

## Big on Wood

creations to swim with a deadly side-to-side motion, he also discovered how to make them “roll” from side-to-side as well, accentuating that life-like action.

Pichney was a perfectionist. Legend has it he tested each turned-down body and metal lip insert in the Hudson River, behind his home, to make sure it swam precisely as he intended. Pichney's swimmers were in such demand that dedicated surf and boat anglers would order them by the hun-



Left, lips on most models provide wobble and rocking action. Top, more support for the big plug-big fish theory.

dreds. Several articles in regional and national magazines extolled the Danny Swimmer as being almost as good as live bait. Many just refused to believe it, while others worshiped the lure, including me. That wooden lure raised many a fish for me in broad daylight and in the toughest conditions. Many lure-builders have tried

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to recreate the Danny Swimmer's wobble and rocking action. Some came very close, while others failed miserably. Many of their lures became just another old lure hanging on the basement wall.

In more recent times two plugs—the Beachmaster Swimmer and Tattoo's Wooden Swimmer—became favorites

