The lip reader tells the police it appears that Elena Emery said: “We will do what we originally said; you promised me. We should have done this before.”

Aug. 30, 1994: A fisherman finds a human skull in his net while fishing north of the Pell Bridge.

Sept. 9, 1994: The medical examiner says that dental records prove that the skull is Elena Emery’s.


Dec. 13, 2004: The State of Rhode Island issues a death certificate for Emery because he was “declared legally dead by the Superior Court”

Jan. 10, 2005: Superior Court Judge Vincent A. Ragosta discharges Adam Emery’s bail and releases the liens on the property his parents and in-laws posted for his release.

Macabre find in Lake Zurich
http://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/swiss_news/Macabre_find_in_Lake_Zurich.html?cid=8724422&pos=3&type=NewsDigest
Apr 21, 2010

Police divers on Wednesday brought to the surface 22 urns containing human ashes, found on the bed of Lake Zurich

The Zurich cantonal building department said that the unmarked urns had been taken to a place which they could be kept in dignified surroundings.

An initial 13 urns were removed on Sunday by divers of the Küsnacht Lake Rescue Service who...
discovered them by chance.

The department had originally wanted to leave the rest where they were until it had been decided what should happen to them. However, officials had a change of heart after reports of the find appeared in the press, prompting fears that amateur divers might be attracted to the spot.

It is not clear how the urns came to be there. A permit is needed to deposit ashes in the lake, and no such permit had been granted, the building department spokesman told the Tages-Anzeiger newspaper.

The Zurich cantonal department for waste, water, energy and air has filed a legal complaint against persons unknown for disturbing the peace of the dead.

The divers who found them and brought some up to the surface have been criticised for not leaving them where they were and informing the police, but they do not face charges.

**RELATED LINKS:**
- [Fury as 'up to 300 urns containing human remains from Dignitas suicide clinic are found at bottom of Lake Zurich']()
- [Indignity at the Bottom of the Lake](
- ['Dignitas' urns dumped in lake](
- ['Up to 300' urns dumped in lake close to Dignitas](
- [Swiss euthanasia clinic dumped hundreds of suicide tourists - er, remains!](

---

**OmniSwivel International**

**Gas Switching Block**

**Part Number:**
- GSB-R (right hand mounting shown)
- GSB-L (left hand mounting)

**Description:**
- Right Hand Gas Switch Block.
  - 2ea 9/16”-18 (adapters) Male Inlets.
  - 1ea 3/8”-24 Female outlet.
- Solid brass construction for maximum durability.
- Oxygen Compatible Materials and O-Rings.
- Inlet adapters can be removed to expose 3/8”-24 female ports. Allowing for flexibility of hose attachments.
- Quick Disconnects attach directly to the inlet port alleviating the need for more adapters.

The OmniSwivel Gas Switch Block allows a diver to change between two separate air tanks without having to remove their full face mask. The knob turns a full 180 degrees ensuring that there is no accidental switching during the dive. The knob pointing to the first position (as shown in top photo) signifies that the air source closest to the outlet is in use.

The center photo shows the GSB in the shut-off position. In case of a second stage failure, a diver can turn the flow off to mask and switch to an alternative regulator. This shut-off position also prevents a cross blending of gases during a switch over.

The bottom photo shows the GSB using the secondary air source.

[WWW.OMNISWIVEL.COM](http://www.omniswivel.com)
Police search teams find rifle believed to have been used in April 16 shooting


April 21, 2010

Texas Department of Public Safety divers, assisting a team of Round Rock police detectives on Wednesday, April 21, found the rifle believed to have been used in the April 16 shooting of a woman and a Round Rock police officer.

The .22 caliber rifle was found in about 3 feet of murky water in the creek that bisects Lake Creek Park.

The expansive search of the densely wooded area between the Meadow Creek Circle crime scene and Lake Creek Park continued until Wednesday afternoon's recovery of the rifle.

After Monday's unsuccessful ground search, Round Rock investigators launched a plan to clear cut selected areas within the 30,000 square yards of dense undergrowth and creekside thicket. Police hoped to increase the possibility of exposing the buried, submerged, or otherwise concealed gun to the daytime heating. After sunset, police helicopters scanned those areas with sensitive infrared optics, hoping to spot any anomalous heat source.

Early Wednesday morning, the team of Round Rock investigators and DPS divers narrowed their search to a 3-feet deep, fast-current eddy in Lake Creek. The submerged rifle was found embedded between large rocks on the creek floor. Investigators are not releasing the brand and model of the .22 caliber rifle, but noted it contained an expended cartridge consistent with those recovered at the scene of Friday's shooting.

The rifle is being sent to the DPS evidence laboratory for examination.

The shooting suspect, Kenneth Wade Davis, remains in St. David's Round Rock Medical Center. Davis, hospitalized since Saturday afternoon for two self-inflicted gunshot wounds, has not been able to communicate with detectives.

The investigation is ongoing.

Police Find Rifle Believed Used To Shoot Central Texas Officer


April 22, 2010

Police have found a .22 caliber rifle they believe was used to shoot a Round Rock officer and a woman last week

ROUND ROCK (After searching a heavily wooded area for several days, police say they’ve recovered a .22 caliber rifle they think was used to shoot a Round Rock officer and a woman last week.

The suspect in the shooting, Kenneth Wade Davis, 45, of Austin, remains in St. David’s Medical Center in Round Rock where he was taken after he was found with what police said were two self-inflicted gunshot wounds.
He faces charges including attempted capital murder stemming from a series of incidents that started at about 10:30 p.m. April 15 when a Texas Department of Public Safety trooper assisted with an assault report near the intersection of Texas Toll Road 45 and Ranch-to-Market Road 620 where police found a woman who had been badly beaten.

The trooper escorted the woman to her home in Round Rock and when they arrived, a man inside the house fired at the trooper.

At 2 a.m. April 16, Round Rock officers arrived at the house and one of the Round Rock officers was shot in the back. The officer was wearing a bulletproof vest and it prevented serious injury.

The woman suffered one gunshot wound and was taken from the scene to a St. David’s hospital in stable condition.

Round Rock officers found Davis on Saturday in a densely wooded area near Lake Creek Park after neighborhood children reported seeing someone lying in creek-side undergrowth, police said.
Dozens of police personnel searched that area Monday in an unsuccessful effort to find the rifle, and then returned Wednesday.

The second effort was successful as Round Rock officers and Department of Public Safety Divers narrowed the search to the creek that runs through Lake Creek Park.

The rifle was found in about 3 feet of murky water, police said.

Consensus Growing for Active Hurricane Season

(April 23) -- When the private forecasting company WSI increased the number of predicted tropical storms and hurricanes in its updated Atlantic hurricane forecast this week, it added to the growing consensus among forecasters that the 2010 season will be an active one, unlike last year.

WSI increased the number of predicted hurricanes from seven to nine. The overall WSI seasonal forecast, with 16 predicted named storms (hurricanes and tropical storms), is similar in intensity to the forecasts prepared by Colorado State University (15 named storms) and AccuWeather (16 to 18 named storms). WSI indicated it's more likely that these numbers would be increased, not decreased, in any future updates.


The WSI forecast cited some of the same reasons for concern about an active season that Colorado State and AccuWeather had given: exceptionally warm Atlantic water, which is warmer now than it was at the same time in the record-breaking 2005 season, and the expected weakening of the Pacific El Nino. Atlantic hurricane seasons that follow an El Nino tend to be more active than normal.

Forensic Meteorology is the process of reconstructing weather events for a certain location. This is done by acquiring local weather reports, radar and satellite images and eyewitness accounts. Forensic meteorology is most often used in court cases for either insurance companies or a murder investigation.

Skeptics of the accuracy of seasonal forecasts are numerous, often citing the inability of forecasters to predict the weather for next week as evidence that a seasonal forecast is impossible to make with any accuracy and is therefore useless. While that might seem like a logical argument, short-range and long-
range forecasts are vastly different.

Short-range forecasts focus on details, such as whether the high temperature will be 80 or 74 degrees or whether it will snow six inches or two inches. Forecasters look at small-scale factors to make those determinations. Any slight error in one of these details makes for an inaccurate forecast.

A long-range forecast, such as a hurricane season forecast, is a general forecast based on large-scale weather factors. The large-scale weather factors don't change nearly as quickly as the small-scale factors needed to make a short-range forecast, and long-range forecasts can be accurate even if a short-range forecast is not.

This is not to say that long-range forecasters are always correct, but since the large-scale factors that result in an active hurricane season are fairly well understood, forecasters have shown some skill.

Long-range forecasts are more often about trends rather than specifics. For example, with a seasonal hurricane forecast, a forecast might focus on how active this season will be compared with last season, how storm totals will compare to an average season or which areas are at greater risk for landfall.

In fact, the three private outlets mentioned here, along with the federal government's Climate Prediction Center, all correctly predicted that the 2009 season would be less active than the 2008 season. The initial forecast for all of the entities was for a greater number of storms than actually occurred -- the seasonal total was nine -- but they were correct that the trend would be fewer storms. There were 16 named storms, including eight hurricanes, in the 2008 season.

Even though the specific numbers might not be right this season either, the trend is clear: Private forecasters are expecting an active hurricane season, and given the current large-scale weather factors, it would not be surprising if any updated 2010 seasonal forecasts are for more storms, not fewer.

The official U.S. government forecast issued by the Climate Prediction Center will be issued May 20. We'll see if it adds to the consensus.

**Dive team searching river for evidence in Backstrom homicide**


April 29, 2010 **VIDEO ON SITE**

A Des Moines police dive team is searching the Middle River this morning for evidence in the death of Benjamin Backstrom.

At about 10 a.m., divers were searching the river under a bridge about four miles north of Indianola. Southbound traffic on U.S. Highway 65/69 was restricted to one lane.

The 19-year-old Drake University student died early Tuesday. **State investigators say he was a homicide victim.**
Warren County sheriff's deputies found Backstrom about 1:30 a.m. Tuesday, severely injured and draped over a railing on the bridge. He was later pronounced dead at a Des Moines hospital.

The police divers are working the scene along with staff from the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation.

Officials have so far remained quiet about details in the case. On Wednesday, Polk County Medical Examiner Dr. Gregory Schmunk had not finished training turns real as Tenn. floods trap firefighters

http://www.firerescue1.com/rescue/articles/814861-Training-turns-real-as-Tenn-floods-trap-firefighters/

May 03, 2010 By Alicia P.Q. Wittmeyer The Virginian—Pilot

Visiting Va. firefighters assisted after a fire truck had rolled into a ditch and local fire departments had run out of people to handle calls

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — It was a final exam beyond anything the instructors could have dreamed up. Firefighters from Virginia Beach and Chesapeake were in Memphis, Tenn., on Saturday, teaching their last lesson in a five-week course for Memphis-area firefighters on technical rescues — rescues from tricky spaces or tight situations.

They were wrapping up their final week — focused on swift-water rescues, as it turns out — when the call came: A group of firefighters was trapped. Their engine, caught in the heavy flooding that swept through Tennessee that day, had rolled into a ditch and the local fire departments had run out of people to handle calls. Could they — and their class — possibly lend a hand?

"It's a terrible way to have a final scenario, but it certainly was a good one," said Macky Tabor, who retired from the Virginia Beach Fire Department last month.

The storms that hit Tennessee and northern Mississippi turned roads and highways into rivers, and brought tornadoes along with flash flooding. Seven were killed in Tennessee and at least three are missing after being
Lessons, said Virginia Beach fire Capt. Paul Gleaton. Like, make sure to always hold on to your boat when walking through the flood waters.

"We were walking in knee deep water, next thing I know, I'm in over my head," he said. "That's why you hold onto the boat."

Tabor said it's not the first time he's been asked to help with actual rescue work while teaching a class. Technical rescues require unusual skills that aren't always in high supply. Usually they try to let the local departments handle the rescue and just provide extra assistance, he said — but this Saturday was out of the ordinary.

"It was just refreshing that all this training was put to good use," Gleaton said.

UPDATE: Veteran DIVER HELD SONAR SYSTEMS

Ultra Electronics Ocean Systems produces a family of small hand held sonar systems for military, commercial and public safety applications. The devices all use high frequency sonar to search and locate submerged objects. For military applications, the devices are specially designed to be used in the ocean environment where magnetic sensitive ordnance is a concern. For commercial and safety applications, Ultra offers affordable devices to state and local fire, police and first responder organizations for use in coastal waters, lakes and rivers.

DLS-1 is a diver held, self-contained, high-performance device for use in detecting large and small underwater objects. This hand-held sonar is effective in detecting sunken vessels, lost equipment, downed aircraft, and other submerged objects.

The DLS-2A Diver's Locator Sonar Set is a portable, non-magnetic device used by divers to locate and close in on underwater mines, lost equipment, downed aircraft, and other submerged objects.

DLS-3 Explorer is a diver operated hand held sonar specifically developed by Ultra Electronics Ocean Systems for use by Public Safety Divers. It is a self-contained, high-performance device for use in detecting large and small underwater objects. This hand-held sonar is effective in detecting submerged vehicles, drowning victims, firearms, and other submerged evidence.

WWW.ULTRA-OS.COM

Tabor was part of a group of instructors who had traveled to Tennessee with Spec.Rescue International, a Virginia Beach-based company that provides technical rescue training.

In the Memphis area, meteorologists said a levee had been breached along a river to the north of the city, and in some areas, 4 to 5 feet of water had flooded hundreds of homes.

Tabor estimated they helped with 80 to 90 rescues that day.

Along the way, they also got to impart the real-life value of some of those in-class lessons, said Virginia Beach fire Capt. Paul Gleaton. Like,
Firefighter Rescued During Fire School Training Exercise; Name Released

A swift water training exercise turned into a real life swift water rescue Sunday afternoon.

http://www.wsaaz.com/home/headlines/92629729.html

UPDATE 5/3/10 Reporter: Carrie Cline; Allison Herman

Swift Water Training Accident VIDEO ON SITE

LOUISA, Ky. (WSAZ) -- While many communities were dealing with high water and flooding, a swift water training exercise in part of our region turned into a real life rescue mission.

The weather, as it turns out, had nothing to do with it. It happened on Yatesville Lake Sunday afternoon when a veteran firefighter was pulled under and nearly drowned.

"The reason we use Yatesville Lake is because they’re able to control the flow of water," training coordinator Mark Hammond said. "We’ve worked with them for years and conducted our training at their location for at least 10 years and never had a problem. They release the water so that we have a lifelike situation for our firefighters to train in without that situation being dangerous,"

But, on Sunday afternoon, a routine swift water rescue training class on Yatesville Lake went horribly wrong.

"A firefighter gave the sign that she was in trouble," Hammond said. "So, another firefighter who was nearby swam over to save her. He pushed her free of the current, but ended up getting sucked under by the same current."

Hammond is the regional training coordinator for the Kentucky State Fire and Rescue Commission. He says the Army Corps of Engineers always carefully releases water, but with a warning siren. For some reason that didn’t happen with one of the releases Sunday, leading to an unexpected rush of water that nearly killed a longtime veteran firefighter.

"He was under for several minutes and, when they pulled him out, they worked on him for awhile," Hammond said. "He went for a minimum of five minutes without a pulse. But, by the time the ambulance arrived, he was breathing and talking.

Found on the Web
Splat ... Red Bull Air Race pilot Adilson Kindlemann was rushed to Royal Perth Hospital yesterday after the 36-year-old Brazilian crashed his plane into Swan River. He was last night in a stable condition after suffering only minor injuries Photo: Red Bull Air Race
Had it not been for their training, that firefighter would have died. Our instructors and students are trained for the exact situation like this. That training is second to none and, when the time came, they acted quickly just like they were supposed to."

The initial firefighter pulled under was Sarah Thomas. She's from the Norton Branch Volunteer Fire Department near Rush, Ky. It was Locky Beasley of Hopkinsville, Ky., who pulled her free before getting sucked under himself. He's 37 and a 17-year veteran firefighter and paramedic. He was treated at a local hospital and has been released.

We spoke with the Army Corps of Engineers. They say they're looking into the matter to try and figure out what, if anything went wrong.

Again, weather was not a factor. While much of the region received heavy rains on Sunday, this part of Louisa did not.

UPDATE 5/2/10 @ 10:55 a.m.
LOUISA, Ky. (WSAZ) -- Mark Hammond, the Regional Training Coordinator for the Kentucky Fire Commission, says the firefighter rescued during the swift water training exercise is Locky Beasley, 37 of Hopkinsville, KY. Beasley is at Three Rivers Medical Center in Louisa.

According to Hammond, Beasley was actually saving another volunteer firefighter who got pulled under by the current when he got pulled under himself. Hammond says the gates at Yatesville Lake were malfunctioning and were supposed to hold water back in the spillway, but instead let several feet of water in all at once creating the dangerous situation.

SEARCH and EVIDENCE RECOVERY

DIDSON™ helps recover lost or discarded objects as well as examine underwater structures. If the search area is small, DIDSON can be used both for the initial search (low frequency mode) and the final identification and recovery (high frequency mode). If the search area is large, it is first covered with the side-scan sonar. The side-scan sonar generates a map with bright marks that indicate where there are large acoustic returns. The operators prioritize the marks, go to the locations, and send down an ROV, AUV or a diver with a DIDSON to identify the mark.

A 6 MINUTE VIDEO ABOUT DIDSON is posted on YouTube.

WWW.SOUNDMETRICS.COM
Hammond says they’ve conducted the same training exercises at this spot for ten to twelve years and never experienced a problem before this year.

The matter is under investigation.

---

**ORIGINAL STORY 5/2/10**

LOUISA, Ky. (WSAZ) -- A swift water training exercise turned into a real life swift water rescue Sunday afternoon.

Mark Hammond, the Regional Training Coordinator for the Kentucky Fire Commission, says a veteran firefighter and paramedic was pulled under during a swift water training exercise. It happened while the Northeastern Kentucky Fire School was doing some training at Yatesville Lake, in Louisa.

Hammond says about 1:30 p.m., the firefighter was actually saving another volunteer firefighter who was pulled under by the current. He was able to pull her free, but in the process got sucked under the water himself and had to be rescued. He was in cardiac arrest, and after about five minutes was able to be revived.

The man was taken to the hospital, and Hammond says by the time he got there, he was sitting up and talking. The firefighter is expected to be fine.

Hammond says the entire situation was "a nightmare that nobody ever wants to go through."

Hammond says the investigation is ongoing, and the victim's name is not being released at this time.

He also said he does not think today's rainy conditions played a role in the situation.

---

**Found on the Web:**

**When the Oil Hits Land: 3 Bad-to-Worse Scenarios**


May 12, 2010 Laura Parker

As you read this, the sweet crude from the [gulf oil spill](http://www.aolnews.com/nation/article/when-the-gulf-oil-spill-hits-land-3-bad-to-worse-scenarios/19475097) that is engulfing the Chandeleur Islands, the crescent chain of mangroves and sand providing the last flimsy barrier protecting southeast Louisiana from the sea, will be moving relentlessly beyond them toward the mainland.

The slick is expected to get there later this week, according to federal forecasters. Should those projections hold, the world will then get an answer to a grim question: Just how severe will the damage be?

Scientists have been predicting calamity for the Gulf Coast ever since the [Deepwater Horizon](http://www.aolnews.com/nation/article/when-the-gulf-oil-spill-hits-land-3-bad-to-worse-scenarios/19475097) oil rig blew up on April 20. But until the oil arrived at Louisiana's front door, the true potential of the disaster-in-the-making was difficult to gauge. Now, the possible outcomes for the area's delicate estuaries -- nursery to one of the most abundant fish, bird and animal populations in the world --
are coming into sharper focus. Even the best-case scenario is far from good.

Ron Kendall, who heads the Department of Environmental Toxicology at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, calls what is about to occur "the biggest ecological toxicology experiment in the country's history."

Here are three ways it could play out.

**The Bad-But-Less-Than-Doomsday Scenario**
If there's a glimmer of hope for coastal Louisiana, it comes from test results on oil samples taken from the spill.

"The good news is that the oil appears to be relatively nontoxic," Irving Mendelssohn, a Louisiana State University professor who specializes in wetlands plants, told AOL News.

"So if this was a one-time event, if the oil went into the marsh once, I wouldn't expect much of an effect on the vegetation. The leaves and shoots will die, and new leaves and shoots will grow back," he said.

Denise Reed, interim director of the Pontchartrain Institute for Environmental Studies at the University of New Orleans, also sees some cause for optimism. "The wetlands have a remarkable ability to survive," she said.

But minimizing the marshes' exposure depends on BP quickly finding a way to stanch the flow of oil, which of course is far from certain. And even if that were to happen, neither the fish, bivalves and wildlife that call the waters home, nor the men and women of Louisiana's $2-billion-a-year commercial fishing industry, will be similarly spared.

The slick is hitting at the worst possible time of year. It's nesting season for birds and animals and spawning season for fish.

What's more, while mildly oil-soaked plants can rebound, seafood has no such margin for error, as oysterman George Barisich knows all too well.

When Hurricane Katrina roared through in 2005, Barisich, 54, lost three of his boats and all but 40 of the nearly 400
Bernard Parish. past five years 160 acres for the path of oil, and he figures he's on the edge of going out of business again.

"The quantity, concentration and duration of the oil will determine the mortality," Barisich told AOL News. "But basically, we're screwed."

**The Even-Scarier Scenario**

The risks to the Louisiana shoreline are compounded by the shape they were in before the Deepwater disaster. The state has 40 percent of the coastal wetlands in the continental U.S., according to the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration, but they are disappearing at a rate of 25 square miles a year. Hurricanes Katrina and Rita alone took out 200 square miles in 2005, notes Reed. Tiny marsh islands in Terrebonne Bay and Barataria Bay have vanished so recently that they still appear on navigation charts. Barisich said islands that he used to anchor on he now catches oysters on. They're five feet underwater.

NOAA forecasters had hoped the oil would keep to the east of the Mississippi River, held back by the strong river current emptying into the gulf. Instead, the oil is creeping steadily into areas that have suffered nearly 60 percent of the coastal land loss.

"If a marsh is healthy, it will bounce back," Reed said. "But where some marshes are already stressed, this could be the last straw that pushes it over the edge. Once you lose the vegetation, it's gone. Gone to open water."

The longer it takes BP to shut off the oil, the more marshland subjected to that fate.

"If this oil spill keeps going, you could get multiple coatings of shoots and leaves. If this happens two or three times, then the total plant will die, and there will be no regeneration," said Mendelssohn. And when marsh grass dies, there's nothing left to hold the soil together.

"We've never had this kind of event that I'm aware of, where we've had 21 days of oil release like this. This creates a whole new playing field," he said.

**The So-Bad-It-Will-Be-Felt-for-Generations Scenario**

In less than three weeks, a new, unpredictable and potentially ruinous variable will be added to that field when hurricane season officially begins June 1.

Texas Tech's Kendall puts it plainly: "If a hurricane rolls up the gulf, we'll be sweeping oil out of downtown New Orleans."
Southeast of the city, Barisich thinks, it could take even less to swamp low-lying St. Bernard Parish with tar balls. "I pray to God we can stop it. But if we get a storm surge -- it doesn't have to be a hurricane -- this oil is going to go over the marsh and go way inland. Once it gets up into Shell Beach on Lake Borgne, we're done."

As of this afternoon, the oil was still a long way from that tiny fishing community, but plenty close enough to inspire dread.

At Breton Sound Marina, which overlooks Bayou la Lourtre near Hopedale, owner Glenn Sanchez keeps a before-and-after map at his desk showing what the area suffered at the hands of Katrina. "Whenever I go through my little spiel, people just can't believe what we've lost," he said. He thinks the damage from the oil spill will be even worse.

"Depending on how bad it comes in, it could be from five to 20 years. This will destroy a whole culture," he said. "I might be out of business. I'm 55 years old. I don't have any idea where I'd go to try and find a job."

Louis Molero Jr., 47, a third-generation fisherman, lives in the 100-year-old cypress house his grandfather bought in 1916. Until last month, he was a shrimper. Now he lays boom for BP and waits.

"My son told me the other day, This could go into duck hunting season. I'm not thinking that far ahead. What I'm thinking now is: How am I gonna pay my bills?"

"I'm used to dealing with hurricanes," Molero added.

"They come. They're gone. This is a totally different thing. What is the long-term effect? Is it going to kill the fish and the oysters and the shrimp? Are we out for years?"

Travis Holeman, a fishing guide and charter captain, thinks that may be what will happen. "Fishing stocks take a long time to recover," he said. He has already started scouting out new places to guide his clients -- in Argentina.

"You'll have third-, fourth- and fifth-generation fishermen who will have been thrust into poverty for the rest of their lives," he said. "Most of the people in their 50s will never see this in its heyday again. They've already had their prime fishing time. It's over."

**BP Provides Update on Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill Response**

BP today provided an update on developments in the response to the MC252 oil well incident in the Gulf of Mexico.

**Subsea Source Control and Containment**

Subsea efforts continue to focus on, firstly, progressing options to stop the flow of oil from the well through interventions via the blow out preventer (BOP) and, secondly, attempts to contain the flow of oil at source to reduce the amount spreading on the surface. These efforts are being carried out in conjunction with governmental authorities and other industry experts.

Further investigation of the failed BOP, using remotely-operated vehicles and a variety of diagnostic techniques, has increased our understanding of the condition of the
BOP and allowed planning to continue for a number of potential interventions, including for a so-called "top kill" of the well.

This would involve first injecting material of varying densities and sizes (also known as "junk shot") into the internal spaces of the BOP to provide a seal, before pumping specialised heavy fluids into the well to prevent further flow up the well. Plans for this option are being developed in preparation for potential application next week.

Work to deploy a second system designed to contain the oil flow subsea has continued. A small dome or "top hat" has been taken out to the well site and placed on the seabed in preparation for deployment. Such a system has never been used in water depths of 5,000 feet and its successful operation is not certain. The deployment of this system is expected to be attempted within the next few days.

All of the techniques being attempted or evaluated to contain the flow of oil on the seabed involve significant uncertainties because they have not been tested in these conditions before.

Work on the first relief well, which began on Sunday May 2, continues. It is expected to take some three months to complete. The drilling rig that will drill the second relief well is currently en route to the site, expected to arrive by Friday.

**Surface Spill Response and Containment**

Work continues to collect and disperse oil that has reached the surface of the sea. Over 530 vessels are involved in the response effort, including skimmers, tugs, barges and recovery vessels.

Over 120 flights have been made to apply dispersant to the spill since the response effort began. Intensive operations to skim oil from the surface of the water also continued. Some 97,000 barrels of oily liquid have now been recovered.

The total length of boom deployed as part of efforts to prevent oil reaching the coast is now more than 1.2 million feet, with a further 400,000 feet staged in readiness for deployment.

In total over 13,000 personnel from BP, other companies and government agencies are currently involved in the response to this incident. Over 16,000 people have registered to volunteer across four states. So far 6,700 claims have been filed, of which about 1,000 have already been paid. BP has also received 46,500 calls into its help lines, approximately 30 per cent of which have offered ideas to help the response or other assistance.

The cost to date of the response amounts to about $450 million, including the cost of spill response, containment, relief well drilling, commitments to the Gulf Coast States, settlements and federal costs.

Source: BP [www.bp.com](http://www.bp.com)

---

*This is just disturbing... Chinese Baby Bodies Found*  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HKR0dADaMFw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HKR0dADaMFw)

The video link will offer even more links
INFORMATION YOU CAN USE

The latest edition of NOAA's newsletter, Aware has been posted at the following link:

http://www.weather.gov/os/Aware/pdfs/10spring-aware.pdf

Please feel to pass on this link or reprint Aware.

If you have suggestions for future topics, comments or compliments, please send them to Melody.Magnus@noaa.gov

Melody Magnus, Editor

Click here to receive a free subscription to OCEAN E-NEWS

Subscribe to Offshore Source Today for FREE

---

Diving Medicine Online

Comprehensive information about diving and undersea medicine for the non-medical diver, the non-diving physician and the specialist.

http://www.scuba-doc.com

---

Hyperbaric Facilities

*List of Hyperbaric Chambers and Physicians

*The chambers and physicians listed have no relationship with this web site and no guarantees of quality are offered or implied. The listings are for information only. This is a listing that I have developed for my personal use. Please be aware that these references are under no obligation at all to respond. It may be that not all of these physicians treat patients, but it is probable that they all may refer you to the appropriate service.

---

Diplomates of the American Board of Preventive Medicine

(Subspecialty of Undersea and Hyperbaric Medicine)

ADD A CHAMBER

---

PSDiver Monthly Issue 72
We rely almost entirely on information from divers with local knowledge of dive safety facilities. Please help us by providing up-to-date data about chambers in your area.

*This list is by no means complete! Listings do not imply recommendation by Diving Medicine Online! Some of the chambers may not manage emergency scuba diving accidents, so it would be wise to check beforehand.

Omissions can be remedied rapidly by simply sending us the information about the diving accident facility to Diving Medicine Online.

**International Hyperbaric Facilities**

ADD A CHAMBER

We rely almost entirely on information from divers with local knowledge of dive safety facilities. Please help us by providing up-to-date data about chambers in your area that manage scuba diving accidents.

*This list is by no means complete! Listings do not imply recommendation by Diving Medicine Online! Some of the chambers may not manage emergency scuba diving accidents, so it would be wise to check beforehand.

Omissions can be remedied rapidly by simply sending us the information about the diving accident facility to Diving Medicine Online.

**United States**


**Hyperbaric Oxygen Providers Express** (H.O.P.E.)

Email address: johncrowe1540@juno.com

Telephone: (931) 389-6521

Mobile service to the contiguous 48 states.

FDA approved conditions, and alternative diagnosis.
Phone numbers of the International DAN Alarm Centers

**DAN America** Duke University Medical Center, NC, USA
+1 919 684 4326    +1 919 684 8111

**DAN Latin America** DAN Latin America Hotline (Spanish and Portuguese) +1 267 520 1507    TravelAssist (US) US (May be called collect)) 215 245 2461

**DAN South-East Asia-Pacific DES Australia**
Royal Adelaide Hospital +61 (8) 8212 9242

**DAN South-East Asia-Pacific DES New Zealand**
0800 4 DES 111 (0800 4 337 111)

**DAN South-East Asia-Pacific Singapore**
Naval Medicine & Hyperbaric Center +65 750 55 46

**DAN South-East Asia-Pacific DAN SEAP Philippines**
+02 815 99 11

**DAN Europe**
DAN Europe 24 hour hotline +39 039 605 7858

**DAN Japan**
Tokyo University Medical Center +81 3 381 249 99

**DAN Southern Africa**
Southern Africa 24 hour hotline +27 11 254 1112

---

**DUI DOG Rally & 2010 Demo Tour**

May 21    Bethlehem, PA Dutch Springs
June 4     Findlay, OH  Gilboa Quarry
June 11   Kankakee, IL  Haigh Quarry
Aug 27    Seattle, WA Mukilteo Lighthouse Park
Oct 1     Portland, CT Brownstone Quarry
Oct 22     Rawlings, VA Lake Rawlings
Nov 5     Chiefland, FL Manatee Springs
Nov 12    Terrell, TX Clear Springs Scuba Park

**Biological & Trace Evidence Workshop**

http://www.imprimus.net/workshop_forensic_bio_and_trace.html
May 24 - 26, 2010
Springfield Police Training Academy, Springfield, IL
TOPICS IN CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION: BODY FLUIDS AND TRACE EVIDENCE
http://www.le-seminars.com/011.htm
June 3-4, 2010
Clay County Sheriff Training Academy, Orange Park, FL

MAST Americas 2010
June 22-24, 2010
http://www.mastamericas.com
Washington, DC
Global conference and trade-show for senior-level maritime security and defense leaders.

Evidence Photographer Certification
www.evidencephotographers.com
July 24-29, 2010
Atlanta, GA

Firehouse Expo 2009
http://www.publicsafetyevents.com/emsfh/index.po
July 20-25, 2010
Baltimore Convention Center, Baltimore, MD

Pattern Evidence Symposium
projects.nfstc.org/ipes/
August 2–6, 2010
Clearwater Beach, FL

EMS Expo
http://www.publicsafetyevents.com/ems/index.po;jsessionid=dWZDQxpNtSo-T-pwDoQYP1GS
Sept. 27 - Oct. 1, 2010
Dallas Convention Center, Dallas, TX

Homeland Security Professionals Conference and Exposition
http://thecounterterroristmag.com/conference/
October 25-29, 2010 - Las Vegas, NV

International Symposium on Human Identification
www.promega.com/applications/hmnid/worforme etings/
October 11-14, 2010 San Antonio, TX

Canadian Underwater Conference & Exhibition
October 24-26, 2010 in Toronto, Ontario
www.underwaterconference.ca

2010 IEEE International Conference on Technologies for Homeland Security
http://ieee-hst.org/
8-10 November
Waltham, MA USA

Subsea Survey IRM
http://www.subseasurvey.com
November 9-11
Galveston, Texas

If you have an event or know of an event that might be of interest to PSDiver Monthly subscribers, send the information to: PSDiverMonthly@aol.com
Scuba Diving Buoyancy Compensators Recalled by Ocean Management Systems Due to Drowning Hazard

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with the firm named below, today announced a voluntary recall of the following consumer product. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed. It is illegal to resell or attempt to resell a recalled consumer product.

**Name of Product:** Buoyancy Compensators used for Scuba Diving

**Units:** About 20,000

**Ocean Management Systems** is recalling 20,000 BCs after they discovered the seal ring can crack, posing a drowning risk. The BCs were sold in black or red between May 2006 and August 2008. The item and serial numbers for recall are here; check for the numbers printed on the warning label, in the BC's non-inflation area. Take the BC back to an OMS dealer for new parts to be installed free of charge, call OMS at 877-791-0315, or e-mail recall@omsdive.com

---

**TUSA RS-670 Product Safety Notice and Recall**

http://tusa.com/670recall.php

**Important Consumer and Dealer Information**

September 17th, 2009.

**SUBJECT:** RS-670 BLC Plug Replacement

**Affected Units:**

Approximately 60 units of R-600 1st stages with S/N's between:

- UR600022 - UR600029
- UR600031 - UR600103
- UR600637 - UR600676
- UR600708 - UR600716
- UR600737 - UR600776

TUSA was recently informed about the possible loosening of the BLC plug on the R-600 1st stage. There is a slight chance this may cause a high-pressure leak creating an unstable intermediate pressure. Immediate return of the units is requested.

To locate the 1st stage serial number, please refer to the image below and/or to the RS-670 product box.

Download the safety recall notice at the following link: [TUSA RS-670 Safety Notice](http://tusa.com/670recall.php)
1) Turnout fire fighting PPE is suitable for all water rescues
   a. True
   b. False

2) Departments should have SOG/SOP for which of the following?
   a. Water Rescue
   b. Structural Fire Fighting
   c. PPE
   d. Vehicle accidents
   e. All of the above

3) The following vehicle can be safely driven across a flooded stream.
   a. Rescue Truck
   b. Fire Truck
   c. Police vehicle
   d. P.O.S.
   e. None of the above.

4) An scba bottle and regulator will not work if submerged.
   a. True
   b. False

5) As little as ______ inches can cause a vehicle to be carried away
   a. 2 inches
   b. 4 inches
   c. 6 inches
   d. 12 inches

6) It is ok to tie a rope around a rescuer if the water is less than waist deep.
   a. True
   b. False

7) Letting ½ of the air out of a tire will let the vehicle cross a flooded roadway safely.
   a. True
   b. False

8) An often quoted statement for safely checking depth is:
   a. Use a sonar depth meter
   b. Use a line with depth marks
   c. Count the rungs on a ladder placed vertical in the water column.
   d. Never test water depth with two feet.

9) A rescuer in turnout fire fighter gear will always float for 30 minutes if immersed in water.
   a. True
   b. False

10) Select the two types of water
Team Discussion:
This month, our team discussion will focus on contamination, how well we are prepared, where our resources are and how we will work with other teams on larger incidents. Smaller teams or teams with small bodies of water should consider this a major concern. A simple car underwater is capable of releasing a variety of chemicals and depending on the body of water has the potential to contaminate and kill all aquatic life in a small pond. A gas column in zero visibility cannot be seen but will be felt, tasted and smelled shortly after swimming through it. Neoprene wetsuits, dive skins or just a bathing suit and t-shirt will not offer protection from the chemical burn that will follow.

As a team, discuss the variety of ways your divers could become contaminated.

Using each example, discuss each as a separate incident and identify the types and variety of equipment and resources that might be needed or required to decontaminate your divers.

Consider a joint training session with your haz-mat team to discuss their possible involvement and compare techniques and methods you are using for decontamination.

Discuss the possibility of an oil spill that could harshly impact your area or cause a serious environmental impact. Consider high probability areas and discuss mitigation efforts your team could perform.

Work with your haz-mat team to develop a joint response SOP to a water related oil or chemical spill and work to identify weaknesses in inventory, manpower, training or available resources.

Chemical spill information can be obtained by calling 1-800-424-9300. Is this number in your phone list?
These training agencies have recognized PSDiver Monthly as a valued addition to their programs and Continuing Education requirements.

Public Safety Diving Association (PSDA) recognizes and approves the PSDiver CE program. Each month’s Q&A program credits 1 CEU for renewal up to a maximum of 3 CEUs from this source for each year’s renewal.

ERDI Recognizes and supports the PSDiver Monthly CE Program. Contact your ERDI Instructor for details.

Life Saving Resources
Lifesaving Resources advocates the need for Public Safety and Rescue personnel to be trained in Water and Ice Rescue and recognizes the PSDiver Monthly CE Program for continuing education training and credits.

We welcome all training agencies and organizations to participate.

For details, email PSDiverMonthly@aol.com

PSDiver Monthly is a free subscriber E-Zine distributed by Press Release notice and website download. We have a world wide distribution and a verified email subscriber list of over 12,000.

PSDiver Monthly is the magazine for PSDiver and is edited and published by Mark Phillips
Assistant Editors: Lynn Wright Dominique Evans-Bye
Continuing Education Editor: Chuck Elgin
For advertising and sponsor rates, please email: psdivermonthly@aol.com

PSDiver is a downloadable Internet Magazine. Subscribers are notified via email that a new issue is available for download. Our subscriber email list is verified with each issue and our current subscriber base is around 12,000.

PSDiver Monthly is not bound by borders and while our largest subscriber base is in North America, we have a world wide subscriber base.

answers

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
B E E B B B D B C E B

PSDiver Monthly Issue 72