

Parachuters Lose Out To Weather

After finally winning a long submitted bid to the United States Parachuting Association, the Falling Stars were forced to cancel their Southeastern jumping meet Sunday due to bad weather.

According to John Wasson, director of the event, not enough events were completed to qualify as an official meet, as far as points for the national parachuting championships were concerned. Now the organization will have to rebid for the meet, which will hopefully be rescheduled for some time in May.

The only event they managed to complete during the all-day Saturday competition and half of Sunday was the Novice Accuracy event. Trophies were presented to the first three place winners of the event.

FIRST PLACE went to Frank Hovey of Shaw, AFB, South Carolina, second place was awarded to Mark Repich of Indian Harbour

Beach, a Falling Star member, and third place went to Nestor Izquierdo of Miami.

Persons completing in that class had to have made under 75 jumps to qualify.

Repich is the youngest member of the Falling Stars group, and at age 16 has 57 jumps to his credit. During the last meet he competed in he scored a dead center for first place, surpassing more experienced jumpers with 200 jumps and more.

"WE HAD A GOOD turnout, three times as many jumpers as we expected," said Wasson. Included in the 66 entrants were 17 novice contenders and 49 conference competitors.

Now that the event has been cancelled, officials will have to do everything over. Any club in the southeast conference, which includes Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina, can bid on the rematch.