

# Many Happy Returns

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Winter, 1991

## Who's Hot? Who's Not?

Check your standings in the 1990 ratings, compiled by John Flynn and Alan Winterrowd — page 6. Thanks guys, I wouldn't want to wade through it.

## Check your mailing label

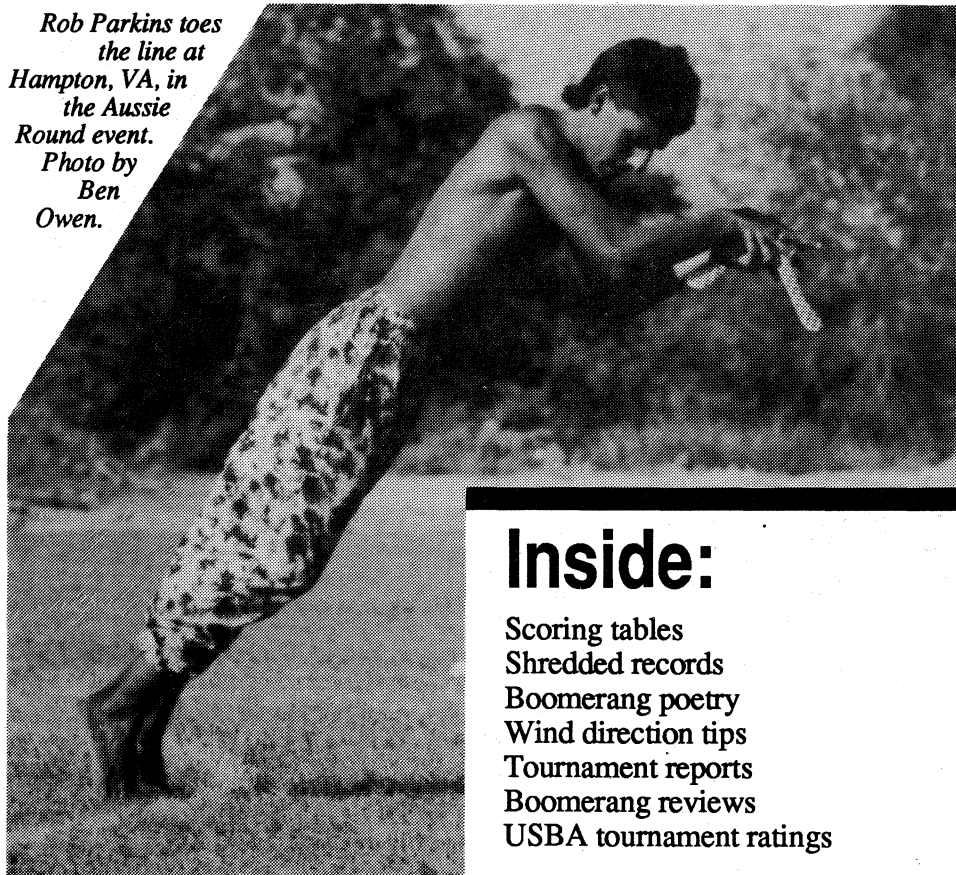
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## The 1991 U.S. Boomerang Team Has Been Chosen:

Chet Snouffer (co-captain)  
John Flynn (co-captain)  
Doug DuFresne  
Michael Girvin  
Casey Larrance  
Gregg Snouffer

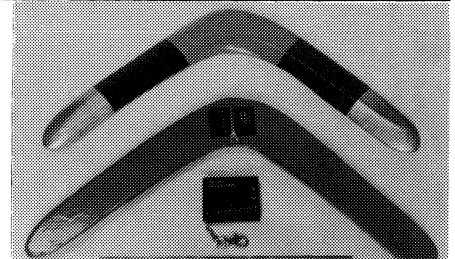
The selection committee was as follows: Betsylew Miale-Gix, Michael Girvin, Chet Snouffer, Jim Jordan, and John Flynn.

*Rob Parkins toes the line at Hampton, VA, in the Aussie Round event.  
Photo by Ben Owen.*



## Inside:

Scoring tables  
Shredded records  
Boomerang poetry  
Wind direction tips  
Tournament reports  
Boomerang reviews  
USBA tournament ratings



*Brazilian bat-frequency boomerang, submitted by Professor Lezíro Marques Silva of the Associação Paulista de Bumerangues. See story page 18.*

# Boomerang Poetry II *THE SEQUEL*

For those of you who have expressed some consternation over the caliber of the verse in the last issue, I still refuse to offer any apology, but I might suggest you skip this page and proceed directly to the scoring tables. For the rest of you brave souls, read on, and please extend welcome to our first foreign submission (right).

— editor

## An Ode to a Boomerang Tournament

By Bud Pell (*Just Plain Bud*)

I threw my boomerang into the air  
And when it lands I know not where,  
That's not too swift as you shall see  
'Cause I am throwing in Accuracy.

I chucked my MTA into the sky  
it spiralled up and came out high  
Then came down spinning with hardly a sound  
And stuck the dingle arm deep in the ground.

I let it go with all my might  
its blazing speed was quite a sight  
I lined it up and reached out fast  
By then my Fast Catch was five feet past.

I flicked my wrist the boom went 'round  
Coming back good, but fell to the ground  
It bounced off my knuckles, my elbow, and thigh  
Nor could I catch with my feet, I don't know why.

Two at once is quite a chore  
'Cause the old arm ends up so sore  
I watch them go round and run to the spot  
And drop left and right as if they were hot.

I take a deep breath for throwing this round  
I jump and I leap and dive to the ground  
I throw and I throw for a very long time  
"What do you mean I only caught nine."

Aussie's my favorite, I throw very long  
The hook circles 'round humming its song  
It sails over head, I'm following fine  
And make a diving catch over the fifty meter line.

The final event is Juggling you know  
First one then the other, you catch and you throw  
The start is so easy then threes and fours  
"How could I possibly end up with yours?"

A tournament can be a great deal of fun  
But they're not meant for every one  
I'll be back next year at this time  
'Cause it's not winning that counts  
But the friends that you find.

...

An apology to the person who owns the Colorado Boomerang "Concord" that I accidentally picked up at the Hampton, Va., tournament. Please contact me and I will send it to you.  
Bud Pell  
29675 Sierra Pointe Circle  
Farmington Hills, MI 48331  
(313) 788-2688

## A Boom Rap

By Günter "Tapir" Möller, Germany  
Dedicated to Gregg Snouffer

I once got a boom, postmailed by Gregg  
I went to the field to give it a check.  
Took it out o' the bag, gave it a tune  
It shot up high with a loud SWOON.  
Then - after a turn - it just stood still  
pretty much on one place, like a boomer's last will.

Since it was a nice day  
I sat on the ground  
to see the wind play ...  
with my MTA!

## Boomerang Poem #3

By Robert X. Quinn

In 1990 on the first of September,  
for those who were there, it's a day they'll remember

The place was Catskill, a boomfest by Bunny Ruhe  
and some artist from Palenville, helped with it too.

Throwers came from the north, south, east and west

to see, on that day, who would be best.  
They came to see how good they could do,  
and maybe get to set a new record or two.  
Juggling was the last event of the day.  
The sun had just set, people were anxious to get on their way,

The air became still. The wind wasn't there.  
Boomerangs flew without a care.  
Birds, bats and bugs started flying around.  
booms dancing with night creatures, the sky was abound.

But those weren't the only things that were to soar.

Today was the day, the juggling record flew out the door.

Gelly started to cause a sensation.  
Yelling Barnaby got 88. We waited in anticipation.

He caught one more, the record was tied.  
Then caught two more, Chet's record went bye-bye.

Barnaby caught 91. The record was set, but John Flynn hadn't finished throwing yet. No one could imagine, that Barnaby's record would be creamed

by John Flynn Human Boomerang Juggling Machine.

People watched mesmerized, for Flynny hardly had to move.

He epitomized a boomchucker, being in the groove.

110, 120, 130 without a miss,  
but it all came to an end at 136.

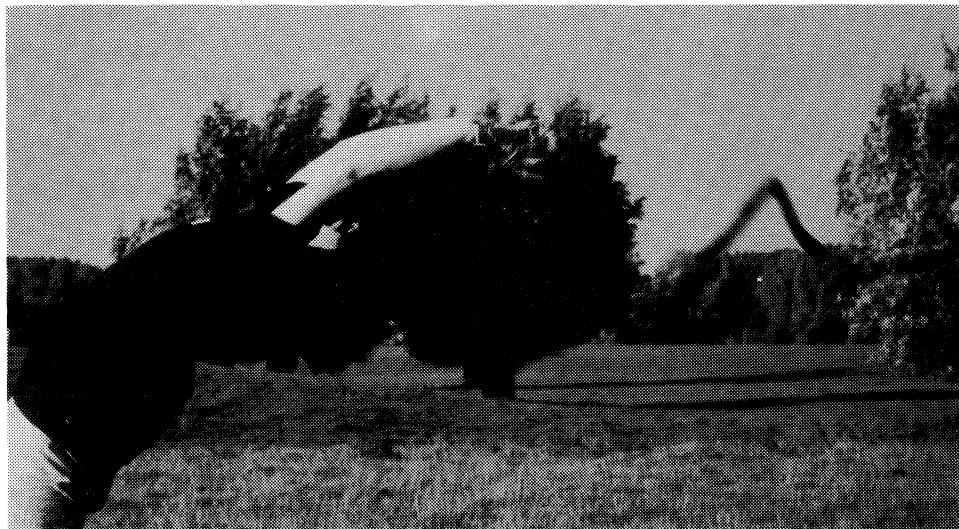
The people were amazed at what just had been done,

Flynn's 136 and Barnaby's 91.

That day could not have had a better finish, with two world records being set in just 15 minutes.

When you go to a tournament you hope it's your day.

It must have been Flynny's. He won the tournament by the way.



Team German Gellers Günter Möller makes a Backward-Bridge-to-Catch-Stretch-Catch on a field next to the river Rhine in October.

# International Symposium On Hunting in Prehistory and 2nd Intercontinental Games of Prehistoric Weapons

Treignes, Belgium  
By Jacques Thomas

Organized by the Belgian Archaeological Studies and Research Centre, the Universities of Bruxelles, Liege and Louvain, the Symposium gathered more than 100 specialists representing 18 nations, most of them of the highest scientific rank. Fifty-two presentations were scheduled, including one by Dr. Pawel Valde-Nowak of Poland, who found in 1955 at Oblazolwa a long curved piece of ivory made of a mammoth tusk, and my own on "The Boomerangs in Ancient Times." John Wray of Great Britain commented on some posters he had devoted to throw-sticks and killing-sticks.

All that was said about "flying-sticks" raised great interest. Most of the attending specialists had never heard of boomerangs or killing-sticks in so documented a manner. Maybe some of them could not have paid enough attention to some curved or streamlined pieces of wood found in excavations. Now they would be careful in regard to this newly-mentioned possibility.

With slides of Australian and Egyptian artifacts or replicas, the "boomerang of Velsen," I underlined that from its origin and from many old writings I had studied, the name "boomerang" had to be given only to the two-bladed artifact able to return, and to no other. I suggested that from knowledge we have of its distribution, the boomerang could have been in use everywhere in the world in prehistoric times. At last, I emphasized that today, since nobody has observed Aborigines throwing a boomerang or killing-stick made in an ancestral manner

for traditional purposes of hunting or war, it is important to make precise replicas and to test them in order to know what their real capabilities were. Which was the aim of this Symposium and Games?

Many talks concerned the Polish killing-stick made of mammoth ivory. On the field, a resin casting of it proved itself able to fly perfectly well for about 50 metres. What else could it have been but a flying weapon! However, it was surely not a "boomerang."

The last two days were devoted to the Games of Prehistoric Weapons: spear throwing with and without a propulsor, bow and arrows, boomerangs and killing-sticks thrown at targets and at a distance. All the weapons had to be made of solid wood without any adjunction of modern materials. Since John Wray was also enthusiastic about it, I had suggested, as a member of the Games Committee, an event of bird hunting with boomerangs on balloons flying at about 15 metres above the ground. This event requires the use of boomerangs flying high along a straight flight path after a throw at a steep angle, with a

passive return, as probably most of the boomerangs were in ancient times.

It was the first time that such events were scheduled in a competition, at least in Europe. With boomerangs, as with killing-sticks, the results were far from being excellent! Most of the throwers who competed need much learning, much trying, more training! However, the events were exciting and fascinated the spectators.

I was delighted to meet Wilhelm Bretfeld and Eckhard Mawick, the president of the Deutscher Bumerang Club, who had come for the Games. Wilhelm did not compete, but Eckhard, well trained, was the overall winner with some of the super flying-sticks he makes of solid wood since long ago. John Wray won a second prize.

This successful meeting revealed the possibility of seeing killing-stick competitions in the future, as well as, perhaps, bird-hunting on balloons.

The presentations given during the Symposium will be published by the CEDARC, in the "Acts of the Symposium" - CEDARC, 28 rue de la Gare B-6390 Treignes, Belgium.

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# Many Happy Returns

## Editorial

### Letting go

It's funny how you can get attached to material things. I recently lost my best Aussie Round boomerang. At first, I found myself telepathically commanding it to fulfill its purpose and return to me. Then it occurred to me that part of boomeranging is learning to let go at the right time.

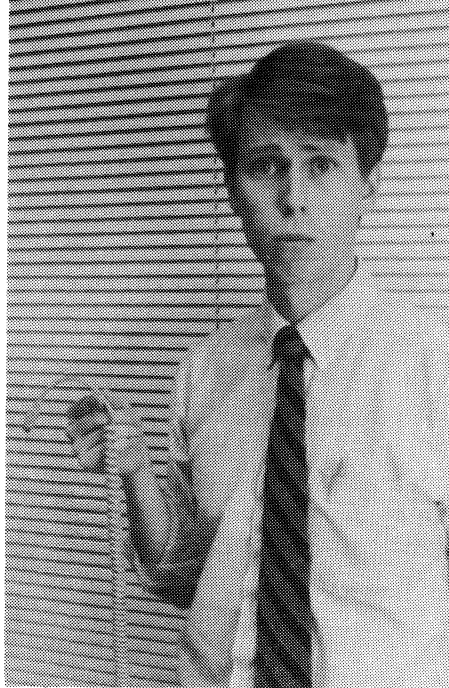
So I adjusted pretty well, but then Monday night (12/10) my office was burgled. They got my two best computers, a scanner and \$86 in petty cash.

One of the computers stolen contained this issue of *Many Happy Returns*. The first thing I was going to do Tuesday morning was send a proof out to Betsylew. I know, it sounds like "my dog ate it," but I swear it was all done.

The delay gave Betsy enough time to get her column in and gave Juice almost enough time to get his scoring table in (these people think a deadline is when you *start* something). So you're getting a better newsletter.

Loss begets progress. The insurance company is buying me better computers than the ones I lost, and I may someday find a better 50 meter 'rang (anybody got a sweet one to sell me?).

It makes me think about how far boomeranging has come when I look back at the war-clubs I used to throw at myself. I used to come back from tournaments all beat up and bleeding, just from catching!



When I give a demonstration, often the crowd is disappointed with the paper-thin plywood and paxolin tribladers, state-of-the-art designs and new materials. They want to see the big suckers, the "real" boomerangs. So I break down and fling a humungous 10-year-old black boomerang I call "Zonker," and it still comes back. ...Oooff.

Thank God for progress.

*Paul Sprague*  
Paul D. Sprague, editor

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## Letter to the Editor:

By Peter Byham, Australia

When Joan and I ran the first Barooga Competition back in 1983, we ran it as a fun weekend with tuition for locals, B.B.Q.s and great trophies. This annual event proved to hold rank with the Nationals every year.

Unfortunately, in 1987, we decided to put up prize money for the main event winner. Once money was mentioned, all friendship between the top four and the rest of the field seemed to disappear. The big frogs in the little pond thought that even "Line Ranging" was out of the question because they had to practice for the "BIG ONE."

As C.D. Tavares pointed out (MHR #44, page 4), 80% to 90% of members are recreational and not competitive, but they still pay the same subs as the "BIG GUNS." It is good to see that through positive thinking in America, this problem is being arrested.

It is unfortunate that cash prizes are being offered in Perth in 1991. I only hope that in Australia "The Big Guns" realize that without the "SPINE" the head FALLS OFF.

*Editor's note: Peter Byham reports that he has been into boomerangs since 1958 and in 1981 took over the "Binghi Boomerang Factory" from his Uncle Jack.*

*He has represented Australia in New Zealand, France, Switzerland, Germany and Japan. He was president of the B.A.A. for four years. He and Joan were the main organizers of the First World Cup at Barooga in 1988, and he designed the "Eagle Mk. 3" that helped the Aussies bring the Challenge Cup back in 1984.*

# Beginner's Circle *Feelin' the Breeze*

By Paul D. Sprague

You got your digital windspeed monitors, you got your day-glo wind sox, you got your portable Air Traffic Controller kits. I got me a fistful of grass. Free.

Here's what you do: Toss the grass out onto the wind and watch it fall. If it falls with anything less than a 45° angle, take a seat in the shade and have a beer while the wind dies down. Some boomerangers live for wind but not me, so 45° is my working grass-drift-beer-coefficient angle.

Okay, so you've got a workable wind and your boomerang's tuned up (see Beginner's Circle fall 1990, *Gettin' in Tune*). Now what? Face into the wind source, directly into the teeth of the wind. If you're right-handed, throw to the right. If you're a lefty (with a lefty or ambidextrous boomerang), throw to the left. Throw vertically with the convex side towards you.

Now comes the important part. After the throw, face into the wind again and watch where the boomerang lands.

## *Wind Troubleshooting Guide: If...*

1. The boomerang lands in front of you (upwind)

Next time, give it a "low layout" toss. Nearly skim the ground on the way out and lean it out to the side just a little. Please remember NEVER throw your boomerang sidearm, because if it does come back, it will try and kill you.

2. The boomerang lands in back of you (downwind)


Next time, give it a "high vertical" toss. This is a weird throw for novices, and difficult to get used to. You have to lean it kind of over your head as you release. Practise this - it's worth the time to learn.

3. The boomerang lands to the side

If it lands to your right, throw more to the left. If it lands to your left, throw more to the right.

4. If the boomerang lands consistently upwind or downwind no matter what you do, retune it or come back and try it when the wind is better suited to your boomerang and throwing style. Or just have a few beers and then it won't matter if it comes back or not.


Follow these simple wind corrections and you'll be scoring bullseyes every time.



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## ONE STEP BEYOND

# 1990 USBA Thrower Rating System Results

Compiled by John Flynn and Alan Winterrowd

Top 20 throwers rated in each event and event category (20 pts = 1st place, 19 pts = 2nd place, ... , 1 pt = 20th place). Event rankings combined to determine overall ranking.

## Event Categories:

- Best Score Minimum of ONE tournament results to qualify
- Median Score Minimum of THREE tournament results to qualify
- Middle score if odd # tournament results, average of middle two scores if even # tournament results
- Placing Average Minimum of TWO tournament results to qualify
- Total sum of placing points / # tournament results

# Special Awards

Road Warrior .....tournaments  
 Michael Girvin .....9  
 Barnaby Ruhe .....8  
 Gregg Snouffer .....8

She Warrior .....tournaments  
 Betsylew Miale-Gix .....7  
 Suzanne Lentz .....5  
 Tara Whelan .....4

### EVENT: CONSECUTIVE CATCH

BEST SCORE (1 contest min)				MEDIAN SCORE (3 contests min)				PLACING AVG (2 contests min)				OVERALL			
PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	TOTAL PT	PTS
1	J KOEHLER	24	20.0	1	F FROST	12.0	20.0	1	F FROST	10.33	20.0	1	F FROST	53.00	20.0
2	J FLYNN	23	19.0	2	E DARNELL	11.0	18.5	2	J KOEHLER	9.00	19.0	2	D DUFRESNE	46.00	19.0
3	M GIRVIN	18	17.5	3	C LARRANCE	11.0	18.5	3	P ROSE	8.42	18.0	3	J FLYNN	45.50	18.0
R	PARKINS	18	17.5	4	T SCHALLBERGER	10.5	16.0	4	C LARRANCE	8.17	17.0	4	M GIRVIN	42.00	17.0
5	C SNOUFFER	17	15.5	D	JOYCE	10.5	16.0	5	D DUFRESNE	7.38	16.0	5	C SNOUFFER	39.00	15.5
C	BOB	17	15.5	D	DUFRESNE	10.5	16.0	6	J FLYNN	7.08	15.0	J	KOEHLER	39.00	15.5
7	D DUFRESNE	15	14.0	7	G BROADBENT	10.0	11.5	7	E DARNELL	6.81	14.0	7	C LARRANCE	38.31	14.0
8	F FROST	14	13.0	B	OWEN	10.0	11.5	8	M GIRVIN	6.76	13.0	8	E DARNELL	35.31	13.0
9	G BROADBENT	13	12.0	J	FLYNN	10.0	11.5	9	C SNOUFFER	6.40	12.0	9	G BROADBENT	33.59	12.0
10	G SNOUFFER	12	10.5	C	SNOUFFER	10.0	11.5	10	T SCHALLBERGER	6.38	11.0	10	T SCHALLBERGER	29.81	11.0
S	KAVANAUGH	12	10.5	M	GIRVIN	10.0	11.5	11	G BROADBENT	5.64	10.0	11	D JOYCE	25.81	10.0
12	J JORDAN	11	2.8	B	RUHE	10.0	11.5	12	B OWEN	5.50	9.0	12	B OWEN	23.81	9.0
S	MARQUARDT	11	2.8	13	A GRINDLE	9.5	7.5	13	P RUHF	5.28	8.0	13	G SNOUFFER	22.50	8.0
T	MAULTSBY	11	2.8	G	SNOUFFER	9.5	7.5	14	D JOYCE	5.25	7.0	14	R PARKINS	20.50	7.0
D	JOYCE	11	2.8	15	G PATTON	9.0	2.3	15	B RUHE	5.19	6.0	15	B RUHE	20.31	6.0
B	RUHE	11	2.8	R	TILFORD	9.0	2.3	16	A GRINDLE	5.13	4.5	16	P ROSE	18.00	5.0
J	LACOUNT	11	2.8	S	KAVANAUGH	9.0	2.3	G	SNOUFFER	5.13	4.5	17	C BOB	15.50	4.0
M	LAPRADE	11	2.8	W	GIX	9.0	2.3	18	R PARKINS	4.70	3.0	18	A GRINDLE	14.81	3.0
E	DARNELL	11	2.8	W	DAVIS	9.0	2.3	19	M DARNELL	4.67	2.0	19	S KAVANAUGH	13.83	2.0
W	GIX	11	2.8	S	MARQUARDT	9.0	2.3	20	S KAVANAUGH	4.13	1.0	20	P RUHF	13.14	1.0
T	SCHALLBERGER	11	2.8	B	MYERS	9.0	2.3								
B	OWEN	11	2.8	P	RUHF	9.0	2.3								
C	LARRANCE	11	2.8	M	LAPRADE	9.0	2.3								
H	FORRESTER	11	2.8												
P	RUHF	11	2.8												
A	GRINDLE	11	2.8												
W	DAVIS	11	2.8												

### EVENT: 20 METER ACCURACY

BEST SCORE (1 contest min)				MEDIAN SCORE (3 contests min)				PLACING AVG (2 contests min)				OVERALL			
PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	TOTAL PT	PTS
1	T SMITH	47	20.0	1	D DUFRESNE	34.5	20.0	1	T SMITH	8.33	20.0	1	T SMITH	55.50	20.0
2	B OWEN	44	19.0	2	F FROST	34.0	19.0	2	F FROST	8.00	19.0	2	D DUFRESNE	52.00	19.0
3	B RUHE	43	18.0	3	G SNOUFFER	32.0	18.0	3	C SNOUFFER	7.80	18.0	3	G SNOUFFER	47.50	18.0
4	J DISTON	42	16.5	4	T PETERSON	30.0	17.0	4	R FREE	7.25	17.0	4	F FROST	44.00	17.0
D	DUFRESNE	42	16.5	5	T SMITH	29.0	15.5	5	D DUFRESNE	7.00	15.5	5	B OWEN	41.00	16.0
6	W GIX	41	15.0	A	GRINDLE	29.0	15.5	G	SNOUFFER	7.00	15.5	6	C SNOUFFER	40.50	15.0
7	G SNOUFFER	39	14.0	7	T SCHALLBERGER	28.0	13.5	7	M DARNELL	6.50	14.0	7	M DARNELL	39.00	14.0
8	C SNOUFFER	38	11.5	M	DARNELL	28.0	13.5	8	D KELLY	5.50	13.0	8	B RUHE	34.00	13.0
C	BOB	38	11.5	9	C SNOUFFER	27.0	11.0	9	J FLYNN	5.38	12.0	9	G BROADBENT	28.50	12.0
M	DARNELL	38	11.5	B	OWEN	27.0	11.0	10	B OWEN	4.79	11.0	10	R FREE	25.50	11.0
G	BROADBENT	38	11.5	G	BROADBENT	27.0	11.0	11	P RUHF	4.67	10.0	11	T PETERSON	22.00	10.0
12	E LOVE	37	8.5	12	R PARKINS	26.5	9.0	12	B RUHE	4.63	8.5	12	A GRINDLE	19.00	9.0
R	FREE	37	8.5	13	M SALERNO	26.0	7.5	M	LAPRADE	4.63	8.5	13	J FLYNN	17.50	8.0
14	MOLEMAN	36	6.0	B	RUHE	26.0	7.5	14	C FILHO	4.50	7.0	14	J DISTON	16.50	7.0
B	MIALE-GIX	36	6.0	15	J FLYNN	25.5	5.5	15	G BROADBENT	4.38	6.0	15	D KELLY	15.50	6.0
F	FROST	36	6.0	J	JORDAN	25.5	5.5	16	T PETERSON	4.17	5.0	16	W GIX	15.00	5.0
17	L BARRY	35	2.5	17	D JOYCE	25.0	3.0	17	M GIRVIN	3.75	4.0	17	T SCHALLBERGER	13.50	4.0
E	DARNELL	35	2.5	B	MIALE-GIX	25.0	3.0	18	B MIALE-GIX	3.71	3.0	18	P RUHF	13.00	3.0
A	GRINDLE	35	2.5	P	RUHF	25.0	3.0	19	Cel THOMPSON	3.50	2.0	19	B MIALE-GIX	12.00	2.0
D	KELLY	35	2.5	20	E DARNELL	23.5	1.0	20	A GRINDLE	3.38	1.0	20	C BOB	11.50	1.0







1990 USBA RATING RESULTS

NAME	CC	ACC	FC	AUS	MTA	DOUB	END	JUG	TOTAL
CHET SNOUFFER	15.5	15	20	20	19	20	18	18	145.50
JOHN FLYNN	18	8	17	9	20	16	19	14	121.00
GREGG SNOUFFER	8	18	13.5	19		13	13	19	103.50
FRIDOLIN FROST	20	17	10	1	18	0.5	20	15	101.50
DOUG DuFRESNE	19	19	19	4		15	15.5		91.50
BARNABY RUHE	6	13	7	18	2	11	14	20	91.00
ERIC DARNELL	13		15	14.5	10	19	7		78.50
TIM SCHALLBERGER	11	4	5	11	5	14	15.5	12	77.50
BEN OWEN	9	16	18		5		12	10.5	70.50
CASEY LARRANCE	14		11.5		17	12		10.5	65.00
MICHAEL GIRVIN	17		11.5		15	7	5	6	61.50
JOHN KOEHLER	15.5		13.5		16		8	8	61.00
GARY BROADBENT	12	12				2.5	17	17	60.50
PETER RUHF	1	3	6	17		10	6	16	59.00
ROB PARKINS	7		8	10	5	17	11		58.00
T W SMITH		20			7			9	36.00
MIKE DARNELL		14	2			18			34.00
WILL GIX		5		12.5	9			7	33.50
ALLEN GRINDLE	3	9			12.5		9		33.50
DENNIS JOYCE	10			16					26.00
GARRY LAMOTHE			9	12.5				4	25.50
STEVE KAVANAUGH	2		2	6		0.5	10		20.50
DEAN KELLY		6			12.5				18.50
TOM PETERSON		10				8			18.00
CHICAGO BOB	4	1	4			9			18.00
BRIAN MYERS					14		3.5		17.50
MOLEMAN					1		3.5	13	17.50
PETER PAY ROSE	5		2			6	2	2	17.00
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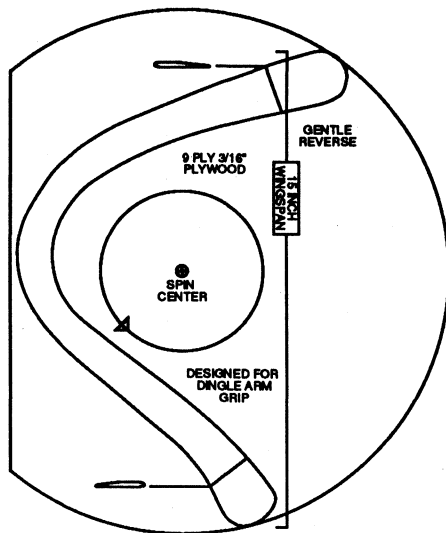
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By Paul Sprague

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4 3/4 x 2 1/8  
\$40

# BOOMERANG SEASON 1991

## Calendar of Events

### April 6-14

World Boomerang Championships, Perth, Western Australia. Contact: Roger Perry, 155 Freemantle Road, Gosnells, W.A. 6110, Australia.

### April 26-28

Ontario Wood Show, Kinsmen Auditorium, Chatham, Ontario, Canada. Features Ben and Barnaby Ruhe in an indoor throwing exhibition. John Cryderman, 136 Thames Street, Chatham, Ontario, Canada, N7L2Y8 (519) 351-8344

### May 18

First Annual Toss Across America, everywhere. Contact Betsylew Miale-Gix, 8610 240th S.W., #B14 Edmonds, WA 98026

### June 1

4th Annual Gateway Boomerang Classic, Forest Park, St. Louis, MO. Tom Fitzgerald (314) 839-1604

### July 6-7

British/International Boomerang Championship, in conjunction with the Shrewsbury International Kite Festival. Camping, inexpensive Bed & Breakfasts nearby. Write for info sheets: Gordon Shuttleworth, 47 Highbury Terrace, Leeds, LS6 4ET, Yorkshire, England (TEL: 0532 787649)

Submissions are solicited for this column. If you are involved in any boomerang-related events, please forward the date, place and contact to the USBA.

Send in your events for the spring *Many Happy Returns* calendar section by March 1. Two Ems, Inc. 786 Boston Post Road Madison, CT 06443 (203) 245-8211 (FAX) 245-1805 CIS ID# 72470,1567

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WATCH! BARNEY RUHE four times world champion -- actual classmates with Oliver North. Canada's answer to "CROCODILE DUNDEE" and WILLIAM TELL all rolled into one.

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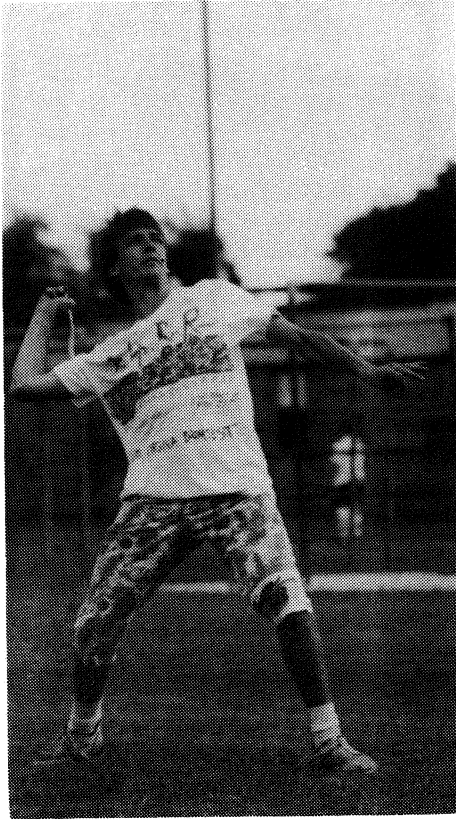
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# Detroit Novice Tournament

By Norm Kern



Chicago Bob came in 2nd in Consec at Hampton, VA, shortly before having his arm broken in a car wreck. Photo by Ben Owen.

Boomerangs etc. held its second annual novice tournament September 22. It was a great success with more than 30 participants. Only eight of these throw regularly, another four were recent converts and the remainder were completely new to boomeranging.

Prior to the tournament, Gary Broadbent demonstrated many of the USBA events and a couple of boomalums. After the demonstrations, I read the novice rules of our tournament, emphasizing that it was a team tournament, and that catches were not necessary in any events. Almost everyone signed up. Ages ranged from about five to 55. Gary Broadbent, Bud Pell, Steve Teodecki (Jim Sprague served as co-captain until he had to leave), Doug Holbrook, and Norm Kern volunteered to be captains. The remainder of the field was divided somewhat randomly. Many of the smaller kids ended up on Bud Pell's team, but when I suggested moving them around Bud and his team protested. (They finished third in a five-team field.) The kids were allowed to use Gary Broadbent's plastic tribladed Tantrums. (They didn't make the 15-meter rule, but they were fun.) This gave them the ability to get some good scores in Accuracy and Fast Throw.

The team concept really made the tournament work. I believe that many people participated who wouldn't have if it had been a normal individual tournament. Team captains served as score-keepers, coaches, judges, timers and loaner boomerang sources. Because each novice had a captain, they were coached through each event, and they always had a decent boomerang. Many beginners used the same one for every event, by choice. The rule which handled an unequal number of team members was critical. Several people came and went, and by the last event, all teams were short a few members. One of the highlights was seeing Doug Holbrook and Robert Kleiman complete six rounds each of the relay.

The relaxed rules made the tournament less threatening to novices. These rules also made it possible to run the events with little prior preparation. No circles needed to be marked on the field. They also created unexpected results from the experienced throwers, like whole-hearted dives in doubles just to get a touch on a beginner's throw. The Fast Throw rules allowed a few throwers to drift into the woods. This resulted in a time of 2:22 minutes for Noah Kleiman, one minute for the throws and 1:22 to get the boomerang out of the woods.

After the final event we retired to Hardee's for the final results tabulation and the awards ceremony. We prepared certificates for each member of each team, so everyone got an award. The certificates also listed where the team finished in each event, so even the last-place team members could remember their good events.

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# Oakland CA Two-Day Radtest

By Michael "Gelly" Girvin

Two days in Oakland. Team Gel Team Test Saturday. USBA Funtest Sunday. Russia, New York, Washington, Oregon and Indiana were represented at this sunny, grass-filled, smile-ridden, dive-ordinanced and fun-enriched weekend of boom throwing. It had to be.

Five events were held on Saturday: Fast Catch Race, Team Accuracy, Round Rang Relay, Team George-Cauliflower and Team Style Outback.

Team Family Stance, Team Lazy Sticks, Team California, Team Ruge and Team Anti-Bulge were set to define defining.

Team Accuracy was easy. Each team of five stepped into the center and threw five times in a row. The booms landed, the points were given, and everyone was stoked.

Team George-Cauliflower was funtested like this: two people from each team went out to the field and attempted each of the 23 tricks, and then the last three catches were called in the air. Too much fun!

Fast Catch Race. The one event where pressure was present: Mike D., Casey, Gel and Jake. "Go!" Everyone throws. Gel drops, Jake uses a slow boom, Casey uses a fast one, and Mike D. catches. Casey rages, Mike D. hangs a close second. Gel drops.

Mike drops. Jake does not drop. Casey is sure to win. It is too close to know. Casey snaps his brutally fast triblader. "Expletive!" Jake flows slow and sure. Casey rips off one of the three blades, and throws, and catches. Casey throws his fifth, Jake's fifth boom is in the air, floating down. Jake catches. Casey catches. Mike D. catches. Gel catches. Yeee haaa!

Round Rang Relay was contextually Oaklandized as usual. People ran and jumped and bumped and threw other throwers' booms. Winning was not the objective. And then ...

Team Style Outback. There are no rules, only context. People did many things - throwing booms, not throwing booms, attempting simultaneous foot catches, father chasing son and even trying to drive a car while throwing and catching an MTA, but...all was overshadowed by Barnaby Ruhe's team. Barnaby leads all spectators and throwers not on his team in single file. Into a spiral he leads us. Spiraling inward he has the group sit down. He then leads his team toward the circle. They chant and grunt and grovel in a primitively post-modern way. They traverse the circle of onlookers and lie down, stomach to the ground. Still chanting, they dig their hands into a pile of dirt and pull out five booms. They rise to

their feet and hold deified objects above their heads. Circular dance ensues, Barnaby stands in the center. The others chant, "Barnaby, Barnaby, Barnaby!" They strip him and pour water on him. He rolls in the dirt. He stands up. His worshippers fall down. Barnaby points to the gods. Intensity. He throws. He catches! Finit! 11,601 points. And I have to say, (since I have seen virtually every Style Outback ever done) that Team Lazy Sticks performance was just that: a performance that was submerged in historical references, both contemporary and primitive, and was solidly unified in its content and meaning.

The first day ended at LaVal's Pizza with awards and 60 non-painted Gel Boom prizes. Smiles.

Day Two was the usual. The soccer leagues were there to give us hassle. This year we had the permit. Novices and experts competed together, and learning and fun were the standards. Highlights were as follows: Jack Diston's 14 catches in Wind Juggling; Celese Thomson's 33 in Accuracy and 54 in Aussie Round; Barnaby's borrowing Doublers from Pay (who had the winning score of 9) and then getting 10; Kelly Andretti (novice) catching five in a row for the first time in Fast Catch. Casey Larrance's effortless win in MTA; and Ma Gel's scorekeeping.

Blake Johnson, Tod Jelsama, Kelly Andretti and Kevin took novice that way. Guess who won expert? Jake and Barnaby battled in every event to see who could win. They ran away with the Funtest. Barnaby. Jake.

At LaVal's Pizzamore, Gel Booms, awards, and 30 hand-made trophies were flowed. Then the 6th Oakland Team Gel Funtest came to an end, with everyone knowing that the circularly dynamic colors from two days of stokedness were theirs to keep.

Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life. — Confucius

## THE BOOMERANG MAN RICH HARRISON'S ANNUAL CATALOG

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# Summer's Final Fling

By Benjamin Owen

Every year there comes a time when you notice that the sun sets just a little earlier each day. In other parts of the country, the leaves begin to turn; no one wants to say it, but everyone knows that the summer is yielding to fall. It is at this time that every true boomer-anger knows in her heart that it is time once again to go to Portland

Lest you think it wasn't, let me assure you from the outset that Summer's Final Fling was rad. Team Gel was out in force. Obviously Doug was there, it being his tournament. So were Tim Schallberger and Tom Peterson. Steve and Casey came down from Washington (that's "state" for you Easterners), as did Lesley and Chris Watkins and Mr. Love Himself, not to mention Kelly "Speed" Andretti, the legendary #1 novice from Evergreen State College. Jenny Hamiter and I drove up from San Francisco, but Jim and Caroline Jordan edged us out of the distance title. Randy Free came out of nowhere to bless us with his smiling presence - I knew he would.

The first event was Consecutive Catch. Kelly Andretti made a footcatch on her very first try ever! She was one-for-one lifetime until she missed the second one. Kavanaugh went first and was dropless, daring us to take him to a throw-off. Despite the amazingly high-style point potential, neither Casey Larrance nor Doug DuFresne, nor Tim Schallberger nor Ben Owen came through in the clutch, each ending up with 11, several (thank you) choking on the second footcatch. Sorry, Steve.

In doubling it was all Tom and Tim. Tim and Tom. Then Tom and Tom and Tim and Tim. Finally it was Tom - I mean Tim, with 16, Tom with 15, and Steve and Casey and Jim with 10, but by

then we were already thinking about endurance. Doug popped a 56 with one drop. Ben Owen was second, and Tim and Steve tied for third. (We were all throwing Rad Germans, by the way.)

Next up was Fast-Catch. Speed doesn't count for hack if you can't catch it, and I know you know what I mean. Doug won this one too. Ben Owen was second and then Casey and Jim. But the real story was trick-catches. Everybody was doing 'em! Jim Jordan in the second round going for footcatches with the Triblade of Death! Casey Larrance with the one-handed over-the-top power snag! Steve Kavanaugh with the hacky-to-head catch! We weren't even going back to the bullseye to throw - it was how many style moves could you bust in under sixty!

This spiritedness carried over into MTA. There were perhaps more trick-catches than not! Doug Dufresne's casual behind-the-back catch was particularly reeking of style. Amid all this reckless enthusiasm, Ed Love parked his MTA in a monstrous thermal, which then proceeded to flat out stop right over the bullseye. "Gee, that looks pretty good," observed Dean Kelly, who ran over and tossed his boom into it too. So we all sat and watched, and waited. Eventually the booms came down. Ed dropped and Dean won. But Ed's drop wasn't just any drop. It was perhaps the longest drop ever, the most prolonged, most holistic roundness in the history of the sport — over 58 seconds, and inside the circle! Does anybody know of a more prestigious drop? We ought to keep track of that kind of stuff... So Dean won, then T.W. Smith, Tim, Doug, and Ben.

Juggling was inspired by news of John Flynn and Barnaby Ruhe's

back-to-back world records, or maybe it was just because we were all so cool. Betsy-Lew busted out for 11, setting the pace. Right away Ed Love caught 10, and Steve Kavanaugh caught 14. Then came Casey up to bat. What a stud. He made 22 consecutive catches without ever being in control, just throwing in whichever direction he happened to be running and running after it. Twenty-two at full sprint! Meanwhile, T.W. Smith had started his turn, and he was flowing smoothly along, perfectly in control, drifting slowly backwards until his 51st throw landed in a tree. T.W. won.

T.W. smoked out of Juggling and right into Accuracy, scoring a U.S. record-tying 47 points. Doug was second, then Will Gix, and Randy and Ed. Over half the field scored 30 points or more.

The last event of the day was Australian Round. Jim Jordan edged Will Gix for the win, 74 to 73. Tom Peterson was 3rd, then Ed and Casey were 4th and 5th with 69 and 68, which was quite impressive since Ed threw a Sunshine and Casey a Fastcatch (i.e. no distance pts.). Steve Kavanaugh, who began the day first in Consec., finished the tournament dead last in Aussie Round. Is that totally Team Gel or what? Shred hard or don't!

The flawlessly organized tournament was followed by a wonderful home-cooked pasta dinner at Chez DuFresne, during which awards were awarded, prize-booms were selected, abundant smiles were bountifully exchanged, and great thanks were heaped upon Doug and Diane DuFresne and on Caroline Jordan for all their rad effort and for being so rad in general. To top it all off, Casey, Steve, Ben, and Ed went intersection- and fountain-booming in downtown Portland. But eventually we all went to sleep, and summer came to an end.

# Team Gel's 4th CT Boomtest

By Mole Man

The weather was great, the throwers were ready, and the booms were tuned for the Fourth Annual Boomtest in Beacon Falls, CT. Twenty-four competitors showed up and the events began.

Highlights: John Koehler got 24 catches and John Flynn got 23 catches in Consecutive Catch. Barnaby Ruhe got 43 points in Accuracy. Rob Parkins pulled off

a 23:60 second Fast Catch. Peter Ruhf scored 68 points in Australian Round. Rob Parkins scored a 38:60 second MTA 100 throw. Rob Parkins got a perfect 12 in Doubling. John Flynn caught 57 in Endurance. Barnaby Ruhe got 67 in Juggling.

The top ten standings were as follows in order: Rob Parkins - 61.5; Barnaby Ruhe - 56.5; Eric Darnell - 45.5; Peter Ruhf - 42.5;

John Koehler - 40; John Flynn - 39.5; Paul Sprague - 34; Allen Grindle - 32.5; Gary Lamothe - 26.5; and Mole Man - 22.5.

Everyone feasted heavily at the award ceremony and Mike La-pradde (I said Lapradde) broke out his guitar. I jumped in with my harmonica, everyone else sang, and we all had a good time.

I'd like to thank everyone for coming, and hope you all can come again next year.

Team Gel's 4th CT Boomtest Beacon Falls 9/29 Mole Man

Name	Consecutive Catch			20M Accuracy			Fast Catch			Aussie Round			MTA 100			Doubling			Endurance			Juggling			Overall		
	Catch	Place	Points	Score	Place	Points	Time	Place	Points	Score	Place	Points	Time	Place	Points	Catch	Place	Points	Catch	Place	Points	Catch	Place	Points	Points	Place	
Bob Quinn	7	0	0	22	0	0	2.00	0	0	21	0	0	18.87	0	0	2	0	0	31	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	17
Gary Lamothe	8	10	0.5	33	5	6	24.05	2	9	46	10	0.5	23.14	0	0	9	9	1.5	39	0	0	53	2	9	26.5	9	
Rich LaFond	3	0	0	9	0	0	2.00	0	0	28	0	0	9.66	0	0	9	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
Kieth Robson	7	0	0	20	0	0	39.00	10	1	54	4	6.5	23.98	0	0	4	0	0	39	0	0	3	0	0	7.5	13	
Allen Grindle	11	3	6.5	35	3	7.5	32.54	7	4	52	6	5	31.62	6	5	8	0	0	43	8	3	4	9	1.5	32.5	18	
Peter Ruhf	11	3	6.5	25	0	0	26.27	5	6	68	1	11	24.61	0	0	11	2	7	49	4	7	13	6	5	42.5	4	
Ed Costello	0	0	0	30	7	3.5	2.00	0	0	20	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3.5	14
Mike LaPrade	5	0	0	22	0	0	2.00	0	0	32	0	0	17.02	0	0	9	9	1.5	48	5	6	2	0	0	7.5	13	
Jonathan Hall	4	0	0	18	0	0	52.59	0	0	0	0	0	21.09	0	0	5	0	0	32	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	17
David Silver	4	0	0	24	0	0	60.05	0	0	38	0	0	13.12	0	0	7	0	0	29	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	17
Peter Robson	6	0	0	17	0	0	49.42	0	0	51	7	3.5	0.00	0	0	4	0	0	36	0	0	15	5	6	9.5	12	
Steve Reynold	3	0	0	22	0	0	45.12	0	0	6	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
Chris Kenny	1	0	0	14	0	0	60.55	0	0	39	0	0	11.44	0	0	0	0	0	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
Eric Darnell	11	3	6.5	35	3	7.5	26.05	3	8	51	7	3.5	30.33	7	4	11	2	7	42	9	2	39	4	7	45.5	3	
Paul Sprague	8	10	0.5	12	0	0	33.17	8	3	56	2	8.5	32.67	5	6	11	2	7	40	10	1	40	3	8	34	7	
John Chevette	1	0	0	20	0	0	59.11	0	0	34	0	0	28.44	8	3	3	0	0	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	15
Barnaby Ruhe	10	7	4	43	1	11	34.25	0	0	54	4	6.5	33.76	4	7	11	2	7	57	1	10	67	1	11	56.5	2	
Jim Jordan	9	8	2.5	30	7	3.5	38.56	9	2	30	0	0	26.80	10	1	10	7	3.5	38	0	0	4	9	1.5	14	11	
John Koehler	24	1	11	28	9	1.5	27.69	6	5	50	9	2	35.47	2	9	10	7	3.5	47	6	5	11	8	3	40	5	
Mole Man	9	8	2.5	36	2	9	26.13	4	7	33	0	0	25.30	0	0	5	0	0	45	7	4	3	0	0	22.5	10	
Rob Parkins	11	3	6.5	28	9	1.5	23.60	1	11	56	2	8.5	38.60	1	11	12	1	11	51	3	8	12	7	4	61.5	1	
John Flynn	23	2	9	31	6	5	39.13	0	0	46	10	0.5	34.12	3	8	11	2	7	57	1	10	2	0	0	39.5	6	
Jo Boudreau	5	0	0	19	0	0	2.00	0	0	10	0	0	27.41	9	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	16
Keith Mullinar	1	0	0	4	0	0	1.00	0	0	18	0	0	12.41	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17

Summer's Final Fling 9/16 Portland, OR

Name	Consecutive Catch			20M Accuracy			Fast Catch			Aussie Round			MTA 100			Doubling			Endurance			Juggling			Overall		
	Catch	Place	Points	Score	Place	Points	Time	Place	Points	Score	Place	Points	Time	Place	Points	Catch	Place	Points	Catch	Place	Points	Catch	Place	Points	Points	Place	
Steve Kavanal	12	1	11	28	0	0	39.19	5	6	22	0	0	18.09	0	0	10	3	7	47	3	7.5	14	5	6	37.5	6	
Casey Larranc	11	2	7.5	21	0	0	24.53	3	8	8	5	6	26.78	9	2	10	3	7	32	10	1	22	2	9	40.5	4	
Kelly Andretti	3	0	0	11	0	0	2.00	0	0	50	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
TW Smith	10	6	4.5	47	1	11	33.60	6	5	52	9	1.5	39.40	2	9	9	6	4	25	0	0	50	1	11	46	2	
Doug DuFresne	11	2	7.5	42	2	9	22.13	1	11	61	6	5	34.76	4	7	9	6	4	56	1	11	7	9	1.5	56	1	
Randy Free	9	8	2.5	37	4	6.5	3.00	0	0	47	0	0	0.00	0	0	4	0	0	25	0	0	2	0	0	0	9	13
Tim Schallbers	11	2	7.5	26	0	0	45.75	0	0	45	0	0	38.93	3	8	15	2	9	47	3	7.5	15	4	7	39	5	
Ben Owen	11	2	7.5	36	6	4.5	22.91	2	9	35	0	0	31.71	5	6	5	0	0	54	2	9	19	3	8	44	3	
Jennie Hamite	6	0	0	13	0	0	55.45	0	0	47	0	0	17.74	0	0	4	0	0	24	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	17
Will Gix	9	8	2.5	41	3	8	36.28	8	3	73	2	9	31.44	6	5	9	6	4	33	8	2.5	9	8	3	37	7	
Jim Jordan	8	10	0.5	23	0	0	26.19	4	7	74	1	11	26.46	10	1	10	3	7	43	5	6	7	9	1.5	34	8	
Betsy Gix	6	0	0	36	6	4.5	33.83	7	4	60	7	4	25.47	0	0	8	9	2	33	8	2.5	11	6	5	22	11	
Edwin Love	8	10	0.5	37	4	6.5	62.45	0	0	69	4	7	25.47	0	0	7	10	0.5	15	0	0	10	7	4	18.5	12	
Mark Tomsoth	5	0	0	15	0	0	2.00	0	0	44	0	0	0.00	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	17
Dean Kelly	10	6	4.5	35	8	3	39.75	10	1	53	8	3	39.94	1	11	7	10	0.5	34	7	4	3	0	0	27	10	
Tom Peterson	6	0	0	30	0	0	37.47	9	2	71	3	8	28.84	7	4	16	1	11	39	6	5	5	0	0	30	9	
John Maura	0	0	0	19	0	0	59.87	0	0	22	0	0	27.17	8	3	0	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	3	15	
Peter Maxwell	0	0	0	18	0	0	3.00	0	0	40	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
Lesley Watkins	0	0	0	33	9	2	0.00	0	0	52	9	1.5	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3.5	14	
Chris Watkins	0	0	0	31	10	1	0.00	0	0	33	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	16

# Molding Composite MTAs

By Jonas Romblad, Sweden

The trouble with plywood is that it does not stay in tune. Wooden boomerangs aren't stable because wood is a "living" material. Birch, for instance, shrinks 14% as it goes from green to "dry" wood. So, I started to think about "dead" materials. Since a lot of people tune their MTAs each throwing session to fit the weather conditions, I figured I had to make five or so, each one with its special "window." This way I would be able to go to a tournament, look at the winds and pick a boom with just the required tune. First I had to find a substitute material for the birch plywood. As wood is strong and light relative to most other materials, I had to use a combination of several materials to match the Baltic birch, which consists of a lot of fibers and a matrix to keep them together. This uses a combination of light and strong materials to get the benefits of both.

## • Strength

The boomerang has to withstand both twisting and bending forces. This must be taken into account during the choice of building methods. The torsion strength is too easily forgotten. Available materials that are strong and that we can use without too much trouble include wooden veneer (strong woods), Fiberglass, carbon fiber, and Kevlar. These are heavier than wood, but with a shell of those materials and a light core, it can be much stiffer and weigh the same as wood. Fiber materials are only strong in one direction - pull. For sufficient torsion strength one of the fibers has to be oriented 45° to the arm, while fibers must run along the arm to make it resist bending.

## • Low weight

We only need a core to keep the shells from separating or being pressed together. Styrofoam or

balsa would do, but they are hard to use. Microballoons are tiny gas-filled bubbles of glass (white) or phenolic plastic (brown) that looks like a fine powder with a density that makes you think the jar is empty (open carefully!).

## • Matrix material

Now we have a piece of Kevlar cloth, a length of carbon fiber tow and some white powder. For a matrix, you can use epoxy- or polyester resin. Use the polyester only if you make several MTAs in a short time — it is more brittle, the smell is strong and dangerous, and it is harder to mix to the right ratios. The epoxy must be a slow (12-24 hour) type suitable for laminating high-strength fiber materials, not temperature-sensitive, rubber-like types often used for surfboards.

## • To mold, or not to mold

Making a good mold is worth the labour, depending on what materials you want to use. Put a wooden master on a spherically tuned surface of pertinax (or any material that can be polished without absorbing resin) and cover it with a 1-cm layer of plastic padding, add a piece of plywood on the top to stop it from cracking. Wax the boom and the bottom half of the mold and coat with a layer of PVA release agent to make the halves come apart after they have hardened. This mold may be good for 10-30 booms. A better and much more durable mold can be made from epoxy and fiberglass.

## • Using the mold

Simply make a core of a light material (balsa, foam or something) and put on the strong stuff. On veneer boomerangs, use carpenters' white glue or heat-glue, adding a carbon fiber rowing under the veneer. Putting epoxy and fibers directly on a core gets heavy as the core absorbs the resin.

I start by waxing the halves

and painting them with PVA release agent, which is left to dry. Then I put the fibers in each mold and apply epoxy. To reduce the amount of epoxy in the shells I put thin plastic over the halves and press together a sandwich with Styrofoam in between. Or put the halves in a plastic bag and use a compressor to create vacuum.

When the shells have cured I mix microballoons and epoxy until it resembles whipped cream, fill the halves and put them together. As the boom has cured, trim and sand the edges (wet sanding, beware health hazards!)

## • Tuning

Both the epoxy and polyester to be tuneable using a heatgun to heat the boom to about 60-80 C (a little too hot to hold). Only heat the "pull" side (top if reducing dihedral) or the shell might separate from the core. Do not place a single rest under the middle of the arm, or you will end up with a spectacular, V-shaped dihedral.

## • And?

In my opinion it worked out pretty well. They fly an average of 30 seconds, better than my wooden MTAs. This molding method doesn't lend itself to big production lines as the booms still require tuning and the resin takes a long time to cure, but I have developed a weather-resistant MTA, stronger than plywood booms, that stays in (or out of) tune for a long time.

If someone is interested in molding booms the way I do, I would be happy to hear from you.

Jonas Romblad  
Annebergsvägen 32  
136 66 Haninge  
SWEDEN

*Editor's note: Romblad won the technology awards at the USBA 1990 Nationals Design Contest in St. Louis. This article was submitted to MHR via the CompuServe Information Service, to ID# 72470,1567.*



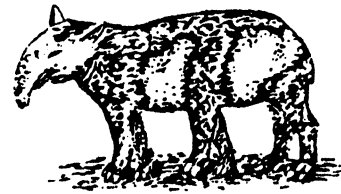
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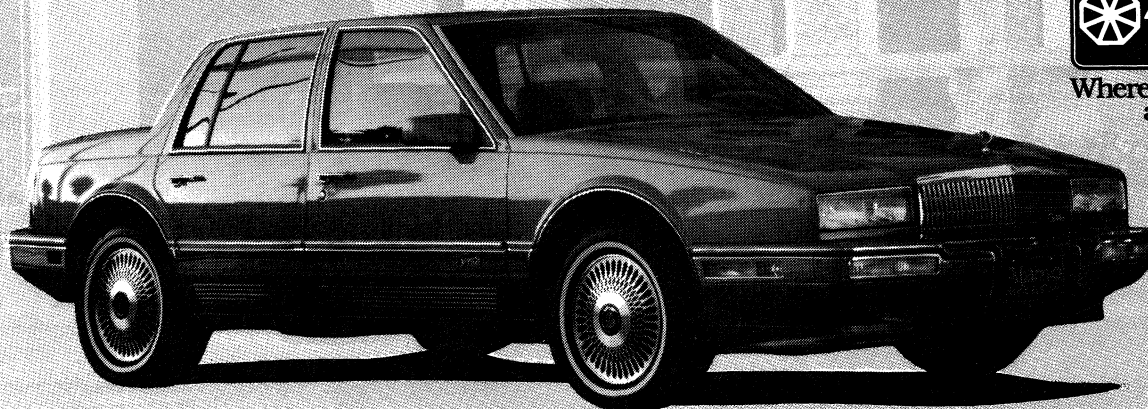
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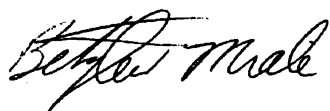
# ★ President's Column ★

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It's the most wonderful time of the year! How incredible Christmas is — the real Christmas with the youthful exuberance, joy, love and giving it inspires in young and old alike. Well, okay, it is a little difficult to throw boomerangs in most parts. Still... We have discovered a new use for those strangely shaped pieces of scrap wood left over from boom making; miniature boomerang refrigerator magnets and Christmas ornaments!

Another season of sport has passed by. In many ways, it was another great year. 1990 saw growth in USBA membership,

record-setting performances, more articles in magazines and newspapers about the sport, and big plans for a U.S. victory in the 1991 World Cup. Hopefully, the first annual Toss Across America in May 1991 will be another jewel in an ever-growing string of boomerang successes. Let's all do our part to make 1991 the best year ever through our time, our efforts, our good sportsmanship, and good times!



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## Operation Desert Boom

Boomerang Man Rich Harrison was stirred by a letter from a bored serviceman in Saudi Arabia saying,

"I can't think of a more safe and spacious place to try something like boomerangs."

B-Man has put forward the "Yellow Ribbon Boomerang Offer," which lists reduced rates on several outstanding models, including Outback, Turning Point, American Boom Co., Kangerang, Colorado and Rangs.

If you know someone in the service, contact B-Man at 1806 N. 3rd Monroe, LA 71201.

Each boomerang package going to the Gulf contains a yellow ribbon.

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## Associação Paulista de Bumerangues

By Professor Lezíro Marques Silva

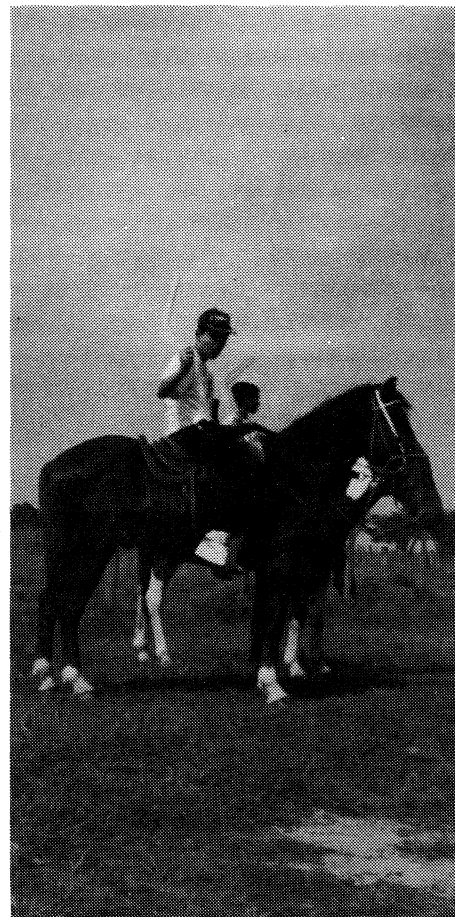
In Santa Catarina, Brazil's apple-producing region, one of the ways to capture contaminated bats is an electronic 'rang (see page 1), which produces a VHF sound. The 'rangs are thrown near the bats, jamming their radar so they fall and can be captured. The technology is easy and inexpensive for farmers compared to nets, guns, poisons and traps.

The APB (Boomerang Association of the Sao Paulo State) has 110 members, reports president Lezíro Marques Silva, Jr.

In 1989, the APB promoted the First Boomerang Tournament of S. Paulo State at the Country Club of Itu. There were more than 180 contestants, including amateurs and enthusiasts. Among the APB events is the Brazilian Round - in a circle area of 15 meters, the boomerangers throw and catch

## Falcon vs. Phoenix

Arthur Newton of the British Boomerang Society reports in the BBS newsletter of a novice USA thrower at RAF Mildenhall. He was throwing a bright orange polypropylene Phoenix boomerang out over the runway of the base when it was attacked and knocked down by a peregrine falcon. Apparently, the falcons are trained to keep other birds away from the runways.



*Lezíro Marques Silva, Jr. and Vinicius Marques Silva demonstrate the Brazilian Round. Itu, SP 4/90*

from horseback. This "country" competition joins the boomeranging and horsemanship.

The APB hopes to open a communication channel with USBA and other associations. Our address is: Associação Paulista de Bumerangues, Caixa Postal 276 - 13300 Itu, SP-BRAZIL.

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## USBA Information

The USBA provides services other than this newsletter. Various information listings can be obtained through the USBA headquarters. These include information on wood/materials for making booms; domestic and international clubs; manufacturers and distributors of boomerangs; rules, regulations, and bylaws. A sample of catalogs by various distributors can be obtained by mailing \$2 to USBA headquarters. Domestic members are entitled to receive these listings simply by sending a SASE to USBA headquarters (Overseas members - please send \$1 for each listing required).

USBA  
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Delaware, Ohio 43015

## Membership Information

All membership dues should be paid by check or money order in \$\$USAS\$. Make checks payable to: USBA. Domestic and Canadian memberships are \$10 per year or \$150 for life. Overseas dues are \$20 per year or \$250 for life. Check your newsletter expiration season/year which is printed on your mailing label.

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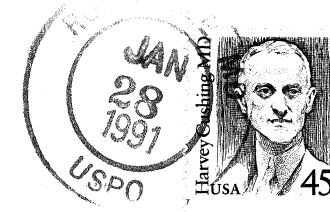
## USBA Video Archives Seeks New Director

Involves collecting footage, editing, duplicating, sales. Please contact:

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