

JULY 2008

VOLUME 36 ISSUE 7

Scaffold Industry

Celebrating 36 Years of Scaffold & Access Excellence

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**Q&A with
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The Voice of the Scaffold and Access Industry

Scuba Scaffolding

Associated tackles an underwater job at Duke University



Associated Scaffolding erected scaffolding to attach bungee cords to the ceiling at Duke University's Taishoff Aquatic Center.

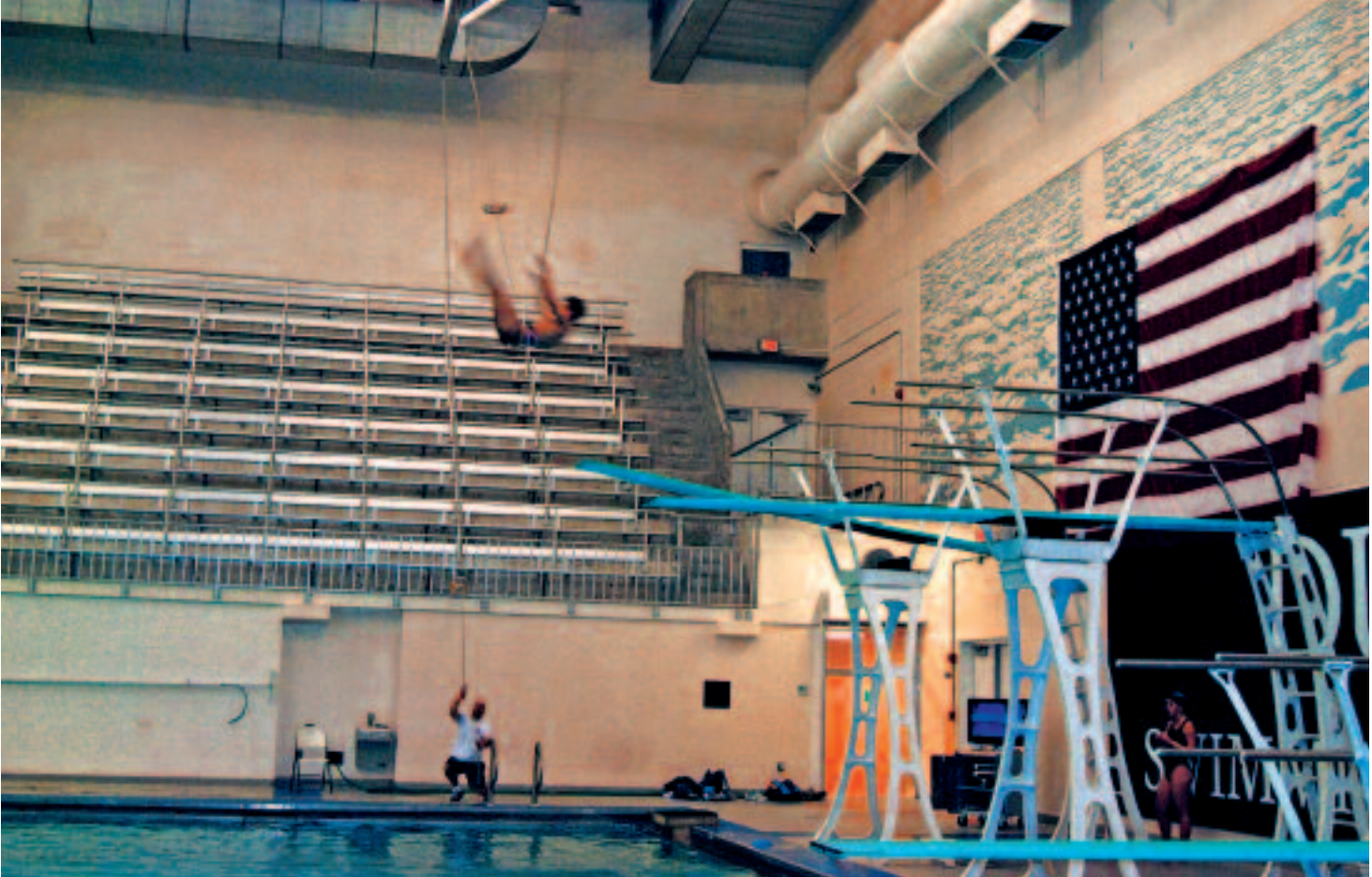
While Associated Scaffolding Company has completed many jobs for Duke University in Durham, N.C. over its 50-year-history with the school, the most unique job was done underwater in December 2007.

In the summer of 2007, Duke hired a new diving coach, Drew Johansen,

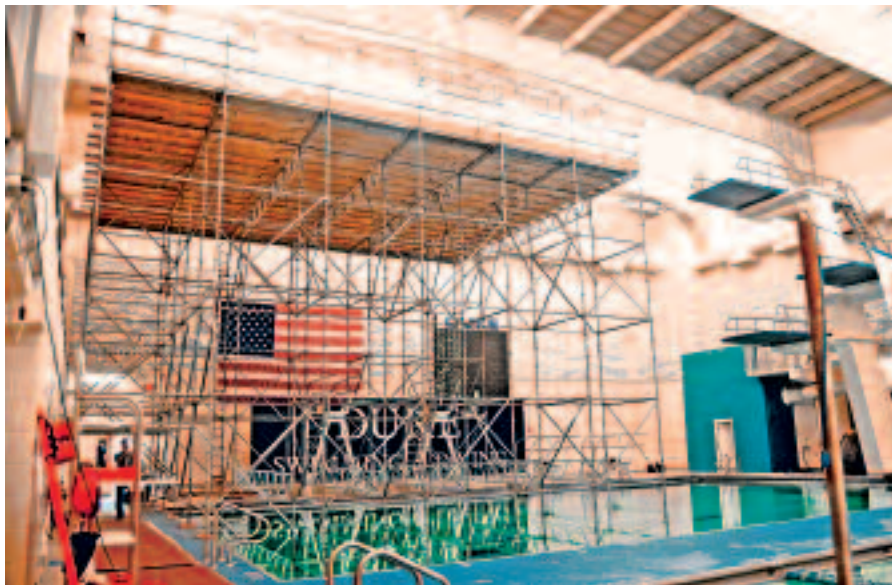
who is bringing to Duke a completely new diving technology which uses bungee cords for the divers. With the use of the bungee cords suspended from the ceiling over the two three-meter spring-diving boards, diving students can learn and practice on these three-meter boards the same dives that

they will perform from the 10-meter platform at the Duke University Taishoff Aquatic Center. Duke will be the first university in the country to implement this new technology. Johansen learned and used this technology several years ago in China.

Other jobs completed by Associated



Duke will be the first university in the country to implement the new diving technology.



A platform was erected 38 ft above water level.

Scaffolding for Duke have included rolling towers across the tops of the pews in the historic Duke University Chapel for replacement and/or photography of the massive stained glass windows, specifically-designed temporary protection for the PRT (Patient Rapid Transit) track during construc-

tion at Duke Medical Center and scaffolding in the interior of the nationally known basketball arena Cameron Indoor Stadium for the addition of air conditioning.

To install/attach the bungee cords to the ceiling took an unusual twist due to the current water shortage in

the Durham area and Duke University's community service philosophy. This meant that draining the almost half-million gallon diving pool was impossible. Therefore, this situation required expertise that is very hard to find anywhere else in the country. Duke needed to find someone who could provide a work platform at the ceiling height over the diving pool full of water.

Associated Scaffolding provided Duke with the very unique combination of having certified scuba divers who are also certified scaffold erectors to build the system scaffold from the bottom of the 17-ft-deep pool to above water level. From there, the company's "land-based" scaffold erectors took over to build the platform 38 ft above water level. With a 864-sq-ft "dance floor" platform and two 12-ft rolling towers, the contractor, Romeo Guest Associates, of Durham, NC (headed by president Jim Robbins and supervisor Tim Hallman), was able to attach anchor beams to the concrete roof beams for the bungee cords. Asso-

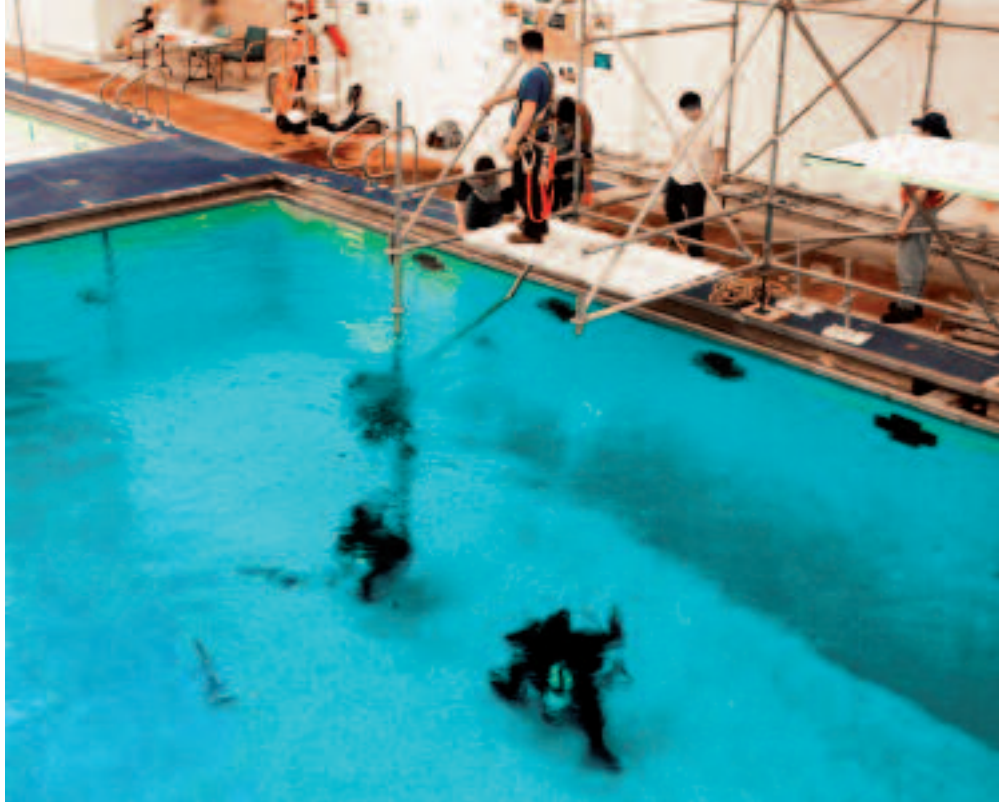
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Associated Scaffolding Company

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ciated Scaffolding's dive team was lead by president Tommy Hawkins, inventory manager Matt Hurley and sales representative Greg Lankford. The scaffold layout was designed by sales representative Darren Spiker, who gave hands-on direction to Associated's lead erector, Genaro Rivera-Monterrubio, and to the divers as well.

Coach Johansen is very excited about the future of the diving program at Duke. He has signed the number one female diving student in the country to attend Duke next year primarily because of the new training technique, which Coach Johansen has introduced to her before. He is confident of more than one Olympic Gold Metal returning to Duke next year. ■



Associated has certified scuba divers who are also certified scaffold erectors.



Associated's dive team was led by Tommy Hawkins, Matt Hurley and Greg Lankford.