

Rebreather Fatality in Jackson Blue, FL

19.9.2008

2) aus TV/ Medien sonst

Video available in the site

<http://www.wctv.tv/news/headlines/29176984.html>

Diver Drowns in Jackson County

Posted: 9:37 PM Sep 21, 2008

Last Updated: 9:58 PM Sep 21, 2008

Reporter: Krystin Goodwin

Email Address: Krystin.goodwin@wctv.tv

Diver Drowns in Jackson County

Texas man drowns at a park in Marianna, Florida while cave diving.

An experienced cave diver drowned Friday, at Blue Springs Recreational Park, during a dive gone bad.

The Jackson County Sheriff's Office says 39 year-old, Richard Mork, of Freeport, Texas, was diving with a friend 2,000 feet under the surface of the cave when his friend noticed him struggling.

Edd Sorenson owns a store by the cave and attempted to revive him.

"The Sheriff deputy met me at about 100 feet into the cave, but I continued bringing the body out under scooter power, until I got to the cavern, at about 30 feet from the entrance," said Edd Sorenson.

Dean Allingham is a diver who met Mork at the springs and spoke with him just minutes before he entered the cave.

"Yeah, we spent quite a bit of time talking together, and it's, it's just a horrible thing," said Dean Allingham.

The victim was using a re-breather tank, popular to divers for it's light weight, and ability to stay under longer, but divers say there are extra risks."

"What the re-breather does is it takes and scrubs out the carbon dioxide, and puts oxygen back in, so for a very small amount of tanks with oxygen, you can last a long time, but rebreathers

are very complicated pieces of equipment," said Dean Allingham.

The Sheriff's Office says the cause of Mork's death has not been determined yet, but divers speculate that his re-breather caused him to have a CO-2 hit, making him disoriented.

The Navy Experimental Dive Unit will be analyzing the victim's equipment, and the Bay County Medical Examiner will perform an autopsy to determine the exact cause of death.

At 00:43 21-09-2008, you wrote:

>Very sad news. Was there today for two really fun dives. We brought out an 80 stage left at 800'p by one of them yesterday, on our first dive. Dropped it off by Cave Adventurers with the owner, surviving diver. Talked a while and tried to lighten the burden of shock with a little laughter. It's hard as all who have been involved in this type thing knows. Nothing but time and good pals will help. Bless all those friends and family effected by this tragic event.

>Kenny P.