

TRIP REPORT

Bad Times In Water-town

or

What To Do When the Cave Runs Out

It was one of those days, when you've got great expectations but the cave refuses to co-operate.

We were headed out to Murphy's #1 and we expected to put another 1500 feet of survey in like the last time. John Neack, Jacque Ramey, Bigus Birdus (Jeff Streba), and a friend of Dr. J's named Gabreille all were ready for another fun-filled day of crawling, crawling, and then we hoped to do some crawling. We geared up and headed into Murphh's sure to rack up those feet. After a wonderfull time of crawling we got to the EOS (end of survey) where we had stopped 3 weeks before. On the way in we noticed that the water was much higher then before, as much as a foot or two in some places, but this didn't bother us (being the brave explorers that we were, besides, we knew it wasn't gonna rain).

At the beginning of the new survey we started off. We got the books, compasses, and other assorted implements of survation together and roared off. First Shot 90 feet - not bad.

Second Shot 45 feet - OK.

And then the saying that will go down in GCG history. Jacque yells back (and I quote) "I'm standing in chest deep water and it's over my head". We discussed this gem of grammar for a while and then decided to help poor Jacque out.

When we got to him we found the

bitter truth. Ahead of him the water got deep and then sumped. his was confirmed by me after a swim of the now famous spelo-dogpaddle. End, dead and wet. We thought we might have been beyond it at a previous trip but we were not sure. We're going to have to go back on a dry week.

We headed out of the cave after 4 hours and 150 feet of survey, not one of our more productive days (but not our worst).

then we cruised out and found a couple of new holes that we'll plug our bodies into at a later date.

NJK NSS DDD