

He's been a subscriber for a few years now. Last month, as he plowed hungrily (as always) through his latest edition, he came across an outstanding photo. What was so great about it was we had our own version, which was taken the summer of 2007. These type pics are so great, we just wanted to share.... The photographer is my uncle, Barry Buchan. He presented the picture to my husband as a Christmas gift. It was framed with the caption, "Here Fishy, fishy, fishy!" Classic! Thanks guys! Love the mag! Keep up the great work!

**Robert & Olivia Luke** Via e-mail

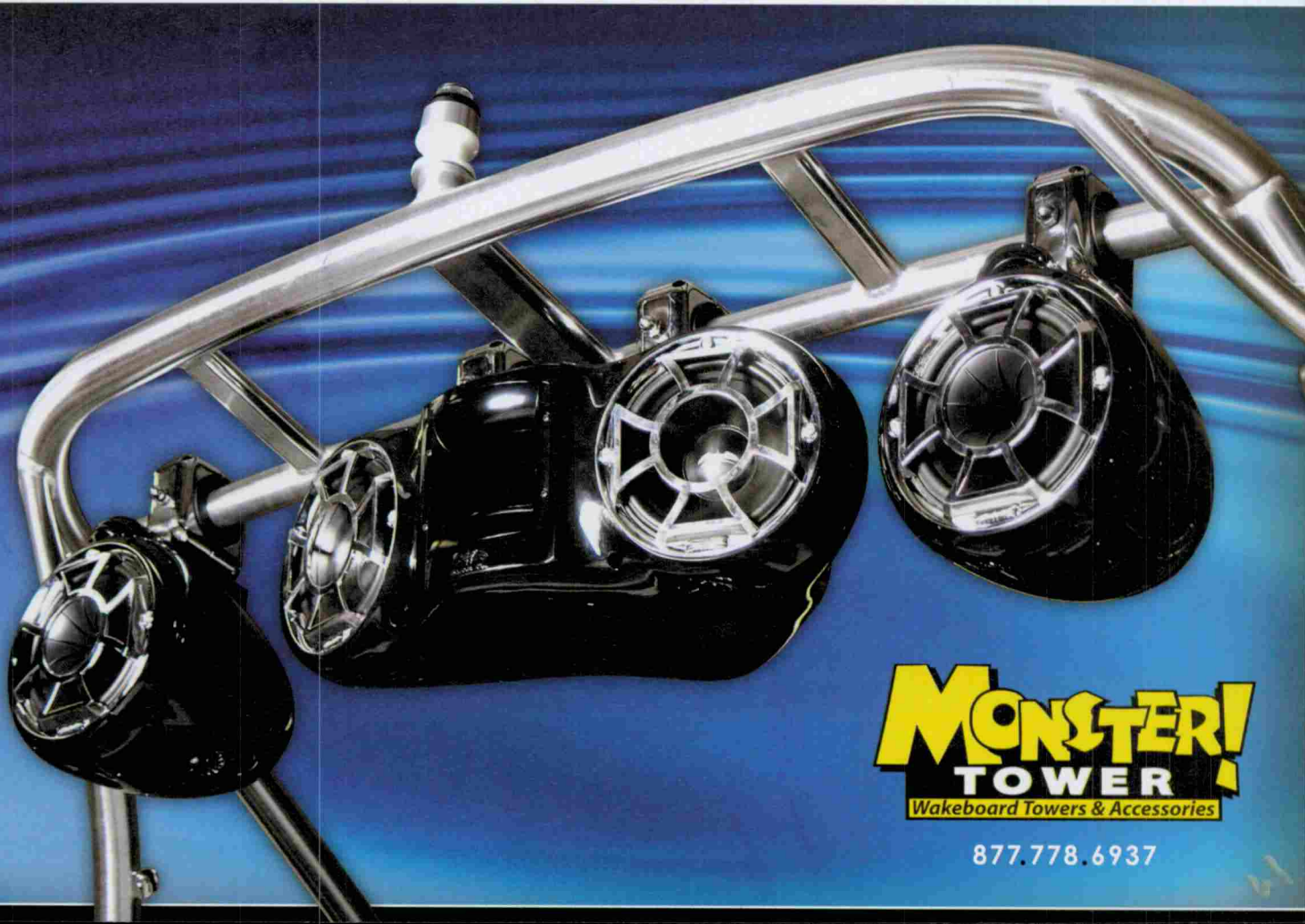
#### **PAT'S BACK**

I recently came across a photo that inspired me that I wanted to pass along to you guys. It's of Pat McElhinney, one of the most important components of wakeboarding's formative years in the early- to mid-90s and beyond. He was both a pro rider and the lead wakeboard designer for O'Brien and went on to be a Masters World Champion. He's been a big part of our sport's history. But Pat didn't do it alone. He traveled everywhere with his wife, Stacey. Whether it was a contest, a trade show or anything in between, the two of them were an inseparable pair. They represented a dynamic duo, the best of friends. Stacey was stricken with cancer and battled

the disease heroically for several years. During this time Pat devoted himself exclusively to the care of his wife. He almost completely put wakeboarding behind him, staying in touch with the sport only through the running of his wakeboard school, which happens to be the longest running wakeboard-specific school in the world. Sadly, Stacey succumbed to cancer in January of 2007. Pat has slowly begun to reintegrate himself back into wakeboarding. It has been difficult for him as riding is yet another reminder of

the loss of his life partner as she was just as much a part of the scene as he was. Pat absolutely rips when he rides, and it's good to see him back doing something that is so intertwined with the core of his being. And seeing this photo, Pat riding strong with Stacey named boldly represented on his board, has given me the chance to once again see the McElhinney's together again in a scene they both lived for.

**Jeff Barton** Via e-mail



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