

# THE SPORTFISHERMAN

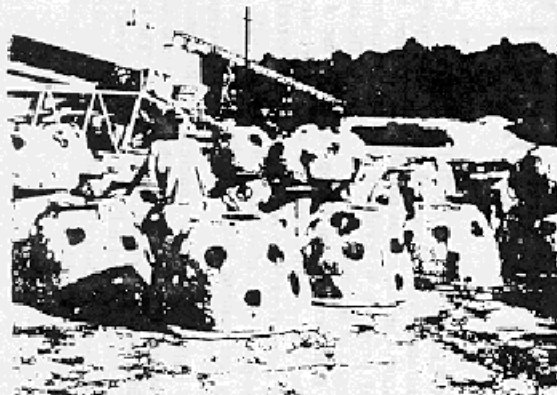
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## "REEF BALLS" COMING YOUR WAY

The Hilton Head Reef Foundation, in a joint project with the South Carolina DNR, has completed the construction of approximately 130 "Reef Balls". This new reef system was designed by Reef Ball Development Group, Ltd., a for-profit company based out of Atlanta, Georgia. The structures, built entirely out of concrete, stand approximately 3 to 4 feet high and weigh approximately 1500 lbs. each, with a 6 foot flat circular bottom. The numerous holes, nooks and crannies in the swiss cheese like exterior and interior provide a very complex surface area to house a host of marine life. The Reef Balls allow individual flexibility in choosing the size, weight and appearance of the Reef Balls.



Completed "Reef Balls"

The swiss cheese like exterior/interior is made possible by placing small rubberized balls in-between the fiberglass mold and the inflated, large internal bladder before the concrete is poured into the mold. The rubberized balls are removed before deployment.



**Matt Hayes and Bob Upton**  
Next to Fiberglass Molds

Matt Hayes and Bob Upton, two Beaufort residents, were hired by the Hilton Head Reef Foundation for \$2,100 to construct 150 of the Reef Balls. George Madlinger, an avid angler and fishing club member in Beaufort, has been extremely helpful in coordinating and overseeing the production of the Reef Balls. Construction took place at Bobby Glover's Beaufort Concrete batch plant site across from