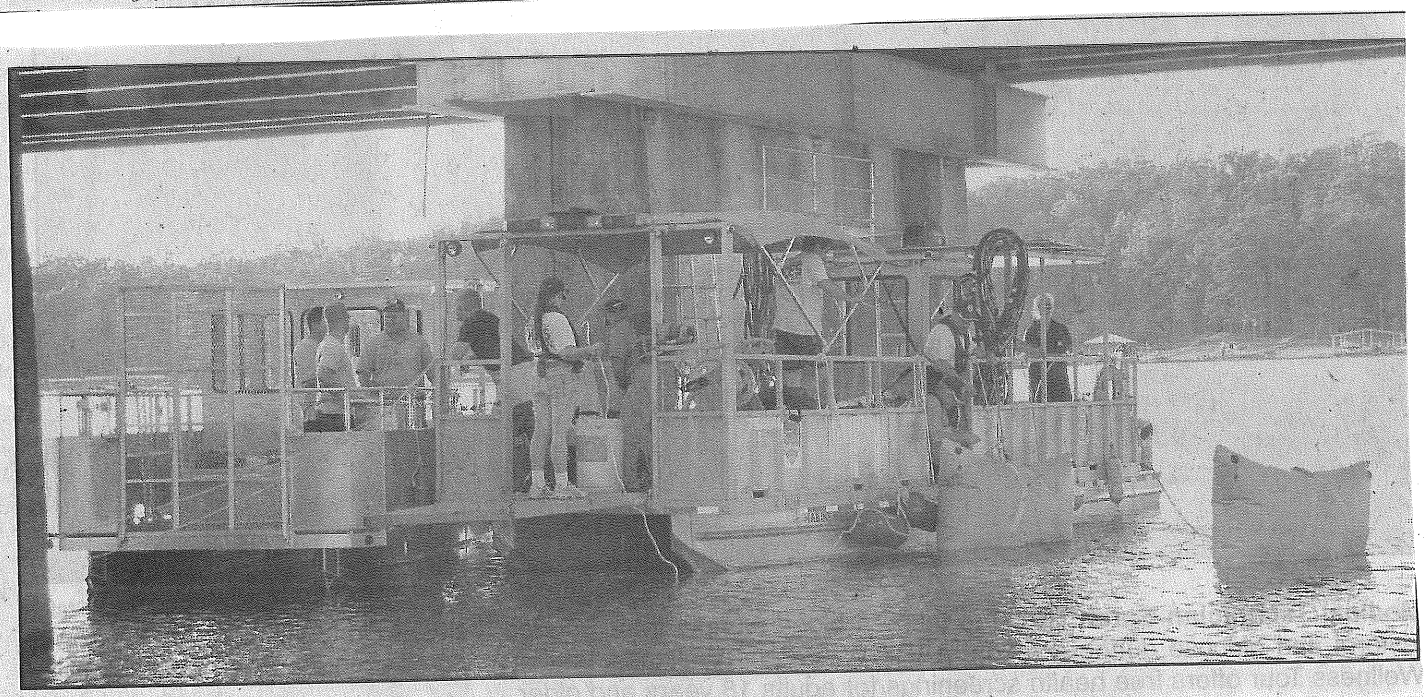
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Up from the depths

The Marine Dive Unit from the Oconee County Sheriff's Department, supported by members of the Oconee County Dive Team, gathered under the I-85 bridge at Fair Play Creek recently for the recovery of a hydro-lift used to raise a boat out of the water at a dock. There have been numerous lifts reported stolen. This object was located leaning up against one of the bridge pillars and was reported to the Department. of Transportation. A few weeks ago a bridge inspection company was dispatched to identify the object. Then, with a dive team diver standing by for safety, a sheriff's diver was lowered in about 45 feet of water to attach two 2,000-pound pillow lift bags to the submerged lift. The lift floated to the surface and was towed to the landing in Fair Play. A tow truck then removed the lift.

Steven Zahn/Special to the Daily Journal/Messenger