

Many Happy Returns

Number 49 \$2.50 U.S.

An International Publication of the United States Boomerang Association

Winter, 1991/92



Who's the Fastest?

by Jim Jordan

John Flynn (USA) amazed witnesses when he set the Fast-Catch World Record of 18.74 seconds in 1985 with a two-blader of his own design. John's score seemed impossible since, at the time, most competitive throwers were happy with scores in the low 30 second range. John set the goal for all boomerang competitors, including himself, and he shared his design with the boomerang community. Scores improved slowly and sporadically at first as throwers learned to make and control variations of John's two-bladed design. Although several throwers have reported faster times recorded during practice, including John himself, none to date have beaten the 18.74 seconds in an official tournament with a two-bladed boomerang. Six years later, John's record holds for two-bladed boomerangs!

Ulrich Roos (Germany) finally broke John Flynn's record four

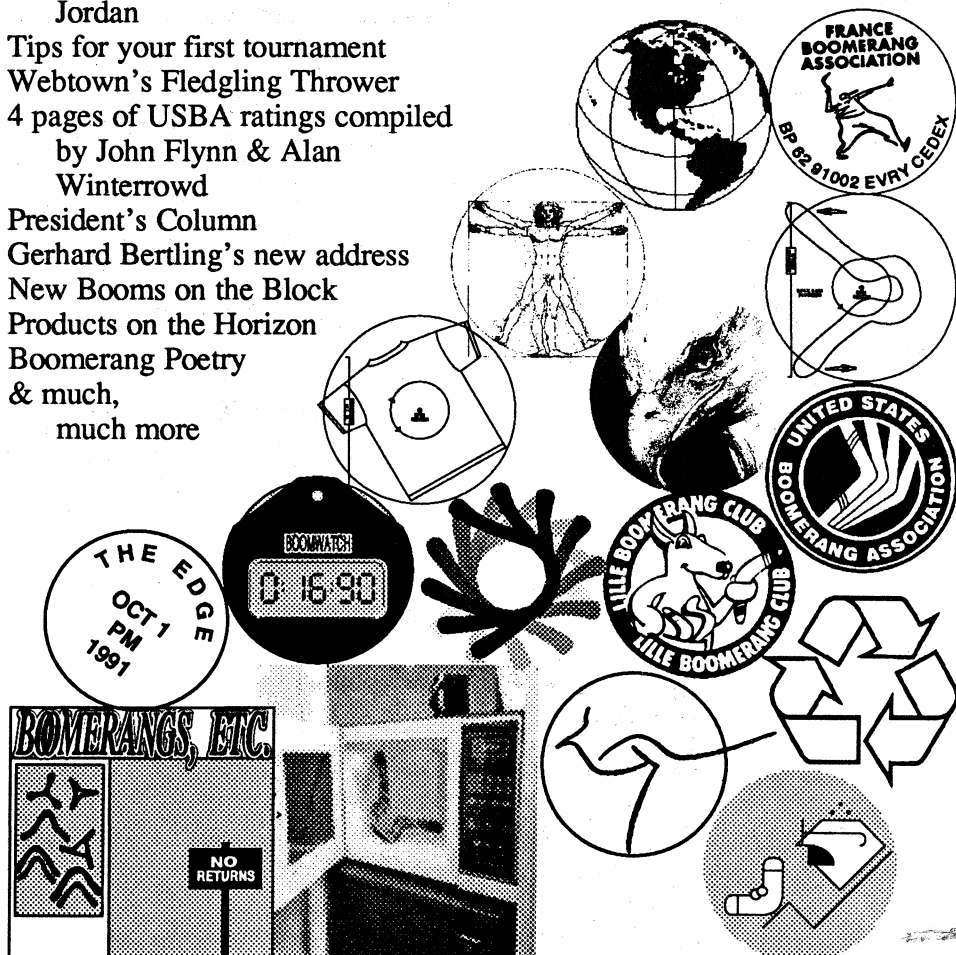
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& much, much more

USBA Ratings in this issue

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Mighty Casey's Catch

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*Boomerang Song by Come Back
Press, ©1985, by H.L. Mayhew*

Casey doffed his hat politely,
and after that, he bowed
Before the mass of strangers
now assembled in a crowd.

And to this great assembly,
he announced, "Regard this, gang,
First I'll throw, and then I'll catch
my faithful boomerang."

Outward, ever outward,
Casey's stick both sped and spun,
Out and up it darted,
As it shimmered in the sun.

The boomerang flew on and on,
'Til almost out of sight,
And then it started coming back
to Casey's great delight.

"Casey's arm is mighty strong,"
one of the watchers said.
Another spoke, "He'd best watch out,
it's flying towards his head."

Casey opened up his mouth.
The boomerang flew in!
Where teeth once were, he now displayed
A happy, toothless grin.

Most anyone can use his hands,
A boomerang to catch,
But catch one in your jaws, my friend?
It's thrilling—beyond match.

Casey's family dentist
got an even bigger thrill,
As he added up the final sum
of Casey's dental bill.

Boomerang Poetry

Field of Dreams

(not the movie) by Robert X. Quinn

Most boomchuckers dream of a time,
when they go to a tournament and the
weather: sublime.
With the wind blowing ever so slight,
and the clouds cover the sun's bright
blinding light.

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H.L. Mayhew

H.L. Mayhew
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Well that day just happened to come
on June twenty-second, nineteen ninety-
one.

In Amherst Mass. is where you
would find

Larry Ruhf's Boomfest was held in
Dreamtime.

We should have first become
suspicious

when Paul David did something that
proved to be auspicious.

During Accuracy his rang scored 48,
this feat alone would have made the
tournament great.

But Paul's rangs would have more to
say,

as soon as the MTA event got on its way.
Youngblood and Paul tossed their
rangs up high.

Both caught a thermal and kissed the sky.
It took Blood's rang 55 seconds to
come down

and on any other day, it would have been
a winning round.

But it was in Dreamtime that
tournament was held.

On this day the American MTA record
fell.

Paul's rang seemed to have help from
the heavens

with his rang coming down in one minute
eleven

During Fast Catch low twenties were
being made.

by groups of boomchuckers throwing
triblades.

On any other day these scores would
have been fine

but this tournament was being held in
Dreamtime.

Robby Parkins got pumped and made
his boomerang scream,

setting a new world record in fast catch at
eighteen sixteen.

During Juggling, rangs fill the
heavens

and it was here another record was
seriously threatened.

First Allen Grindle got in a groove
and posted a score of one twenty-two.

Then Mole Man's rangs sent him
down the field

but one twenty-nine was all he could
yield.

So next time you hear of a boomfest
in Amherst,

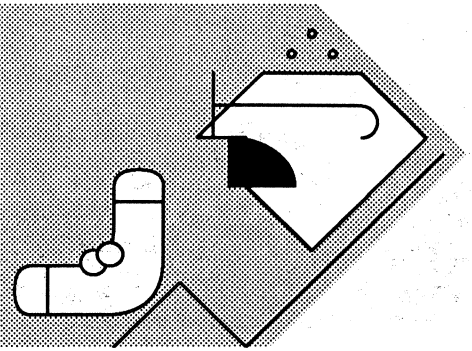
get out your best rangs and come well
rehearsed.

Because when the wind becomes
still, you just may find,

yourself in a contest being held in
Dreamtime.

A Long Way to the Aussie Round Circle

by Webtown's Fledgling Thrower



You know how it is being a fledgling thrower. I mean it ain't easy, and it's a long way to the Aussie Round Circle. It really is. Sometimes it's like that. Like I was clipping along on this highway, listening to a few tunes on the radio, trying to get to the tournament with a little time to loosen up a bone or two. Not those kinds of bones, Lacount, Jesus! Get with it. Besides I don't have time for any of that raping and killing. Not today anyway. So I'm tooling along, you know, cruising smooth. And right out of the blue all the flapping traffic slows down. I mean SLOWS down. What luck. Just what I need, a detour of some sort. Probably some jerk slamming himself into a cement wall just to show his nagging wife how he feels about life in general. So anyway, I slip into the right lane and follow for a while. Click the old lights on for safety just like them.

Anyway they're all taking this exit. Must be the detour. So I follow. Don't want to get stuck in the middle of nowhere on some frog-hopping highway. So we exit. OK, big deal. Well it's not long before we pull into this cemetery. That's right, a cemetery. "What kind of detour is this?" I shout at my plastic Jesus. I should have figured that these money-grubbers didn't have lights on for safety. Well, one thing leads to another, as they usually do, and there are lots of flowers,

and I'm way underdressed, and we're all crying crocodile tears for this old geaser who had just up and croaked. So then there was the short wake at this little establishment down the street that seemed to function as a gourmet restaurant, ten lane bowling alley, and pub with a dancer named "Bambi." What the heck. He wasn't that bad a guy that he didn't deserve a few toasts. So everyone is giving a little speech about the geaser and throwing confetti around and everything. And we're all watching "Bambi" dance all over the bar. What a set of jugglers! I give my speech about how I'll probably croak in the endurance circle. So they toast me now. Time to head out. I wash the tears out of the old eyeballs and give Bambi a kiss and show her my flared V.

Eyes clear, I'm out of there, on the road, on time, in tune, and hurling those sticks with near god-like accuracy. Well, sort of. Well, not really. I mean, sometimes I wish it was like that. Actually it wasn't me at all. It was this scary, tattooed guy with silver teeth called Mole Man. But my turn is coming up now.

I walk casually toward the circle — with adrenaline pounding in my ears and confetti falling out of my shorts. My legs are shaking. Jesus, I hate this. Where is that circle? Look at all those guys out there. OK, got to concentrate. Boy that breeze is shifting. Just

for me. I hope they don't laugh if I blow it. It's hard to breathe. I hate that ringing in my ears. They're waiting. That Lamothe sure does run fast for a fat guy. Doesn't stop very quick though. I don't even know if this stick will go forty meters. I wonder if she intentionally left my bag of booms on that ferry boat coming back from Martha's Vineyard? I wonder who owns them now? There's the circle. I'm close now. How many throws do I get anyway? Christ, I should have stayed at the wake. Some of these guys have these sticks that go just about out of sight. And actually come back. I shouldn't have had all those drinks. I really gotta go. Probably could get a solid arc over a ten foot chain link fence. It'll be just my luck to urinate all over myself in the middle of that circle. That ought to get me plenty of style points. OK, this is it. Relax. It's just a game. Check that breeze. A good grip. Not too tight. Remember to follow through. Kind of vertical. Who told me that anyway? Oh well. Don't pay any attention to those Webtown guys. They're just trying to get an edge. Focus. Focus. I hate being a fledgling thrower. Focus. What are those trees doing on the 40 meter line and in the middle of this city, no less? Jesus, sometimes a guy just can't see the forest through the natural elbows. You know what I mean? What kind of detour is this? -FT

Many Happy Returns

Editorial

Made in the USA

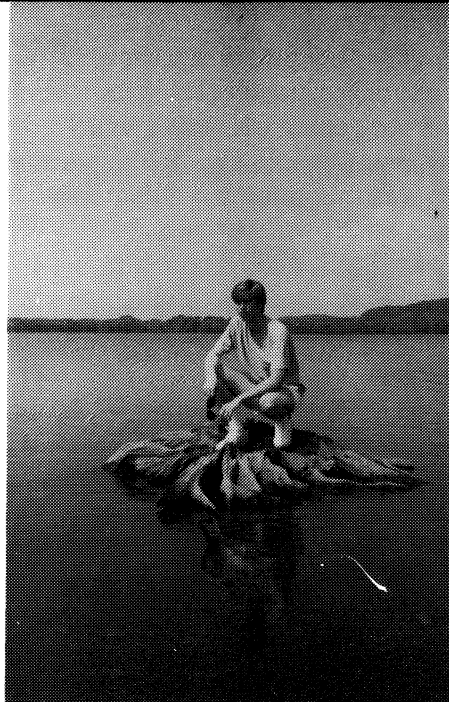


The German newsletter, Bumerang Welt, and Ted Bailey's Boomerang Journal both featured front-page photos of a beautiful inlaid boomerang by Sweden's Jonas Romblad. Canada's John Cryderman is building a \$9,000 boomerang for Prince Charles (see story in this issue). I get queries all the time looking for South African (Kim Deutschmann) boomerangs or authentic Aboriginal stuff.

We Americans seem so obsessed with performance in comparison that we let craftsmanship slide. We agonize over how to squeeze one more second or one more meter out of a competition design. Take a look at the last boomerang you made. You know, the unpainted one with the black tape and bits of lead hanging all over.

Have you ever seen anything so ugly?

Come on, America, let's see



Many Happy Returns editor Paul Sprague finds some peace & quiet sitting on a stump in the Mississippi river backwaters. Photo by Ken W. Dreier.

your stuff. I'm not talking about stealing Aussie imagery or imitating old-world quality — I mean genuine Yankee craftsmanship. Ingenuity, simplicity, functional beauty.

And for God's sake, put a coat of paint on that.

Paul D. Sprague, editor
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Letter to the Editor

Correspondence from
Brother Brian Thomas



Greetings from Down Under. Tell Gregg Snouffer I fully appreciated his article. I can understand the loss of a thrower friend. Thomas Hartmann was a close friend of mine. Congratulations to Chet on winning the Nationals too. I always love to watch him throw...poetry in motion.

I have been a primary school teacher for 37 years, but six months ago ceased from that employment. I am now into old-age care. I help look after ten of our elderly brothers here at Waverley College. It does leave me some time to do boomerangs with the nearby primary school. I run indoor boomerang comps with balsa and cardboard cross-bladers...the kids love it. I have also been doing some outdoor coaching at Vision Valley camp, north of Sydney. Over the last month I have instructed 380 Japanese girls (16-17 yr. olds) from Kyushu Island. Would you believe there were only five left handers among them!

We had our Albury Championships in early October. The main feature was the appearance again of 87 year old Arthur Janetzki. I was unable to compete since two days before I took Arthur out for a throw and got chest pains. So I ended up with the job of referee. Our current president, Bruce Carter won four of the six events and came in 2nd in one of the other two, but Rob Croll, who won two events, took out the over-all points.

As our system stands, each place is worth the same points, that is, 6th gains one point over 7th and 1st only gains one point over 2nd. So if we have 14 competitors, the winner gets 14 points, 2nd gets 13 and so on. I think we would be

better having set points such as 30, 26, 23, 21, 20, 19, 18, ...3,2,1. This would cover 24 throwers, and if you finished outside that you wouldn't get any points. How does your system work?

By the way, we used the new CCWID rules...10 different catches, the last catch being one hand between the legs and both legs must be on the ground!

There was a piece of sad news in the newspapers today. One of our old throwers died. He was Australia's last full-blooded Aboriginal tracker...Jimmy James from South Australia. He was about 80 and had received many medals over the years for his tracking skills. He once tracked a killer for six days and finally got him.

Some other old throwers have died this year too. Bill McGovern, who was the Janetzki of Scotland, died August 14th, aged 78. In Australia we lost Bill Moore and Stephen Silady in the last two months. Stephen, originally from Yugoslavia, produced THE BOOMERANG BOOK. Bill was an old 'bushie' who used to make cast-iron copies of good boomerangs.

God bless you always.
Yours DOWN UNDER, Brian.
P.S. Please note my new address:
131 Birrell Street
Waverley, N.S.W. 2024
AUSTRALIA

Letter to the Editor

by *Ralph Bonheim* [72020,1046]

Greetings! I'm the newest member, or nearly so, of the USBA — just received my first copy of your newsletter yesterday and devoured it fully. Nice cooking!

I have yet to sign up for a competition, but from the looks of the scores you posted, I wouldn't

embarrass myself too much more than at least a few of those who have gone before. As you point out, we've entered the carving (or in my case, the ordering) season, but I look forward to be out and throwing with other USBAers in short-enough order.

Editor's Note: this letter was submitted through the CompuServe Information Service to ID# 72470,1567. Ralph later writes that he's looking forward to failing miserably in regional competitions in the spring, and that he's discovered cardboard indoor boomerangs. "Possible dubious achievement award: how many consecutive catches I can achieve in one day without getting fired."



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Beginner's Circle Tournaments

by *Paul D. Sprague*

Okay, so you can throw a boomerang and maybe catch it and you're thinking about maybe going to a tournament this spring. What do you need to know?

The first rule is you don't go to a tournament to watch (spectators are yawning after 15 minutes).

You go to throw. The second rule is bring something to drink — even if it's raining, which it usually is. The third rule is to arrive a half-hour early with a few extra dollars to buy the best booms in the world from the people who make them. You'll need a boomerang for each of these events:

■ **Consecutive Catch** — use a 20-meter boom that you can do trick catches with (see Fall issue of MHR for catch descriptions).

■ **Accuracy** — use a 20-meter boom. This is the only event where you don't catch. Scoring comes from where it lands.

■ **Fast-Catch** — use a 20-meter triblader to see how fast you can catch it 5 times. The key is to not drop any.

■ **Aussie Round** — use a 40- or 50-meter 2 bladed omega or hook. Points for distance and how close to the circle you catch.

■ **Maximum Time Aloft (MTA)** — requires a specialized lightweight boomerang. Catch mandatory for time to count.

■ **Doubling** — requires a specialized doubling set that separates in flight. Throw 2 at once with the same hand and try to catch both.

■ **Endurance** — use the same rang as Fast Catch. See how many catches you can get in 5 minutes.

■ **Juggling** — use 2 identical boomerangs, keep one in the air at all times and count up catches.



THE USBA RATING SYSTEM IS BASED ON THREE CRITERIA: (1) THE BEST SCORE IN AN EVENT; (2) THE MEDIAN SCORE IN AN EVENT; (3) THE PLACING POINT AVERAGE IN AN EVENT.

- BEST SCORE - A THROWERS BEST SCORE IN AN EVENT. ONE (1) TOURNAMENT SCORE REQUIRED TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR RATING.
- MEDIAN SCORE - IF AN ODD # OF TOURNAMENT SCORES, THE MIDDLE SCORE (i.e. THE 4th BEST OF 7 SCORES). IF AN EVEN # SCORES, THE AVERAGE OF THE MIDDLE TWO SCORES (i.e. THE AVERAGE OF THE 3rd & 4th BEST SCORES OF 6 SCORES). THREE (3) TOURNAMENT SCORES REQUIRED TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR RATINGS.
- PLACING AVERAGE - THE AVERAGE OF: ALL PLACING POINTS EARNED IN AN EVENT DIVIDED BY THE # TOURNAMENT SCORES IN THE EVENT. TWO (2) TOURNAMENT SCORES REQUIRED TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR RATINGS.

OVERALL SCORE - THE SUM OF POINTS EARNED IN THE THREE CATEGORIES FOR AN EVENT.

THE EIGHT RATED EVENTS ARE WEIGHTED EQUALLY AND THE SUM OF OVERALL SCORES DETERMINES THE FINAL STANDINGS FOR THE YEAR.

EVENT: CONSECUTIVE CATCH

BEST SCORE			MEDIAN SCORE			PLACING AVG			OVERALL							
PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	TOTAL PT	PTS	
1	C SNOUFFER	29	19.5	1	M GIRVIN	11.0	17.5	1	F FROST	10.50	20.0	1	C SNOUFFER	54.00	20.0	
6	SNOUFFER	29	19.5		R PARKINS	11.0	17.5	2	M GIRVIN	8.75	19.0	2	M GIRVIN	52.50	19.0	
3	F FROST	24	18.0		C SNOUFFER	11.0	17.5	3	M WEBER	8.50	18.0	3	G SNOUFFER	52.00	18.0	
4	G BROADBENT	23	17.0		G SNOUFFER	11.0	17.5	4	C SNOUFFER	8.31	17.0	4	M WEBER	48.00	17.0	
5	M GIRVIN	18	16.0		J KOEHLER	11.0	17.5	5	R PARKINS	8.00	16.0	5	R PARKINS	46.00	15.5	
6	D DUFRESNE	17	15.0		M WEBER	11.0	17.5	6	G SNOUFFER	7.89	15.0	6	D DUFRESNE	42.50	15.5	
7	D JOYCE	12	12.5	7	G BROADBENT	10.5	13.5	7	D DUFRESNE	6.33	14.0	7	G BROADBENT	41.50	14.0	
	R PARKINS	12	12.5		D DUFRESNE	10.5	13.5	8	B RUHE	6.17	13.0	8	F FROST	38.00	13.0	
	B RUHE	12	12.5	9	S KAVANAUGH	10.0	8.5	9	J KOEHLER	5.85	12.0	9	B RUHE	34.00	12.0	
	M WEBER	12	12.5		B OWEN	10.0	8.5	10	G BROADBENT	5.73	11.0	10	J KOEHLER	33.73	11.0	
11	S MARQUARDT	11	4.2		B RUHE	10.0	8.5	11	S BARRETT	5.13	10.0	11	D JOYCE	27.00	10.0	
	C BOB	11	4.2		L PARUBSKY	10.0	8.5	12	E DARNELL	4.82	9.0	12	E DARNELL	21.73	9.0	
	A GRINDLE	11	4.2		D JOYCE	10.0	8.5	13	S KAVANAUGH	4.74	8.0	13	S KAVANAUGH	20.73	8.0	
	P SPRAGUE	11	4.2		MOLEMAN	10.0	8.5	14	P SPRAGUE	4.72	7.0	14	B OWEN	17.73	7.0	
	E DARNELL	11	4.2		E DARNELL	10.0	8.5	15	D JOYCE	4.57	6.0	15	MOLEMAN	14.73	6.0	
	MOLEMAN	11	4.2		T MAULTSBY	10.0	8.5	16	B OWEN	4.35	4.5	16	S BARRETT	14.23	5.0	
	M WEARY	11	4.2	17	C BOB	9.5	3.5		C BOB	4.31	4.5	17	C BOB	11.73	4.0	
	S BARRETT	11	4.2		P RUHF	9.5	3.5	18	P ROSE	4.17	3.0	18	P SPRAGUE	11.23	3.0	
	B OWEN	11	4.2	19	R TAMBLYN	9.0	0.3		19	MOLEMAN	4.00	2.0	19	T MAULTSBY	8.50	1.5
	R TAMBLYN	11	4.2		M WEARY	9.0	0.3	20	S MARQUARDT	3.85	1.0		L PARUBSKY	8.50	1.5	
	J KOEHLER	11	4.2		T FITZGERALD	9.0	0.3									
	S KAVANAUGH	11	4.2		J LACOUNT	9.0	0.3									
	C LARRANCE	11	4.2		K ROBSON	9.0	0.3									
					M LAPRADE	9.0	0.3									
					A RUHF	9.0	0.3									
					M DICKSON	9.0	0.3									
					M DAVIS	9.0	0.3									
					S MARQUARDT	9.0	0.3									

EVENT: 20 METER ACCURACY

BEST SCORE			MEDIAN SCORE			PLACING AVG			OVERALL						
PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	TOTAL PT	PTS
1	P DAVID	48	20.0	1	P RUHF	37.0	20.0	1	F FROST	8.00	20.0	1	G SNOUFFER	52.00	20.0
2	G SNOUFFER	46	19.0	2	R TAMBLYN	34.0	19.0	2	C SNOUFFER	6.80	19.0	2	R TAMBLYN	48.50	19.0
3	M GIRVIN	44	18.0	3	R PARKINS	33.5	18.0	3	G SNOUFFER	6.63	18.0	3	M GIRVIN	46.00	18.0
4	J SCHRAMM	43	17.0	4	D JOYCE	33.0	16.5	4	G BROADBENT	5.94	17.0	4	P RUHF	41.50	17.0
5	C SNOUFFER	42	15.5	5	G BROADBENT	33.0	16.5	5	M GIRVIN	5.86	16.0	5	C SNOUFFER	40.00	16.0
	R TAMBLYN	42	15.5	6	G SNOUFFER	32.5	15.0	6	D DUFRESNE	5.75	15.0	6	R PARKINS	39.50	15.0
7	B RUHE	41	13.5	7	J KOEHLER	32.0	14.0	7	R TAMBLYN	5.33	14.0	7	G BROADBENT	37.50	14.0
	L PARUBSKY	41	13.5	8	B FORESI	31.0	13.0	8	R PARKINS	5.13	12.5	8	J SCHRAMM	32.50	13.0
9	M LAPRADE	40	12.0	9	M GIRVIN	30.0	12.0		P RUHF	5.13	12.5	9	D JOYCE	28.00	12.0
10	P RUHF	39	9.0	10	L RUHF	29.5	11.0	10	S CONDON	5.00	11.0	10	P DAVID	26.90	11.0
	R PARKINS	39	9.0	11	MOLEMAN	29.0	9.0	11	J SCHRAMM	4.80	10.0	11	A GRINDLE	23.50	10.0
	D JOYCE	39	9.0		E DARNELL	29.0	9.0	12	A GRINDLE	4.13	9.0	12	B FORESI	21.50	9.0
	E DARNELL	39	9.0		J JORDAN	29.0	9.0	13	C BOB	4.00	7.5	13	F FROST	20.00	8.0
	A GRINDLE	39	9.0	14	J SCHRAMM	28.0	5.5		M GIX	4.00	7.5	14	E DARNELL	19.50	7.0
15	B FORESI	38	4.0		T MAULTSBY	28.0	5.5	15	P DAVID	3.67	6.0	15	J KOEHLER	18.00	6.0
	G BROADBENT	38	4.0		A GRINDLE	28.0	5.5	16	B FORESI	3.50	4.5	16	D DUFRESNE	15.00	5.0
	P ROBSON	38	4.0		C SNOUFFER	28.0	5.5		S MARQUARDT	3.50	4.5	17	B RUHE	13.50	3.5
	J JORDAN	38	4.0	18	C BOB	27.5	3.0	18	E DARNELL	3.42	2.5	18	L PARUBSKY	13.50	3.5
	J KOEHLER	38	4.0	19	S MARGUERITE	27.0	1.0		D JOYCE	3.42	2.5	19	M LAPRADE	13.00	1.5
20	S CONDON	37	0.5		D DONAVAN	27.0	1.0	20	S KAVANAUGH	3.33	1.0		J JORDAN	13.00	1.5
	G FRIEDMAN	37	0.5		M LAPRADE	27.0	1.0								

EVENT: FAST CATCH

BEST SCORE			MEDIAN SCORE			PLACING AVG			OVERALL						
PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	TOTAL PT	PTS
1	M WEBER	16.90	20.0	1	R PARKINS	17.85	20.0	1	R PARKINS	11.00	20.0	1	R PARKINS	59.00	20.0
2	C SNOUFFER	16.92	19.0	2	D JOYCE	22.87	19.0	2	F FRÖST	8.75	19.0	2	M WEBER	56.00	19.0
3	R PARKINS	17.40	18.0	3	M WEBER	22.95	18.0	3	M WEBER	8.00	18.0	3	D JOYCE	45.00	18.0
4	G SNOUFFER	18.48	17.0	4	J KOEHLER	23.55	17.0	4	G SNOUFFER	7.61	17.0	4	J KOEHLER	44.00	17.0
5	G BROADBENT	19.28	16.0	5	M LEMAN	24.58	16.0	5	C SNOUFFER	7.33	16.0	5	G SNOUFFER	41.00	16.0
6	J KOEHLER	19.65	15.0	6	J LACOUNT	24.84	15.0	6	G BROADBENT	6.55	15.0	6	C SNOUFFER	40.00	15.0
7	J LACOUNT	20.45	14.0	7	K ROBSON	25.32	14.0	7	B OWEN	6.13	14.0	7	J LACOUNT	38.50	14.0
8	D JOYCE	20.50	13.0	8	L RUHF	25.77	13.0	8	D JOYCE	5.83	13.0	8	M LEMAN	35.00	13.0
9	M LEMAN	20.78	12.0	9	B RUHE	26.16	12.0	9	J KOEHLER	5.80	12.0	9	G BROADBENT	33.00	12.0
10	B OWEN	21.41	11.0	10	E DARNELL	26.22	11.0	10	J DERDEN	5.50	11.0	10	B OWEN	25.00	11.0
11	B MIALE-GIX	21.47	10.0	11	J JORDAN	26.25	10.0	11	J LACOUNT	4.75	9.5	11	B RUHE	22.00	10.0
12	J JORDAN	21.59	9.0	12	P RUHF	27.21	9.0		D DUFRESNE	4.75	9.5	12	J JORDAN	19.00	8.5
13	B RUHE	21.67	8.0	13	S KAVANAUGH	28.13	8.0	13	M GIRVIN	4.71	8.0		F FROST	19.00	8.5
14	M LAPRADE	21.78	7.0	14	G SNOUFFER	28.95	7.0	14	T FITZGERALD	4.67	7.0	14	K ROBSON	14.50	7.0
15	J YOUNGBLOOD	21.80	6.0	15	P ROSE	29.13	6.0	15	M LEMAN	4.40	6.0	15	M GIRVIN	14.00	6.0
16	M GIRVIN	21.86	5.0	16	C SNOUFFER	29.15	5.0	16	W DAVIS	4.26	5.0	16	L RUHF	13.00	5.0
17	M GIX	22.02	4.0	17	A GRINDLE	29.24	4.0	17	E CARRIGG	4.00	3.5	17	S KAVANAUGH	11.50	4.0
18	L PARBUSKY	22.24	3.0	18	P ROBSON	30.22	3.0		S KAVANAUGH	4.00	3.5	18	J DERDEN	11.00	2.5
19	P ROBSON	22.72	2.0	19	G BROADBENT	30.80	2.0	19	B RUHE	3.67	2.0		E DARNELL	11.00	2.5
20	K ROBSON	22.77	0.5	20	M GIRVIN	31.11	1.0	20	M SALERNO	3.50	0.5	20	B MIALE-GIX	10.00	1.0
	C BOB	22.77	0.5						T PETERSON	3.50	0.5				

EVENT: AUSTRALIAN ROUND

BEST SCORE			MEDIAN SCORE			PLACING AVG			OVERALL						
PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	TOTAL PT	PTS
1	J ROBERTSON	86	19.5	1	D JOYCE	67.0	20.0	1	M GIRVIN	7.50	20.0	1	M GIRVIN	57.00	20.0
	G SNOUFFER	86	19.5	2	M GIRVIN	62.0	19.0	2	B OWEN	7.31	19.0	2	C SNOUFFER	47.00	19.0
3	M GIRVIN	84	18.0	3	A GRINDLE	60.0	18.0	3	C SNOUFFER	6.83	18.0	3	B OWEN	46.50	18.0
4	R PARKINS	81	16.5	4	J KOEHLER	58.0	17.0	4	J FLYNN	6.50	17.0	4	D JOYCE	46.00	17.0
	G BROADBENT	81	16.5	5	J JORDAN	57.5	15.5	5	D JOYCE	5.90	16.0	5	G SNOUFFER	41.50	16.0
6	C SNOUFFER	77	15.0		B OWEN	57.5	15.5	6	B MIALE-GIX	5.57	15.0	6	A GRINDLE	35.00	15.0
7	S KAVANAUGH	76	14.0	7	C SNOUFFER	57.0	14.0	7	J ROBERTSON	5.50	14.0	7	G BROADBENT	34.50	14.0
8	B PELL	75	13.0	8	G SNOUFFER	56.0	13.0	8	A GRINDLE	5.33	13.0	8	J ROBERTSON	33.50	13.0
9	B OWEN	72	12.0	9	M WEBER	55.5	12.0	9	D DUFRESNE	5.25	12.0	9	S KAVANAUGH	32.00	12.0
10	J DERDEN	70	11.0	10	L RUHF	55.0	11.0	10	M GIX	5.21	11.0	10	B MIALE-GIX	28.50	11.0
11	D JOYCE	68	10.0	11	G BROADBENT	54.0	10.0	11	S KAVANAUGH	5.17	10.0	11	J KOEHLER	26.50	10.0
12	B MIALE-GIX	67	8.0	12	D DUFRESNE	52.5	9.0	12	G SNOUFFER	5.06	9.0	12	R PARKINS	22.00	9.0
	M GIX	67	8.0	13	S KAVANAUGH	52.0	8.0	13	G BROADBENT	4.78	8.0	13	D DUFRESNE	21.33	8.0
	M LAPRADE	67	8.0	14	P RUHF	51.0	7.0	14	J DERDEN	4.50	7.0	14	M GIX	19.00	7.0
15	A GRINDLE	66	4.0	15	B MIALE-GIX	50.0	5.5	15	J KOEHLER	4.25	5.5	15	J DERDEN	18.00	6.0
	G FRIEDMAN	66	4.0		R PARKINS	50.0	5.5		F FROST	4.25	5.5	16	J FLYNN	17.00	5.0
	P ROBSON	66	4.0	17	P ROBSON	49.0	4.0	17	L RUHF	4.00	4.0	17	J JORDAN	15.50	4.0
	J KOEHLER	66	4.0	18	G KYUDSON	47.0	2.5	18	M WEBER	3.88	3.0	18	M WEBER	15.00	2.5
	C BOB	66	4.0		E DARNELL	47.0	2.5	19	P ROBSON	3.83	2.0		L RUHF	15.00	2.5
20	D DUFRESNE	65	0.3	20	E CARRIGG	45.0	0.3	20	B RUHE	3.25	1.0	20	B PELL	13.00	1.0
	P RUHF	65	0.3		M DICKSON	45.0	0.3								
	K ROBSON	65	0.3		M LAPRADE	45.0	0.3								
					R TAMBLYN	45.0	0.3								

EVENT: MTA-100

BEST SCORE			MEDIAN SCORE			PLACING AVG			OVERALL						
PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	TOTAL PT	PTS
1	P DAVID	71.15	20.0	1	J LACOUNT	32.74	20.0	1	F FROST	10.00	20.0	1	J LACOUNT	48.50	20.0
2	J YOUNGBLOOD	55.70	19.0	2	M WEBER	29.14	19.0	2	J FLYNN	8.50	19.0	2	M WEBER	41.00	19.0
3	M GIX	48.60	18.0	3	P ROBSON	29.07	18.0	3	D DUFRESNE	6.63	18.0	3	D DUFRESNE	37.50	18.0
4	G SNOUFFER	43.66	17.0	4	B FORESI	28.79	17.0	4	J LACOUNT	6.33	17.0	4	M GIX	37.00	17.0
5	M GIRVIN	42.47	16.0	5	M LAPRADE	28.45	16.0	5	M GIX	5.71	16.0	5	F FROST	35.00	16.0
6	F FROST	40.58	15.0	6	D JOYCE	26.68	15.0	6	J SCHRAMM	5.60	15.0	6	F DAVID	34.00	15.0
7	C SNOUFFER	40.10	14.0	7	D DUFRESNE	26.67	14.0	7	G SNOUFFER	5.56	14.0	7	G SNOUFFER	31.00	14.0
8	M WEBER	39.71	13.0	8	J KOEHLER	26.19	13.0	8	P DAVID	5.50	13.0	8	J FLYNN	30.50	13.0
9	J LACOUNT	38.49	12.0	9	L RUHF	25.32	12.0	9	M GIRVIN	5.29	12.0	9	J YOUNGBLOOD	30.00	12.0
10	J FLYNN	36.80	11.0	10	A GRINDLE	25.19	11.0	10	J YOUNGBLOOD	5.00	11.0	10	M GIRVIN	28.30	11.0
11	P EIBSON	36.73	10.0	11	R TAMBLYN	25.16	10.0	11	G BROADBENT	4.90	10.0	11	G BROADBENT	23.50	10.0
12	D BARRETT	35.09	9.0	12	M LEMAN	25.02	9.0	12	M WEBER	4.75	9.0	12	M LAPRADE	23.00	9.0
13	G BROADBENT	34.48	8.0	13	R PARKINS	24.73	8.0	13	C SNOUFFER	4.67	8.0	13	C SNOUFFER	22.00	7.5
14	M LAPRADE	34.38	7.0	14	G BROADBENT	24.48	6.5	14	P ROSE	4.50	6.5		B FORESI	22.30	7.5
15	M WEARY	33.84	6.0		K ROBSON	24.48	6.5		T PETERSON	4.50	6.5	15	P ROBSON	18.00	6.0
16	D DUFRESNE	33.61	5.0	16	J JORDAN	23.99	5.0	16	D BARRETT	4.40	5.0	16	D JOYCE	15.00	4.5
17	P ROSE	33.47	4.0	17	B MIALE-GIX	23.38	4.0	17	B FORESI	4.33	4.0		J SCHRAMM	15.00	4.5
18	S MARQUARDT	33.40	3.0	18	M GIX	23.25	3.0	18	B MIALE-GIX	4.29	3.0	18	D BARRETT	14.00	3.0
19	C BOB	32.54	2.0	19	W DAVIS	23.14	2.0	19	C BOB	4.00	1.5	19	J KOEHLER	13.00	2.0
20	B FORESI	32.08	1.0	20	C BOB	23.00	1.0		T MAULTSBY	4.00	1.5	20	L RUHF	12.00	1.0

EVENT: DOUBLING

BEST SCORE		MEDIAN SCORE		PLACING AVG		OVERALL									
PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	TOTAL PT	PTS				
1	G BROADBENT	36	20.0	1	D DUFRESNE	14.0	20.0	1	F FROST	11.00	20.0	1	D DUFRESNE	56.00	20.0
2	D DUFRESNE	35	19.0	2	M WEBER	11.0	18.0	2	C SNOUFFER	8.83	19.0	2	M WEBER	52.50	19.0
3	G SNOUFFER	29	18.0	3	G SNOUFFER	11.0	18.0	3	M WEBER	8.80	18.0	3	G SNOUFFER	52.00	18.0
4	C BOB	18	16.5	4	G BROADBENT	11.0	18.0	4	D DUFRESNE	7.63	17.0	4	G BROADBENT	50.00	17.0
	M WEBER	18	16.5	5	C SNOUFFER	10.5	15.5	5	G SNOUFFER	7.05	16.0	5	C SNOUFFER	49.50	16.0
6	C SNOUFFER	17	15.0	6	E DARNELL	10.5	15.5	6	P ROSE	7.00	14.5	6	E DARNELL	40.00	15.0
7	W DAVIS	15	14.0	7	P DAVID	10.0	13.5	7	J FLYNN	7.00	14.5	7	C BOB	37.00	14.0
8	W GIX	12	11.5	8	D JOYCE	10.0	13.5	8	E DARNELL	6.25	13.0	8	F FROST	31.50	13.0
	J JORDAN	12	11.5	9	R PARKINS	9.5	11.5	9	G BROADBENT	6.13	12.0	9	R PARKINS	25.75	12.0
	E DARNELL	12	11.5	10	C BOB	9.5	11.5	10	R PARKINS	5.88	11.0	10	W GIX	25.00	11.0
	F FROST	12	11.5	11	J JORDAN	9.0	7.5	11	M GIRVIN	5.64	10.0	11	D JOYCE	24.75	10.0
12	L RUHF	11	3.3	12	P RUHF	9.0	7.5	12	C BOB	5.53	9.0	12	P ROSE	22.00	9.0
	P RUHF	11	3.3	13	M GIRVIN	9.0	7.5	13	D JOYCE	4.60	8.0	13	M GIRVIN	20.75	8.0
	R PARKINS	11	3.3	14	J KOEHLER	9.0	7.5	14	L PARUBSKY	4.26	7.0	14	J JORDAN	19.50	7.0
	M GIRVIN	11	3.3	15	P ROSE	9.0	7.5	15	W GIX	4.21	6.0	15	W DAVIS	19.00	6.0
	M WEARY	11	3.3	16	W GIX	9.0	7.5	16	W DAVIS	4.11	5.0	16	J FLYNN	17.75	5.0
	L PARUBSKY	11	3.3	17	L RUHF	8.5	4.0	17	J KOEHLER	4.10	4.0	17	J KOEHLER	14.75	4.0
	S AYERS	11	3.3	18	K ROBSON	8.0	1.5	18	L RUHF	3.88	3.0	18	P DAVID	13.56	3.0
	J FLYNN	11	3.3	19	B RUHE	8.0	1.5	19	B OWEN	3.87	2.0	19	P RUHF	10.75	2.0
	J KOEHLER	11	3.3	20	R TAMBLYN	8.0	1.5	20	J JORDAN	3.83	0.5	20	L RUHF	10.25	0.5
	S KAVANAUGH	11	3.3			8.0	1.5		R TAMBLYN	3.83	0.5		L PARUBSKY	10.25	0.5
	C LARRANCE	11	3.3												

EVENT: ENDURANCE

BEST SCORE		MEDIAN SCORE		PLACING AVG		OVERALL									
PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	TOTAL FT	PTS				
1	M WEBER	68	20.0	1	R PARKINS	59.0	20.0	1	F FROST	11.00	20.0	1	M WEBER	58.00	20.0
2	R PARKINS	67	19.0	2	M WEBER	55.0	19.0	2	M WEBER	9.47	19.0	2	R PARKINS	56.00	19.0
3	C SNOUFFER	65	17.5	3	J KOEHLER	50.0	18.0	3	C SNOUFFER	9.31	18.0	3	J KOEHLER	47.00	18.0
	G BROADBENT	65	17.5	4	D JOYCE	45.5	17.0	4	R PARKINS	9.13	17.0	4	C SNOUFFER	44.50	17.0
5	J KOEHLER	64	15.0	5	G SNOUFFER	45.0	15.5	5	D DUFRESNE	8.00	16.0	5	G SNOUFFER	36.50	16.0
	M GIRVIN	64	15.0	6	MOLEMAN	45.0	15.5	6	G SNOUFFER	7.83	15.0	6	F FROST	35.00	15.0
	F FROST	64	15.0	7	D DUFRESNE	43.0	13.5	7	J KOEHLER	7.33	14.0	7	MOLEMAN	34.50	14.0
8	S KAVANAUGH	54	13.0	8	P DAVID	43.0	13.5	8	MOLEMAN	6.25	13.0	8	G BROADBENT	34.00	13.0
9	J LACOUNT	53	12.0	9	B RUHE	41.0	12.0	9	M GIRVIN	6.07	12.0	9	M GIRVIN	30.00	12.0
10	E DARNELL	52	10.5	10	A GRINDLE	39.0	10.5	10	G BROADBENT	5.73	11.0	10	D DUFRESNE	29.50	11.0
	M WEARY	52	10.5	11	K ROBSON	39.0	10.5	11	J FLYNN	5.50	10.0	11	D JOYCE	28.00	10.0
12	W GIX	51	9.0	12	C SNOUFFER	38.5	9.0	12	B OWEN	5.38	9.0	12	S KAVANAUGH	26.50	9.0
13	G SNOUFFER	50	6.0	13	S KAVANAUGH	38.0	7.5	13	B RUHE	5.17	8.0	13	B RUHE	26.00	8.0
	B RUHE	50	6.0	14	W DAVIS	38.0	7.5	14	P ROSE	5.00	7.0	14	P DAVID	19.50	7.0
	P DAVID	50	6.0	15	G BROADBENT	37.5	5.5	15	S KAVANAUGH	4.83	6.0	15	E DARNELL	18.00	6.0
	MOLEMAN	50	6.0	16	D JOYCE	37.5	5.5	16	D JOYCE	4.17	5.0	16	J LACOUNT	15.00	5.0
	D JOYCE	50	6.0	17	M GIRVIN	37.0	3.0	17	W DAVIS	3.72	4.0	17	W DAVIS	13.00	4.0
18	J FLYNN	49	1.5	18	P ROSE	37.0	3.0	18	W GIX	3.57	3.0	18	W GIX	12.00	3.0
	L RUHF	49	1.5	19	J LACOUNT	37.0	3.0	19	E DARNELL	3.50	2.0	19	J FLYNN	11.50	1.5
	C LARRANCE	49	1.5	20	J JORDAN	36.0	0.5	20	A GRINDLE	3.38	1.0		A GRINDLE	11.50	1.5
	W DAVIS	49	1.5		R TAMBLYN	36.0	0.5								

EVENT: JUGGLING

BEST SCORE		MEDIAN SCORE		PLACING AVG		OVERALL									
PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	SCORE	PTS	PL	NAME	TOTAL PT	PTS				
1	M GIRVIN	207	20.0	1	C SNOUFFER	60.0	20.0	1	C SNOUFFER	10.20	20.0	1	C SNOUFFER	57.00	20.0
2	MOLEMAN	129	19.0	2	J KOEHLER	24.0	19.0	2	M WEBER	8.13	19.0	2	MOLEMAN	55.00	19.0
3	A GRINDLE	122	18.0	3	MOLEMAN	21.0	18.0	3	MOLEMAN	7.38	18.0	3	M GIRVIN	50.50	18.0
4	C SNOUFFER	101	17.0	4	E DARNELL	18.0	17.0	4	W GIX	6.67	16.5	4	J KOEHLER	48.00	17.0
5	P RUHF	70	16.0	5	J JORDAN	17.5	16.0	5	M GIRVIN	6.67	16.5	5	E DARNELL	42.00	16.0
6	D JOYCE	62	15.0	6	D JOYCE	13.0	15.0	6	J KOEHLER	6.50	15.0	6	P RUHF	37.00	15.0
7	J KOEHLER	51	14.0	7	M GIRVIN	12.5	14.0	7	F FROST	6.33	14.0	7	M WEBER	34.90	14.0
8	E DARNELL	46	13.0	8	P RUHF	11.5	13.0	8	G SNOUFFER	6.21	13.0	8	D JOYCE	30.00	13.0
9	J LACOUNT	33	12.0	9	P DAVID	11.0	12.0	9	E DARNELL	6.13	12.0	9	J JORDAN	26.50	12.0
10	F FROST	32	10.5	10	M WEBER	10.5	11.0	10	P ROSE	5.83	11.0	10	F FROST	24.50	11.0
	J JORDAN	32	10.5	11	R PARKINS	9.0	10.0	11	S KAVANAUGH	5.80	10.0	11	W GIX	22.50	10.0
12	R PARKINS	26	9.0	12	W DAVIS	8.0	9.0	12	J ROBERTSON	5.50	9.0	12	G SNOUFFER	22.00	9.0
13	W DAVIS	23	7.5	13	G SNOUFFER	7.0	8.0	13	P RUHF	5.00	8.0	13	A GRINDLE	19.50	8.0
	B RUHE	23	7.5	14	E CARRIGG	5.0	6.0	14	G BROADBENT	4.79	7.0	14	R PARKINS	19.00	7.0
15	P SPRAGUE	17	6.0	15	W GIX	5.0	6.0	15	B RUHE	4.25	6.0	15	W DAVIS	18.50	6.0
16	P ROSE	16	4.0	16	S KAVANAUGH	5.0	6.0	16	E CARRIGG	4.17	5.0	16	S KAVANAUGH	18.30	5.0
	P GIBSON	16	4.0	17	M WEARY	4.5	4.0	17	W DAVIS	4.00	3.0	17	P ROSE	15.00	4.0
	M WEBER	16	4.0	18	L RUHF	4.0	1.5	18	J DERDEN	4.00	3.0	18	B RUHE	13.00	3.0
19	S KAVANAUGH	15	2.0	19	M DICKSON	4.0	1.5	19	B OWEN	4.00	3.0	19	J LACOUNT	12.00	1.5
20	G SNOUFFER	14	1.0	20	A GRINDLE	4.0	1.5	20	D DUFRESNE	3.88	1.0		P DAVID	12.00	1.5
					G BROADBENT	4.0	1.5								

BOOMERANG SEASON 1992



Editor's note: Please submit your tournament dates early for next season. Publication deadlines for Many Happy Returns are 3/1, 6/1, 9/1 and 12/1. Submit calendar listings to:

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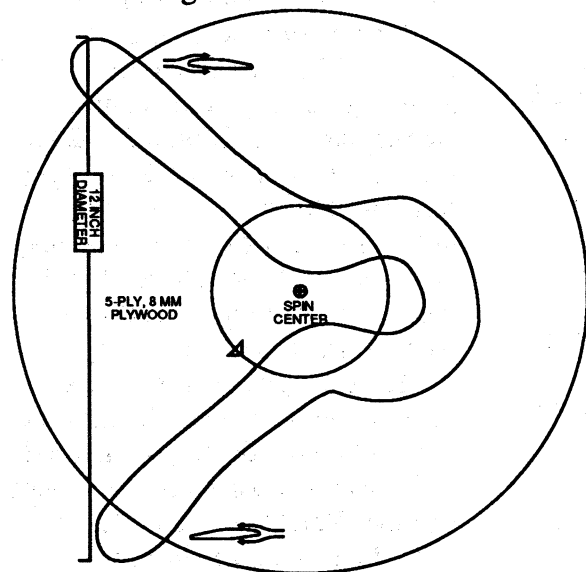
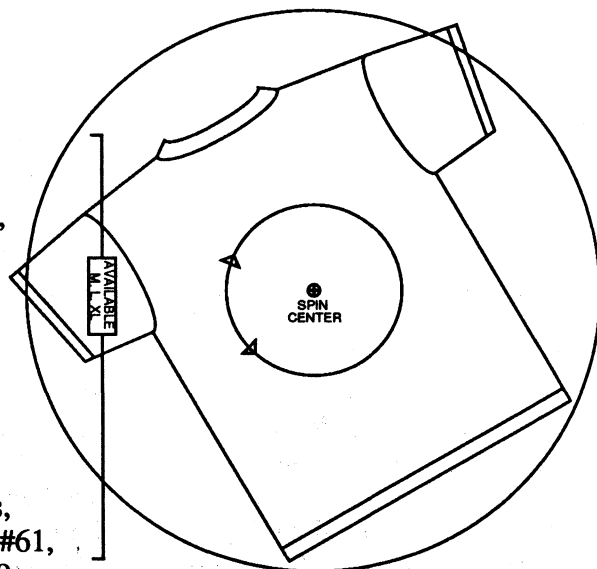
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Bellen Dancer

by Gel Boomerangs,
2124 Kittredge St., #61,
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The Bellen Dancer (left) is another Michael Girvin design that makes the uninitiated ask "why's it shaped like that?". The Dancer's vertex is slightly more exaggerated than the regular Bellen. She is a steady performer in moderate winds, not overspecialized like a lot of new models for a certain event. The advantage of the bell curve at the vertex is in catching because there's a lot more "meat" near the spin center to grab onto. This is about as good as it gets for trick-catching a 2-bladed model of boomerang. Good for Consec, Accuracy, wind Juggling, and general booming fun.



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New York City Tournament

by Barnaby Ruhe

9.21.91 NYC Central Park Tourney ABC + Fox TV at the Demo with 500 'fans' & ABC TV scanning, I took the mike & "called" tricks + suicide MTA, FC, & Aussie for the impatient viewers, suicide consec, shoulder to shoulder mass toss, was gripping, showtime. (with graduated catches, even 2-hand doubling between under-the-leg & the foot catch, permitting us to go back to a suicide-all-on-the-field format.)

(?when will our thinking for rules ever refer to media needs? Why be boring? Why bore ourselves? Now really, has group toss resulted in accidents - no. Confusion? Yes!) (Some confusion is sports excitement) On the mike I "called" a world record: "Matthieu Weber of the French Team, has flown in from Geneva to challenge Rob Parkins in Fast-Catch. Rob traded Matthieu his gorgeous USA jersey you see Koehler wearing for one of Matthieu's new fast-catch designs, then Rob broke the world record four times this year! The record is now down to 17.40 seconds. Can Matthieu attack this score, since he made the boomerang Rob used? Let's find out right now. John Koehler will join them in the suicide fast-catch world-record challenge. Take your stations. Timers ready? Get set - go! 17.05 seconds later, Matthieu has made his point. Some flights are worth taking. (Rob took the official event round later, with 17.53.) (staying under 20 seconds the whole year?!!)

Editor's note: This tournament was well-designed for media coverage. Other tourney directors would do well to study the method.

News from France

Olivier Voukchevitch reports, in the France Boomerang Association Newsletter, a Fast Catch score of 15.03 seconds for Gregory Bisiaux (vous avez bien lu. 15 secondes et 3 centièmes), and an endurance score of 73 for Matthieu Weber.

Addresses for two new French boomerang clubs were also listed: Cambresis Boomerang Club, c/o Maurice Cazé, 4 rue Gambetta, 59142 Villers Outréaux, 27 82 02 15
le Boomerang Fun Club Mouilleronnais, c/o Bernard Plet, 22 rue Boileau, 85000 La Roche Sur Yon, 51 05 00 55

Welcome to the world boomerang community.



As promised...
**Gerhard Bertling's
New Address:**

Gerhard Bertling
Potsdamer Str. 150
1000 Berlin 30
GERMANY

1993 World Cup, Ontario, Canada

John Cryderman is proceeding full steam on the plans for the 1993 World Cup in Ontario, Canada. To raise money for the event, he is reprinting back issues of Ted Bailey's Boomerang Journal (\$5/issue), Felix Hess' definitive thesis, "Boomerangs Aerodynamics & Motion," (\$24 in the US) and our own Many Happy Returns (\$6/issue). If you've got holes in your back issues, you may never have a better chance to fill them in — a complete set'll be worth some money some day.

He also has permission from the man who invented the distance rang, Al Gerhards, to produce and sell hardwood copies of the Omega and the Weighted Hook. These should be available shortly — watch this space for details. Other promotional efforts include bringing a live kangaroo to Ontario and the production of what Cryderman calls a "boom bagel." One can only hope these don't return unexpectedly.

One more project, as if Cryderman wasn't already busy enough. He is building a set of two boomerangs for Prince Charles. Gold and silver inlay, cow bone, mother-of-pearl detailing. Artwork on the boomerangs will include crowns, a polo-playing horse and sheaves of wheat. The set comes in a walnut case as intricately detailed as the booms. Cryderman estimates the whole job will cost him 400 hours and about \$9,000 for supplies.

The world boomerang community owes Mr. Cryderman a round of applause for his efforts. Jolly good, old chap.

Tuning for the '90s

...tuning can be a blast, literally

by John K. Cryderman

I don't know about most of you, but I'm still learning variations in aerodynamics, specifically as it relates to boomerangs. I find myself having to make six, eight, even ten adjustments per boom only to find that I need washout or negative attack angle instead.

My major frustration with boomeranging was the time-consuming tuning. I would find myself making up to six boomerangs of the same size, shape and density, all tuned differently in the workshop. But out on the field, if one needed a slight dihedral, it would require running back to the workshop, steaming the adjustment, then back to the field with wood rasps just in case I needed a slight undercut SOMEWHERE.

Like some of you, I used the microwave for tuning until some of my booms, through repeated tuning and microwaving, lost their resiliency.

I did further research on the cell structure of wood and discovered that microwaving actually destroyed the wood 'lignin.' How inhumane — I was subjecting my loved ones to a lingering death. Lignin is a principal ingredient that bonds wood cells together. The more the destruction of lignin the more resiliency the wood will lose. As a result, your boom won't hold its tune as well or as long, and is subjected to warp.

Through the years I have had many inquiries regarding steam bending as some of my early furniture designs required various curves. If you do strip laminating, be sure your wood is air dried instead of kiln dried. Kiln drying has about the same effect as

microwaving — destroying lignin. Kiln dried wood cracks easier during steam bending. When tuning you will have longer wood life, better flexibility and resiliency with air dried lumber.

NOW DOWN TO BUSINESS.

For as low as \$50, you can have a blast when tuning, and I mean that literally. Build your own mini blast furnace to heat water for steam tuning in the field. Go to your nearest hardware store or department store (camping section) and purchase a 16 oz propane cylinder (about \$4) and a burner. I use a 10,000 B.T.U. burner which screws onto the propane cylinder. Obtain a small aluminum pot 6" dia. x 4" deep (about \$5). You may wish to drill a 1/2" hole in the lid or affix a copper spout to direct the steam. I have just used silicone which seems to hold the spout quite well. By the way, the burner fits neatly into the aluminum pot for easy storage and transportation.

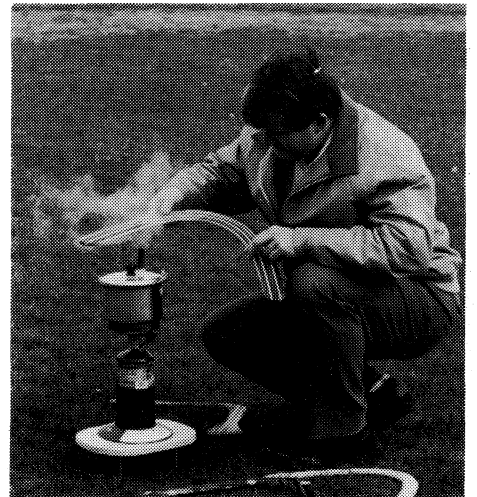
When out on the field your mini furnace should be kept even. I use a plywood base with threaded bolts to prevent the mini furnace from sinking unevenly. Just screw the plastic propane holder (comes with the burner) onto the plywood base and you are ready to go. Within a minute or two (with half filled pot) you've got a full head of steam to twist and tune to your heart's content.

Editor's note: Wood expert John Cryderman will be host for the 1993 World Championships in Ontario, Canada.



Ontario, Canada's John Cryderman shows a portable propane steam-tuning blast furnace you can build for about \$50.

"I used the microwave for tuning until some of my booms, through repeated tuning and microwaving, lost their resiliency."





John Flynn (photo by Alan Winterrowd)



M. Weber (photo by Alan Winterrowd)

Who's the Fastest? continued from page 1

years later with a tri-bladed design and a score of 18.21 seconds. As many competitors switched to experimenting with new fast catch triblader designs, the race was on to see who would break the 18-second barrier. (The advantages of tri-bladed fast catch designs are discussed in an article written by John Flynn in the Fall issue of MHR).

Rob Parkins (USA) gladly traded his team jersey at the end of the April 1991 World Cup in Australia for a 4 millimeter polypropylene fast catch tri-blader made by Matthieu Weber (France/Switzerland). Matthieu had already proven his design in practice to be World Record breaking, however, he had yet to put together a round in a tournament. Matthieu said the boomerang he gave Rob was one that didn't suit his throw. It suited Rob just fine. Rob set the World's

Record on 22 June, 1991 just two months after his return from Australia with a time of 18.16



seconds. This score was just .58 seconds faster than John Flynn's original record and .05 seconds faster than Ulrich's record. Rob wasn't finished. He broke the 18 second barrier on his first round at the 24 August 1991 Potomac Tournament by clocking 17.76 seconds and then bested his own score in his second round with a final score of 17.40 seconds. Wow! He had broken his own World's Record twice in the same tournament. His average, after four USA tournaments is 17.915 seconds which is lower than the 18.16 second World's Record he first set.

Matthieu Weber travelled the US this summer to compete in several tournaments. Everyone knew of his potential to set the World's Record so all would watch when Matthieu threw. Matthieu's full body catapult launch and five consecutive catches finally came together on 12 October 1991 at the last USA tournament in Hampton, Virginia. During the final event, on his first round, as the sun was setting, Matthieu screamed for joy. We all joined in. Matthieu had bested Rob's record by .50 seconds for an official time of 16.90 seconds.

Record breaking performances had occurred so fast that there was no time to establish a 17 second barrier. So where is the next barrier?

During the same Hampton Tournament, just minutes after Matthieu set the current World's Record, Chet Snouffer stepped into the circle for his final round with a tri-blader of his own design. Chet had already scored 18.16 seconds in his first round which coincidentally ties Rob Parkins first record set on 22 June. Chet was happy to have lowered his best score of the year from above 25 seconds.

Being satisfied with his first round score and challenged by Matthieu's record, Chet went for it in his second round. He had to jump to catch two of his throws, but caught all five for an official time of 16.92 seconds, just .02 seconds off Matthieu's record. Since I held the center time watch that became Chet's final score, I recognize that my reaction on the stopwatch may have made the difference between Chet's setting the record or not. Try testing your own reactions by attempting to stop your stopwatch at an exact 1 second interval. How many hundredths of a second are you normally off the mark? With only .02 seconds difference between Matthieu and Chet's scores I can only wonder, who was the fastest?

Most competitors' Fast Catch scores improved this year with better equipment, practice, and ideal weather conditions. Many enjoyed making their personal best scores this year. During the same Hampton Tournament, Greg Snouffer clocked an 18.48 second round. Next year, the competition should witness more players testing the limits to determine who is the fastest.

Michigan Novice Tournament

by Norm Kern

Boomerangs etc. held its third annual novice tournament September 15. There were 21 official entrants plus several unofficial novices.

Eight of the official entrants were under age 12, and most of the youngsters ended up on Bud Pell's team again. This turned out to be a significant advantage because they typically use short-range Tantrum boomerangs (Round Trip Boomerangs, Delaware, OH). Since we give accuracy points for anything within 15 meters and these are about 14-meter boomerangs, the youngsters all placed in Accuracy. The short-range booms also help in Fast Throw (no catch required, so the most important thing is to get the boom to land close to the thrower — the Tantrums were great). The adults got their chance to shine in Doubles (one boomerang, two people) and Trick Catch (any catch on any throw, with more points for more difficulty).

The Fast Throw results were too close to call (team scores were the average of the individual scores). The difference was only .003 seconds. Based on the accuracy of our timers, it was declared a virtual tie.

Rang Relay was filled with head-to-head drama. My team jumped to an early lead by almost a full person, but then the wind started to play its part and several "blow-outs" required chasing. Bud's team regained some lost ground and got a slight advantage. Bud ensured a victory by putting two of his best relay throwers (Steve Teodecki and Robert Kleiman) out for the last two legs.

The whole tournament was

completed in three hours. The team format was very successful again. Everyone had plenty of booms to try and lots of support from their teams. Individual results were tabulated only after team events were announced. Everyone was enthusiastic about doing it again next year and put up plans for this year's Halloween throw.

Overall Finish:

1. Steve Teodecki
2. Just Plain Bud (Pell)
3. Ray Laurent
4. Jonathon Parker
4. Alida Parker
6. Dave Parker
7. Rachel Parker
8. Doc Kennely
9. Kevin Richardson
9. Norm Kern

I would be glad to supply the Novice rules to anyone who is interested.

Norm Kern
1640 Haynes
Birmingham, MI 48009


'Tis the Season for Returning

by Paul D. Sprague

A quick survey of a typical American shopping mall at the height of the 1991 Christmas shopping season revealed four models of boomerangs.

The triangular Aerobie Orbiter was the most prevalent. The Eddie Bauer store carries what it calls the Eddie Bauer Boomerang - looks pretty straightforward. Basic no-frills classic plywood Aussie wide-angled V. American Eagle carries a line of nice-looking Dean Helfer boomerangs (including one called the American Eagle). On the back of each Helfer package is a form that says "Join the USBA!" Good on yer, Dean. We need more boom manufacturers to list the USBA address in their products.

Also spotted at the mall was a new product by RANGS called the Roomerang. Roomerang is a 4-blade 10-inch marshmallowy indoor flyer with a smiling picture of the always-dashing Roger Perry on the package. The product looks more like the Turning Point indoor Zoy than it does the much larger 4-blade Zoomerang.

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BOOMERANGS, ETC.

New Products on the Horizon

by Paul D. Sprague

On the left coast, Doug DuFresne (Outback Boomerangs, 4235 S.W. Crestwood Dr., Portland, OR 97225) has released a faster, brighter version of his FC3 and a new model called the Nor'Wester.

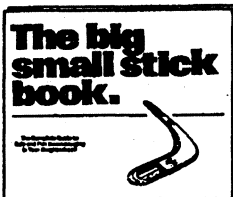
Also in Portland, Tony Gembeck (GEMZ, P.O. Box 5241, Portland, OR 97208) is building a business that makes boomwear you won't believe. Yes, boomwear — see New Booms on the Block section on page 11.

A reborn TW Smith (Rangsmith, P.O. Box 266, Sagi-naw OR 97472) is getting vigorously back to basics with the Orizon II series of "progressive, modular designs." Wider angles, more traditional-looking wooden booms that can still perform with today's best. Watch for a 100-meter unweighted wood Rangsmith model, coming soon.

Not to be outdone, New



Keith Mullinar, co-founder of the Wandering Nutmeg Boomerang Society, poses for a write-up on the new club in the Hartford Courant.



The educational material presented in this book was developed and is used as a guide to introduce the sport of recreational Boomeranging to thousands of the public at the National Park Service C. V. N. R. A. facility, Cleveland, Ohio.

Available through the National Park Service Visitors Book Store.



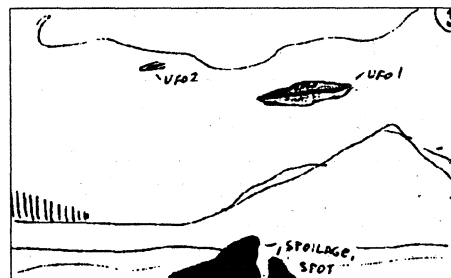
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England's Eric Darnell (Turning Point, Inc., S. Strafford, VT 05070) is bringing some new products to market for 92, including doubling pairs and limited-edition molded clear lexan booms for collectors. Also on the slate is a new variation of the triblader made for the top-down "slam catch" and some new FC & Endurance models.

Down South, Rich Harrison (Boomerang Man, 1806 N. 3rd St., RM, Monroe, LA 71201) is trying to strike a deal that would bring

Australian hardwood blanks to American boomerang makers. B-man also is rumored to have a line on some never-before-published UFO pictures from Siberia.



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POSTCARDS FROM THE EDGE

by Dean Kelley

Welcome to another edition of Postcards From The Edge!

I received word from an anonymous contributor in Redmond, Washington (do you know any dedicated throwers in Redmond? Hmmmm....) that my unassisted lip catch (see last issue of MHR) was successfully duplicated. For those of you who still haven't attempted it, success is about on par with accomplishing cold fusion in your living room!

This time the boomerang of choice was a Snouffer Mini Tantom. According to the source it took many attempts to achieve the desired effect of "sitting proudly on the living room floor with a piece of plastic that looks like an asterisk sticking out of my mouth." The contributor goes on to comment that "While this pursuit may have more merit than video games, it makes me wonder if man is the master of the beasts?" Any comments?

Up in Gunnison, Colorado the air has gotten cold and full of snow, but for an experienced cold weather thrower like Jim Mayfield that doesn't mean the end of the boomerang season! Although most of us wouldn't even consider taking our favorite booms out in the snow in 40 below zero weather I thought it would be good to hear how it's done.

"Stick with one boomerang and try not to let it get away." says Jim. This is the only way to keep

from losing your boom in the snow. If it gets away from you and lands in the snow "never take your eye off where it landed. If you don't find it right there then you need to figure out the direction the boomerang was going when it landed and hunt around in the snow for it."

If you're going to go out and throw in cold weather you better dress warmly. Boots, gaiters and waterproof pants are a must for throwing in the snow.

According to Jim, throwing while it is snowing is an especially great experience. "When the snow is falling you can always see which way the wind is blowing and make instant corrections to your throw!" Wow, what a wind indicator!

Jim still likes to take his boomerangs to the upper edge of the atmosphere! This summer he mountain biked up to Pearl Pass, over 13,000 feet above sea level. You have to compensate for the thin air at these sort of altitudes. "At high altitude you have to throw harder and your boomerangs won't get as much hover." Also, because of tricky wind currents in these Alpine reaches you have to learn to read the land. "The first throw is always real iffy." Just let it loose and see if the wind gods are kind I guess!

Let the rest of the world know how you are personally taking boomerangs to the edge. It may be

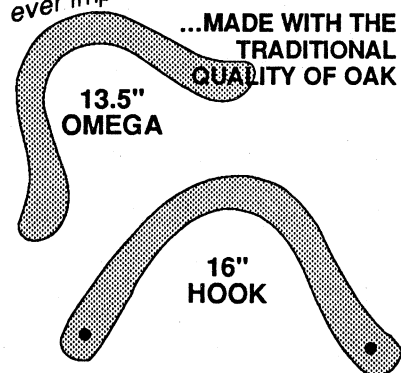
in design, throwing technique, trick catches, or what have you! Which edge is not important! Send your postcards from the edge to:

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★ President's Column ★

Boomerang throwing is growing thanks to each of you who takes the time to be friendly and helpful to those who see you throwing and are interested. While the good press the competitors generate is important, it can't beat making a good impression, and placing a beginner boomerang and literature into the hands of those you encounter.

Boomerang throwing is also well into its transition from an eclectic hobby into a real sport.

The progress made in the competitive arena with standardized rules, safety procedures and

the fledgling World Boomerang Association (WBA) attests to that. That progress doesn't mean that camaraderie and occasional media exhibitions such as that which occurred in New York aren't alive and well.

These things continue to be essential parts of what the USBA is all about. We are also about fostering craftsmanship, sportsmanship, and throwing for the pure joy of it!

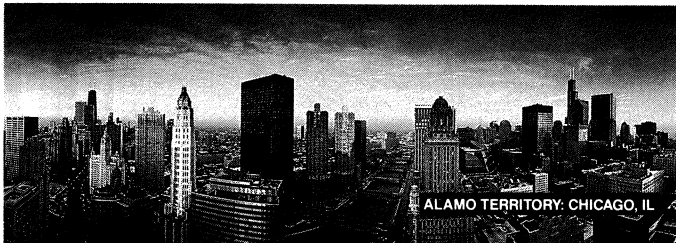
We will continue to be active in the competitive arena, and internationally as the WBA defines itself with its responsibilities and

duties, and relationships to the various countries' own organizations.

We must also work through the second Annual Toss Across America on May 16, 1992, the USBA Rob Kunkel Memorial Sportsmanship Award I have proposed, our own attitudes and actions toward others, art and poetry to advance the heart and soul of our sport as well.



Betsylew Miale-Gix,
USBA President



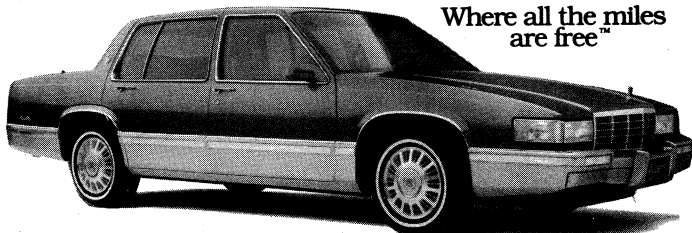
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USBA Information

The USBA provides services in addition to 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. Mail all checks or money orders to the address below:

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Delaware, Ohio 43015
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Last Issue: #49, Winter 1992
Dale W. Riendeau
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