

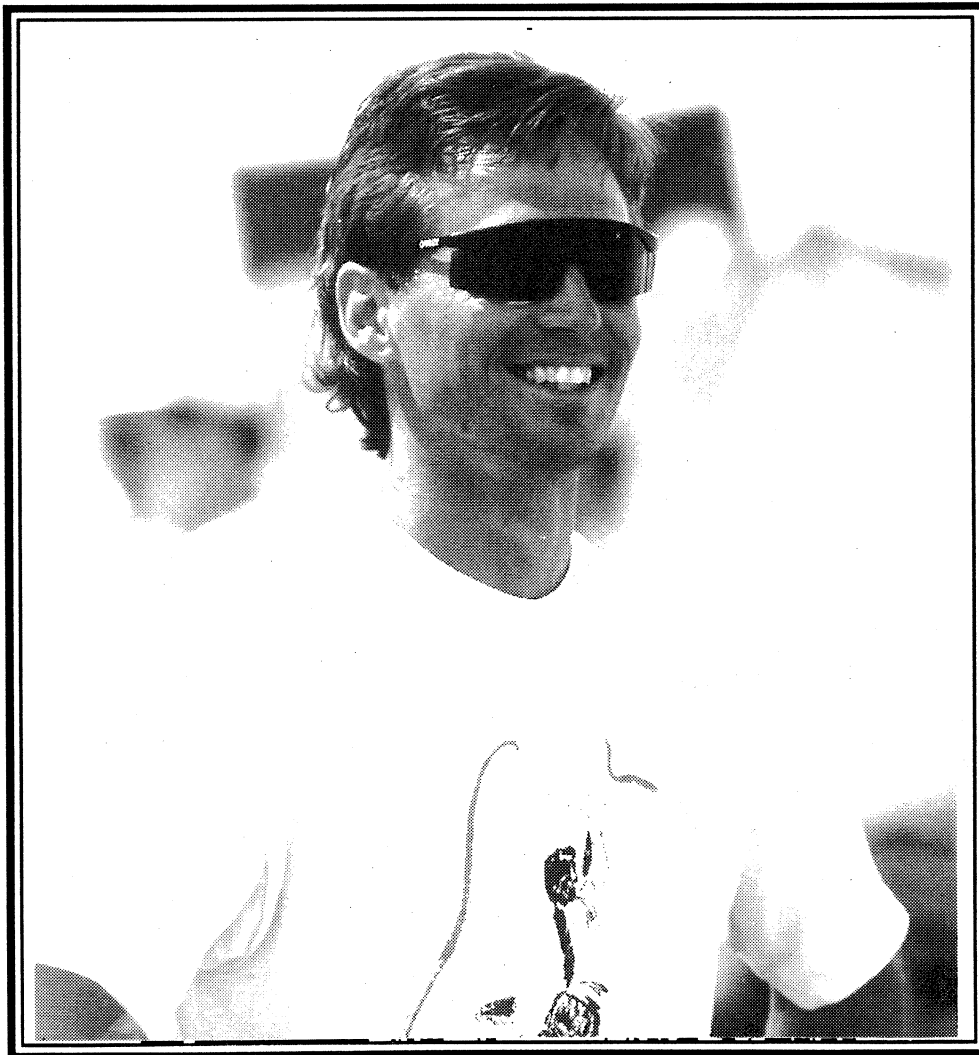
Many Happy Returns

Issue No. 60

An International Publication of the United States Boomerang Association

Fall 1994

A Decade Of Domination



Chet Snouffer looks back on a banner year and an extraordinary career



Dear Boomerang Enthusiasts,

Welcome to a new year of boomerang throwing and enjoyment. "New" is the key word as we have a new board of directors, a new editor for MHR, and lots of new things in store for you this year.

Take me for instance. While on one hand, I've been involved with USBA since day one, I'm serving my first term as president. I decided to finally move from Veep to Prez just to see what it's like to catch all the heat.

I want to thank last year's board and editor for the hard work. **John Flynn, Michael Girvin, Kelly Andretti, Norm Kern, Dean Kelly and Jay Emerson** have all served well and now taking a deserved rest from faxes and phone calls in the middle of the night. Boldly staying on the board are **Gregg Snouffer** as Secretary, **Betsy Miale-Gix** as past-president and at-large member, **Chet Snouffer**, and **Mark Weary** as the Veep. Proving that only fools rush in where angels fear to tread are new members **Mike Dickson, Chicago Bob Leifeld, Vera Broadbent, Gerard Gix** as treasurer and **Sean Marquardt**.

This year's emphasis is going to be on newsletter content and timeliness, local clubs, and getting back to basics of making, throwing and enjoying boomerangs. We're going to table rules changes and try to get a handle on some of the services we provide members and non-members. "Clean house", if you will. We're also going to work on centrally promoting the sport and supplying press information and marketing assistance from the main office. The sport has received a lot of coverage lately in the Wall Street Journal, Sports Illustrated, on MTV Sports, and the Tonight Show with Jay Leno. However, there is more that can be done to present boomeranging in the proper light as a respectable international sport.

Along those lines, progress was made in Japan at the meeting of the World Boomerang Association. We have established that the WBA Board will be made up of the President and Secretary of each recognized international boomerang club and have set forth a list of objectives for them to accomplish. In addition, an international calendar was established which will have the 1996 World Cup in New Zealand, the 1998 World Cup in Saint Louis, and the 2000 World Cup in Sydney Australia. The WBA is making a bid to have boomerang throwing included in the 2000 Olympic games in one capacity or another. Chet Snouffer, Roger Perry and Yoshi Sakimitsu will serve as interim directors to organize the WBA body in the early phases. Comments and suggestions can be sent to them.

OK, let's get to it! Ted Bailey helped Gregg Snouffer procure a Mac and Gregg cranked out this issue of MHR. If we're nice to him he may keep it up. You'll notice some new features, like the inclusion of listings for clubs, products and manufacturers in the newsletter. Boomerang plans every issue. (Send in your favorite!) Tourney results as box scores, and more news you can use! We want the MHR to be a practical tool to help find the materials and information you need to further your enjoyment of the sport, whether it's building, collecting, competing, or watching 'rangs paint the sky. Til next issue, full circles and spectacular catches.

Chet Snouffer

What's In This Issue!

| Page | Contents |
|------|---|
| 2 | President's Column: A <u>new prez takes over</u> |
| 3 | <u>USBA Store Info</u> |
| 4 | Letters To The Editor and the <u>USBA Buzz</u> |
| 6 | Ask Chet: getting max <u>performance by tuning</u> |
| 7 | Fascinating Facts: Ted Bailey describes <u>Thermals and MTAs</u> |
| 8 | Boom Fragments: Fragments of news <u>from the boom world.</u> |
| 10 | A Decade Of Domination: Chet Snouffer is up to old tricks, but pulls a fast one at <u>USBA Nationals</u> |
| 13 | Photo Spread: 1994 <u>Boom Season review</u> |
| 14 | Builder's Square: Norm Kern talks airfoils and <u>building the "Yoshi"</u> |
| 16 | Competition News: Phoenix, Va Beach and <u>Portland revisited</u> |
| 17 | 1994 USBA Ratings!! |
| 18 | Classifieds: anyone <u>need anything?</u> |
| 19 | USBA Information page |

The USBA Store

The USBA store no longer carries boomerangs for sale. For a listing of boomerang manufacturers you can write to for boomerangs and prices, turn to the MANUFACTURER'S LISTINGS on page 18 of this issue of MHR.

Mike Dickson of Canton, Ohio submitted the winning bid for the Dmitri Maximum Time Aloft Boomerang for \$26. Congrats Mike!

For a complete list of what is currently available in stock, send a SASE (USA) or \$1 (overseas) to:

**The USBA Store
C/O Dean A. Kelly
3350 Neef Ave. SE
Salem, Or. 97302**

Questions? Call: (503)-581-8050

All prices are in \$USA\$ and include Shipping and Handling to the USA or Canada. Overseas orders must include \$2 extra for surface or \$4 extra for Airmail per item. Back issue newsletters are \$1 additional for surface mail and \$2 extra for Airmail.

USBA Store Stock Availability - Prices Each Item:

| | |
|---------|---|
| \$3.50 | USBA Embroidered Patches |
| \$1.50 | USBA Mylar Decals |
| \$6.00 | "Boomerang": a book by Ben Ruhe |
| \$8.00 | "The Big Book About Boomerangs": a book by H. L. Mayhew* |
| \$4.00 | "The Boomerang": an early pamphlet by B. Ruhe/L. Hawes |
| \$2.00 | 'Low-Reynold-Number Airfoils article <i>Scientific paper on airfoils</i> |
| \$1.00 | List of Boomerang Related Patents |
| \$2.00 | Newspaper Articles from 1984 |
| \$20.00 | Huerer Swiss Digital Stopwatch** |
| \$15.00 | USBA T-shirts available in sizes: M, L, XL color: gray |
| \$12.00 | USBA '93 Open T-shirts available in size L only color: gray |
| \$2.50 | Back Issues of MHR: # 21-W85; #23-Sm86; #26-Sp86; #27-Sm86; #28-F86; #29-W87; #31-Sm87; #32-F87; #33-W88 #52-F92; #53-W93; #57-W94. |

* First edition and signed by the author.

** high quality Swiss made. A \$50 value. Only a couple left.

Orders of \$15 or more are eligible for a free issue of MHR. Please indicate your first and second choices.

DON'T MISS IT!

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BOOMERANG THROWERS' E-MAIL ADDRESSES

VERSION 2.1 JUNE 1, 1994. Compiled by PDS

DearKelly.....INTERNET:Dean.A.Kelly@STATE.OR.US
EricPromislow.....INTERNET:emp@hgml.com
Jim Sprague...INTERNET:sprague@engin.umich.edu OR CompuServe 71601,2752
Mike Roedelbronn.....CompuServe 72722,3053
David Silver.....CompuServe 72133,3725
Paul D. Spargue.....CompuServe 72470,1567
Ralph Bonheim.....CompuServe 72020,1046
Gregg Snouffer.....CompuServe 75574,2346

**Please submit your electronic address to Paul D. Sprague: Two Ems, Inc., 782
Boston Post Road., Madison CT 06443**

MHR CORRECTIONS:

The Casa Grande, AZ Toss Across America was hosted by Don Monroe and Mark Weary.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

editor's note: we need letters from you, the readers, to fill this space. Write to inform us what you like, what you hate, what you think we should add, and what you think should go. Keep it short and try to spell correctly!

Send to USBA Letter to the editor, P.O. Box 182, Delaware OH 43015.

THE USBA BUZZ!

By Gregg Snouffer

The following column is new to MHR as an attempt to keep the membership up to date on the most current burning issues occupying the attention of the USBA board. As Secretary, I happen to be in excellent position to get the word out. As a member, you should feel free to write to your representatives or even to this column on issues of great import to you.

USBA BY-LAWS DEFINED

Several proposed by-laws changes were made by committee last year, but not in time to come to a vote at the general meeting in Jackson, Michigan at the Nationals. Therefore, the USBA is running under the original by-laws and will be until next year's general meeting, which hasn't been set yet.

The by-laws amendments were done to up-date, revamp, and clarify the document that serves as the foundation for the USBA. The by-laws can only be changed by vote of the general membership at the annual business meeting, according to the current by-laws.

The committee work was thorough, well done and well received. It was time for some changes. It may seem to be unfortunate that the by-laws amendments were not enacted at the meeting, but in actuality, some new issues came to light that can be

worked out for next year's vote.

One example is the election of officers. One much needed change would be to allow open nominations for each office immediately prior to the elections. This may sound strange, until you take into consideration that a full ballot of nominees is very rare for the USBA. We are a laid-back organization, and it is difficult for office seekers to launch their campaigns far enough in advance to make the MHR prior to elections. For those who do, they will receive coverage of their platform and stand a better chance at elections. But to have them automatically win that position because the ballot wasn't full and no open nominations were accepted seemed to offend a good number of the members who participated in the vote at this year's elections. (Especially in light of the fact that open nominations **were** accepted for positions that had NO candidates.)

Hopefully, by next year's vote, the by-laws will be even more thorough and well thought-out. Hopefully committee work doesn't bog down on this one. They're not that broke!

RATINGS DUE FOR A REVAMP

One of the hottest debates taking place today is on the formula for the USBA competition ratings format.

In a nutshell, the ratings are used to rank throwers who compete in tournaments. The top rated throwers are then selected for consideration for the U.S. team and the other competitors can see how they stack up.

In 1992, the ratings were changed to become more inclusive and started awarding placing points to the top 1/2 of the competitors who placed in any given event. Prior to that time, only the top 10 places were awarded points. Obviously, the throwers who regularly finished 11th or so were feeling left out. And at large tourneys, it was hard to finish in the top ten, while at small tournaments (the minimum number of competitors allowed is 11) you could perform pretty badly and still finish in the top 10.

However, back in 1992, tournament directors of typically small tournaments, felt that a straight 50% placing reward system would mean their tournaments would be forced to award fewer points (only 6 places would get points in an event with 11 throwers) and therefore make small tourneys less attractive to competitors who might participate predomi-

nantly for the ratings points.

At the time, a compromise was made which allowed small tournaments (under 20 participants) to still award points to the top 10 places in each event, while tourneys with more than 20 throwers would give points to only the top 50% places.

In the ensuing years, it became apparent to many competitors that the best tourneys to get to were small ones, where, if there were only 11 throwers, somewhere around 91% of the participants received USBA placing points. Large tourneys, where you had to "earn" your points by finishing with a score good enough to get you into the top 50% were much less forgiving.

The board is currently mulling over the idea of eliminating the small tournament bonus and going strictly with a top 50% reward, regardless of tournament size. One problem is that this is perceived as a regional debate because West coast tournaments are perceived to generally be the small tournaments and some West coast directors perceive this as an attempt to rob their tournaments and their competitors of placing points.

In fact, by region, the West coast hosted 5 out of 6 tournaments in 1994 which benefitted by this system because they had fewer than 20 participants, meaning that, depending on actual size, somewhere between 53 and 91% of the throwers received placing points. Meanwhile, the Midwest had 2 out of 6 tournaments that benefitted and the East coast had 3 out of 5 tournaments with under 20 competitors. Since each region has tournaments that would be affected, it would seem to be less a regional issue and more a small versus large tournament issue. (But if it is a regional issue, the lesson may be to stay away from midwest tourneys, where you are likely to be forced to get good scores in order to finish with placing points!)

Objectively, the old system is like comparing apples and oranges. There was a case (not on the west coast, in fact) where a competitor finished with two points in accuracy and got 9th place out of 11. (The other two guys had 0 and so didn't get any placing points.) He wasn't in the top 50% at that tournament and had less chance of finishing in the top 50% at a larger tournament. Now, while it's true that his 9th place in the overall ratings would have little effect on the top competitors, it **would** skew the ratings of the more mediocre throwers who fight for **their** 9th place

points at large tourneys by having to score in the top 50 percentile. The system is least fair for these mid-level throwers.

Odds for bettors: Unless there's a major swing in the mood of the board, the small tournament advantage has seen its last season. Bet to see next year's ratings comparing only apples.

HOW TO MAKE THE U.S. TEAM (?)

Word on the street is that competitors are upset with the team selection process used to determine last year's victorious U.S. team that won the World Cup in Japan in August.

While it may seem like bad sense to bash a process that worked, the board is responding to the complaint by compiling a list of criteria that will be used to select the next team (due to go to New Zealand in early 1996.)

The idea is to give everyone out there who ever dreamed of making the team a more precise way of knowing how to do that.

While the details are still being worked out, I can leak that a promising-sounding selection method evolved at a recent impromptu meeting which included:

1) Increasing the weight of the placing points average portion of the ratings and decreasing the median score and best score portions to get a better indication of who WINS tournaments, regardless of wind conditions. (This could only be done if the small tournament advantage is eliminated)

2) Using this new ratings system to look for the naturally occurring point breaks among the top competitors... not going so much for the top 'x' number of throwers, but rather looking at the top clump of point-getters, then turning these guys over to a committee for the final selection.

3) The committee would be made up of NON PARTICIPATING, but seasoned competitors who know what characteristics make up good team members. They would screen the top point getters, probably using a questionnaire to determine what each candidate believes he/she can bring to the team. The committee would take into account other subjective info as well in order to make the final selection.

Sound confusing? Here's what aspiring team members should do:

A) Practice, practice, practice. Then do well in competitions.

B) Try to compete in a couple of tournaments outside of your region so that you get national exposure.

C) Hire a professional resume writer to make your lagging MTA times sound like they are actually a benefit.

D) Buy the selection committee members a beer and pretend you know the language and customs of New Zealand.

MEMBERSHIP FEES TO RISE?

Its true. The board is considering raising rates to cover a deficit in the last couple of years' budgets.

According to last year treasurer John Flynn's annual financial report, the USBA operated almost \$1500 in the red. With a balance of just over \$4000 in the bank, any elementary math student can tell you that's not a lot of years left, at this rate.

The good news is that the \$1500 deficit is actually only \$500 because an insurance expense to cover USBA sanctioned events showed up on last year's expenses but has already been paid back on THIS year's revenues by event directors whose events were held during THIS year's budget. So barring any financial catastrophes this year, the USBA should end up this fiscal year in the black.

However, in order to support the membership with quality MHRs and services, its probably time to raise the rates to keep in line with rising postage and printing rates. (After all, the \$10 fee has been in place since 1981... Not bad!)

In any case, the increase will probably be minimal, since none of this year's officers want to be booed out of office at the next elections. So we're probably talking around \$2 a year domestic and \$3-\$5 overseas.

This one hasn't been scheduled for a vote yet, but it could be a reality by the time you join up again.

JUGGLERS OUT OF LUCK

This is unofficial, but pretty obvious. Since it appears that the Rules Committee and potential rules changes are being shelved for the year, don't expect to see the juggling event coming back any time soon.

In several forums conducted at tournaments across the country, competitors seemed to miss the juggling event and there seemed to be support for the event's return in some form or an-

other.

But the less hurried tournaments of 1994 may be here to stay.

If juggling does make a return in the future, it will probably be limited, either to a space (probably 100m) or a time (probably 5 min) or both!

SERVICES TO MEMBERS GET BACK TO BASICS

In an effort to lighten the workload of the officers while making information more available at the same time, The MHR is being revamped to include info you had to send for in the past.

This is good news if you manufacture booms, provide materials for manufacturing booms or have a club, as these will be listed in the MHR Classified Ads. The service is free for the next two issues of MHR as an introduction. To be listed, simply send your listing to the editor. Anyone can be listed, but reports of bad business practices will result in investigation and removal if not corrected.

So if you've got booms for sale, get listed in MHR, America's leading newsletter to the boomerang community.

NEW EDITOR SEEKS FEEDBACK

This issue of MHR marks the maiden voyage for editor Gregg Snouffer. Your feedback is greatly appreciated. Also ideas for upcoming feature articles or columns are always welcome. Photos of interest to the boomerang community should also be sent.

This newsletter consists of a volunteer staff made up of the editor and contributing authors and journalists. The news, information and articles appearing in MHR all come from nonprofessional journalists... mostly throwers and builders who subscribe. This makes the newsletter a fairly flexible forum for sharing ideas, new technology, and anything of interest to our readers and enthusiasts.

The sport and hobby will grow and the USBA along with it if we can make MHR an interesting, readable newsletter. Your help in this effort are greatly appreciated. Send all contributions to MHR editor, P.O. Box 182, Delaware OH 43015. or FAX to 614-363-4414.

ASK CHET

*The Q and A column for
desperate folks*

Dear Chet,

I've been having troubles getting maximum performance out of my booms. (see my national ratings last season!) I know the booms work because the guys who made and sold them to me say they do. So what's up? Am I missing something or are these guys trying to pull one over on me. Is there something else I can try with these booms? I've spent all of my cash on them, leaving me precious little money left for snowboarding. Please help.

Gregg Snouffer
Delaware, Ohio

TUNING BOOMERANGS FOR MAXIMUM PERFORMANCE

Dear Gregg,

Once a boomerang is carved, sanded, and sealed by it's maker, it's far from finished as far as maximizing it's performance is concerned. Good boomerangs should fly fine when they arrive, but depending on your throwing style and the wind conditions, you may need to tune it to optimize its performance. Here are some of the most common corrections you can field tune. Remember, always read the directions thoroughly and experiment with various angles of release and directions into the wind before tuning a boomerang. NEVER TUNE A COLD BOOMERANG, as this may snap it. Finally, realize that ANY tuning may break a boomerang if done improperly. TUNE AT YOUR OWN RISK. "Gently" is the

key.

Tuning may be done "in the field" with manual twisting or bending, or it may be done at home. One method of heating uses a microwave oven to heat the boomerang prior to tuning. IF you microwave, only go 15 seconds maximum on high power. Again, heating a boomerang MAY damage the finish. Boomerangs may be HOT!! Use caution when first handling the boomerang. John Cryderman reported awhile back that "nuking" a boom in the microwave repeatedly can break down the lignin in the wood, weakening the 'rang. Perhaps a better tuning method is to use a hot-air popcorn popper. Remove the top and hold the boomerang above the hot air flow, moving it around until the arm becomes pliable. Set and hold in position while it cools.

If the boomerang flies too low, gently bend the wingtips up slightly. The change in flight path can be dramatic, so go easy and adjust one, two, (or all three) wings as necessary to bring it up.

If the boomerang skies over your head, bend the tips down gently and test fly until it flies level all the way around.

The range of your boomerang can be dramatically altered as well. **If it flies shorter than you desire**, twist the wingtips with a negative angle of attack. That is, twist the wings so that the leading edge is slightly lower than the trailing edge. A second method I learned from Doug DuFresne is to place a small flap, 1/2" wide and only about 1/16" tall at the wingtip of one wing only. This spoiler really kicks the range out there and increases the wind resistance of the 'rang.

If the boomerang is flying too far (a waste of time in Fast Catch, for example), then twist a positive angle of attack into one or more wingtips until the range is shortened up appropriately.

In wind, you may want to increase the range through either a spoiler, a small weight taped to the bottom of one or more wingtips, or negative angle of attack. You also want to slow it down! A drag flap almost 1/8" tall and taped to the underside of ONE wing, will slow it down while allowing the boomerang to stay up. A similar flap on the top side of the wing will slow it down and also lower the flight. Experiment to see which works best for you in the conditions you're facing. A final strategy of all competitors is to drill holes in the wings for high wind. 1/8 to 1/4" holes pop up in some of the best competition 'rangs around. Think about buying customized 'rangs for wind before chopping up one of your good

sticks.

Another specialized situation might be a boomerang that doesn't get all the way "home" to you in low winds. You can lay it over more and throw lower, OR twist positive angle of attack into the wings. This makes a dramatic difference with most 'rangs. Another trick is a little dihedral (bend the wingtip up) in the trailing arm.

GOOD LUCK and FULL CIRCLES!



**1/16-1/8" Flap of duct tape.
Fold ends around wings.**

trailing edge  leading edge

positive angle of attack

trailing edge  leading edge

negative angle of attack

If you have questions for "Ask Chet" send them to Chet Snouffer, 51 Troy Road, Delaware, Ohio 43015. He'll track down the answers from the experts and let you know the results.

FASCINATING FACTS

*Editor's note: The following article is based on an article that appeared in **Boomerang News**, September 1994. It appears here with permission and courtesy of Ted Bailey.*

Ted Bailey writes in the September issue of **Boomerang Journal** that his fascination with Maximum Time Aloft (MTA) boomerangs has led him to study thermal formation and dynamics, in order to better understand what enables those rare perpetual flights.

Many throwers are aware of the 17 + minute flight of **John Gorsky's Romblad** MTA in 1993 and wonder just how this could happen.

Ted says a recent article appearing in *Discover* Magazine lent some insight into these mysterious forces that leave birds floating without effort for hours at a time and send leaves and debris hurtling hundreds of feet into the air.

In August 1993's *Discover*, appeared an article entitled "Life in a Whirl" which describes thermals as a bubble of hot air that rises (like wax in a lava lamp) from a heat source on the ground.

"As the bubble of hot air rises, the cooler air surrounding the rising bubble slows down the bubble's edges, putting it into a spinning motion. This creates a vortex ring shaped like a doughnut or smoke ring," as depicted in the diagram.

"Birds and gliders soar in the rising air located just above the toroidal vortex. In the classical thermal, an MTA boomerang floats at the top of the rising bubble of hot air."

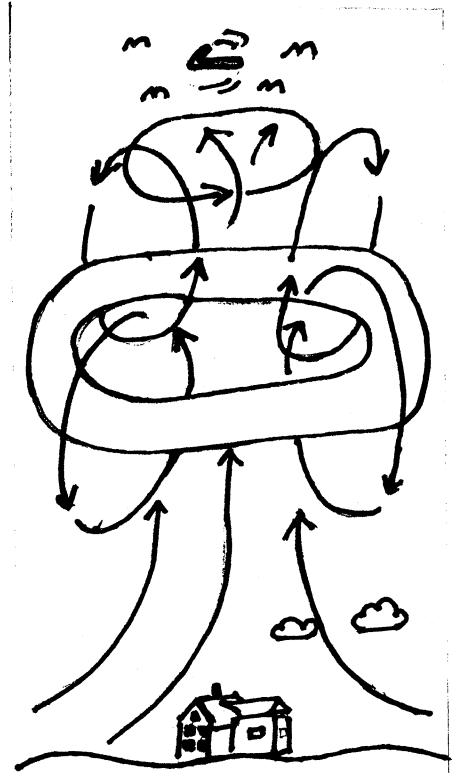
Some throwers think there is

something wrong with the tuning of their MTA if it suddenly becomes unstable and crashes after a stable flight of several minutes. Ted suspects that "what really happens is that the MTA intersects the edge of the twisting peripheral vortex ring as it descends, resulting in a loss of stability."

Ted suggests you look for great thermals on hot, sunny days with light winds. If you go just downwind from a hot asphalt surface, your chances of finding thermals get even better. Make sure there is a large open area downwind from where you throw, or you might want to kiss your boom goodbye before you let it rip.

Ted goes on to add that another type of vortex, related to the tornado family of thermals, rotates in a cyclonic fashion. These are commonly known as dustdevils. In these small tornadoes, an MTA will orbit around the perimeter of the vortex in a counter-clockwise direction. But Ted estimates that

this type of vortex is responsible for only about 5% of his extended flights. Far more common are the classic bubble thermals.



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BOOMERANG FRAGMENTS

A new book on the market called **PUMPING GRANITE** features a short story about **Dennis Joyce** and his pursuit of boomeranging.

The book is a collection of stories by writer Mike D'Orso which presents 42 portraits of people at play in sports as diverse as darts, Sumo Wrestling and whitewater rafting.

The section on Dennis is titled **MANY HAPPY RETURNS** and details the personal aspects of a life in the pursuit of the camaraderie and fun of the boomerang competition circuit. Dennis says the article on boomeranging was written in 1990, although the book was copyrighted 1994.

PUMPING GRANITE is available in hardback at \$25 list price from Texas Tech University Press, P.O. Box 41037, Lubbock TX 79409. Use reference ISBN: 0-89672-338-0. For further information, call Sandy Glass at 1-800-832-4042.

Boomerangs received much national media coverage over the past couple of months **MTVsports** featured a 3 minute segment on the sport and esoteric nature of boomeranging over the weekend of August 19-21, and again in September. The clip featured **Michael "Gel" Girvin** of California, **Steve Kavanaugh** of Seattle, and brothers **Chet** and **Gregg Snouffer** of Ohio all booming in the desert of Tucson, Arizona.

The "shoot" was sponsored by **Jim Mayfield** and his **Colorado Boomerangs**, as well as **GCI's Tri-Fly Boomerangs**.

Appearing on **Jay Leno's Tonight Show** was U.S. Team coach **Barnaby Ruhe** in September. Bar-

naby displayed various competitive events such as fast catch, trick catch and doubling **inside** the Tonight Show studio with short-range cross sticks that flew over the audience. He then broke an egg on his own head. The boomerang hit a stage light on its way out but continued to precess and **Barnaby** expertly moved his head and the egg into the path of the returning boomerang. He then tried to break an egg off of **Jay's** head, but things went downhill as **Barnaby**, in an attempt to secure the egg and hat on **Jay's** head, ended up poking **Jay** in the eye. **Jay** later shied away from a boomerang and ended the segment by breaking the egg with a hand-held boomerang that he grabbed from the table.

Michael Girvin set a new world record in consecutive catch on July 17, 1994, a day after his Oakland tournament. In light westerly winds between 8:09 and 11:11 am, Michael threw and caught 817 times without dropping to break the previous record of 802 catches held by **Yannick Charles** of France. **Steve Kavanaugh** made it to 806 catches before finally dropping.

Look for Michael's feat to be listed in the Guinness Book of World Records, as all requirements for satisfying the "world record" status were met.

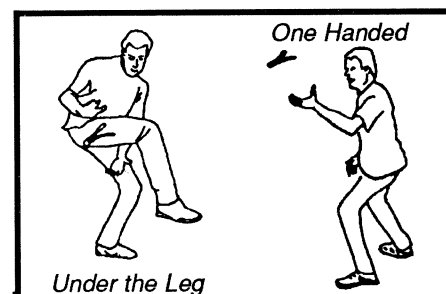
Other records fell or were eclipsed throughout the 1994 tournament season as well. **Gary Broadbent** caught 26 trick catches at the USBA Nationals, setting a new world record in that event. **John Flynn** tied the world record in Aussie Round with 92 points on June 25 with a **Volker Behren's** Windeater. **Gregg Snouffer** tied the U.S. record in Accuracy on the same date, scoring 48 points.

Ted Bailey's Boomerang News reports that **Fred Malmberg** sent

in a video on how to make and throw boomerangs. It is available in wood working stores at a cost of less than \$20. The videotape is a copy of a half hour television segment that has been shown on PBS channels over the past year. The tape comes with a large fold-out of instructions on how to make and tune a boomerang. If you are unable to find a copy in a nearby store, write for information to:

Delta Int'l Machinery Corp.
246 Alpha Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15238

The word from Westerville, Ohio is that **H.L. Mayhew**, long-time boom thrower and author, is suffering the debilitating effects of alzheimer's disease and has officially retired from all throwing and trading in B's. The staff at MHR wishes H.L. the **BEST OF LUCK**.



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NEWS FROM AUSTRALIA

The BAA elections were held in March. **Bruce Carter** retains his role as President, with **Roger Perry** as VP and **Ian Sproul** is the new Secretary/Treasurer. **Brother Brian Thomas** is the new BAA Bulletin editor. To join the BAA, send \$25 Australian to:

Ian Sproul
38 Coogee Road
Ardross, WA 6153
Australia

Bruce Carter wrote to say that **Bernard Alan (Bunny) Reed** passed away on August 24 after a lengthy bout with a brain tumor. The funeral was held two days later in Wycheproof and was packed with friends, including many notable boomerang throwers. **Dennis Maxwell** delivered the eulogy and **Bunny's** 14 year old grandson **Ben Loveland** placed a ceremonial boomerang on the grave.

Many American throwers may remember back to 1983 when **Bunny** brought daughter **Leanne** and her then-3-year-old son "Baby Ben" to the USA, where he earned the distinction of being the youngest thrower on earth.

The Australian Nationals will be held March 18/19, 1995, and will be hosted by **Bob Burwell**, 12 Pintu Dr, Tanah Merah 4128, Queensland, Australia.

FRANCE

Didier Bonin writes to say that a new federation of boomerang clubs in France will be recognized by the French Ministry Of Sports. Most of the French boomerang clubs have agreed to support and to cooperate with the new federation UFOLEP, whose president is **Didier**. The move will enable the French Federation to receive Government support and to promote boomerangs much more effectively throughout France.

From the *Boom Ren' Club Gazette*, the l'Art Boomerang Club team has defeated the Troy Boomerang Club Team, as well as 13 other teams in the French Team Competition. The Troy team had dominated the team competitions for each of the previous three years. It took the skill of team members **Matthew Weber, Julien Kerjan, Didier Philispart** and **Remy Chaveau** to defeat the Troy team.

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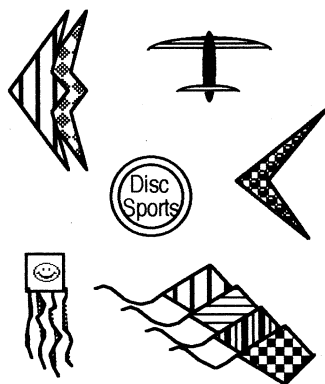
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A DECADE OF DOMINATION

After A Summer Sweep Of The World Team And Individual Titles, As Well As His 9th National Championship, Chet Snouffer Discusses His Retirement After Life In The Bullseye

by Gregg Snouffer

Look at these names: Eric Darnell, Barnaby Ruhe, Al Gearhards, Carl Naylor, Peter and Larry Ruhf, Jerry Caplan, Steve Miller, Ali Fujino, Ben Ruhe....

Recognize them? These are the founding fathers of modern competitive boomeranging. They were there when the first Smithsonian

Institute Boomerang Flings were being held under the shadow of the Washington Monument in the Seventies. They made up the original U.S.

Boomerang team that traveled to Australia in 1981 and stunned the Aussies. They organized the USBA.

It was among these greats that Chet Snouffer experienced his first competition. With these team mates he first felt the pressure and success of international competition as the youngest member of that first U.S. team.

It was this talent-rich environment in which a young Chet Snouffer cut his teeth, learning the fundamentals and building a foundation that would ultimately lead to 15 years of complete domination in the sport they had started. But the story starts long before that.

In the summer of 1972, Chet made his first boomerang, using a pattern from a child's craft magazine on how to build and throw a boomerang and paneling left over from his grandparents re-modeled bedroom. Chet was 15 years old and that is the first mention in his diligently-kept personal journal of boomerangs.

In those early years, He and his two brothers Bret and Gregg (three and five years younger) would go to the nearby schoolyard and throw for fun, mixing up kites, frisbees, water-propelled toy rockets, boomerangs, and basically anything that flew.

But for Chet, it was the joy of personally BUILDING those flying things which drew him to boomerangs and kites in particular, and he would spend hours both building and flying these gravity cheaters during the summer breaks. He credits this early experience, before he ever heard of Ben Ruhe and the Smithsonian Fling, with developing the instincts and

understanding of the boomerang's flight that would serve him so well in the competitions to come.

When he went to Wheaton College in Illinois in 1975, boomerangs became a way to earn some spending money, as he found that students wanted to buy these unique toys to play with on the sprawling campus. And so he continued to stay active in the hobby of his childhood; building, selling and throwing boomerangs.

Ben Ruhe's book *BOOMERANG* introduced Chet to the competition aspect of his hobby in the late Seventies. After writing to and receiving a few letters from Ben, who was curator of the Smithsonian's boomerang collection and host of those early flings,

Chet talked the family into spending their vacation in D.C. and headed off to their first boomerang tournament in 1979. This pilgrimage would continue

each year for the next three, as Chet gained the respect of those early throwers who would select him for the first U.S./ Australia challenge in 1981.

That early team victory did a lot for the 24 year-old. First, there was the experience of seeing and competing among the best throwers in the world. Second, he learned that he could win, a concept that he would fall back on again and again in later competitions.

Many years later he sums up this winning attitude, saying, "I go into every tournament believing I can

On Retirement: "I wouldn't make a good boomerang champ if I didn't try to make a comeback at some point."



Eric, Chet, Barnaby: '88 World Champs

win. I've been in enough situations to realize that I can do what it takes, regardless of the score at the moment or the caliber of the competition. In the early years, I felt like I was competitive because I trained harder and threw more than anyone else. As time went by and guys were training harder, I felt like it was my experience that gave me an edge, but the important thing is that I learned and believed that if I worked hard enough and made the right choices, I could win"

It was this experience and mind-set that won him his first national championship in 1983 in Washington, D.C.

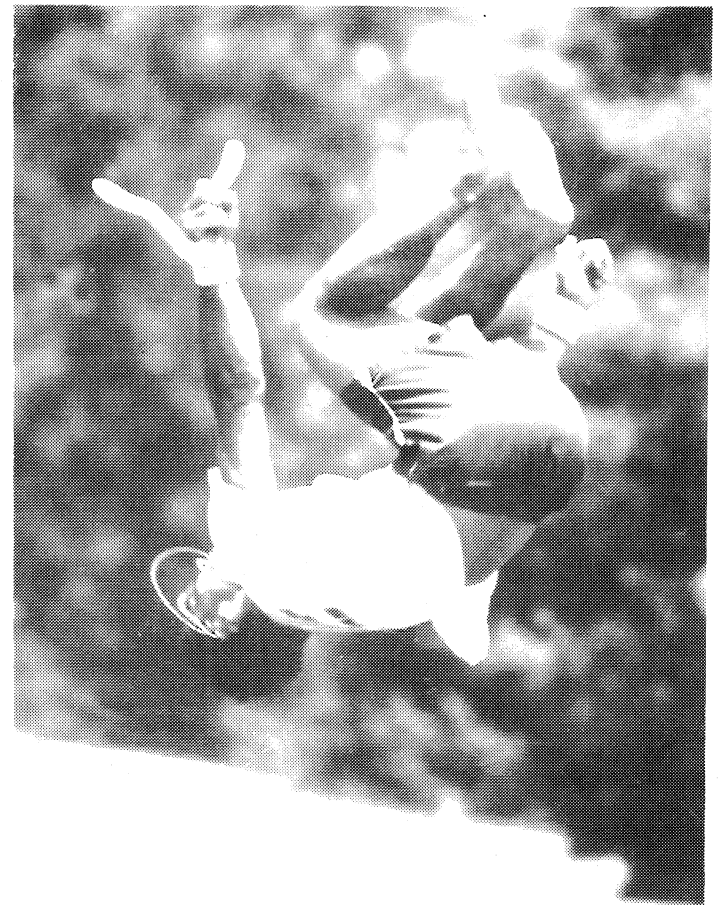
In '84, when the Aussies returned to reclaim the cup they'd lost in '81, Chet hosted the nationals and third and final test of that U.S.- Aussie rematch in Delaware, Ohio. Australia's Dennis Maxwell won the Nationals, but Chet and younger brother Gregg finished second and third, the top two Americans in the competition.

By the 1985 European Tour, Chet was winning tournaments regularly, and was selected to go on a promotional tour of the sport in Europe. It was this tour that caught the attention of many of the Europeans who would go on to establish organizations in their own countries of Switzerland, France, Germany, Belgium and Italy, and would later form the International Team Cup Boomerang series.

In 1986, Chet won 4 events at the Nationals in Atlanta, but finished second to Barnaby Ruhe, who did more consistently overall. But the determination he brought out of that loss drove him to shore up his weak events and do better overall. His own competitive drive, harnessed by training skills he had acquired as a physical education major in college and from coaching a high school gymnastics team proved to be lethal for the competition. He had lost his final National Championship.

For the next eight years, from Cleveland in 1987 to Jackson, Michigan this past summer, he would win every National championship and U.S. Open that was held. In fact, for six years, from 1987 to 1992, he won EVERY domestic tournament in which he competed. There were also 2 World Championships, 3 International Team Cup Championships and 2 World Cup Team Championships along the way.

Chet doesn't seem to let his streak of National



Gunnison, Colorado in 1989 until Chet pulled out a world record performance in juggling on the second day to snatch the victory. Michael Girvin made the run in 1990 in St Louis, but came up short. In 1991, Chet again hosted the Nationals in Ohio and had to come from behind in the final event, Endurance, to edge out his brother by two throws to win the title by less than half a point. In 1992, he won the U.S. Open in Amhurst, and swept the Nationals the following day in pouring rain. In 1993 it was Seattle and Mark Weary who made things interesting. This last summer in Michigan, Chet found himself on the sidelines in the final event, again Endurance, watching Gary

Left



Broadbent throw for the title. Gary needed 51 catches (just one more than Chet's earlier 50) to break the streak and take home the title. It didn't happen.

On that late summer day in Jackson, another U.S. Open and National Championship didn't surprise the Michigan crowd, as Chet took the podium for his eighth consecutive time. But the announcement that he made did. He started off mentioning that it had been a while since he had swept the National, World Individual and World Team titles all in the same year. (1988, in fact) And he said that he had known coming into this year's Nationals that if he could do it again (after winning the World titles earlier in the summer in Japan) it would be time to step down from the highly competitive top of the stack and go out on top if he could.

"I was getting tired of all of the work that it took to stay on top," he said later when asked what his retirement meant. "I felt like winning more tournaments wouldn't do any more to solidify my place in history. I thought that sticking around longer and maybe starting to lose might tarnish it."

"I still want to compete at the team level, and feel I can contribute significantly to a U.S. team," he went on. "In that situation, you don't have all of the pressures of personal ego. It was getting to be like a job trying to win individual competitions, because everyone there is out to see how they stack up against you.

On the team, you're sharing knowledge and energy with your teammates. If they win, its not like you lose. If they win, you win, the whole team wins."

When asked if he'd ever compete in a Nationals again, even for fun, he responded, "Maybe I will. Maybe I just needed a break... some time to let somebody else be on top. You know, I wouldn't make a good boomerang champion if I didn't try to make a comeback at some point."

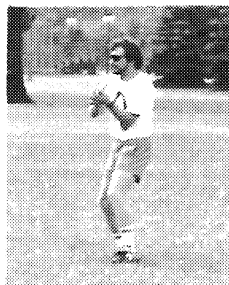


1994 US Team: World Champs!
clockwise, top left: John Flynn, Michael Girvin, Gregg Snouffer,
Chet Snouffer, Casey Larrance, Coach Barnaby Ruhe

The 1994 Boomerang Season In Photos



1994 US Nationals Top 12
clockwise from top: Chi-Bob, Weary, Gorski, Parkins,
Dickson, Gel, Carrigg, Flynn, Kavanaugh, Broadbent,
Snouffer, Gix.



John Flynn



Stevie K

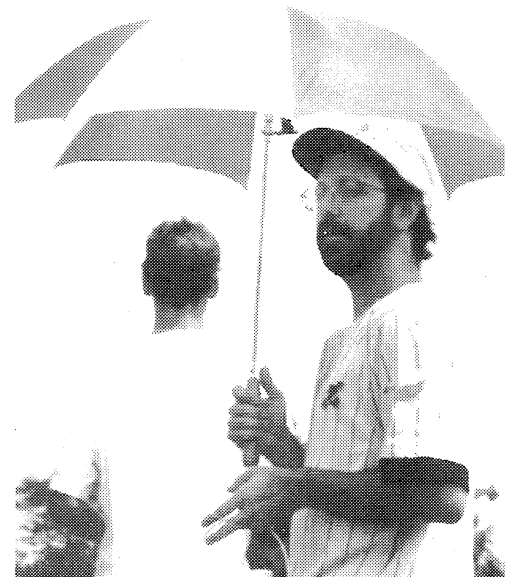


National Ratings Champ: Mark Weary

Below:
Barnaby
Ruhe
coaches in
Japan.



Gregg practices for his next career while in Japan



Right: Sweet Willie D
finds shelter from the 100
degree Ft Wayne sun

BUILDER'S SQUARE

HOW TO INFLUENCE BOOMERANG BEHAVIOR

By Norm Kern

As the boomerang maker you have tremendous influence over how the boomerang will behave.

Critical decisions pertain to the dimensions and relationships of **A**, **C**, **D**, **F**, **G** and **J** as shown in the boomerang wing cross section below. I have found that I get good results if for **J**, I carve down until 6 of the 9 glue lines are exposed. This leaves **I** at a little less than 2mm on a 5mm 10 ply blank.

I normally make **A** equal to 30 to 40% of the wing cord at the wing tip. I always mark this line before I start sanding. **A** should decrease as you transition to the elbow. For **C/D**, I try to carve at 45 degrees and carve until 4 of the 9 glue lines are exposed. I carry this all the way up the leading arm leading edge and around the elbow and likewise on the trailing arm on the inside and outside of the elbow.

For **F/G**, I turn the blank over and again at 45 degrees expose 2 glue lines. Around the bottom of the elbow I go down to exposing 1 ply line.

At the wing tips I have found that I have best success if I only

go down 2 plys on the top and one ply on the bottom. I take the rest of the desired material off by hand sanding with sand paper. This keeps the tips from being too sharp.

When I began making boomerangs, I thought the best airfoil was the most efficient airfoil, that is with the maximum lift and the minimum drag (large **A** and **J**, large **C** and **D**, no **F** or **G**). Doug Dufrene and Bob Letson taught me that less efficient airfoils make more pleasing boomerangs for most purposes. (MTA and Distance boomerangs require the more efficient airfoils.) See the following tables.

More lift shortens range. Less lift increases range.

| Lift | Increase | Decrease |
|----------------|------------|------------|
| J | More | Less |
| A | More | Less |
| C | Less | More |
| F and G | More | Less |
| | Less Range | More Range |

* My experimentation indicates that decreasing **J** has a stronger impact on increasing distance than

decreasing **A**. Subtle changes in **J** will probably have as much impact as noticeable changes in **A**. This may not be true for all models.

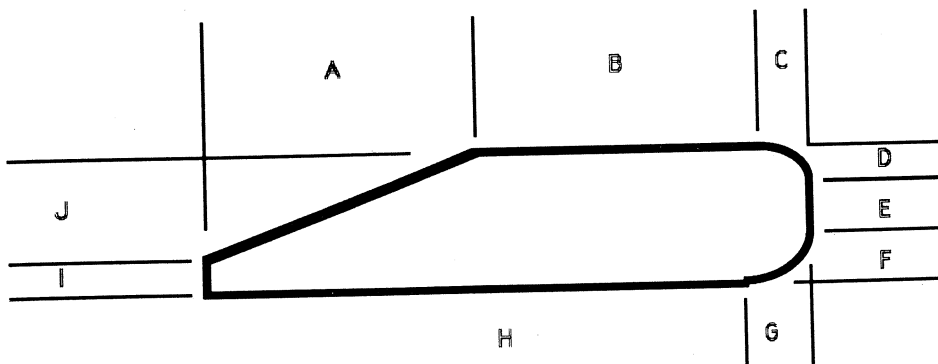
* Boomerangs with higher lift will require a launch angle more "off" the wind (more to the right for right handed throwers).

Boomerangs with too little lift will require more force to throw, will require more layover, will have a long range, but will not make a full circle, and will not return to the thrower. Boomerangs with too much lift will often go past you or over your head during the return even when thrown with a light toss. Boomerangs with high lift may be your best performers in still air. Boomerangs with low lift may be good performers on windy days.

More drag decreases spin retention, that is drag provides lower rotational speed at the end of the flight. Less drag allows more spin retention. Lower spin retention makes a boomerang easier to catch because it will be moving more slowly when you catch it. More drag also makes the boomerang less sensitive to the wind. Drag can be managed by how the leading edge is shaped.


| Drag : | Increase | Decrease |
|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| C and/or D | Less | More |
| F and G | More | Less |
| | Less Spin Retention | More Spin Retention |

* For boomerangs with small **A**, rounding or smoothing the transition between **A** and **B** also decreases drag.



Boomerangs with too much drag will stop spinning before completing a full circle. Boomerangs with too little drag will continue spinning rapidly until they are caught. As you are testing boomerangs which are fresh from the workshop, you should remember that they will have less drag after they are finish sanded, painted or varnished. You may wish to settle for what seems to be a little too much drag, knowing that it will be reduced by the finishing.

As with haircuts, it is always easier to take more off later than put some back. If the boomerang doesn't make a full return, try some of the above techniques to reduce drag or increase lift. Make the changes gradually until you get exactly the effect you want. Take your files and sandpaper out to the field with you so you can watch the flights change as you change the airfoils. I have found John Mauro's book, *An Introduction to Boomerangs*, to be quite helpful when I couldn't figure out why a boomerang was misbehaving. It is available through the Boomerang Man.



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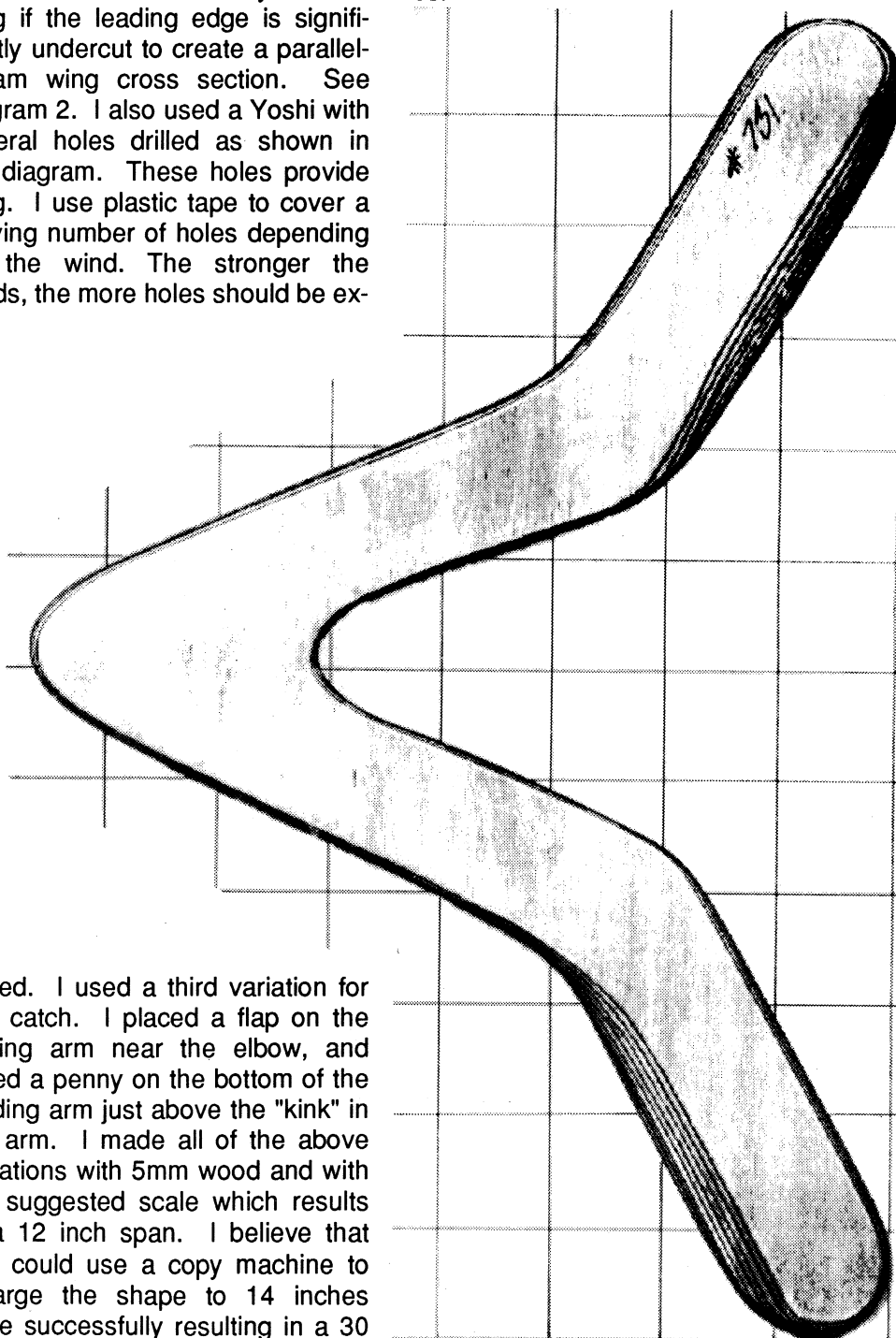
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Making the Yoshi

See diagram of the Yoshi. It is a shape I first obtained in a trade with Yoshi Sakimitsu of Japan. Yoshi organized the 1994 World Championships. I have made several variations of the Yoshi. The basics noted above (J=6 glue lines, D=4 lines, F=2 lines) work well and result in a 20+ meter boomerang. The Yoshi works well as an accuracy boomerang if the leading edge is significantly undercut to create a parallelogram wing cross section. See diagram 2. I also used a Yoshi with several holes drilled as shown in the diagram. These holes provide drag. I use plastic tape to cover a varying number of holes depending on the wind. The stronger the winds, the more holes should be ex-

posed. Recently I also began making the 12 inch Yoshi with 4 mm wood. This results in a very nice boomerang for youngsters or people who are not often involved in throwing sports. To experiment with the principles described above I made 7 Yoshis which were identical except for difference in the leading and trailing edges. The Yoshis with J=4 glue lines had about 30 meter ranges.



posed. I used a third variation for fast catch. I placed a flap on the trailing arm near the elbow, and taped a penny on the bottom of the leading arm just above the "kink" in the arm. I made all of the above variations with 5mm wood and with the suggested scale which results in a 12 inch span. I believe that you could use a copy machine to enlarge the shape to 14 inches quite successfully resulting in a 30

VIRGINIA BEACH BOOMFEST A REAL BLOWOUT!

by John Koehler

OK, I admit it. I should have picked a larger field. Hopefully no one will tell the USBA that we had to put the 50 meter circle through Mr. & Mrs. Smith's kitchen.

They didn't seem to mind until some of the spotters started raiding the fridge. Mike Dickson managed to take a slice off a ham with a low 50m throw. He ate it on the catch.

The problem with small fields is that you can get a real bowl effect with the wind. It flows over the trees and crashes down like a tidal wave.

It was very ugly as you can see by the scores. Gary Broadbent tied a small poodle named Foofoo to his rang for accuracy. After scoring a perfect 10 they both piddled with joy in the bullseye.

One of the highlights of the tournament was the discovery that Rob Parkins did in fact have teeth. Few people had ever seen him smile before the Beach Boomfest.

When asked about his newfound mirth, all he would say was, "Ohio is really cool! Yeah, yeah, really cool." Go figure.

Young Sara Schramm was delighted to discover the ocean for the first time. She gained new insights; "Oh gross! the water is, like, all salty!" (Expect this girl to go far.)

Sister Chris Schramm, meanwhile, ruled the scoresheets by day and the beaches by night, chasing sand crabs and guys in bathing suits, while everyone else launched a massive search for Vera Broadbent who was eventually found studying some sand dunes up close... sleeping.

The tournament was won by Rob Parkins with 65 points. He won Accuracy with 29, edging out Jim Cardamone's 28, fast catch, with 25.46 seconds (6 seconds ahead of Mike Dickson's second place time) and MTA, 46.41 seconds (13 seconds ahead of Gary Broadbent's second place score.)

Gary finished second overall with 54 points, winning Aussi Round with 60 (5 points ahead of second place Parkins) and tying Mike Dickson for first in Doubling with 9 catches. Dickson finished third overall with 51.5 points.

For a fun weekend of beach, beer and boomerangs, see you here next year!

BOX SCORES

VA BEACH SEPT EMBER 17

12 Competitors, Windy conditions

Trick Catch: 1) 11- M Dickson, 2)10- J Koehler, 3)9- B Ruhe, R Parkins, G Broadbent **Accy:** 1) 29: R Parkins; 2)28: Jim Cardamone.; 3) 23- R Simpson, 4) 20- V Broadbent 5) 18- J Koehler **Fast Catch:** 1) 25.46- R Parkins, 2)31.18- M Dickson, 3) 40.46- G Broadbent: 4) 46.8- R Eckhardt, 5)46.86- D Joyce. **Aussi Round:** (1) 60- G Broadbent.; 2) 55- R Parkins, 3)49- D Joyce.; 4) 46- T Maultsby, 5) 39- Jim Cardamone.:

MTA: 1)46.41- R Parkins, 2)33.82- G Broadbent 3) 26.57: T Maultsby, 4) 26.24- V Broadbent, 5)23.33- B Ruhe **Doubling:** 1) 9- M Dickson, G Broadbent.; 3) 8- R Parkins, 4) 7- B Ruhe, J Koehler **Endurance:** 1) 35- M Dickson, 2) 34- B Ruhe.; 3) 29- R Parkins, 4) 27- D Joyce, 5) 25- J Koehler

OVERALL: (1)R Parkins: 65, (2)G Broadbent: 54, (3)M Dickson: 51.5, (4)B Ruhe: 41, (5)J Koehler: 38.5, (6)D Joyce: 33.5, (7)T Maultsby: 32, (8)Jim Cardamone: 23, (9)V Broadbent: 19, (10)R Eckhardt: 13

Beaverton, OR SEPTEMBER 18

Competitors: 15 Winds: Changing

TRICK CATCH: (1) M. Girvin: 12, (2) W. Gix: 11, (3) D. Monroe: 10, (4) D DuFresne, M Weary, S Kavanaugh: 9 **ACCY:** (1) C Larrance: 36, (2) M Waeary: 32, (3) B Seward: 30, (4) S Kavanaugh: 28, (5) M Girvin: 25

FAST CATCH: (1) B Gix: 23.55, (2) W Gix: 24.81, (3) S Kavanaugh: 24.83, (4) D DuFresne: 26.14, (5) Gel: 26.87, **AUSSI-ROUND:** (1) D Dufresne: 76, (2) S Kavanaugh: 72, (3) W Gix: 71, (4) B Seward: 61, (5) B Gix: 60 **MTA:** (1) B Seward: 41.92, (2) Gel: 38.59, (3) TW Smith: 33.6, (4) D Dufresne, T Peterson: 31.79 **DOUBLING:** (1) Gel, M Weary: 11, (3) S Kavanaugh, W Gix: 10, (5) B Seward, D Dufresne, B Gix: 7

ENDURANCE: (1) D Dufresne: 45, (2) Gel: 43, (3) S Kavanaugh: 38, (4) B Gix: 37, (5) C Larrance: 35 **JUGGLING:** (1) S Kavanaugh: 14, (2) W Gix, Gel: 8, (4) B Seward: 5, (5) M Weary, TW Smith: 3 **OVER-ALL:** 1) S Kavanaugh, 2) Gel, 3) D Dufresne, 4) W Gix, 5) B Seward, 6) M Weary, 7) B Gix, 8) TW Smith, 9) C Larrance, 10) T Peterson

Phoenix Wind, Rain Prevail

by Gregg Snouffer

It was the final tournament of the season and so ratings places were on the line.

It was also the second annual tournament in sunny Phoenix, AZ, so when Eric Darnell decided the week before that practicing in the 40 degree rains of Vermont was useless, since conditions at the tournament would NEVER be like that, who would have blamed him? How could he have known...?

When the 40 mph gusts abated, leaving the relatively calm straight line 25mph "breeze" for trick catch warm-up, the throwers rejoiced.

When the first round came and the breeze abruptly stopped, no one had anything to throw in the calm, so taped and weighted was every boom on the field.

But by the second and third rounds, things had changed. The remaining throwers began to trust the calm and Chicago Bob, Gregg Snouffer and Mike Dickson were able to notch up perfect 12's. But as the Arizona veterans from the year before had learned, never trust the winds in Phoenix. By the final two rounds of trick catch, the rains came, and with them, the highest winds of the young day. No wonder Rob Parkins got 7 and Betsy Miale caught 3.

By the time Doubling came, it was time for a break. For the next two hours, it dumped rain on the little desert field, flooding it with 2 inches of water.

The rest of the tournament came off without a hitch, except the accuracy lines disappeared in the mud, the winds alternated from hurricane strength to dead calm with no heed to the throwers, and darkness came before Aussi Round.

When it was over, Gregg Snouffer took home 1st place overall, scoring 43.35 points to Kim Galeazzi's 40.75. The battle for third found Chicago Bob edging out Doug DuFresne by almost 2 points, 33.41 to 31.6. Also making the trip were Gary Broadbent, John Gorsky and Mike Dickson from the midwest, The Gix's and Gel from the west coast, Jim Miller from Utah, and Don Monroe and Mark Weary from hometown Phoenix, as well as the Mexican kids and others.

Mark, Bob, Rev Jim, Gary and Gregg share condolences with those who only came out for the tournament. They went camping / mountain biking the following week in beautiful sunny, warm weather. Just like Arizona is supposed to be!

Phoenix, AZ OCTOBER 15

Competitors: 21 Winds: Gusty, Rain

Trick Catch: 1) 16- G Snouffer, 2) 12- Chi Bob, M Dickson, 4) 11- Gel, K Galeazzi **ACCY:** 1) 36- S Kavanaugh, 2) 34- Gel, 3) 31- D Monroe, 4) 26- G Snouffer, K Galeazzi. **Fast Catch:** 1) 26.72- G Broadbent, 2) 28.01- Chi Bob, 3) 30.7- M Dickson, 4) 33.56- G Snouffer, 5) 34.65- K Galeazzi. **MTA** 1) 34.89- M Weary, 2) 30.55- B Gix, 3) 25.85- G Snouffer, 4) 25.82- K Galeazzi, 5) 24.98- G

1994 USBA Ratings

Broadbent **Doubling:** 1) 7- K Galeazzi, R Parkins, 3) 6- C Ozolins, G Snouffer, G Broadbent, E Darnell, S Kavanaugh, Chi Bob, M Weary, D Dufresne, B Gix **Endurance:**

1) 61- D Dufresne, 2) 60- J Gorski, 3) 54- Gel, M Weary, 5) 52- G Snouffer **OVER-ALL:** 1) 43.35- G Snouffer, 2) 40.75- K Galeazzi, 3) 33.41- Chi Bob, 4) 31.68- D Dufresne, 5) 28.87- G Broadbent 6) 27.8 M Weary, 7) 24- Gel, 8) 21.23- M Dickson, 9) 17.77- R Parkins 10) B Gix

For the complete 1994 USBA Ratings, send \$1 and a stamped, self-addressed business size envelope to: Chicago Bob Leifeld, P.O. Box 242, Waterloo IL 62298.

OVERALL 1994 RATINGS

| Place | Competitor | Total Points |
|-------|---------------------|--------------|
| 1. | Mark Weary | 114 |
| 2. | Chet Snouffer | 101.5 |
| 3. | Gary Broadbent | 97.5 |
| 4. | John Flynn | 95 |
| 5. | Gregg Snouffer | 94.5 |
| 6. | Rob Parkins | 84.5 |
| 7. | Michael Girvin | 83 |
| 8. | Steve Kavanaugh | 66.5 |
| 9. | John Gorsky | 62 |
| 10. | Doug DuFresne | 61 |
| 11. | Moleman | 59 |
| 12. | Mike Dickson | 58 |
| 13. | Kim Galleazzi | 57.5 |
| 14. | Chicago Bob | 44 |
| 15. | Byron Seward | 33.5 |
| 16. | Scott Barrett | 29 |
| 17. | Barnaby Ruhe | 27 |
| 18. | Casey Larrance | 25.5 |
| 19. | Will Gix | 24.5 |
| 20. | Dave Barrett | 20 |
| 21. | Eric Darnell | 18.5 |
| 22. | Reverend Jim | 16.5 |
| tie | Betsy Miale-Gix | 16.5 |
| tie | Larry Ruhf | 16.5 |
| 25. | Stephane Marguerite | 16 |
| tie | Pete Robson | 16 |
| 27. | Aron McGuire | 15 |
| 28. | Charlie Kunkel | 14 |
| 29. | Bob Foresi | 11 |
| tie | Sean Marquardt | 11 |
| 31. | Paul Sprague | 10.5 |
| 32. | John Koehler | 10 |
| 33. | Joe Miller | 9.5 |
| 34. | Keith Robson | 9 |
| 35. | Eric Fields | 8 |
| 36. | Kris Kenny | 7 |
| 37. | Tim Maultsby | 6.5 |
| 38. | Alan Grindle | 5 |
| 39. | Tony Brazelton | 4.5 |
| 40. | Dennis Joyce | 4 |
| 41. | Peter Ruhf | 3.5 |
| 42. | Eddie Carrigg | 1.5 |
| 43. | Jim Sprague | 1 |
| tie | T.W. Smith | 1 |

So, you want to be the best, eh?

Here's what you'd have had to do last season to finish at the top.

Trick Catch:

- 1) 26 Gary Broadbent (Nationals)
- 2) 19 Mike Girvin (Mich)
- + 19 John Flynn (UMass)
- + 19 Gregg Snouffer (Mich)

Doubling:

- 1) *21 Chet Snouffer (StL)w.rec.
- 2) 17 Gary Broadbent (Natls)
- 3) 15 Gregg Snouffer (StL)

Accuracy:

- 1) 48 Gregg Snouffer (UMass)
- 2) 43 Pete Robson (UMass)
- 3) 42 Barnaby Ruhe (UMass)
- + 42 John Gorsky (Cleve)
- + 42 Dennis Joyce (Georgia)

Australian Round:

- 1) 92 John Flynn (UMass) w.rec.
- 2) 88 Mark Weary (Nationals)
- 3) 87 Will Gix (Salem)

Maximum Time Aloft:

- 1) 58.54 John Gorsky (Cleve)
- 2) 48.96 Dave Barrett (UMass)
- 3) 46.41 Rob Parkins (VaBch)

Fast Catch:

- 1) 17.82 Chet Snouffer (FtWayne)
- 2) 18.91 Rob Parkins (UMass)
- 3) 19.22 Gary Broadbent (FtWa)

Endurance:

- 1) 67 Gary Broadbent (FtWa)
- 2) 66 Chet Snouffer (FtWa)
- 3) 61 Rob Parkins (UMass)
- + 61 Doug DuFresne (Phoenix)
- + 61 John Gorky (FtWa)

In 1994, 140 people participated in USBA competitions; 68 of those in one, 27 in two and 45 in three or more.

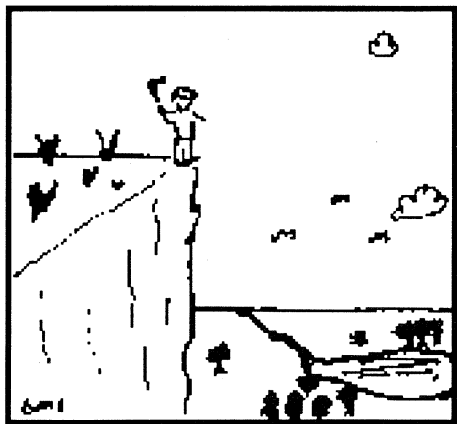
1994 Road Warriors:

11 competitions: Michael Gel and Steve Kavanaugh
10 comps: Chicago Bob



Weary and Rev Jim get lost in Sedona

THE TEST FLIGHT



THE CLASSIFIED ADS

Following is a free listing of Boomerang Manufacturers who are members of the USBA.

- ABORIGINAL STEVE'S BOOMERANGS** (Steve Conaway) 121 Oakdale Ln., Fillmore CA 93015 ph (805) 524-2913: FREE info, 14 models for comp and fun, omegas, tri-bladers, hooks...
- AEROSPORT BOOMERANGS** P.O. Box 1555, Stafford TX 77497-1555: traditionals and omegas, night booms with cylume
- BOOMERANGS BY TED BAILEY**: P.O. Box 6076, Ann Arbor MI 48106-8923 Ph: (513) 779-8923: Competition B's, MTA's, miniature B's, books, newsletters, collector of Aboriginal artifacts.
- THE BOOMERANG MAN**: (Rich Harrison) 1806 N 3rd St., Monroe, LA 71201 Ph (318) 325-8157: FREE Catalog, beginner to comp B's, and collectibles.
- CLEVELAND BOOMERANG SCHOOL** (Dave Boehm) P.O. Box 17385, Euclid OH 44117 ph (216)442-6024: variety of Bs, workshops.
- COLORADO BOOMERANGS**: (Jim Mayfield) 409 North Colorado, Gunnison CO 81230 Ph (303) 641-3539: FREE catalog, all kinds of performance Bs
- GEL BOOMERANGS** (Michael Girvin) 2124 Kittredge St., #61, Berkeley CA 94704 ph (510) 658-2469: FREE color catalog, full spectrum of comp Bs, some phenolics, T Shirts, etc...
- GEMZ** (Tony Gembeck) P.O. Box 5241, Portland OR 97208 ph (503) 230-8955: variety of wood Bs and comp clothing.
- GREYFORD COMPANY BOOMERANGS** (Thomas Risher) Box 4734, Whittier CA 90607: Distributor of wide variety of Bs
- LEADING EDGE BOOMERANGS**: (Chet Snouffer), 51 Troy Rd., Delaware OH 43015 Ph or Fax (614) 363-8332: FREE Price list, Comp. and beginner B's. Fast Catch, doublers, ...
- LEFT TURN BOOMERANGS**: (Norm Kern) 1640 Haynes, Birmingham MI 48009 Ph (313) 645-9308: 8 models from Beginner to comp Bs.
- FRED MALMBERG** 1545 E Market St., York PA 17403 ph(717) 848-4601: seasoned wood worker, rare hardwoods, lap joints,...
- OUTBACK BOOMERANGS**: (Doug DuFresne) P.O. Box 25577, Portland OR 97225: Beginner to comp Bs, Fast catch, strip Laminates, Dealer inquiries welcome
- 'RANG WRIGHTS** (Dan Jones) 1815 Btitt Rd., Snellville GA 30278 ph (404) 985-8079: FREE catalog, sport and comp Bs, aluminum, strip laminates, natural elbows, and regular plywood.
- RANGSMITH** (TW Smith) P.O. Box 11332, Eugene OR 97440 Ph (503) 942-4372: full spectrum, + distance, FC and MTAs
- ROUNDRIP BOOMERANGS**: (Gregg Snouffer / Rick Tilford) 340 Troy Rd., Delaware OH 43015 Ph or Fax (614) 363-4414: FREE price list, indoor/backyard booms and beginner to comp. booms, MTAs, T shirts.
- RUHF BOOMERANGS** (Peter Ruhf) 6550 Meeting House Rd., New Hope PA 18938 ph (215) 862-3479: comp and beginner Bs, Specializes in lefties.
- RUS-ART**: (Rus Feuerbach) P.O. Box 187, Agawam MA 01001: variety of styles and skills. \$1 for catalog
- DAN RUSSELL**: Box 84895, San Diego CA 92138 Ph (619) 296-4243 (4-8PM): wood booms and cylume stix. Write for prices.
- SAN FRANCISCO BOOMERANG SCHOOL** (Bill Tumath) 127 Knollview Way, S.F. CA 94131 ph (415) 550-6746: FREE price listing, large selection of Herb Smith Bs
- ST. LOUIS BOOMERANGS**: (Tom Fitzgerald) 1159 Holly River, Florissant MO 63031, (314) 839-1604: beginner to comp Bs. Distributor of wide variety of Bs
- TURNING POINT BOOMERANGS**: (Eric Darnell): Star Route, South Stratford VT 05070: FREE catalog, wide variety of Bs for beginner to comp.

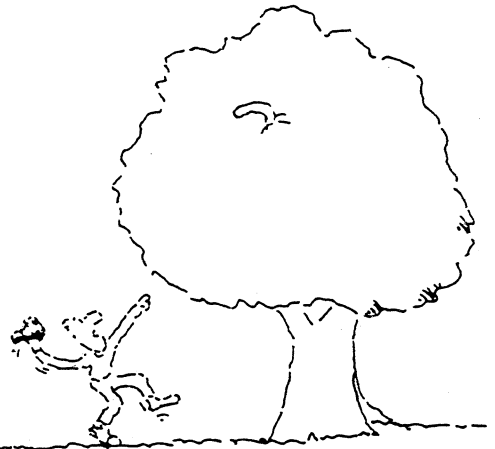
Attention Manufacturers: In order to be listed in future editions of MHR, you **MUST** contact the new editor and update your listing. **You MUST be a member of USBA to be listed.** If you wish to be listed, write to Classified Listings, c/o USBA, PO Box 182, Delaware OH 43015

COMING NEXT ISSUE: Overseas Manufacturers, material sources, Local Boomerang Club Listings. (If you have one of these listings for inclusion, contact the address above.)

LOST AND FOUND

FRIDO ICE RUNNER: LOST AT NATIONALS purple and white w/ black splatter paint. Gray duct tape over holes. Left in field after Endurance warm-up. Someone picked it up and probably forgot to get it back. Contact Gary Broadbent: (216) 492-7264

KITTEN: Grey and white. Answers to "Kylie." Last seen near Gary's snake cage. Anyone seen her?



USBA INFORMATION PAGE

Many Happy Returns

Circulation: 400 Worldwide.

Published by the:

U. S. Boomerang Association
P.O. Box 182
Delaware, OH 43015

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| 1/2 Page | \$115 |
| 1 Column | \$80 |
| Per Column inch | \$10 |

10% discount for 4 consecutive issues. All advertisements must be pre-paid in USD by check or M. O. to USBA. Camera-ready copy preferred. The editor reserves the right to refuse any advertisement or cancel a contract without reason. The deadline for all advertisements is March 1, June 1, September 1 and December 1 for the Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter issues respectively. All advertisements should be mailed to:

USBA
 P.O. Box 182
 Delaware, OH 43015

Did you miss an issue of MHR?

If you have questions regarding membership status or delivery status of MHR, contact Gregg Snouffer at the address or phone number below. No Answer? Leave a message.

All newsletter submittals, with the exception of competition; should be directed to the editor: Gregg Snouffer by writing to:

Gregg Snouffer
340 Troy Rd
Delaware, OH 43015
or call (614) 363-4414

Submittals may be made on 3.5" floppy in any Mac text. All submitted material becomes the property of the USBA

USBA INFORMATION

The USBA provides information listings to members at a nominal charge. A listing of boomerang manufacturers; a listing of wood sources; and a listing of boomerang clubs can be obtained by sending a SASE. Allow one ounce postage per listing. A USBA rule book costs \$2 and a self addressed envelope (no stamps). Send all inquiries to:

USBA
P.O. Box 182
Delaware, OH 43015

Chet Snouffer will respond quickly to special inquiries that are mailed to: Chet Snouffer; 51 Troy Rd.; Delaware, Oh 43015. In the event of an emergency, you can contact Chet at (614)-363-8332 (9 -12 AM EST).

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All materials related to competition notices & results should be sent to the Competition Editor: **Chet Snouffer:**

Chet Snouffer
51 Troy Rd.
Delaware, OH 43015
 phone: (614)-363-8332

USBA MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

All membership dues should be paid by check or money order in \$USD\$. Make checks payable to: USBA. Domestic and Canadian annual membership dues are \$10 per year. A domestic lifetime membership is \$150. Annual overseas dues are \$20. A lifetime overseas membership is \$250. Check your newsletter label for expiration issue. Mail all checks or money orders to the address below:

U. S. Boomerang Association
P.O. Box 182
Delaware, OH 43015

Membership status questions should be directed to **Gregg Snouffer** by calling (614)-363-4414 or by writing to the above USBA address.

New Member Application

Instructions: USBA member should copy this page and fill in his/her name as sponsor. Carry extra copies of this sheet in your boomerang bag and hand them out to potential new members.

name

address

address

city/state/zip or country

phone number (optional)

USBA member sponsor's name

New member: Please read USBA Membership Information above. Send the completed coupon and (\$10) check or M. O. to:

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Many Happy Returns
