

**POPS record attempts**

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# Skydivin

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## POPS Members Build Multiple Records

Members of the Parachutists Over Forty Society built two large formation relative work records recently in California.

The jumpers, led by Carey Peck and Dave Leclercq, completed two back-to-back 50-way formations December 5 at Perris Valley Skydiving center. The group then followed that with a 54-way on its next jump. The first 50-way was built on the seventh attempt.

The dives topped a 40-way POPS formation built last December at Lake Elsinore, Calif. Several POPS 50-way attempts last July at Perris Valley fell short of their goal.

Perris Valley provided a DC-3 and two Twin Otters for the record attempts. Exit altitude was 13,000 feet.

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## 'Sport Accuracy' Added to Arizona Classic Competition

You don't have to be a hard-core accuracy buff to compete in the 1994 Arizona Classic, or at least not in the traditional sense of the word. Long-time competitor Jim Hayhurst has added a new twist to his annual event.

The Arizona Classic, which will be held next March, will include "sport accuracy" for jumpers who like to fly smaller, higher-performance canopies that don't react well to the standard "deep brakes" approach.

Traditional accuracy, or what Hayhurst calls precision accuracy, will still be part of the meet, of course. Hayhurst has also added a style event this year to give competitors a chance to practice for the World Meet. (The world championships will be held May 29-June 7 in China.)

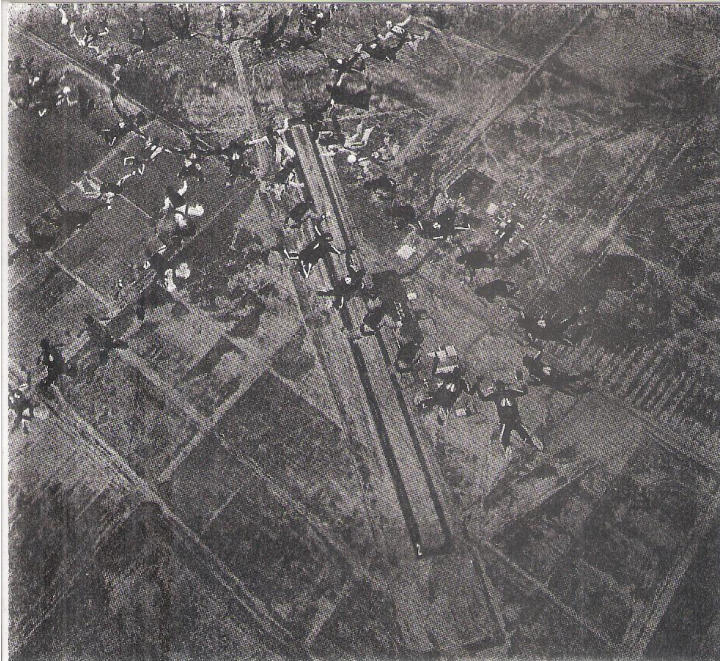
Hayhurst's Arizona Classic is scheduled for March 25-29 at the Marana Skydiving Center in Arizona. This will be the fourth year the meet has been run; last year's event attracted 44 competitors (SKYDIVING #142).

As in previous years, the Arizona Classic will include cash prizes for the two accuracy events; the total is currently estimated at about \$12,000 based on a projected 105 competitors. The money is taken

RECORD FOR POPS  
UNOFFICIAL AS  
9 SKYDIVERS NOT "POPS"







sky formation during last October's World Meet at Eloy, Ariz., (Skydiving #149). Jumpers exited two jumpers were missing from the formation, which was meant to be a 100-way. The missing jumpers rs who exited one of the DC-3s at a lower altitude. An attempt to convert the formation to an 86-way eta.

turns and had six line twists. It was about half open. I didn't think I was going to die.

"It was my standard careful pack job, and in 1600 square jumps, I've never had a line-over."

Heid said Humphries didn't hit the tower, but landed "awkwardly" at the base of the tower. He injured his spinal cord and is paralyzed from the waist down.

Humphries has logged over 2700 skydives and 130 fixed-object jumps. □

## POPS Record

(continued from page 1)

Peck said spirits remained high throughout the weekend even when the first day's dives ended in a "large funnel."

"This was not a group that would lose heart easily," said Peck. "And it was easily one of the most relaxed formation loads."

"Our plan was to run out a few dirt dives and then get everyone in their aircraft. We didn't plan to do a lot of talking. We had the people we needed to do the job."

The organizers made a few replacements for the next day's efforts. "Individual jumpers who were causing problems were quietly and steadily replaced by new arrivals," Peck said.

Sunday's first jump ended in another funnel, but Peck attributed the problem to a single jumper. The next dive built to 47.

The group built a solid 50-way on the following jump. The skydivers held the formation for close to 10 seconds.

"The base was fast, the lines of jumpers filed right into their slots, and the formation was built at just under 7000 feet," said Peck.

The organizers and participants weren't completely satisfied, however. Peck said the dive was designed with "optional" cross grips which were picked up by four of five possible pairs.

"It made the photo look like a bust," he said.

"It showed a bit of an attitude, after completing the first dive ugly, to go right back up and do a second formation just for the cameraman," added Leclercq. "But that's what we did."

On this dive the base funneled, but everyone seemed to take it in stride.

"It was the most discipline I have ever seen on a skydive," commented participant Steve Fielding. "Usually, when the base comes apart people go crazy and a feeding frenzy starts. But this time the lines just formed up, the early floaters and late divers closed in, and when the base was ready everyone docked."

The group added an additional four jumpers for the sunset load. "We had a solid 50-way base for those guys to dock on," Leclercq said.

"I couldn't believe it," said Peck. "We set a record, did it again, and then broke it again. Everyone on the ground was delirious . . . not bad for a bunch of old farts." □

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