

Many Happy Returns

Issue Number 51

An International Publication of the United States Boomerang Association

Summer 1992

South Australian Museum Exhibit



Adelaide: 27 February - 19 July 1992

Welcome to Issue #51

As mentioned in MHR #50, there is a change in the production of MHR with this issue. **Ted Bailey** will replace **Paul Sprague** as editor. **Rob Parkins** will function as USBA competition editor. As a reminder, the following changes will go into effect immediately:

Submission Deadline

The deadline for submission of all MHR materials is: September 1 for the Fall issue and in 3 month increments thereafter. It is our intent to reduce the elapsed time between this deadline and when each issue reaches your mail box. Submission of materials by this deadline does not guarantee inclusion. A priority system will be influenced by the date that items are received. If you wait until the last minute, your coverage may be minimal or absent. Please submit your materials as soon as possible.

USBA Tournament Results

USBA post-tournament results and dialogue should be sent directly to **Rob Parkins** as soon as a competition is completed. Note: you must still submit tournament results to the proper USBA channels to insure the results are entered into the rating system. You may contact Rob by calling (203)-268-1975 or by writing to:

Rob Parkins
476 Moose Hill Rd.
Monroe, Ct. 06468

Calendar Events

Calendar events should be mailed directly to **Ted Bailey**. This should include dates for all tournaments and other related boomerang activities or sales, especially if registration deadlines are important. Submission of tournament dates to MHR does not release you of your obligations to notify USBA headquarters in advance of your tournament date.

Send this information as soon as possible as the editor will include calendar information in non-MHR mailings to help get the word out.

Advertisements

Paul Sprague spoiled everybody with his ability to construct top rated advertisement art from scratch. The new editor does not have Paul's artistic talents. Please submit camera ready art if at all possible. If you have no artistic ability either, the editor will do his best to come up with something, but no promises as to quality of the art. Advertisement rates are as follows: \$10/column inch; \$80 for one column; \$115 for 1/2 page; \$150 for 2 columns; \$200 for a full page. The editor is negotiating with USBA for a restructuring of rates in future issues. Please make all checks out to USBA and mail to **Ted Bailey** at the address that follows.

Submission of Articles

All articles not directly related to USBA tournament coverage should be mailed to **Ted Bailey**. The editor is dedicated to packing MHR with quality articles on history, high technology and the science of boomeranging as was done in *The Boomerang Journal* publication. Submissions on these topics will be accepted at the highest priority level.

Tidbits is a column that will be continued from *The Boomerang Journal* with news from the USA and all over the world. This is the reader's best avenue for letting the boomerang world know what is happening in your neighborhood. The editor is interested in receiving information on new boomerang publications, videos, news stories, and human interest events such as the accomplishment of special non-tournament feats. Did you lose your MTA to the Jet-Stream God? Did you do the elusive Super Catch? Did you juggle 1000? Let MHR know of anything you're proud of having done.

Newsletter Exchange

The editor is committed to keeping MHR readers informed of worldwide boomerang events. One of the main avenues for doing this is through a newsletter exchange program. All international clubs are invited to swap a copy of their publication with the editor. Every club who has previously participated in this program with the editor through *The Boomerang Journal* or *MHR* has been sent a copy of this newsletter to initiate the exchange program. The return of one of your newsletters will keep you on the exchange list.

Promotion of New Products

The editor is especially interested in promoting new boomerang products and boomerang related publications. If you have a new product and wish to submit a sample for a fair critique and free newsletter coverage, send a sample to the editor in advance of the deadline to insure adequate time for proper assessment and the construction of graphics for publication. All submitted materials will become part of the editors extensive collection of boomerang materials, available for review by any member in good standing with an appropriate notice of an intention to visit is given.

Calendar events, Advertisements, major articles, materials for the tidbits column, newsletter exchanges and new product submissions should be sent directly to:

Ted Bailey
P. O. Box 6076
Ann Arbor, Mi. 48106-6076

All submitted materials will be subject to full editing by either **Ted Bailey** or **Rob Parkins**. No materials will be accepted with profane language. Materials will not be accepted if they promote dangerous products or reference individuals who have displayed unethical behavior in the sport.

by Betsylew Miale-Gix

I would like to begin by presenting an update on decisions that have been reached by the Board on your behalf. First of all, there will be a 1992 USBA Sportsmanship Award that will salute the individual who best expresses the grace under pressure, helpfulness, cheerfulness, and those other qualities that make up the thrower we all most like to be on tournament days. I would appreciate hearing from anyone who would like the honor of manufacturing the first annual USBA Sportsmanship Award boomerang which will be awarded following the conclusion of the throwing season. Also, all tournament directors need to keep their eyes and ears open, so that they can submit a list of three throwers who best exemplified good sportsmanship during their tournaments to me. These individuals will make up the field from which the winner will be selected.

Next, the USBA has obtained insurance coverage for all USBA events available to both tournament directors and toss hosts. The premium for that coverage is \$52.50. The policy provides \$1,000,000 of liability coverage, and \$500,000 in participant legal liability coverage. Please make your request for coverage to me at least two weeks in advance of your tournament, and include the name of the entity which controls the site, as well as a check made payable to the USBA in the amount of \$52.50. Please be aware that events like the Team Gel Team Tournament Days are not covered by this policy, as they are not run with standardized USBA rules and procedures.

This year will debut our exciting new three-day national championship format. The U. S. Open will be a two-day event open to all throwers, in essence the traditional Nationals. The individual event National Champions for 1992, will be determined at the U. S. Open. Then, on Sunday, August 9, the top 12 overall finishers will compete in the U. S. National Championship Tournament that will determine the overall U. S. National Champion. No individual event

awards will be given on the championship day, and the scores of those participants will not be included in the ratings. The event is boomerang's equivalent of the Olympic Decathlon, where the performance in the individual events will go towards determining the overall order of finish.

This format enables us to have the benefit of the Open, where all who wish to compete may do so and achieve recognition for their skills in the individual events, even if their throwing is not consistently high enough to allow them to finish in the top twelve overall. We will also have a true championship contest with the entrants picked through a qualifying competition. The precedent for having the actual overall champion selected following qualifying competition exists in almost all other sports. Several people outside the Board of Directors have expressed enthusiasm for this format.

All of us compete in an open format all year at every other tournament. I would hope we have enough enthusiasm and respect for those who do the hard work necessary to hone their skills enough to finish in the top 12, not to begrudge them this one limited tournament. It will be a big day for all of us: a goal to spur us on to greater achievement, as well as a shorter, more media and spectator friendly event that will promote our sport and promote wider participation.

On the event rules front, I believe we should consider a 1 year moratorium on additional event rules changes. This would allow us to assess the impact of the 1991-2 rules changes through two full throwing seasons. We would also be able to consider all new proposals fully, and have the stability in our own rules necessary to work with other countries towards an international rules format.

Just because we are truly becoming a real sport with standardized rules does not mean that we can't still have fun. Standardized rules make one able to go to a tournament anywhere in the country and know what is expected in order to achieve whatever success one's athleticism, amount of

practice, and equipment makes possible. Understandably, standardized rules are the foundation for any sport. Baseball, e.g., has had the same basic rules format since the early 1900s, yet it is still a heck of a lot of fun to play baseball! Before, after, and between tournaments we can still be as creative and funtagious in our throwing as we want.

Increasing the difficulty factor in two of the eight events will help all of us become better throwers. As you will recall, when the foot catch was originally introduced, there were only a handful of people across the country who could consistently perform that feat. Now most of us can make a foot catch, well, at least some of the time anyway. While any change takes some getting used to, and any new skill takes practice, anyone with the desire and the persistence can achieve success.

Finally, sentiment has been expressed that we need to do something for the beginner and intermediate throwers in tournaments. I believe we need to do this by giving more respect and appreciation in the format to those throwers. One way to do this would be to eliminate the current novice/expert system. At this time, that system just isn't working very well, as many tournaments don't run the novice events, and one realistically cannot be expected to spring from the beginner or intermediate status to an ability to compete with anyone after just one tournament as our current rules require. Perhaps we could move to a two-tier system that would have an open or unlimited class for the most highly competitive throwers, and an intermediate or limited class for the beginner and intermediate throwers. All would throw together and follow the same rules for the events. No one would be forced to move up into the open/unlimited class until they had won a tournament in the limited/intermediate class. This would smooth the transition into competition, while these throwers' skills were developing and allow them to achieve more success sooner.

I appreciate that there are all types of possible other ideas out there, and that these changes would have other impacts as well. If there really is interest in something like this, let the discussion begin.

USA Tournament Info

Team Thuba will host a tournament on June 20 in Ft. Wayne, In. For more information, call **Sean Marquardt** at (219)-486-0503 or write to the following address:

Sean Marquardt
5415 Old Dover Blvd. #5
Ft. Wayne, In. 46835

The Webtown Classic will take place on June 20. For more information, call **Mike LaPrade** at (413)-527-7457 or write to:

Mike LaPrade
21 Berkley St.
Easthampton, Ma. 01027

The 9th Annual Team Gel Team Events will be held in Oakland, California on June 27/28. For more information, contact **Michael Girvin** directly by calling (510)-658-2469 or by writing to:

Michael Girvin
2124 Kittredge St. #61
Berkeley, Ca. 94704

An *East Coast Team Gel Tournament* is also scheduled on June 27/28. For more information, call **Moleman** at (203)-924-6735 or write to:

Moleman
21 Huntington Ave,
Shelton, Ct. 06484

A two day *USBA/Team Gel* tournament is scheduled for 11/12 July in Elkton, Maryland. For more information, contact **Suzanne Lentz** at (312)-988-3962 or write to the following address:

Suzanne Lentz
200 E. Chestnut Apt. #811
Chicago, Il. 60611

John Flynn will host a tournament in Meriden, N.H. on July 18.

For more information, call John at (802)-296-2158 or write to:

John Flynn
52 Christian St.
White River Jnct., Vt. 05001

The *5th Annual Western Roundup* is scheduled for July 26 in Salem, Oregon. For more information, call **Dean Kelly** at (503)-581-8050 or write to:

Dean A. R. Kelly
3350 Neef Ave., S.E.
Salem, Or. 97302

A tournament will be held in the high desert of Arizona on 1/2 August. Throwers will surely be impressed with the high (6900') altitude summer weather at this new semi-exotic location. For more information, call **Ted Jelsema** at (602)-774-2658 or write to:

Ted Jelsema
13 1/2 East Dupont
Flagstaff, Az. 86001

A tournament is scheduled for August 1 in Holliston, Ma. For more information, contact **Bob Quinn** at (508)-429-6871 or write to the following address:

Bob Quinn
18 Northway St.
Holliston, Ma. 01746

The annual *Free Throwers Tournament* will be held on 1 August in Delaware, Ohio. For more information, call **Chet & Carmen Snouffer** at (614)-363-8332 or write to the following address:

Chet Snouffer
51 Troy Rd.
Delaware, Oh. 43015

A tournament will be held at the *Cuyahoga Valley N.R.A.* near

Cleveland, Oh. on 2 August. For more information, call **David Boehm** at (216)-289-6324 or write to the following address:

David Boehm
P.O. Box 17385
Euclid, Oh. 44117

Larry Ruhf will host the *USBA Open/Nationals* in Amherst, Ma. over the 7-9 August weekend. For more info, call Larry directly at (413)-323-4340 or write to:

Larry Ruhf
31 Jackson Rd.
Belchertown, Ma. 01007

The Potomac Open is scheduled on 15 August. Call **John Koehler** at: (301)-349-5132 or write to:

John Koehler
17121 Spates Hill Rd.
Pooleville, Md. 20837-2166

An amateur tournament is scheduled at 2 PM on 13 September at the Bryant School in Livonia, Michigan. For more info on this annual event, call **Norm Kern** at: 313-645-9308 or write to:

Norm Kern
1640 Haynes
Birmingham, Mi. 48009-1605

The Second Annual Mighty Wilamette Tournament is scheduled for 13 September. For more information, contact **T.W. Smith** at (503)-942-4372 or write to:

T. W. Smith
P. O. Box 266
Saginaw, Or. 97472-0286

The Summer's Final Fling will be held in Portland, Oregon on 19 September. For more information, call **Doug DuFresne** at (503)-292-4316 or write to:

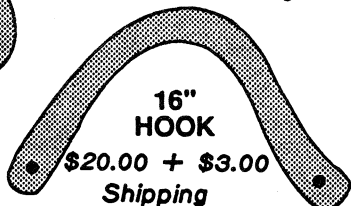
Doug DuFresne
4235 S. W. Crestwood Dr.
Portland, Or. 97225

The 8th Annual Hampton Tournament is scheduled for October 10. For more info, contact Dennis Joyce at (804)-874-3536 or write to the following address:

Dennis Joyce
392 Mohea Circle
Newport News, Va. 23602

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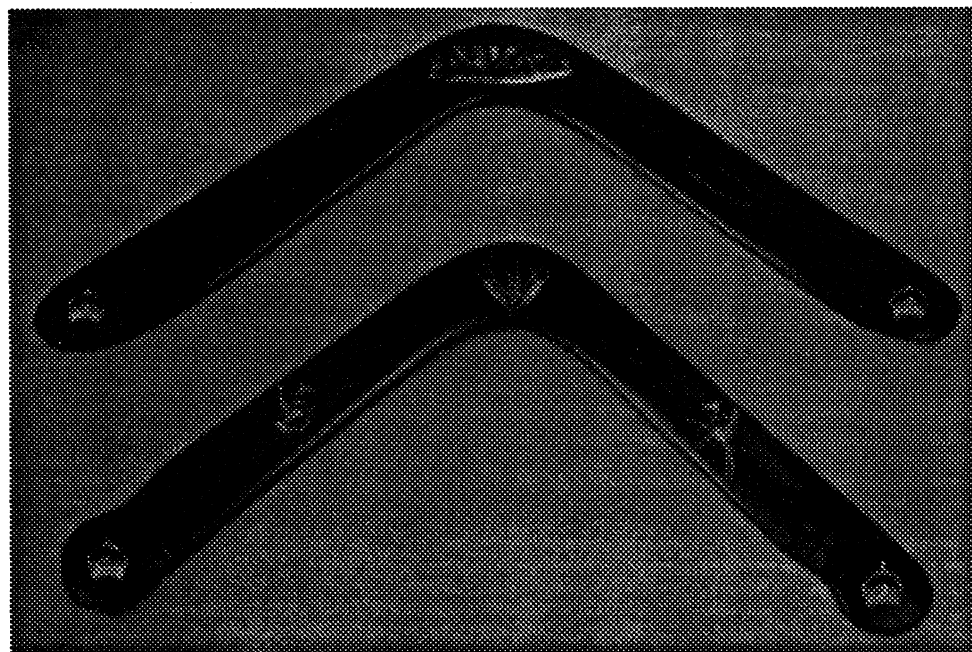
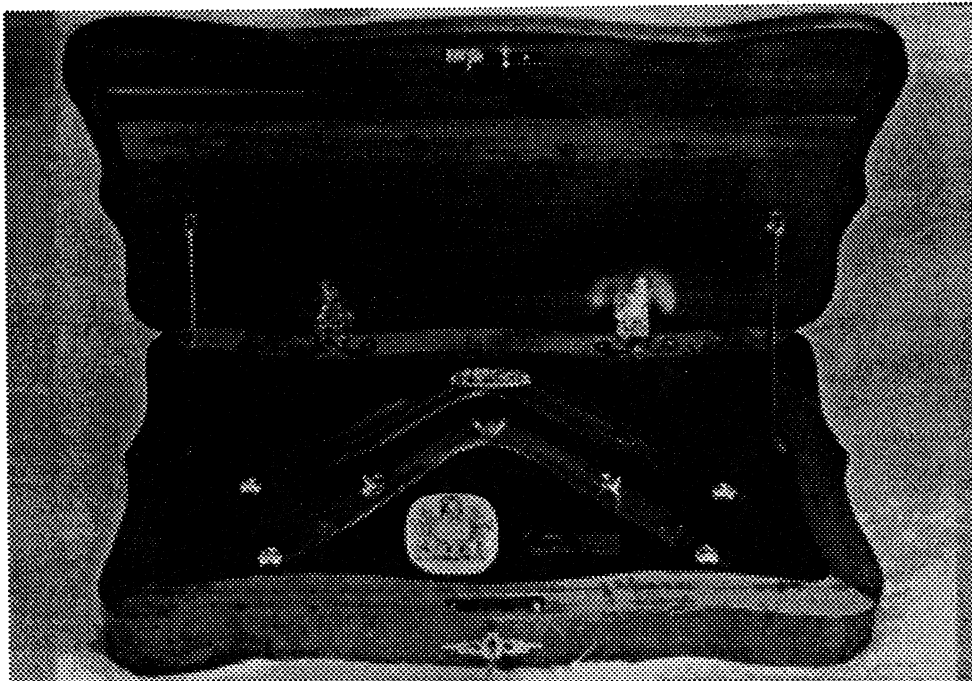
Receive info on '93 World Championships and the Canadian Boomerang Association FREE just for writing.

Incredible Boomerang Raffle

There will be a raffle of a rare and beautiful boomerang made by John Cryderman and valued at over USD 2,500. The boomerang to be auctioned is kin to the pair of *Royal Boomerangs* recently presented to Prince Charles, illustrated below. It is made out of rare woods with gold & silver inlay and housed in a solid walnut case. This is a once in a lifetime

opportunity to get such a boom.

The USBA is offering raffle tickets to USBA members at a price of \$2.55 for one ticket or \$4.25 for three tickets. Please include 29¢ for postage with your order. All proceeds will benefit the 1993 World Championships. Send your check or money order directly to: USBA; P. O. Box 182; Delaware, Oh. 43015.



1993 World Championships

The 1993 World Boomerang Championships are scheduled to take place in Chatham, Ontario, Canada on 19-25 April 1993. Two indoor facilities with a total area of 30,000 ft² will supplement four major outdoor throwing areas with 15 acres of prime grass fields. An 11 acre field groomed for the *Long Distance* event; two circular fields for *Aussie Round*, *Accuracy*, etc.; and a large soccer field for *Juggling*, etc. will be available for the competition.

Canadian Federal Sponsorship

There is an excellent chance that the Canadian government will fund a significant percentage of all competitor costs for travel & lodging. It is extremely important that all international clubs put together resumes of potential team members, including alternates, and send them to John Cryderman immediately so that a proposal can be submitted to the federal government for sponsorship. In most cases, the team selection for the 1993 World Cup will be based upon individual placing during the 1992 competition season. Therefore, submitted resumes will not guarantee travel expenses for individuals who submitted resumes and are not selected for the 1993 team. Submitted resumes will serve, however, as an estimate to the total funding requirements, and to make an impression on the Canadian government. Please don't put this off. If funding does become available, only those teams which have submitted resumes will receive a subsidy for their expenses. Resumes should include standard personal data (name, age, sex, height, etc.) as well as a summary of achievements (world records, championship titles, office holding in clubs, etc.). If possible, please submit the resumes in English.

The World of Wood Exhibit

The World Championships will be held in conjunction with *The World of Wood Exhibit*. A total of 14,000 ft² of floor space will be dedicated to wood working for both hobby & business. Here is a great opportunity to learn about wood bending & laminating techniques. A large selection of exotic woods will be available for sale.

World Craftsmanship Awards

Boomerang Craftsmen will have the opportunity to exhibit their finest works of art at the *World Craftsmanship Awards*, with awards being offered for first through fifth place. Significant worldwide press coverage will give winning boomerangs high visibility. The top 5 craftsmen will have the option of selling their winning entries in a high profile area. A small entry fee (\$3) will be required with an application form that must be submitted to John Cryderman in advance. Read more about details in a future issue of MHR. Craftsmen should start on their special entry items now as competition is expected to be fierce.

Name the Kangaroo

Efforts are underway to import a Mountain Kangaroo as a mascot to the Championships. Youngsters (ages 4 to 14) are eligible to enter a *Name the Kangaroo* contest. A \$3 registration and entry fee is required. The winner will receive a \$200 cash prize, a television/radio appearance and extensive newspaper coverage. Proceeds exceeding \$200 will go towards sponsorship.

Auction of Exquisite Boomerang

John Cryderman is currently making a special boomerang for a fund raising raffle. The boomerang will be made out of special exotic woods and inlaid with gold and silver. A solid walnut case will house the special boomerang. The value of the finished project will be approximately \$2,500. An an-

nouncement with instructions for purchasing raffle tickets (\$5 each or 3/\$12) will follow in a future issue of MHR.

Strip Laminated Gerhards Blanks

John Cryderman has produced several Gerhards shape strip-laminated blanks. All are made out of dense Oak or Maple. The editor sampled a few Oak booms and found that they produced extremely long distance (60-90 meter) flights without the addition of lead weights. A single omega blank cost \$10. Quantities of 2-5 are \$9 each; 6-10 are \$8 each. A single standard hook blank costs \$15. Quantities of 2-5 are \$13 each; 6-10 are \$12 each. A single large hook blank cost \$20. Quantities of 2-5 are \$18 each; 6-10 are \$17 each. Parcel Post shipping charges are \$3 per single blank; \$6.50 for up to 5; \$10 for up to 10. Overseas Airmail charges are \$10 for one blank; \$20 for up to 5; \$28 for up to 10.

Walnut Blanks

A quantity of solid Canadian Walnut (standard shape) natural elbow blanks with a thickness of 3/8", a chord of 3" and a tip-to-tip span of 22" to 26" are also being offered for sale to raise funds for the 1993 World Championships. Prices are \$20 (+\$4 P&H) for pieces with minor checking; \$30 (+\$4 P&H) for flawless blanks; \$75 (P&H included) for finished models with inlaid tips of exotic woods.

General Instructions

All \$\$\$ are in Canadian currency. Canadians must include 7% GST and 8% Provincial Sales Tax. If you have questions, you can call John at: (519)-354-3984. You can order items by sending a check or money order to:

John Cryderman
136 Thames St.
Chatham, Ontario N7L 2Y8
Canada

Wood Sources Revisited

The editor recently conducted a survey of plywood prices for this summer's manufacturing activities.

B & F Aircraft Supply, Inc. has Mahogany Aircraft Plywood, made to MIL-P-6070 specs with 5-ply thicknesses of 3/16" and 1/4". This wood has African Mahogany exterior plies and Poplar interior plies. The wood is very stiff, light, and attractive. The only problem is that some people are sensitive to African Mahogany dust. Full 4' X 8' sheets cost \$196.48 and \$246.00 respectively. If you are not sensitive to African Mahogany, this wood is highly recommended for specialty boomerangs such as MTA and Fast Catch. Partial sheets are also available. Marine Plywood is also available in 5-ply 1/4" for \$17.84 for a 2' X 4' sheet and proportionately more for larger sheets up to 4' X 8'. Quality Finnish Birch plywood is available in 5 ply minimum in thicknesses of 2.5 mm, 3 mm, 5 mm & 6 mm. Prices for 2' X 4' sheets are \$26.88, \$29.47, \$39.48 & \$45.90 respectively. Shipping charges are additional. For more information on B & F wood products, call James Hutchinson (outside Illinois) at 1-800-345-2558 or write to the following address:

B & F Aircraft Supply, Inc.
9524 W. Gulfstream Rd.
Frankfort, Il. 60423

Anderson International Trading is an old favorite plywood source for many of the readers, especially those on the West Coast. Finland Birch plywood-true decimal thickness 1/4" 5-ply wood with exterior waterproof glue is available in 60" X 60" sheets for \$32. Premium Ultra Thin Aircraft Finland Birch plywood is available in 3 mm 5-ply, 4mm 5-ply, 5mm 10 ply and 6mm 12 ply with full

sheets measuring 61" X 61" at \$51.16, \$63.28, \$63.28 and \$77.26 respectively. All panels will ship by UPS when cut in half or thirds. Specify direction of cut, please. A \$10 charge is added for orders under \$200. UPS charges will be approximately \$7 to \$12 for each order. For more information, call Eric Anderson at (714)-771-6270 or write to the following address:

Anderson International
1011 West Barkley Ave.
Orange, Ca. 92668

Alpha Aviation Supply Co. is one of the best suppliers for folks in the southern states. Aircraft Metric Finnish Birch manufactured to German GL-II specs and with a minimum of 5 ply and 2' X 4' or 4' X 4' panels is available in thicknesses of 2 mm, 2.5 mm, 3 mm, 5 mm & 6mm. Panels measuring 4' X 4' cost \$27.50, 30.35, \$36.20, \$44.75 & \$57.45 respectively. The supplier will accept VISA & M/C as well as check, money order or C.O.D. You can order by calling (800)-752-0890 outside of Texas or (903)-527-3817 in Texas or by writing to:

Alpha Aviation Supply Co.
P. O. Box 8641
Greenville, Tx. 75401

Wick's Aircraft Supply is located just over the river from St. Louis, Mo. Aircraft Grade Metric Birch 5-ply Finish Grade GL-11 plywood in thicknesses of 2mm, 2.5 mm, 3 mm, 4 mm, 5 mm, 6 mm is available in 2' X 4' or 4' X 4' sheets. Pricing for the 4' X 4' sheets are \$25.40, \$29.40, \$34.65, \$40.00, \$46.95, \$54.40 respectively. There is a 10% discount for 5 sheets of the same thickness. A crating fee of \$3.00 is added for each order. Mahogany Aircraft Grade Plywood in 5-ply and with thicknesses of 3/16" and 1/4" are available in 2' X 4', 4' X 4' & 4' X

8' sheets. The 2' X 4' sheets cost \$51.32 and \$69.05 respectively. American Mil-P-6070B Aircraft Grade Birch 5 ply sheets with Poplar wood cores are available in 4' X 8' or fractional sheets. A 2' X 4' sheet costs \$50.59. This wood is very light and stiff, making it ideal for Fast Catch construction. It is a good alternative to the Mahogany plywood if you are allergic to Mahogany wood dust. There is a \$5 crating charge for 2' X 4' sheets and a \$10 crating fee for 4' X 4' sheets on the American Aircraft plywood. *Wick's Aircraft Supply* has a large catalog of other aircraft supply products, including wood glues, foams, epoxy laminating materials, surface finishing coatings, and West System Products. There is a small charge for their catalog. Order one when you order your wood supplies. For more information on *Wicks Aircraft Products*, call (800)-221-9425 (outside Illinois) or (618)-654-7447 (in Illinois) or write to the following address:

Wicks Aircraft Supply Co.
410 Pine St.
P. O. Box 129
Highland, Il. 62249

The prices specified above are approximate as of April 1992. Prices change regularly. Call before you order to clarify pricing. Products often come with more plies than those specified. A general guideline is 2 ply per 1 mm thickness.

The four wood sources listed above have high recommendations for quality & service. There are many other plywood sources within the U.S.A. For a more complete listing, send \$1 to USBA at the address below and ask for the wood products listing.

USBA
P. O. Box 182
Delaware, Ohio 43015

BITS & PIECES

News From The USA

Now that it is summer, many of the readers will be making their own booms. An article on recommended wood sources can be found on the previous page. A recently identified additional source carries both Mahogany and Birch Aircraft Plywood in 5 ply. WAG-Aero has a special price on 4 mm 5-ply Finnish Birch. The cost is only \$14.95 for a 4' X 4' sheet. Shipping is extra. You can order using M/C or VISA by calling (414)-763-9586 or by writing to:

WAG-AERO, Inc.
P. O. Box 181
Lyons, Wi. 53148

Norm Kern sent MHR a copy of the March 12 edition of *The Observer Newsletter*. An excellent full page article, complete with multiple photos, introduced readers to local Detroit area throwers, the history of the sport and to competition events. The Detroit area throwers were also featured on the Channel 2 Evening News on the late evening news of 21 April.

Sam Bailey, age 11, went to the Lavonia, Michigan boomerang throw on 5 April and threw a Mini-MTA which traversed the entire length of the Bryant School field. The MTA landed in a fenced back yard with a large nasty dog. The

timer, which started approximately 30 seconds into the flight, was stopped at 2 minutes and 10 seconds. The prized boomerang was retrieved with considerable difficulty by using a big stick, strategically located in the field just outside of the fence.

Jay Emerson printed issue #7 of *The Boomerang Journal* and became addicted to the sport without ever having thrown a boomerang. He had a flight of 1 minute, 45 seconds and another flight exceeding 3 minutes using a Midi-MTA with a beautifully painted upper surface by Aussie: **John Gibney Sr.**

Gregg Snouffer sent in a copy of the March 1992 edition of *Outside* magazine, with an excellent article titled "The Big Boom" by **Randy White**. The article focused on the contemporary movement with great press for the USBA. More than 300 inquiries were received. The editor was disappointed with one feature, however. The only illustration was a cartoon of a boomerang cutting off someone's head. We can only hope that future magazine articles depict a more positive outlook on our sport.

The Leading Edge subscribers were given advanced notice so they could pick up a copy. The rest of you can order a back issue for \$4 by calling 1-800-678-1131 or by sending payment to:

Outside Magazine
P. O. Box 5729
Boulder, Co. 80322-4729



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The editor tuned in to ESPN on St. Patrick's Day (per *The Leading Edge*) and watched an excellent 13 minute piece on the 1991 USBA Nationals. This well done video documentary is more than enough to attract public interested in boomeranging as a sport. Certain information, such as "boomerangs were invented in Australia" and "competition initiated in the 1970s" should have been corrected by whomever was interfacing with the *Amazing Games* personnel. Competition in America started in the early 1900s with the popular lawn game: *Brist*. Competition in Australia was well established in the 1960s, and most likely earlier. The Aussies will even agree that Aborigines were not necessarily the first to throw curved sticks at the sky.

Flash!!! *The Boomerang Man* has a batch of 30-40 highly collectable boomerangs for set price & auction sale. These include original premium boomerangs by Gerhards, Flynn, Veit, Snouffer, Hawes, Bailey, Whittington and others. For more info on this, contact the B'Man immediately at the address to the bottom left.

A new publication titled *Exotic Weapons; An Access Book* is now available at a price of \$19.95 + \$4 P&H. Boomerangs are mentioned alongside with blow guns and battle axes. A substantial discount is offered on wholesale quantities. For more information, you can write directly to:



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**Exotic Weapons
Loomponics Unlimited
P.O. Box 1197
Port Townsend, Wa. 98368**

Tony Gembeck sent MHR an article out of: "Fine Woodworking on Bending Wood", Tandem Books: ISBN 0-918804-29-9. Bill Keenan wrote an article titled "Bending with Ammonia". The article describes a process for plasticizing wood to make it as pliable as leather. The process is probably too complex for the typical hobbyist, but if you have the resources and the time, you can tie thick wood strips into knots without breaking them. Have you seen Tony's product line? He has a large selection of booms and boom clothing. For more information, call Tony at (503)-230-8955 or write to the following address:

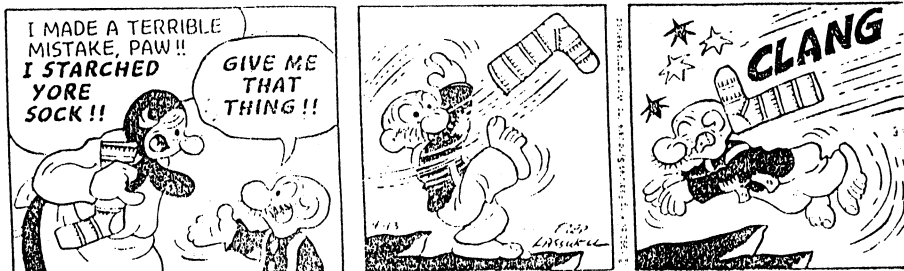
**GEMZ
P. O. Box 5241
Portland, Or. 97208-5241**

Michael Girvin taught a 2 1/2 week class on boomerangs at the *Maybeck High School* in Berkeley, California this past April. What an excellent idea to get the youth of America interested in our sport. Michael has expanded his product line with the introduction of Gel Boom Stickers, Baseball Hats, Bumper Stickers, and several new Tri-blader products. For more information on his product line, call 510-658-2469 or write to:

**Gel Boomerangs
2124 Kittredge St. Box #61
Berkeley, Ca. 94704**

Many of the readers wrote in to report that *Nerf* has re-issued a modification to its famous tri-blader. Norm Kern brought one of these to a regional Michigan throw. My advice to the readers is to take your business elsewhere. *Nerf* made a giant step backwards

SNUFFY SMITH by Fred Lasswell



by adding bat-wing webbing to the trailing edges. It is difficult to get any kind of return on it at all. The new Nerf-rang proves that not all tri-bladers are easier to throw than two bladers.

Tricks of the Trade is a new book about how to do things correctly. Jerry Dunn compiled multiple essays written by leading experts in various fields. An excellent section on throwing and catching boomerangs was contributed by Doug DuFresne. Look for this publication in fine bookstores everywhere. If your bookstore does not carry it, have them order it from *Houghton Mifflin*.

Another poor flyer was found in a box of *Strawberry Fruit Roll-ups* by Tom Fitzgerald. This tri-blader looks suspiciously like the toy packed in the *Captain Crunch* cereal box, but it is larger and a bit heavier. *Betty Crocker* is a little more honest about their promotion. They refer to the *Rolupo Flyer* as "like a boomerang" and admit that it needs to be thrown at

a steep angle in order to obtain a return. It does exhibit a tendency to precess when dihedral is added.

H. L. Mayhew writes to tell us that he is stocking a rather strange 5 bladed plastic boomerang called the *Bee-Bak*. The boomerang must be thrown upside down. It flips over right side up at its maximum range and hovers straight back to the thrower. This odd object doesn't return by classical precession as defined by USBA rules so be careful about using it in a tournament. For more information, refer to MHR #39; P. 11. To order a price listing from H. L. Mayhew of this and other fine products, write to:

**Come Back Press
P. O. Box 30547
Columbus, Oh. 43230**

News From Australia

Brother Brian Thomas writes to let us know that the *New South Wales Boomerang Club* is back in business with Brian being elected as President at the annual meeting. The first *Central Coast Championships* were held on 5 April with 17 throwers competing from as far away as 1,000 km. The day before the tournament, a large group of throwers were kicked out of Centennial Park in Sydney for throwing dangerous weapons. In competition, Bob Burwell had a flight of 1 minute in MTA unlimited. The MTA hit a tree 180 metres away. The ground was wet and the weather not perfect, but respectable times were recorded.

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TRICKS

★ HOW TO DO A PRATFALL DOLBY BY CHEVY CHASE.
TALK WITH A ♀ TEENAGER BY ERMA BOMBICK.
COOK THE PERFECT EGG ☉ BY JULIA CHILD.

OF THE

HOW TO TIE A 🏹 BOW TIE BY GENE SHALIT.
SECRETS OF A FIVE ***** STAR ✨ WRITER.
ICE 🛷 SKATE BACKWARDS BY TAI GABILONIA.

TRADE

HOW TO PUNCTUATE 📄 BY RUSSELL 📄 BAKER.

EDITED BY JERRY DUNN

Brian says that **Arthur Janetzki** had his 88th birthday on May 6. Arthur is still going strong and makes a wonderful small omega called the *Red Baron* for his personal competition use.

Ben Ruhe made headlines in the 27 February edition of *The Australian*. Ben traveled Down Under to attend the opening of an exhibit at the *South Australian Museum* in Adelaide. The exhibition, which runs from 27 February until 19 July, features over 700 boomerangs and related artifacts from the museum's 3,300 piece collection. Pictured below is **Ben Ruhe** with **Dr. Lester Russell** (Museum Director) as they throw four blades over the heads of hundreds of spectators. The museum is selling a full size color booklet, written by C. Anderson & P. Jones and titled "Boomerang" to complement the museum exhibition. The booklet retails for \$5.95 and is available at a 35% wholesale quantity discount. Beautiful post-cards, depicting Aboriginal boomerangs are also available at \$1 each. These are available in wholesale quantities for 50¢ each. A postal fee is required for each

order. For more information on ordering, call Ms. **Lyn Schubert** at (08) 207 7370 or write to:

**South Australia Museum Shop
North Terrace; Adelaide
South Australia 5000
Australia**

Ben returned from his trip with a copy of the February 1992 edition of *The Adelaide Review* which featured a well written and candid history of the boomerang as a throwing device.

Roger Perry is offering two boomerang videos to interested parties. Both were produced by **Djamel Tahi** in 1991. The first video, titled "Boomerang", introduces **Roger Perry** as a manufacturer and thrower from Perth. Also included is an interview and throwing session with **Sam Blight**. The Blight interview demonstrates how he uses computer aided engineering (CAE) software to design boomerang products. The second video, titled "Boomerang Dream", features **Roger Perry** in both daytime and nighttime throwing in France (The

video is in English with French subtitles). The night shots, with the Eiffel Tower lit up in the background is beautiful footage. The two videos total approximately 20 minutes in length. Interested overseas parties can write directly to Roger at the following address to obtain information on how to order a copy in a specific video format.

**Roger Perry
155 Fremantle Road
Gosnells; Perth 6110
West Australia
Australia**

Interested parties in the USA or Canada can obtain a copy of Roger's video from the editor at a cost of \$25 (USA). The price includes postage, conversion from the PAL system, and associated royalties. To order, send payment directly to:

**Ted Bailey
P. O. Box 6076
Ann Arbor, Mi. 48106**

News From Belgium

The *Belgian Boomerang Cup* is tentatively scheduled for the weekend of 12/13 Sept. in the small Belgian port of Nieuwpoort. The competition is scheduled for the weekend following the World Championships. As a minimum, individual events will be contested. The possibility of team events is likely if time & weather permits. Accommodations are inexpensive. For more information on this great boomerang weekend, write to the following address:

**Herbert Foulon
Heiveldstraat 123
9040 Gent
Belgium**



Ben Ruhe & Dr. Lester Russell at the South Australia Museum

News From Brazil

Leziro Silva sent MHR a sample of a new boomerang product by Carlos Alberto Zugno, a young mechanical engineer from the town of Caxias du Sul. For product information on these boomerangs made from tropical hardwood timbers, write directly to Leziro at the address that follows:

Leziro M. Silva
Caixa Postal 276
13300 Itu, SP
Brasil

News From Bulgaria

The boomerang community welcomes yet another new club to the sport. This time, it is from Sofia, Bulgaria. Georgi Dimanchev is an Aeronautical Engineer who has been making boomerangs for more than 20 years. He has authored two papers on the subject of boomerangs and recently started a *Bulgarian Boomerang Club*. Interested parties can contact Georgi by calling (02) 58 16 70 or by writing to:

Georgi Dimanchev
Hipodruma 139A-a-23
1612 Sofia
Bulgaria

News From Canada

Congratulations to Chris Tat of Toronto who sacrificed his first MTA boomerang to the Jet Stream God. He was using a Maxi-MTA that he obtained in a trade with John Cryderman.

John Cryderman announces the formation of a new organization: *The Boomerang Association of Canada*. MHR looks forward to supporting this new organization with plans to hold the 1993 World Boomerang Championships. John Cryderman continues his drive for promoting the 1993 WBC with front page coverage in the 12 February issue of *Chatham this week*.

The 1993 World Boomerang Championships are scheduled for April 19-25. For more information, call John Cryderman at (519)-354-3984 or write to the following address:

John Cryderman
136 Thames St.
Chatham
Ontario N7L 2Y8
Canada

News From England

The Shrewsbury International Tournament will be held on 4/5 July 1992 at the Sundorne Playing Fields in Harlescott. Registration costs £5 and a copy of the British interpretation of WBC rules is available at £1.50. For more information, call Arthur Newton at 0953 882448 or write to the following address:

Arthur Newton
1 Nelson Court
Watton
Norfolk IP25 6EL
United Kingdom

For information on accommodations, call Tony Slater at 0743-235068 or write to the following address:

Tony Slater
128 Meadow Farm Drive
Harlescott
Shrewsbury SY1 4JY
United Kingdom

Beginning this summer, John Jordan passes on the reins of the *British Boomerang Society* to Sean Slade. A revival of the *BBS Bulletin* and British participation in international competition is planned in the near future. Effective immediately, all BBS correspondence should be directed to the following address:

Sean Slade
1 Berkeley Ave.
Mapperley Park
Nottingham NG6 5BU
United Kingdom
Tel: 0602 604 992

News From France

There will be a long distance competition at Lannion, France on June 20/21. For more information, contact Jean-Luc Heroux at 96-37-91-28 or write to the following address:

Jean-Luc Heroux
Club l'Albatros
Auberge de Jeunesse "les Karrigans"
22300 Lannion
France

The Tournoi of BC D'Artois is scheduled to take place on 4/5 July. Throwing is limited to 50 competitors, so reserve early. For more info, call 21 59 66 07 or write to:

Marc Sigety
14 rue Jules Mathon
62000 Arras
France

The First International Corroboree will be held on 4/5 July. Call 21 59 66 07 or write to the following address for more info :

Francois Besoli
73 Ave. de Castres
81 210 Roquecourbe
France

The 2nd Annual Tournament of Abondance will be held on 20/21 August to prepare throwers for the *Swiss Nationals* which follow on 22/23 August. For more information, call 50 73 00 57 or write to the following address:

**Bertrand Guffroy
le vieil ermitage
74360 Abondance
France**

The *Razorback Boomerang Club des France* has organized a *French Long Distance Championship* in Sedan, near the Belgian border, on 19/20 September. For more information on this open international tournament, call **Michel Dufayard** at 24 33 38 46 or write ASAP to the following address:

**Razorback Boomerang Club
2 bis avenue Charles Boutet
08000 Charleville-Mezieres
France**

From *Jeu Boom Info*: a new book on boomerangs will be issued at the end of the year. It will be edited by the JBTB staff.

The *France Boomerang Association* (FBA) has added a supplement to its monthly newsletter. The new supplement is called "Brikabrak" and contains loads of practical information such as literature and material sources. For more information on how you can receive this double decker French language publication, write to the following address:

**France Boomerang Assoc.
BP 62
91002 Evry Cedex
France**

News From Germany

The *German Nationals* will be held in Oldenburg the weekend of 22/23 August. For more information on this event, call **Stephane Boehm** at 0441 31339 or write to:

**Stephane Boehm
Wehdestrasse 48
2900 Oldenburg
Germany**

The *International Team Cup* is scheduled to be held over the week bounded between 31 August and 5 September. For more information on this event call **Matthias Giesenschlag** at 040-6526661 or write to:

**Matthias Giesenschlag
Wendemuthstrasse 83
D-2000 Hamburg 70
Germany**

News From Italy

Ben Ruhe mailed MHR notice of the new *Italian Boomerang Association* based in Rome. The organization will be called C.L.U.B. for *Costruire e Lanciare Un Boomerang*. Interested parties can contact **Maurizio Saba** at the following address:

**C.L.U.B.
Maurizio Saba
122 Via del trullo
00148 Roma
Italia**

News From Poland

Janusz Jacek reminds us that the *Polish Boomerang Club* is now 5 years old. The Polish movement remains in a situation where the throwers cannot travel to Western European events because of the currency conversion. Their use is primarily directed towards leisure & relaxation throwing. Communications with the *Polish Boomerang Club* should be directed to:

**Janusz Jacek
Fabryka Maszyn
38-100 Strzyzow
ul. 1 Maja
Poland**

News From Switzerland

The *Swiss Nationals* are tentatively scheduled to be held in Geneva the same weekend as the *German Nationals*: 22/23 August. For more information on this event, contact **Matthieu Weber** at the following address:

**Matthieu Weber
3, rue St. Jean
1203 Geneva
Switzerland**

The *Greifensee Club* is planning an indoor tournament which will be held in Zurich in November 1992. For more information on Kim's boomerangs and Swiss activities, you can write to:

**Kim Galeazzi
Rotwandstrasse 52
8004 Zurich (ZH)
Switzerland**



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Davenport, Ia. 52807**

Point & Counter-Point

Boomerang Journal #8 published an essay written by **Brother Brian Thomas** on the use of tri-bladers in competition. The editor was surprised to receive dozens of letters from impassioned throwers both strongly in favor of and against the use of tri-bladers. In response to pro-multi-blader arguments that "Aborigines used cross sticks": **Jacques Thomas** writes to remind us that the use of multi-bladers in Australia was limited to a very small region (Cairns) in Queensland. The ratio of multi-blader to two-blader returners was approximately 1/300. It is hoped that the controversy will abate with time. This sport is too small and too much fun to continually dwell on heated debate such as this. The issue reminds us of the perpetual war that was waged in Lilliput over the issue on which end to open your egg shells. There is room for both 2 bladers and multi-bladers in our sport.

Another controversial issue was submitted by **Bud Pell** who is concerned that the current movement to expand and perfect the sport through rule changes may result in less fun for all. Bud writes: "Progress can be a wonderful thing and I know that we have to keep up with the rest of the world. But we should look back over our shoulder to see what made boomerang throwing such a great sport for everyone involved. Pick out the things that made the sport fun for all and keep them. Don't let those things die. I look around at tournaments and wonder if all these throwers realize what a great thing they have. My fear is that these things will change in this wonderful sport and the (social) picnic cooler will be replaced by an extra boom bag and that the magical fun will no longer exist."

The editor agrees with the spirit of Bud's essay. There were a tremendous number of rule changes

for the 1992 season. A large number of changes is synonymous with a decrease in organizational stability. If this trend continues, the USBA may lose its leadership role in the formulation of international competition rules. We will throw out the rule book (and all standing world records) each fall and only wonder what boomeranging will be like each successive season.

The rules committee should be composed of a very limited number of compatible seasoned tournament directors, judges and throwers to improve efficiency. The rules committee should limit the number of proposed revisions to a small (3) number each year. The proposed changes should be limited to the most severe problems which have occurred during the previous throwing season. The proposed changes should be voted on by: (1) the entire membership by mail proxy; or (2) by open balloting at the annual meeting. If the USBA Board remains the deciding body for deciding proposed rule changes, then the voting record of each officer should be made public (like it is in the Government).

The number of throws in MTA was decreased from 5 to 4 in 1992. The consequences of this action are that current world and national records are no longer valid unless it was carefully documented that the record throw was made prior to #5. This is not the first time this has happened. **John Flynn's** famous 18.23 second world record was accomplished on his third F/C round. **Brother Brian Thomas'** prestigious 90 in Australian Round was set during his second effort.

Many members of the USBA Board of Directors have recently echoed similar concerns to the abundant rule changes. The letter from the USBA President (page 3) wisely recommends a moratorium to examine the consequences of making so many rule changes.

SUPER CATCH HONOR ROLL

Ted Bailey (6)
Volker Behrens
Gerhard Bertling
Didier Bonin
Rob Croll (7)
Eric Darnell
Doug DuFresne
John Flynn
Torsten Fredrich
Fridolin Frost (8)
Mike Forrester
Kim Galeazzi
Matthias Giesenschlag
Michael Girvin
Rob Greer
Thomas Hartmann
Axel Heckner
Dennis Joyce
John Koehler
Uli Konzelmann (8)
Jeff LaCount
Ray Laurent
Gerrit Lemkau
Alain Mangin
Mole Man
Gunter Moller
Roger Perry (6)
Philippe Picgirard
Jonas Romblad
Barnaby Ruhe
Larry Ruhf
Tim Schallberger (8)
Chet Snouffer
Gregg Snouffer
Olivier Voukchevitch
Matthieu Weber (8)

{ (#): No. of fast catches if more than 5 }

For the benefit of those who are unfamiliar with the term Super Catch, the thrower must launch a MTA from the center circle, then complete a round of Fast Catch from the same circle. The thrower must then catch his MTA. The thrower has the option to throw & catch more than 5 times within the F/C sequence.

Kinley Tuning Techniques

Mickey Kinley is an innovative boomerang thrower from Boca Raton, Florida who made a real impact in boomerang technology in the early 1980s with his strip laminated distance 'rangs and aluminum *Boomalum* products.

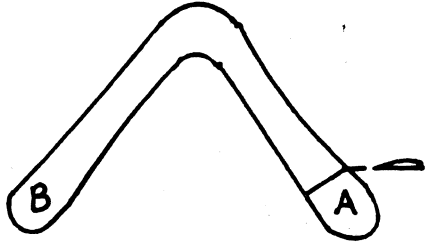
The editor was the first USBA member to cross his path in an accidental meeting in 1980 on the Florida Atlantic Campus. A few months prior to this meeting, Mickey had started constructing strip laminated multi-wood standard shaped boomerangs using the equipment from his wood working business and plans from a magazine article. A friend, who was taking classes on the campus was throwing his new long distance Gerhards weighted hook when Mickey took notice and approached him. My friend loaned Mickey his Gerhards hook and agreed to meet him in the same field on the very next day (How many of the readers would loan a Gerhards hook to a stranger?). I went to the campus with my friend the next day and met Mickey. He had made a perfect replica of the hook except for one small detail: the tuning! For two hours we carved the airfoils on the bloody thing until it was so thin it cracked. Neither of us knew what tuning tricks Al had learned in his development effort. I moved to Ohio

shortly thereafter and lost contact with Mickey. A few years later he was making great aluminum and strip laminated wood booms. Mickey has learned a lot about tuning over the past decade. He will share his knowledge with the reader for a small \$5 contribution

to his printing fees. Please include appropriate shipping charges: \$1 USA; \$2 Overseas. A sample page follows. Send payment to:

Mickey Kinley
4554 Sunrise Blvd.
Delray Beach, Fl. 33445

TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE ASSUMING THE WIND IS USED CORRECTLY

		PROBLEMS											
		NOT ENOUGH DISTANCE	TOO MUCH DISTANCE	FLIES TOO HIGH	FLIES TOO LOW	SHORT RETURN - DIES TOO SOON	RETURNS TOO FAR	HOVERS TOO MUCH	LOOSES IT'S SPIN	FLARES OUT ON RETURN	SHORT RETURN - HOVERS IN FRONT	THURNS IN AND DOWN	THURNS OUT AND UP
		SOLUTIONS											
LEFT ON WINGS	DECREASE AIRFOIL	X			X		X						
	INCREASE AIRFOIL		X	X		X				X			X
	TWIST A COUNTERCLOCKWISE		X			X				X			X
	TWIST B COUNTERCLOCKWISE		X			X				X			X
	TWIST A CLOCKWISE	X					X				X	X	
	TWIST B CLOCKWISE	X			X		X	X			X	X	
UPWARD BOWLING	TWIST A COUNTERCLOCKWISE												
	TWIST B CLOCKWISE	X					X						
	CURVE A UPWARD	X						X					
	CURVE B UPWARD	X							X				
	CURVE ELBOW UPWARD								X				
	GENERAL UPWARD BOWLING (STRONG)				X						X	X	
DOWNWARD BOWLING	TWIST A CLOCKWISE												
	TWIST B COUNTERCLOCKWISE			X	X					X			
	CURVE A DOWNWARD			X	X					X			
	CURVE B DOWNWARD			X	X					X			
	CURVE ELBOW DOWNWARD			X	X					X			
	GENERAL DOWNWARD BOWLING (STRONG)	X								X		X	
TOSS	THROW MORE UPRIGHT			X						X		X	
	THROW WITH MORE LAY-OVER	X			X						X	X	
	THROW HARDER					X							
	THROW EASIER						X	X					
	GET RID OF DRAG	X				X			X				

* DRAG MAY BE DUE TO POOR MACHINING, BLUNT EDGES, NOT ENOUGH LIFT, TOO MUCH LIFT, OR EXCESSIVE BENDING

A CONCISE TREATMENT OF



LAWS,
 SYSTEMS,
 and
 TROUBLESHOOTING

by
 MICKEY KINLEY

POSTCARDS FROM THE EDGE

by Dean Kelly

Welcome to another Episode of Postcards From the Edge!

From the publicity sort of edge, here in Oregon I've discovered a wonderful (and free) vehicle for getting the word out about tournaments and other boomerang events. The Oregon Tourism Division publishes a brochure every 6 months called *The Oregon Events Calendar*. Anybody in Oregon who is hosting an event (of almost every nature) can submit as description of the event to be listed in the calendar. This calendar is given out free all over the state and mailed to anyone who calls the Oregon Tourism Division ((800)-547-7842) and requests it. Needless to say, this gets some pretty wide distribution.

This year, I was able to get both the *Salem Toss Across America* and my July 26th *Western Oregon Boomerang Roundup* listed in the events calendar.

To show the wide range of distribution a little booklet like this gets, last week I got a call from *National Geographic Travel* magazine. They saw the July tournament listing and wanted to include it in their July/August issue.

Check with your state tourism division. They probably have a similar brochure. Remember, we were all spectators at one time or another. Publicizing our events and getting the general public to come watch is the only way our sport is going to grow.

Word comes from Brian Dettwyler that that was not him in outer space after all! Honest, I tried to decipher the signature on that

postcard and was sure that I had it right! So who is that masked man?

Regardless, I've received a decision from the rules committee on a little technicality regarding that throw. Seems that operating in a vacuum the boomerang could never have achieved true gyroscopic precession. Despite the fact that this is a legal boomerang (see the rule book), on earth it is not a legal boomerang when launched in space. Tough break!

Did you all see *ESPN Amazing Games* coverage of the 1991 Nationals? Personally I believe that **Gregg Snouffer** took the sport right to the edge in being the gracious loser. All the world watched as Gregg's brother Chet snagged that final catch in Endurance that put him ahead of Gregg in overall standings and won the USBA Championship again. In the moment of defeat Gregg ran over and gave Chet a big hug and genuinely excited that Chet had won. I don't think the world could realistically expect to see a better example of sportsmanship that typifies our sport than that! Kudos to Gregg.

Will & Betsylew Miale-Gix any have succeeded in taking boomerang manufacturing to a new edge. Living in an apartment in Edmonds Washington makes it difficult when you want to make a few of your own booms. The resourceful couple decided that the extra bedroom could double as a wood shop. Their bedroom furnishings include a bandsaw! Tools are stored in the night stands and a walk-in closet doubles as a paint


room. In the paint closet newspapers line the walls to protect them from overspray. Boomerangs are hung from the walls of the closet awaiting shaping and painting.

If you're ever planning to spend the night with them it's a good idea to check out their painting plans before you go hanging up your clothes in the closet!

Dean A. Kelly
3350 Neef Ave. SE
Salem, Or. 97302
(503) 581-8050



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HAVE FUN!**



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New 1992 Color Catalog !!**



(510) 658-2469
2124 KITTREDGE STREET #61
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94704 USA

The Return of the tri-Fly

In February, the editor was treated by a visit from **Eric Darnell** who promptly demonstrated the versatility of his popular plastic *tri-Fly* tri-blader (previously referred to as the *Super Zoy*). The composition of Eric's throw kit was almost 50% plastic tri-bladers in one form or another. The figures on the following page illustrate some of his more successful designs. Each figure is reduced 50% and shows the removal of material from the baseline product.

The raw materials are quite inexpensive. You can order Polypropylene blanks from the **Boomerang Man** or from **Eric Darnell's Turning Point** mail order business for approximately \$6 each. The blanks are also available in glow-in-the-dark Polypropylene (\$12), ABS (\$8) and Polycarbonate (\$14) materials. Prices are suggested retail for comparison. The ABS and Polycarbonate materials are heavier and stiffer than Polypropylene. Polypropylene is lighter, but it requires significantly more twisting and bending than the ABS or Polycarbonate materials because it relaxes back into the original shape quicker. Polypropylene is quite forgiving during tuning, but be careful when bending any of these materials in cold weather because they become more brittle.

Without any modifications (other than lots of twisting and bending to add dihedral and angle of attack) the tri-Fly is great equipment for beginners and for the Consecutive Catch, Accuracy, and Juggling events. With modifications, the tri-Fly becomes a powerful tool for Fast Catch, Endurance, and Doubling and Juggling. Sorry, but you need to look elsewhere for MTA and Aussie Round equipment.

The first modification on the following page is a good F/C trainer. This variation maintains a circular orbit, curving inward and slowing down at the end of the

flight while retaining a high rate of spin with a low altitude hover. No airfoil modifications are required.

The second planform shown is called the *Enduro*. This boomerang is very stable with a very predictable flight path and a constant deceleration. This is obviously Eric's choice for Endurance.

The fastest model is depicted as planform #3. This design is less forgiving and should be used for your second round of F/C for a shot at first place. This is a great boomerang for setting a personal best round.

Modification #4 is Eric's best design for the Accuracy event. This one just dies at the end with a stable drop.

Design #5 is Eric's best equipment for his specialty: *High Wind Fast Catch*. This model is very stable and exhibits excellent loss of spin at the end with a drop into your lap.

Planform #6 should be a familiar sight to those readers who subscribed to *Boomerang Journal #7*. This is the planform used by **Gregory Bisiaux** when he set his Fast Catch World Record at 15.03 seconds. It is not known what subtle modifications Gregory made to the airfoils, but the material was Polypropylene. This was a surprise to Eric as well, because the intended use for this modification was for an inside doubler. The outside doubler is an unmodified *tri-Fly*.

Design #7 is a Fast Catch made out of ABS. It is almost the same as the *Enduro*, except for a narrower chord and a true airfoil with a trailing edge added to speed it up. Designs 1-6 do not have modified airfoils. Eric says to just leave them blunt.

Modification #8 is called *Soft Toss*. This is a very easy boomerang to throw. It is also good for Consecutive Catch, especially for the over hand catch. This model also has a strong trailing edge. The only obvious disadvantage to this design is that it must be made

as either LH or RH.

All models will speed up significantly if you cover up the holes or by adding trailing edges. The addition of weights into the holes may also make *tri-Fly* more competitive in multiple events.

The Polypropylene *tri-Fly* (45 gm) is available in three bright colors: magenta, red orange and gold. The retail price is \$6. Glow in the dark models are \$12. The *Super Zoy Pro* (54 gm) is the ABS version of tri-Fly. It comes in bright orange and sells for \$8. The *Bullseye Super Zoy* comes in either clear Polypropylene or ABS with red tips and blue stripes. It is highly visible in the air and is priced to sell at \$15.

The *Soft Toss* (#8) is available in Polypropylene for \$10 or ABS for \$12.

Two doubling sets are available. *Doublers #1* is easier to throw and combines *tri-Fly* with modification #6. Priced at \$16 in Polypropylene and \$20 in ABS. *Doublers #2* are more difficult to throw, but easier to catch; available in Polypropylene for \$20 or ABS for \$24.

The *Enduro Rang* (#2) is available in ABS for \$12. The *High Wind Fast Catch* (#5) is available in ABS for \$12 and the *Fast Catch Rang* (#3) is available in ABS for \$15.

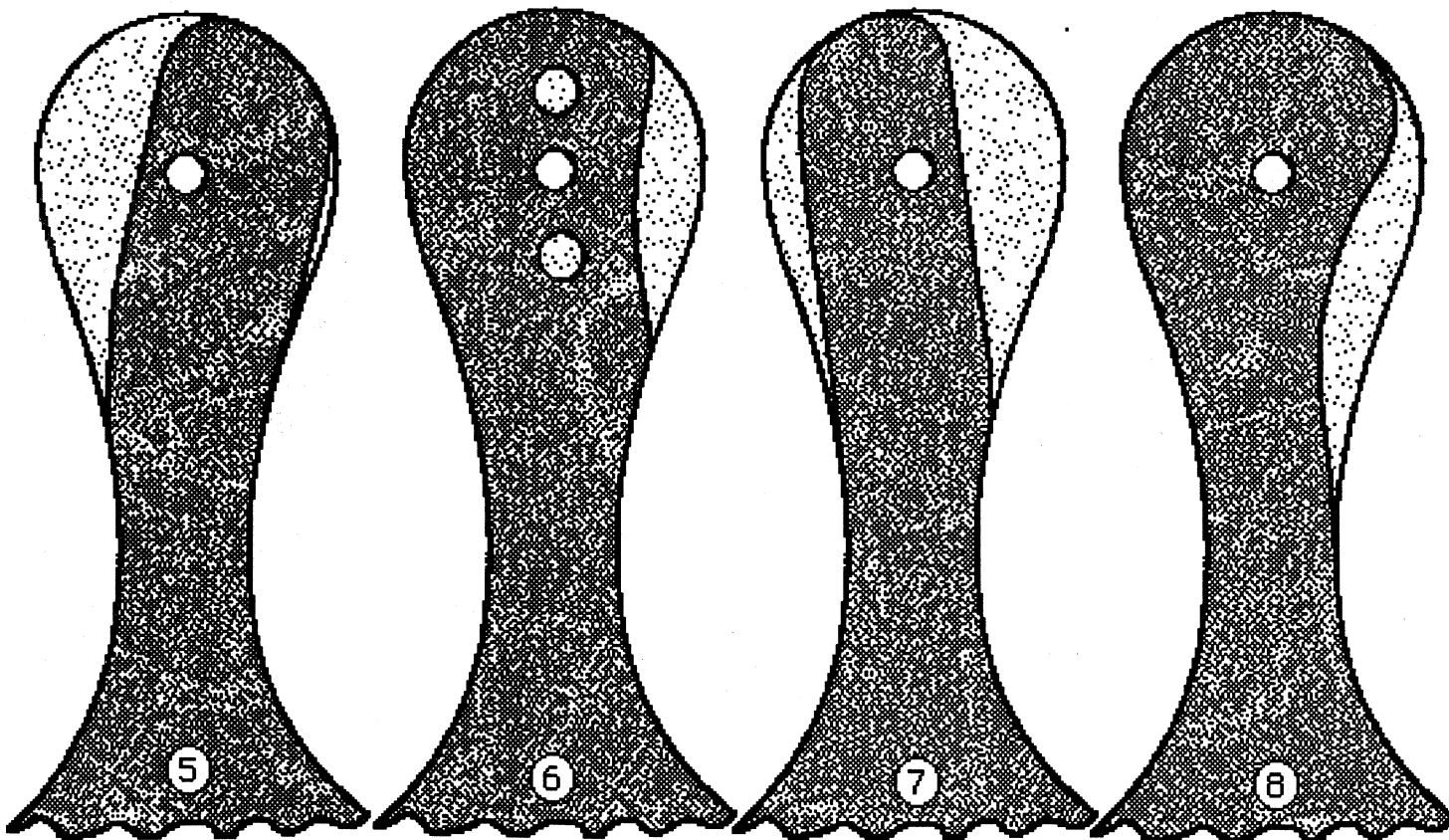
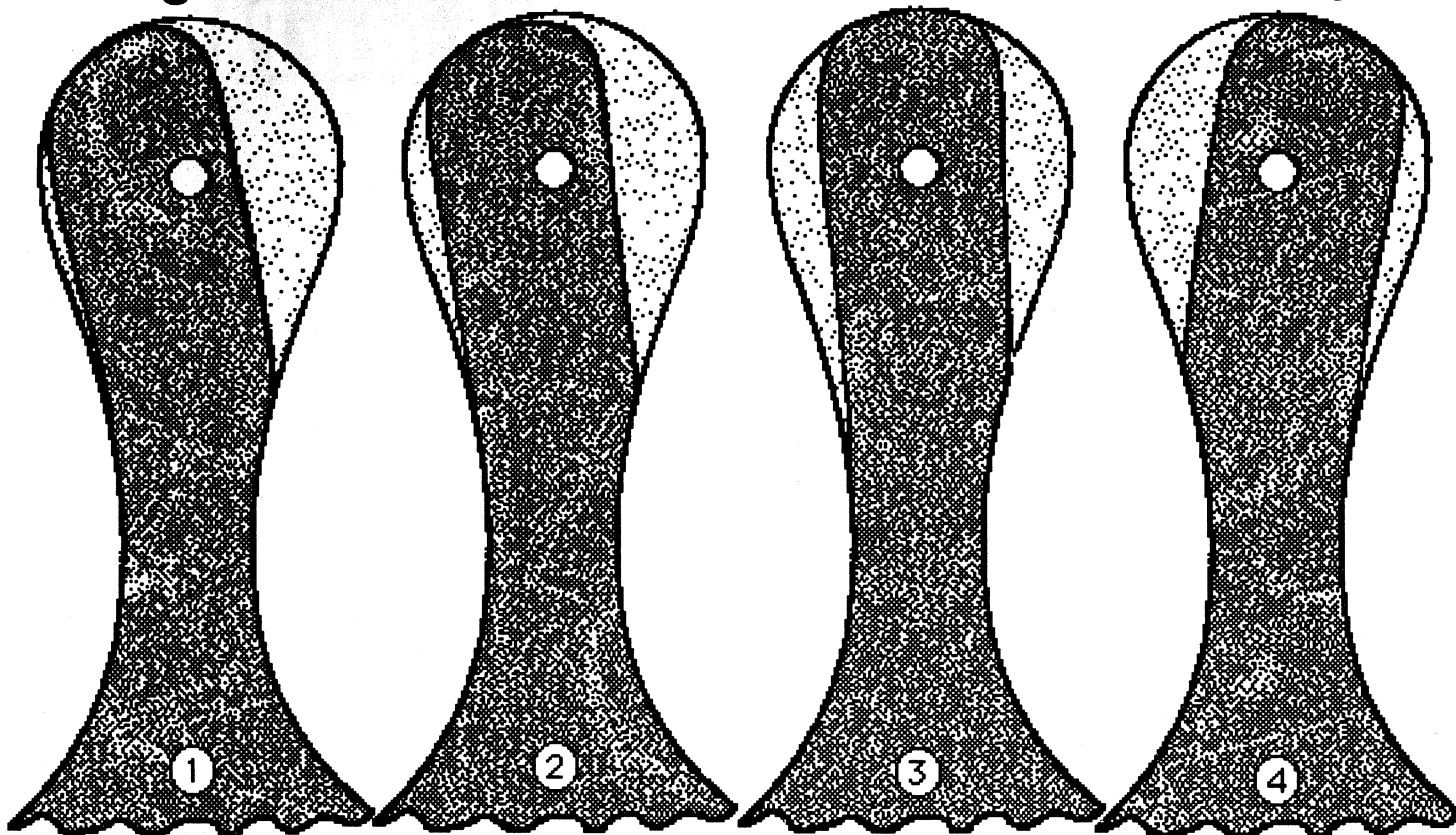
Coming soon will be kits to add weights to these boomerangs. Don't miss out on the new high technology. Write and order your free catalog now.

OK, so how do you add these goodies to your throw kit. A significant percentage of the readers will want to do their own carvings.

The **Boomerang Man** carries *tri-Fly* in his catalog. You may also order *tri-Fly* and the derivative models directly from Eric. For a free catalog, write to:

**Turning Point Boomerangs
South Strafford, Vt. 05070**

High Tech Modifications to the Darnell tri-Fly



Original Material Remaining



Material Removed

SCALE 3/4

Paxolin in Georgia

by John Koehler

If anybody ever tells you that Georgia is a place of calm days and Mint Julips: don't believe them. At least not about the calm days.

John Derden, the tournament director of the South Georgia Tournament kept telling us that it wasn't supposed to be so windy. He looked apologetic and contrite. I think he was laughing as well. That's about all anybody could do that particular day.

The wind was, to borrow a Gel term, shredding mightily. Ordinary booms were quickly turned into aerial flotsam and jetsam, offerings to the wind gods. The easiest way to find the wind direction was to watch which way the people were running and back off 70 degrees. Or you could merely look at the trees around the field as they bent double in response to the nasty blow.

People who usually resorted to taping pennies and dimes to their rangs soon resorted to quarters, heavy flaps and spoilers. One guy tied his tennis shoe to a rang and threw it without success.

Throwing in wind is tough. After throwing in Perth last year I became skilled at adding weights and flaps. I initiated the season by starting to work with Phenolic, commonly referred to as Paxolin in Europe. Phenolic is a composite laminate material usually made with layers of paper, cloth or linen. It is extremely strong and extremely dense. You can make Aussie Round rangs with 1/8 inch Phenolic and get the same or better range as a wooden 'rang.

Phenolic is practically impervious to the element and does not require much painting or finishing which suits me just fine. I bought my first sheet of paper phenolic in February. I had wonderful results and after several design attempts, successfully creating a working set of tri-blader doublers. The Germans have had these for a year and I knew that without them I would be antiquated at best, especially with the new Doubling throws (eagle catches; one-hand behind the back; under the leg).

The problem with paper phenolic is that it can break (as I discovered making a foot catch). So I switched to linen (LE) grade and found the perfect material. It has the strength and density of paper but it is incredibly resilient. You can bend it way beyond the break point of wood. Be careful working with it: nasty fumes and dust. Wear a respirator.

The other wonderful feature I discovered is that it holds a field tune. Most rangs made of wood or plastic quickly

begin to lose their tune soon after you alter them. If you add negative attack (clockwise twist) to an arm to increase range in a fast catch rang you might gain two meters for the first couple throws. But the range gradually decreases. The phenolic holds the tune well.

I had a lot of butterflies beginning the first event: Trick Catching. I had practiced a lot and felt confident, but it was pretty bloody windy. I put a quarter inch high flap on the top of my TC 'rang about 2-3 inches in from the center. I already had a good whiffle effect with three aligned 1/4 inch holes in each wing tip so I kept the spoiler away from the tip. If the wind came up more I would add another flap to another wing. If three flaps wouldn't do it I would look for a shoe.

I did OK in TC with 7 events still to go. Doubling proved entertaining. Heavy wind and flap action. I felt great going against Chet with 8 catches only to find that Willie Davis had nailed 10 catches using an untried pair of my Paxolin Doublers. I was stoked! Willie was happy. The wind was mean.

The wildest event to hold in ripping wind is, without a doubt, MTA. These lightweight hockey shaped 'rangs are meant to hover gently in a breeze. They became like bricks, or even rockets.

The tourney was almost over when MTA was announced. Time to practice. Yeah, right! People stood around and moaned with the wind waiting for something to happen and wondering if they would throw their Aussie Round, Distance 'rang or even a brick. I pulled out my new phenolic MTA's and put a penny on the bottom of the lift arm about 4 inches up from the tip. Then I added a flap on the throw arm about 6 inches from the elbow. No good. Another flap on the throw arm. Next, one on the dingle arm, one more on the throw arm, and I had a rang that could handle 20 knot winds. Don't forget to sprint!

Willie once again surprised us by winning the event with an incredible catch after the 'rang (one of mine dare I say) literally fell out the sky after what appeared to be a long distance trip to the sky gods. Willie caught it close to the 50 metre line and we erupted into cheers. Coolest catch I've seen in a long time.

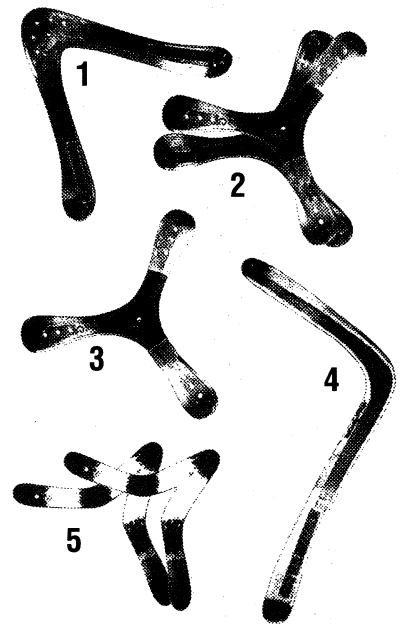
The final event was Endurance. The limping rabble assumed their positions at the circle and did a good job of creating a new event, TRC (Throw, Run, and Catch). Again flaps and weights were the rule. As were dead duck 'rangs: the kind that rotate about once every two minutes.

So for wind, especially in Georgia!, bring along plenty of weights, lead tape, duck tape, Paxolin rangs and some bricks. And sun screen for good measure. Good throwing.

NEW PAXOLIN COMPETITION RANGS FROM THE WORLD CHAMP.



All rangs made by 1991 World Champ John Koehler out of Paxolin (Phenolic), a very tough, flexible composite material. These rangs are proven: they won 4 of the 8 events in the 1992 South Georgia Open.



1. Aussie Round	\$17.50
2. Doublers	\$30.00
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4. MTA	\$20.00
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The deadline for advertising is March 1 for the Spring issue; June 1 for the Summer issue; September 1 for the Fall issue; and December 1 for the Winter issue. Early ads with payment will receive the best placement.

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 by-laws. 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
P.O. Box 182
Delaware, Ohio 43015

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

All membership dues should be paid by check or money order in \$\$USAS\$. Make checks payable to: U.S.B.A. Domestic and Canadian annual memberships are \$10 per year. A domestic lifetime membership is \$150. Annual overseas dues are \$20 per year. A lifetime overseas membership is \$250. 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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Please note that your last issue of the USBA
newsletter is printed on the mailing label.

USBA OPEN AND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
7,8,9 AUGUST 1992

INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

The USBA is sponsoring the US Open on Friday, August 7 and Saturday, August 8 at the University of Massachusetts in Amhearst, Mass. This will consist of both individual and team events. The USBA National Championship will be contested Sunday, August 9, where the top 12 competitors from the individual Open events will battle it out for the National Champion title.

EVENTS

Four rated events and two team events will take place each day of the Open. The team events will be Team Supercatch, Position, Australian Round with Trick Catches, and Team Relay. Teams are made up of 6 players. Organize your own team.

SCHEDULE

- (a) Thursday, August 6: Arrival at U-Mass. Welcome and late registration to occur at 8 PM at the U-Mass Dorm.
- (b) Friday, August 7: Daytime-four individual and two team events contested. Evening, annual USBA meeting, USBA auction, fashion show, etc.
- (c) Saturday, August 8: Daytime-four individual and two team events contested. Evening, awards dinner at U-Mass Campus Center.
- (d) Sunday, August 9: USBA National Championship. Top 12 overall from US Open compete in 8 rated events. Awards on the field.

HOUSING

If you want to ensure a place to sleep and shower, DO IT NOW. The options are as follows:

- (a) U-Mass Dormitory-double room, \$19.00 per night-per person. Dorm is close to the competition field. Hampshire dining commons serves breakfast 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. for \$4.00 all you can eat. Please reserve using the registration form provided.
- (b) Howard Johnsons-\$89.00 for a double room which can sleep 4 in two double beds. Restaurant and pool as well as close to U-Mass. Call 413-586-0114 for reservations. State that you are part of the boomerang championships. Reservations requested prior to July 1 to ensure a room.
- (c) University Motor Lodge-\$69.00 for a double room. Located on the edge of U-Mass campus. No pool or restaurant. Call 413-256-8111 for reservations prior to July 1.
- (d) Motel 6-\$42.00 for a double room. Located 10 miles/12 minutes from U-Mass on very easy access route. Call 413-665-7161 for reservations now.

TRANSPORTATION

Bradley International Airport is close to Hartford, Connecticut and is only 45 minutes from Amherst.

T-SHIRT

A beautiful commemorative T-shirt will be created based on aboriginal designs. Only Large and X-Large sizes will be available. \$12.00/shirt by pre-registration and \$15.00 during the competition weekend.

SALES

A sales table will be set up during each day of competition to sell your boomerangs, T-shirts, and other boomerang related items. As before, 25% of the sales will go to the USBA.

REGISTRATION FEE

\$50.00 per competitor will cover insurance, field set-up, awards, a commemorative program and the Saturday awards dinner.

POINT OF CONTACT

Contact Larry Ruhf at 413-323-4340 for any additional information.

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

REGISTRATION FEE: \$50.00 \$ _____

DORM ROOM @ \$19.00 PER NIGHT \$ _____
Thurs ___ Fri ___ Sat ___ Sun ___
Name of Roomate _____

T-SHIRT(s) @ \$12.00 PER SHIRT (EARLY REGISTRATION) \$ _____
#Large ___ #X-Large ___

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

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