


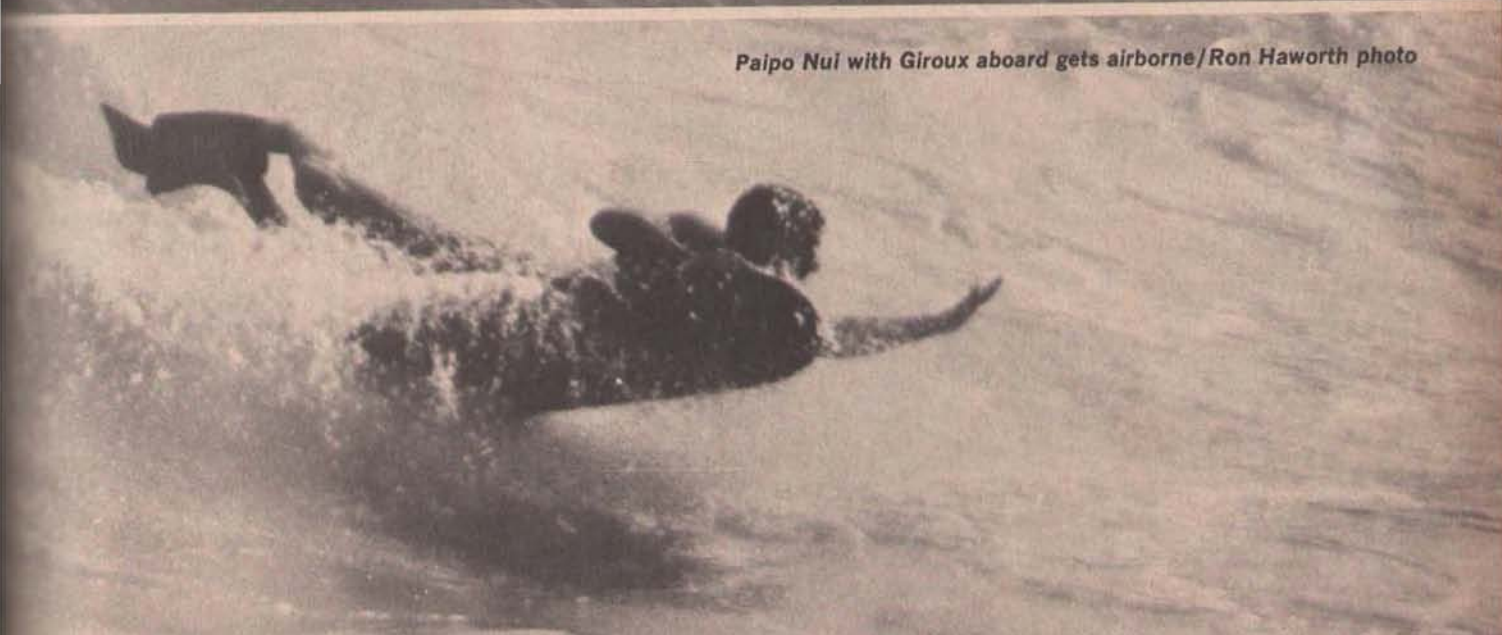


# Belly Boarding

by ron haworth



On a big Portlock, Hawaii  
boomer/Giroux photo




Paipo Nui with Giroux aboard gets airborne/Ron Haworth photo

• The bellyboarding fan finds a whole new dimension in surfing because he gets a faster ride on a wave than the regular board surfer, particularly on the drop down the curl. The takeoff on peak surf is better on the bellyboard, but it proves to be slower on wall type surf. One of the greatest advantages of bellyboarding, of course, is the fact that the boards may be used on crowded beaches when regular surfboards are barred during the middle

period of the day. There is also less danger to the rider as well as swimmers in the water in the event of a wipeout or lost board.

In the Hawaiian Islands where bellyboarding has grown tremendously, they are called Paipo boards and are used on the big storm surf as well as the smaller waves. With the use of swim fins, the bellyboarder is able to get out through the surf faster than the regular surfer and handle himself better in

the water. There also is a closer contact with the bulk and the motion of the waves in bellyboarding which gives the feeling of faster action and better control on the wave. Direction is controlled by lifting the right or left side of the nose of the board, while speed may be decreased by pushing the board down and dragging the legs in the water. All in all, it is a tremendously exhilarating sport.

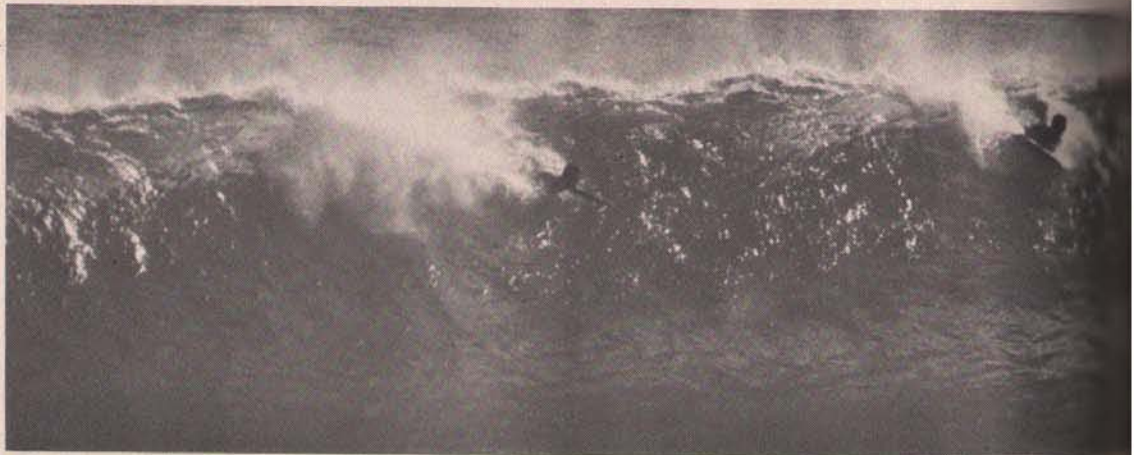


Hot ride developing on a Portlock,  
Oahu ten-footer/Dick Feldman



Sizzling action at Makapuu / John Holmes

**RIGHT:** Two bellyboarders grab  
a nice wall at Portlock /  
Dick Feldman photo.  
**LOW:** Another Portlock, Oahu  
"body crusher" is held  
up by offshore wind / Feldman





*Jim Grounie reaching on a good Sunset Beach wall/Val Valentine*

**RIGHT: Dick Wondrocke rides at Salt Creek while George Farquar (Below) races the soup also at Salt Creek/photos by Leroy Grannis**



**Belly Boarding/**CONTINUED



*Jim Grounie reaching on a good Sunset Beach wall/Val Valentine*