

Take Off!

The early runs will be taken up with setting the foil incidences, so best choose a day when the lake is not too busy as Rapier will look a little cranky at first. Also, half the nuts and bolts will probably shake loose, so check these before each run. After this, however, the performance is impressive, even if I do say so myself!

I found that the model lifts out of the water within a few yards of opening the throttle from idle to 1/4 speed. The coupled foil/rudder system

makes a phenomenal improvement to the handling, compared with my earlier craft, making it possible to do a U turn, foilborne, in about 4m.

Some propeller ventilation is inevitable in this type of craft since there is no hull at the air/water boundary to prevent it, so best performance is obtained by using a semi-surface propeller, selected or modified by trial and error.

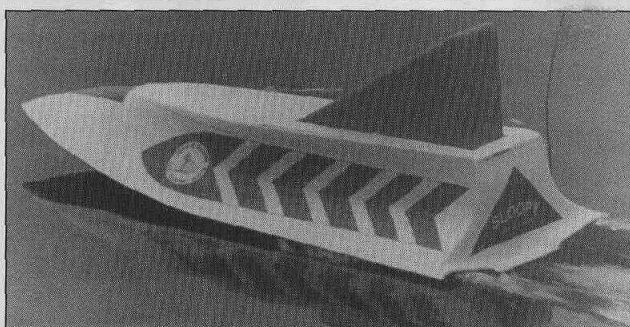
I still have a lot to learn about flying Rapier, it's early days yet, and there are still some improvements I wish to make. But I do know that the

hydrofoil adds another dimension to model boating which makes conventional craft seem rather dull!

JOHN B MARINE

for

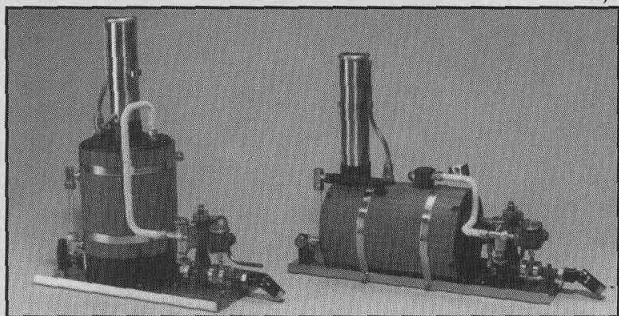
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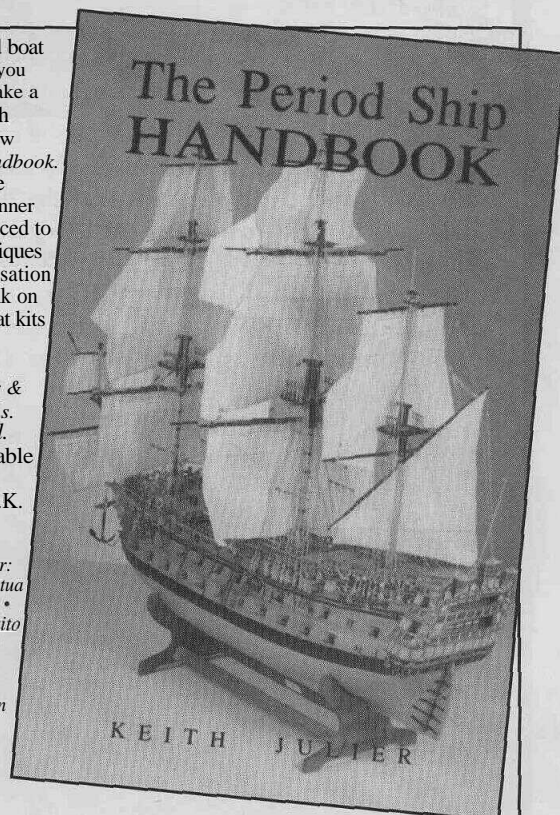
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