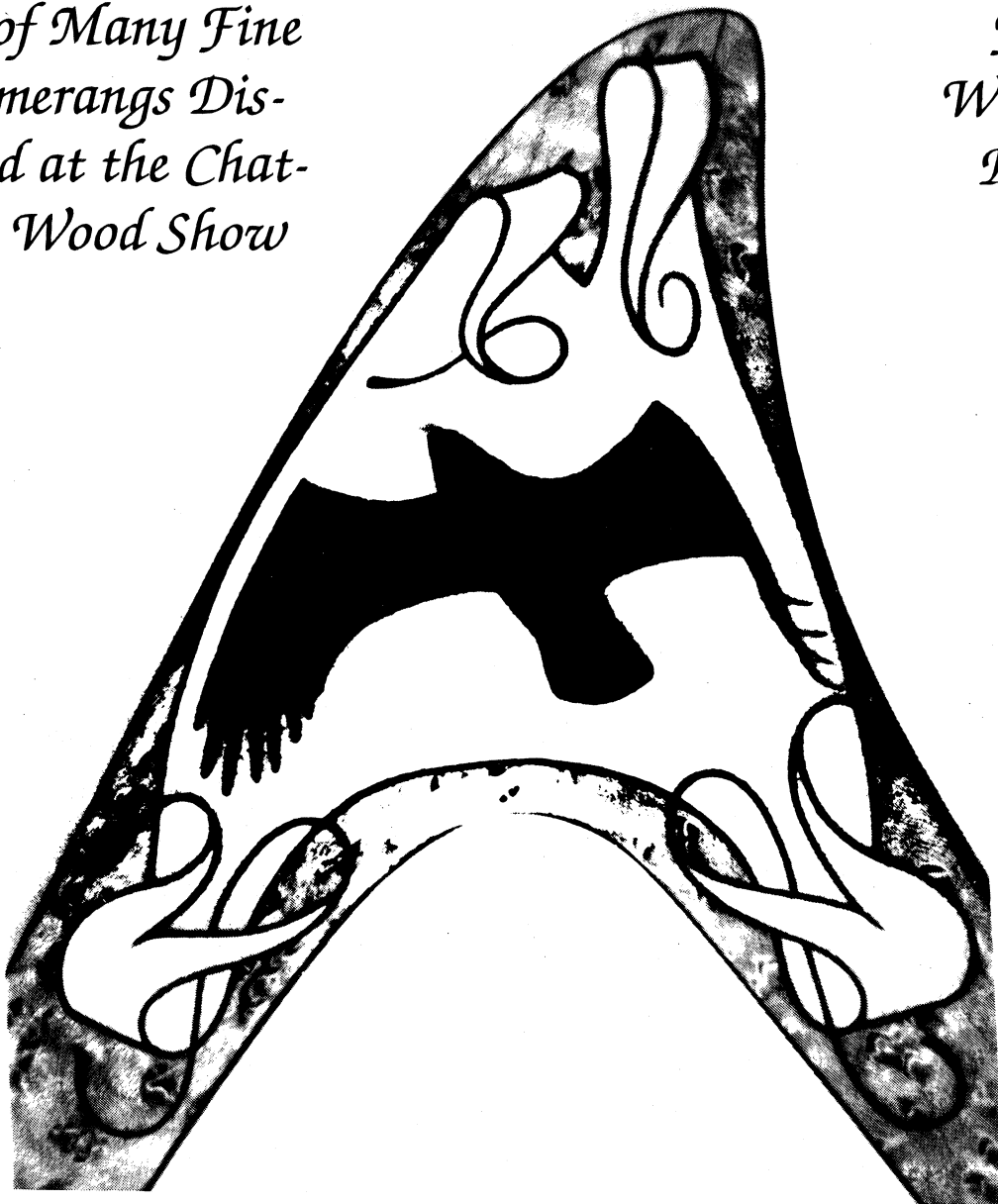


Many Happy Returns

Issue Number 55 An International Publication of the United States Boomerang Association Summer 1993

*One of Many Fine
Boomerangs Dis-
played at the Chat-
ham Wood Show*



*Fine Inlay
Work by Jonas
Romblad of
Sweden*

The Results of the 1993 Chatham Wood Show Int'l Boomerang Design Contest.



★ PRESIDENT'S COLUMN ★

by Jim Jordan

Some of you are fortunate to have been involved in the conception of the sport of boomerangs. Our sport is so young that the pioneers, that first organized the tournament events, can still be seen on the throwing field, visited, or remembered as one of the makers of a favorite boomerang. Those of us who became involved later have felt the thrill of meeting some of these living legends. We should take the time to appreciate them when we have the opportunity. **Doug Dufresne** called me recently to pass the word that one of these pioneers, **Bunny Reed**, has an inoperable brain tumor which will be treated by several weeks of radiation therapy. **Bunny** was a member of the original Australian team. Some of you may possess a boomerang made by **Bunny Reed** or have heard or him. Others are lucky to have had the opportunity to throw with him. Call him friend, it is appropriate that we give **Bunny** our support in his struggle for life by sending cards or writing to him at the following address:

Bunny Reed
90 Albert Street
East Melbourne 3002
Australia

POLITICAL UPDATE

Competition Yearbook Several of you have inquired about the Competition Yearbook and 1992 Ratings that were to have been published in January '93. The competition editor appropriately resigned on 26 April '93 and **Jay**

Emerson has volunteered to take his place and get the job done. We apologize for the delay. **Jay** is working towards publishing the yearbook concurrent with this issue of MHR.

Insurance The cost of the policy for USBA tournament insurance for 1993 has been significantly raised to \$1500 with an extra \$25 charge for each additional named insured for each event. Therefore, the cost per 1993 tournament must be increased from \$53.50 to \$80.00. Since many fields cannot be used without insurance, the USBA will continue to provide this service, as long as we can afford it! Payment, as well as the name of the owner of the field should be sent to **John Flynn** to obtain an insurance voucher.

Novice Division The Novice committee, (**Betsy Lew Miale-Gix**/Chairperson, **Michael Girvin**, **Norm Kern**, and **Jim Schramm**) have submitted an excellent proposal for the new Novice Division. There are a few comments from the board which will be resolved before the guide to tournament directors is finalized/adopted.

Tournament Reporters As editor of MHR, **Ted Bailey** is requesting that all tournament directors identify a tournament reporter who will be responsible for writing a description of the highlights of the tournament as well as submitting box scores and photos. The highlights should describe the unusual/outstanding happenings of the tournament; avoiding pure score reports. This is your opportunity to show off your writing skills. Be a tournament reporter.

What's In This Issue!

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Please Read This !

After reading this issue of MHR, all USBA members should list the 3 articles or sections that the reader liked best, in order. Also list the single article or section that you liked the least. In addition, please comment on total newsletter content. What do you want more or less of: competition, science, history, technology, etc. Mail your response as soon as possible directly to the editor at the address below. The results of this survey will have a heavy impact on the future content of this publication. Thank You!

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

The USBA Store

The USBA Store is open for business! Where else can you find a broad selection of boomerang books and paraphernalia.

I'm always looking for new items that will be of interest to our members. Send me your suggestions for what you'd like to see here. I've already received some suggestions and am looking into them now.

All proceeds from sales will go directly toward store operating expenses and the support of the USBA as a whole. This makes buying stuff from the store of double benefit to you! You not only get top quality merchandise at outstanding prices, but you also support the USBA!

All checks and money orders should be made out to **Dean A. Kelly**. Make sure to clearly state the items wanted for each order.

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

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

Questions? Call: (503)-581-8050

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

USBA Store Stock Availability - Prices Each Item:

\$3.50	USBA Embroidered Patches
\$1.50	USBA Mylar Decals
\$6.00	"Boomerang": a book by Ben Ruhe
\$8.00	"The Big Book About Boomerangs": a book by H. L. Mayhew*
\$4.00	"The Boomerang": an early pamphlet by B. Ruhe/L. Hawes
\$20.00	Huerer Swiss Digital Stopwatch**
\$1.50	"Boom Nekid" Bumper Stickers (Limited Quantity)
\$2.50	Back Issues of MHR: # 21-W85; #23-Sm86; #26-Sp86; #27-Sm86; #28-F86; #29-W87; #31-Sm87; #32-F87; #33-W88

* First edition and signed by the author.

** high quality Swiss made. A \$50 value. Only 10 are available.

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

The MHR editor is seeking help from any of the readers who can get copies of U.S. Patents through their university or job location at a reasonable cost. Assistance is needed immediately so that legible copies of selected patents can be obtained in preparation for a future article on the history of boomerang technology. You can help make the article a big success and get editorial credit when the article is published. Please contact the editor at the address to the bottom left of the preceding page.

The MHR editor needs to identify a USBA member who can read German. If you are somewhat proficient in German and willing to volunteer a small amount of time each quarter to help the USBA, then please contact the editor at once. Your volunteer efforts, as the German editor, will be as follows: You will receive a free complementary copy of two prestigious German newsletters: *DBC Info* and *Bumerang Welt*. Just read the contents and write a small report on the highlights: new products, competition records, news; etc. Send the report to the editor of MHR before each publishing deadline. Alternately, a complementary copy of MHR will be sent to any German reader who wishes to participate as an overseas correspondent. Please contact the editor at the address to the left.

BOOMERANG SEASON 1993



Jay Emerson announces that the first USBA rated Michigan tournament will be held on June 19 in Livonia. For more information, call Jay at (313)-416-0966 or write to:

Jay Emerson
374A Roe St.
Plymouth, Mi. 48170

The annual *Thuba Tournament* will be held on June 20. This is less than a 3 hour drive from the previous day's event and will be an excellent opportunity for the thrower to get double ratings on a weekend. For more info on this event, call **Sean Marquardt** at (219)-486-0503 or write to:

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

The Lure Boomerang Club is sponsoring a boomerang tournament on 19/20 June. Events will include using hunting sticks and boomerangs with size/weight restrictions. For more information, call **Bernard Guilbert** at 84 62 73 06 or write to:

Bernard Guilbert
4 passage Bel Air
70200 Lure
France

Mario Crescimbeni announces the 4th Annual Italian Boomerang Tournament which will take place at the Glaxo Sport Club in

Verona on June 19/20. For more information, call Mario at 19 39 45 800 90 80 or write to:

Mario Crescimbeni
Fed. Italiana Boomerang
F.I.B. C.P. 86
37100 Verona
Italy

Eckhard Mawick writes to announce the *First Lieler-Woche-Boomerang-Cup* on Sunday, June 20 in Kiel which is located in North Germany on the Baltic Sea. The tournament will be held at the same time as a major Baltic sailing event. Aussie Round, MTA, F/C and various Gel-style events (such as blindfold catching ala **Matt Hannifin**) will be contested. For further information, contact:

Eckhard Mawick
Wakenitzmauer 64
2400 Luebeck 1
Germany

A tournament will be held at the Shelton High School field in

Shelton, Ct. at 9 AM on 26 June. For more information, call **Rob Parkins** at (203)-268-1975 or write to:

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

The British/International 1993 Boomerang Tournament is scheduled for 5/6 July and will be held in conjunction with *The Shrewsbury Kite Festival*. For more information, contact **Gordon Shuttleworth** at:

Gordon Shuttleworth
3 Monk Bridge Street
Meanwood
Leeds LS6 4HL
United Kingdom

The 4th Annual North Ridgeville Tournament will be held on 10 July. For more info, call **Gary Broadbent** at (216)-327-7796 or write to the following address:

Gary Broadbent
P. O. Box 299
North Ridgeville, Oh. 44039

The Rennes Tournament will be held in Crozon, France on 10/11 July. For more information, call **Freddie Resmond Richard** at: 99 67 60 04 or write to:

Freddie Resmond Richard
17 Square A Fergent #93
35000 Rennes
France



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A tournament is tentatively scheduled at the *Kimball Union Academy* in Meriden, New Hampshire on 17 July. For more information, call **John Flynn** at (802)-296-2158 or write to:

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

The 6th Annual Western Oregon Boomerang Roundup is scheduled to take place in Salem, Oregon on 25 July. There will be a \$5 registration fee. A practice throw will take place on the previous day. This is an excellent opportunity to warm up for the USBA Nationals that will take place on the following weekend. For more info, call **Dean Kelly** at (503)-581-8050 or write to:

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

The USBA Open/Nationals will take place on July 31 through August 2 in Redmond, Washington. Throwers should plan on flying in to the Seattle/Tacoma Airport. Throwers will have 16 well groomed soccer fields at their disposal. For more information, call **Will and Betsylew Miale Gix** at (216)-485-1672 or write to the following address:

Will & Betsylew Miale Gix
3351 235th St. S.W.
Brier, Wa. 98036

The 14th Annual Free Throwers Fling is expected to be held on August 7 in Delaware, Ohio. For more information, call **Chet Snouffer** at (614)-363-8332 or write to the following address:

Chet Snouffer
51 Troy Rd.
Delaware, Oh. 43015

The *CVNRA Tournament* will be held at the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area near Cleveland, Ohio on August 8. For more information, call **Dave Boehm** at: (216)-289-6324 or write to the following address:

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

The *Tapir Cup* is currently scheduled to take place in Dormagen on August 6/7/8. For more information, call **Günter Möller** at 19 49 2133 40523 or write to:

Günter Möller
Wilhelm Busch Straße 28
W-4047 Dormagen 5 (Zons)
Germany

The 1993 Team Gel Connecticut Boomtest is scheduled to be held on 14 August in Shelton, Ct. For more info, call **Moleman** at (203)-924-6735 or write to:

Moleman
21 Huntington Ave.
Shelton, Ct. 06484-4007

The 5th Annual Novice/Veteran Team Tournament will be held in the Detroit, Michigan area on September 12. The exact location will be determined in the near future. For more info, call **Norm Kern** at (313)-645-9308 or write to:

Norm Kern
1640 Haynes
Birmingham, Mi. 48009-1605

The Second Mighty Williamette Tournament is scheduled to be held on 12 September. For more information, contact **T. W. Smith** at (503)-942-3167 or write to:

T. W. Smith
P. O. Box 11332
Eugene, Or. 97440



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Anderson Int'l Trading
1011 West Barkley Ave.
Orange, Ca. 92668

(800)-454-6270
(714)-771-6270

The 9th Annual Summer's Final Fling is scheduled to take place 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 "1st" 9th Annual Hampton Boomerang Tournament is scheduled to take place on 4 September at the Mason Cooper School. Registration starts at 7:30 AM. For more information, call **Dennis Joyce** at (804)-851-7615 or write to the following address:

Dennis Joyce
111 Drummond's Way
Hampton, Va. 23669

In the last issue of MHR, information on the equipment used by two of the top rated throwers, **Rob Parkins & Casey Larrance**, was unavailable at press time. In this issue, the editor finishes the story on the technology that helped these top throwers achieve their competition goals in 1992. It's not too late to improve your ratings

SUPER CATCH HONOR ROLL

for the 1993 season by purchasing some of these hot competition boomerangs directly from the manufacturer.

Casey Larrance was one of the hottest Accuracy throwers with top Placing, Median Score, and Overall rating for that event. Casey used a homemade boomerang (pictured top) called *The Nibbler* for most of his Accuracy throwing. *The Nibbler* was not specifically designed for the Accuracy event, but it obviously works well. Casey modified the boomerang by adding a flap near the lift arm tip as well as to the dingle arm, near the elbow. A piece of tape is also added to straddle the blades through the center of mass. Ask Casey for more specific details when you order one of these boomerangs for your throw kit. This boomerang also works well in the Consecutive Catch event. Made out of 1/4" birch plywood, *The Nibbler* is marketed by Casey's *Far Flung Boomerangs* outlet at a price of \$12 (+ shipping). Interested parties can call Casey at (206)-866-4368 or (206)-323-1187 or you can write to the following address:

Casey Larrance
1116 17th E.
Seattle, Wa.
98112

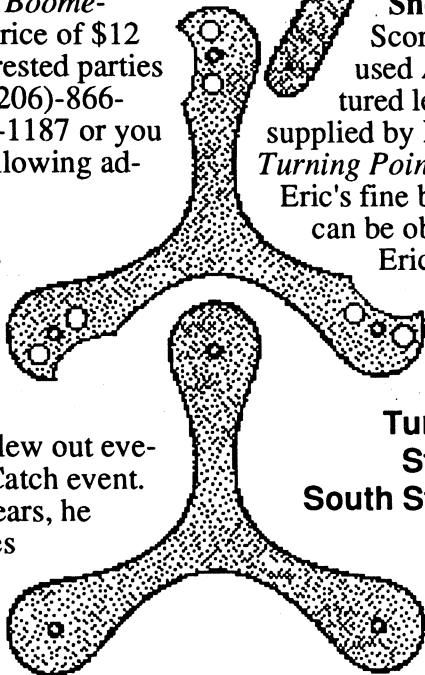
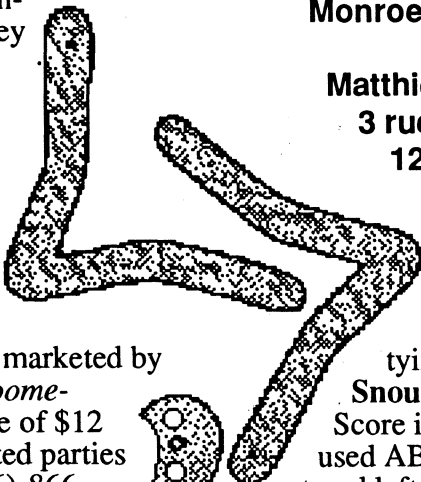
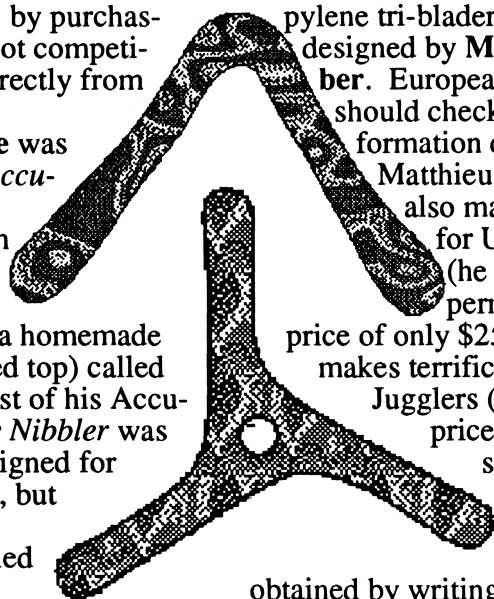
Rob Parkins blew out everyone in the Fast Catch event. For the past two years, he has averaged scores below 18 seconds. The boomerang he uses is a polypropylene tri-blader (#2 below) designed by Matthieu Weber. European throwers should check on pricing information directly from Matthieu. Rob will also make a replica for USA throwers (he has Matthieu's permission) at a price of only \$25. Rob also makes terrific two bladed Jugglers (listed #3,4) at a price of \$25 for the set (\$32 for the wind models). Product information can be obtained by writing to the following two addresses:

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

Matthieu Weber
3 rue St. Jean
1203 Geneva
Switzerland

Rob also did quite well in the Doubling event, tying with Chet Snouffer for Median Score in that event. Rob used ABS Doublers (pictured left #5,6) made and supplied by Eric Darnell at his *Turning Point* outlet. A catalog of Eric's fine boomerang products can be obtained by calling Eric at (802)-765-4066 or by sending a request directly to the following address:

Turning Point
Star Route
South Strafford, Vt. 05070



- 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
- Mike LaPrade
- Ray Laurent
- Gerrit Lemkau
- Alain Mangin
- Mole Man (6)
- Gunter Moller
- Rob Parkins (8)
- Roger Perry (6)
- Philippe Picgirard
- Jonas Romblad
- Barnaby Ruhe
- Larry Ruhf
- Tim Schallberger (8)
- Chet Snouffer
- Gregg Snouffer (7)
- Olivier Vouktchevitch
- 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.

1993 Toss Across America

From Morris Mason: We did it!! Our Toss Across America was held in Perfect Weather in the West Lawn at Roosevelt High School in Des Moines, Iowa from 10:00 - 4:00 May 15, 1993. The hosts for the Event were **Morris Mason** (Science Center of Iowa) and "**Bermuda Bob**" **Marvin** of *Hawkeye Boomerangs* in Ankeny. 36 people signed up for a *Falcon Flyer boomerang* that was given away to **Sean Blair** of Des Moines. No local TV or radio stations came by during the event but we had a couple of pre-event publicity articles written in the *Des Moines Register*.

We were able to teach all who wanted to know how to properly and safely throw a boomerang with the small turnout. Luckily we won't have to apply for any insurance claims for any accidents. I do want to mention though, Bermuda Bob did stop a wild returning boom with a single hand and we all heard it hit with a "clump". He didn't seem to mind - he said "Now I don't have to go chase it!"

Let's see ... other wild stories, mostly true - Bermuda Bob threw a sport comeback into a 10" deep semi swamp area and retrieved it. The swamp comes from the almost insane constant rain we have received throughout this spring. After I left at 4:00, Bob, his brother, and a few stragglers had an informal contest to see who could knock over a beverage can with a returning boom. One of the stragglers had lived in Australia for awhile and brought along

some very fancy painted Aboriginal style booms. One of Morris' booms got caught in a tree. He used the oldest boomerang riddle answer to get it out (a stick). For about an hour we had to wait for the lawn mowers that moved in. It was about the only day they had a chance to mow so we let them.

On a more serious note, Morris provided free indoor boomerangs made of posterboard for all the children that came. Both Bob and Morris showed off the Awesome' Killing Stick that **Tom Fitzgerald** from St. Louis, Missouri lent to us as many were interested - it made quite an impact on them, ha ha.

Richard Surace hosted a toss at the Merritt Island High School in Merritt Island Florida. A total of 25 guests participated. **Jessie Robertson** demonstrated a MTA flight of 2.5 minutes, but the boom drifted onto the school roof. The principal placed a couple of tall garbage cans against the building to aide Jessie in his scramble up the side of the building, but it was to no avail. The MTA landed on the roof without a catch. **Richard Surace** had a similar MTA flight, but again the catch was thwarted.

Mike Dickson of Canton, Ohio hosted a toss in Devonshire Park. Activities included: a short talk on the history and science & a demo of tournament events. A total of 30 guests participated. Winds were 10-15 MPH with gusts up to 30 MPH. **Max Wallace** stayed the longest and assisted in the set-up and tear-down. Mike managed to get good pre-event media coverage in the May 9 edition of the *Canton*

Repository. Good post-event coverage was had in the May 16 edition of *The Akron Beacon Journal*.

Mike also had a three minute interview on WHBC Radio.

Paul Sprague writes: *The Wandering Nutmeg Boomerang Society* is still active here in Connecticut. We had our 3rd Annual Toss Across America Sunday, May 16 in conjunction with the Science Museum of Connecticut. Our boom instructors were **Mole Man**, **Boh Foresi**, **Joe Boudreau**, **Keith & Chris Mullinar**, **Tim Leonard** and **Paul Sprague**. The WNBS scored several media hits including front-page coverage in 2 major papers and TV spots on Channels 3 and 30. The weather was flawless for the third year in a row; light breeze and sunshine, giving way to sprinkles just as the cookout was ending. During the event exhibitions, the crowd went wild as Mole and I made side-by-side foot catches. Everyone cheered **Bob Foresi** every time he showed up again, since he had trouble keeping his booms on the field. His target-shooting with throw sticks sent him running every time, but the farthest was his MTA. It drifted the entire length of the field, over a row of houses, over a side street, and landed on somebody's porch. After the exhibition, we invited the whole crowd out onto the field to try it. Even with seven instructors and a good PA system, it was a big job keeping them all in line. No casualties, everyone had a great time, and the WNBS sold quite a few boomerangs. Plans are already underway for Toss #4.

9th ANNUAL TEAM GEL OAKLAND TWO DAY BOOMTEST

by Michael "Gel" Girvin

The 7 year drought in California is over. The throwers that came to the 9th Annual Team Gel Oakland Two Day Boomtest at Billy Martin Field know this first hand. March 27th was Individual Day. March 28th was Team Day.

The morning of the 27th was cold, cloudy and the winds were bad. The twelve Veterans and six Beginners were excited to throw boomerangs and get rad. The first event was *Accuracy*. It was a difficult wind, but fun. As the second event, *Fast Catch*, started, it began to rain. As the event progressed, the winds got worse and the rain came down harder. The skies fell dark. The third event saw rain and bad wind. Throwers were forced to leave because they were bone chilled and soaked. The tournament continued. The fourth event saw wind and bad rain. The last two Beginners, **Stephanie Martin** and **Hiro Cranney** were forced to leave the field during the third and fourth events, respectively, because of the elements. By the fifth event, only 7 veterans were able to withstand the elements. Parts of bodies were numb, teeth chattered, booms slipped through fingers, nothing was dry. It was no longer "fun," but it was grueling. When it was all over six throwers were left. **Kim Galeazzi**, **Doug DuFresne**, **Eric Fields**, **Paul DesJardien**, **Michael Girvin** and **Peter Gibson** gutted the tournament out to the end. These six humans won. The award ceremony at *La Val's Pizza Palace* was warm.

March 28th was much nicer. A few clouds dotted the sun filled and windy sky. Team Events were the order of this day. From the new USBA Team Event Rules Menu, six events were selected: Round Rang Relay, Team Accuracy,

Team Outback, Team Hacky Catch, Team Position, and Team Supercatch. Fourteen women and men formed three teams with more or less equal numbers of Veterans and Beginners on each team. The teams were of unequal sizes but scoring was made easy with the Normalizing Procedure as listed in the Team Rule Book. Some highlights are as follows: In Team Hacky Catch, the event where one teammate throws and the other teammates hand or foot hacky it before another teammate catches it, *Team Blatz* with **George Grubbe**, **Stephanie**, **Michael**, **Paul** and **Kim** won the event with only two out of a possible five catches. The first catch saw Paul throw, Michael hacky and Kim catch behind the back. For the second catch, George threw, Michael hackied to Stephanie, who then hackied to Kim for the catch. At the end, Paul declared, "This is a fun game!" The wind was up for Team Super Catch, but that did not phase *Team Oh, O.K!*, made up of **Mark Weary**, **Adreanna Brown**, **Eric Promislow** and **Hiro**. They had a plan: throw any boom that works, and catch. Coming into their last turn all they needed was four catches to take the event. Eric threw his high flying *Darnell Wizard*. Up, up it went and stabilized. Mark threw and caught. Hiro threw and caught. Mark caught a second. Eric's boomerang floated down. He had to catch to make it an even four! The Wizard floated in chest high. His hands slapped together. He caught. *Team Oh, O.K!* took the win in the wind. Everyone was stoked by the last second heroics. Doug showed eight year old, **J.M. Duran**, about some rules of the wind before joining the rest of their team, *Team Blackhouse*, featuring **Jon Phillips**, **Peter Gibson** and **Dave Chavez** for Team Position. After the first three throws of Team Position, Team Blatz and Team Oh, O.K! had worked them-

selves out to the 40 and 50 meter lines. Team Blackhouse had hovered up-wind and inside the 20 meter line. Peter, Dave and Jon kept them inside the 20 until the last two throws. J.M. threw and got them to the 15 meter line. Then Doug stepped up and threw. Before the catch he jumped, then caught and landed on the 11 meter line. Team Blackhouse won because they knew that getting the boom back to the bulls-eye from up wind is easy on a windy day. Blackhouse cheered. Everybody cheered.

Mark won the individual free-style game, G-L-O-R-P, easily.

As the Team Day came to an end, so did the Two Day Oakland Boomtest. All the boomerangers headed back to La Val's for the second day's award ceremony. Everyone was stoked inside (because it was warm) and knew that they had had an excellent adventure on this drought free weekend. Trophies, awards, commemorative shirts designed by **Pia Hagan** and boomerang prizes were earned by all involved. Everyone left with tons of loot, a smile on their face and the knowledge that next throw at Billy Martin Field WILL have better weather.

Notes by Doug DuFresne

My first question: is this Oakland? or is this Hamburg? The skies looked the same, and it felt the same - cold, wet and windy. Before the start of the contest, several people felt ready for the competition. After *Accuracy*, it looked as though **Michael "GEL" Girvin** was the most ready. He took first with 35 followed by **Kim Galeazzi** and **Mark Weary** at 33. *Fast Catch* was next. In the aforementioned wind, Michael made it look relatively easy with a 28.75 second round. 2nd and 3rd went to **Doug DuFresne** and **Mark Weary** in the 33's.

The cold was starting to have its effect by the time we started *Trick Catching*. **Eric Fields** showed us how the event should look by ignoring the conditions and catching 11. 2nd & 3rd went to Mark and Doug at 9 with GEL close behind. It looked like Eric, Gel and Mark were hot.

Well actually, Mark was shivering visibly and had to withdraw - but he threw and caught well through the first 3 events.

In *Doubling*, it became clear who was ready. Michael caught 11 for the win.

Eric, Kim and Doug tied for 2nd with 4 catches.

The winds persisted into *Endurance*. Doug came out on top with 32. Eric was 2nd with 29 and Gel hung on for 3rd with 28.

Michael landed wrong while making his first *Australian Round* catch at the 20 meter line and injured his knee. As with injuries in the past, the pain seems to subside when it is his turn to perform. He completed the event well enough to take 2nd with 48 points. Doug won with 50 and Peter Gibson joined the top 3 with 30.

During practice for MTA, Michael put his best one up into the wind. It drifted off into the neighborhood and was lost. But Michael outclassed the field with a 30.17 throw by catching his second string boom at the line - in spite of the knee that only seemed to affect his gait when he was walking back after each of his throws. Eric Fields pulled off a 23.44 for 2nd and Doug stayed in touch with the leaders with a 17.43 for 3rd.

Juggling, as was expected was the Michael & Michael show. The winds continued to be substantial and shifty, so Michael won with 10 catches. Not bad for a lame boomchucker in the wind. Eric placed second with 3 catches and Peter Gibson finished 3rd with 2 catches.

Michael dominated the day with 5 wins and a 2nd, 3rd and 4th for 79 points overall. Doug and Eric were 2nd and 3rd with 61.5 and 58 points respectively.

The trophies were as fantastic as the taste of the Pizza and the warmth of the parlor. They were the inspired creations of Kim Galeazzi and Michael "GEL." They included components as diverse as boomerang wood (including some boomerangs), planks of unknown origin, driftwood, and even a well used (nearly hairless) shop brush. Some were simple and delicate - some were elaborate and dynamic.

Competitors claimed their choices and had them personalized for the occasion on-the-spot. The trophies were a great conclusion to a day that proved to be a true TEST.

Afterword: Actually, the trophies weren't the conclusion. Michael's car was towed during the celebration. Michael offered a tip to the towing company employee he dealt with. She appeared not to have a sense of humor. The day was a TEST.

South Georgia Boomerang Club Spring Fling '93

by Dr. John Derden

The South Georgia Boomerang Club Spring Fling '93 was held on the campus of East Georgia College (Swainsboro) on Saturday, April 24. Competitors were greeted by a cloudless day that started with temperatures in the mid-50's, rising to 80 degrees by mid-afternoon. As the scores will indicate, the infamous Swainsboro wind conditions prevailed, ranging from calm to bluster with sudden directional changes.

Registration started at 9:30 A.M., and the tournament got underway shortly after 10:00 A.M. Seventeen veteran throwers competed, hoping to thaw their frozen arms out of the enforced inactivity of the winter months.

The first event was *Trick Catch*, won by Rob Parkins with eleven snags. The next event was *Accuracy* which turned out to be the most interesting event of the day. Rev. Jim and Iowan Bob Marvin tied at 25 points for first. A sudden-death throw-off was held for the tournament title. After the first throw, they remained tied; after the second throw, they were still tied. Finally, on the third toss from the center, Rev. Jim outpointed Bob Marvin. Besides the extended throw-off, the interesting thing about the outcome is that Bob had come to throw in the novice category and, when that part of the tourney failed to materialize because of a lack of participants, he decided to "throw" in his lot with the veterans. Event three was *Fast Catch*, and the surprise winner was John Derden who simply threw and caught his boom five

times without a drop in 33.44 seconds. Ten years ago, that would have been a good time, but Saturday it was just lucky. Jesse Robertson, who has been making a habit of this, won *Aussie Round* with a score of 52. Jim Jordan, Mr. Prez himself, took *Juggling* with 12 catches. Rob Parkins won *Doubling* with 10 catches, and Sean Marquardt kept his boom up for 40.09 seconds to win *MTA₁₀₀*. The last event, *Endurance*, was Chicago Bob's with 46 catches.

The top ten placings and point totals are as follows:

1.	Rob Parkins	56.0
2.	Chicago Bob	52.5
3.	Jim Jordan	50.5
4.	Dennis Joyce	46.0
5.	Willie Davis	39.0
6.	Sean Marquardt	37.0
7.	Rev. Jim	35.5
8.	Jesse Robertson	29.0
8.	Tim Maultsby	29.0
10.	Richard Surace	15.8

In the Aesthetics category, Richard Surace entered one of his beautiful (and in competition, effective) Hydra three-bladers and was judged best in show.

Accolades go to Ted Bailey, John Koehler, Eric Darnell, Chet Snouffer, Michael Girvin, Neil Kalmanson, John Dunn, H.L. Mayhew, Walt Mason, and a host of others for helping in numerous ways to make this year's tournament a success. Also, a Savannah T.V. station: WTOC, filmed some of the action as part of a feature program on Swainsboro. Thanks also to Jockey International, Inc., which has a manufacturing facility in Millen, Georgia, for providing T-shirts and funding for having them printed and for trophies.

Australian 1993 Comp News

The Australian National Championships were held in Perth on March 13 with most of the throwers from Western Australia attending. **Rob Croll** and **Bruce Carter** represented Victoria and **Adam Carroll** and **Kevin Moran** represented Sydney (N.S.W.)

Rob Croll took overall honors by taking 5 second places, but not a single first place. A request has been made for the NSW throwers to sponsor the championships next year. **Joe Becker** from the USA made a special trip to Perth to view the comps. He followed his Perth visit with a trip to Sydney to visit **Duncan MacClennan** and **Pauline Pahlow**.

The New South Wales Titles were held on March 21 at Oxford Falls. This newly built sporting complex is where the NSW throwers gather for monthly meetings. Located in a valley near the sea, windy conditions are the rule. This gives the local throwers ideal conditions for tournament practice. At the NSW Titles, **Bob Burwell** captured the **Fred Hollows Memorial Trophy** by taking first in Aussie Round. **Brother Brian Thomas** came in second place and 72 year old **Ken Arthur** came in third. Aussie Round was contested the old way with a double round, followed by a throw off of the top 3. Brian was in first place until the throwoff, but Bob proved to be the better thrower in strong, shifty winds. **Dave Martin** took first in MTA

with 26 seconds. **Holgar Rągowski** took first in *Novelty Accuracy*, in which throwers must use oddly shaped booms. **Günter Wandtke** took first place in regular *Accuracy* with 33 points. Günter also took first in *German Doubling* with 5 catches, *One-handed Catches* with 3, and *Fast Catch* with 60.45 seconds. The top three places go to **Günter Wandtke**, **Brother Brian Thomas** & **Bob Burwell**. This was a somber day for **Bob Burwell**. On the following day, Bob turned the big 5-0. **Dennis Maxwell** preceded him by a week. Both were founding members of the *Boomerang Association of Australia*.

The Second Central Coast Boomerang Championships were held at St. Edward's College; East Gosford, on 18 April in near perfect conditions. **Brother Brian Thomas** took first place in Accuracy, Consecutive Catch & Doubling. Brian also took a pair of seconds in F/C and MTA₁₀₀. **Günter Wandtke** took first in Aussie Round and MTA₁₀₀. **Adam Carroll** took first place in F/C. Overall placing went to: **Brother Brian Thomas**, **Günter Wandtke** & **Adam Carroll**.

Congratulations go to **Günter Wandtke** for a MTA throw of 61.3 seconds which didn't count as it drifted out of the 100 m circle.



Bruce Carter - Lefty President of The BAA

Determining Wind Direction

One of the advantages that the experienced thrower has over a novice thrower is the ability to detect the ever changing wind direction just before throwing. Current techniques that advanced throwers frequently use to detect wind direction include the following:

Tear out a clump of grass and toss it into the air. This technique can be somewhat misleading because the blades of grass descend in close proximity to the body of the thrower. The grass can be entrained in the air flowing around the thrower's body and move in a different direction to that of the air well in front of the thrower.

A better technique is to use thin mylar flags attached to small diameter poles scattered around the throwing field. An observant thrower will notice that the wind can blow in many different directions, depending on where the flag is located. The best throwers have the ability to visualize the flow of air between the flags and interpret what the wind is doing in the path of their boomerang.

A less popular, but quite effective method is for the thrower to wet a finger around its entire perimeter and hold it well above the throwers

head. Saliva works well and is readily available. The side of the finger that feels cool is the direction of the oncoming wind. It is very important to wet the entire finger. If only a portion of the finger is wet, then the cooling may not be centered in the direction of incoming wind flow.

It is also important to hold the finger well above the thrower's head to avoid a misdirected flow of air around the thrower's body.

Similarly, a thrower can determine wind direction by sensing which side of the thrower's body feels cool because of perspiration.

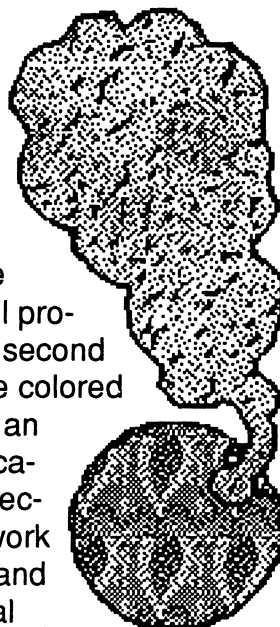
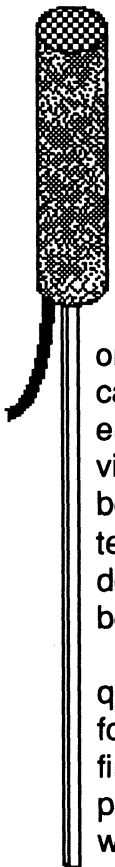
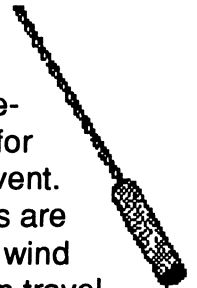
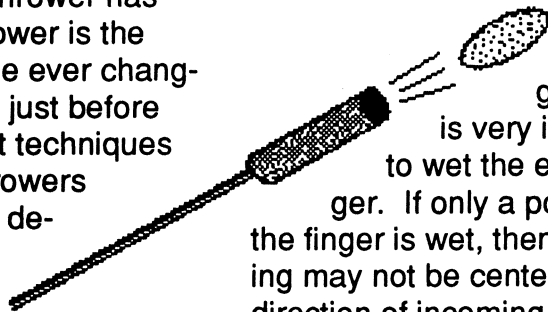
There are a few additional techniques that the editor developed for Super Catch which could be of use to other competitors. The editor has lived near the Ohio/Michigan border for the past decade. Fireworks stands are rather plentiful on both sides of the

border. A rather inexpensive and benign firework is the *Smoke Ball* or *Smoke Bomb*. These small balls will produce a 5 - 10 second burst of dense colored smoke that is an excellent indicator of wind direction. These work best when lit and thrown several

feet in front of the thrower. A package of 12 costs about a dollar. As the smoke drifts, it provides the thrower with excellent information about the speed and turbulence of the wind near the ground. This makes them especially well suited for the Fast Catch event.

Many throwers are unaware that the wind on the ground can travel in a very different direction from the wind 50 - 100 feet above the thrower. This is especially true in the vicinity of cold fronts when the clouds move in a different direction than the apparent winds on the ground. An excellent wind indicator for MTA throwing is the bottle rocket. The best type is called the *Rocket Parachute*. This small rocket travels to a height almost exactly equal to that of an MTA. The rocket then releases a flare on a parachute which sinks at a very slow rate. This provides the thrower with information on wind direction and turbulence over a wide spectrum of heights that his MTA will encounter.

In closing, the editor offers a word of caution. Fireworks are fun, but they are also potentially dangerous. They should be used only with extreme caution and away from crowds and flammable objects. Use common sense and safety. Please obey all local fireworks laws.



The Chatham Wood Show

The 3rd Annual Chatham International Wood Show was

held on April 23-25 with several Canadian and American throwers attending to view the design contest and the raffle drawing of the \$2,500 rare-

wood boomerang. On display was the rarewood boomerang, the giant S/L hook (to be auctioned) and assorted finely crafted boomerangs that were entered in the design contest.

Two booths marketed boomerang products. A Canadian booth sold **John Cryderman's** strip laminated hooks & standards as well as a red, Canadian made, plastic standard. Representing American manufacturers were **Gregg Snouffer** and **Charlie Kunkle**, both of Delaware, Ohio, with assorted plywood boomerangs and Gregg's hot selling polystyrene tri-bladers.

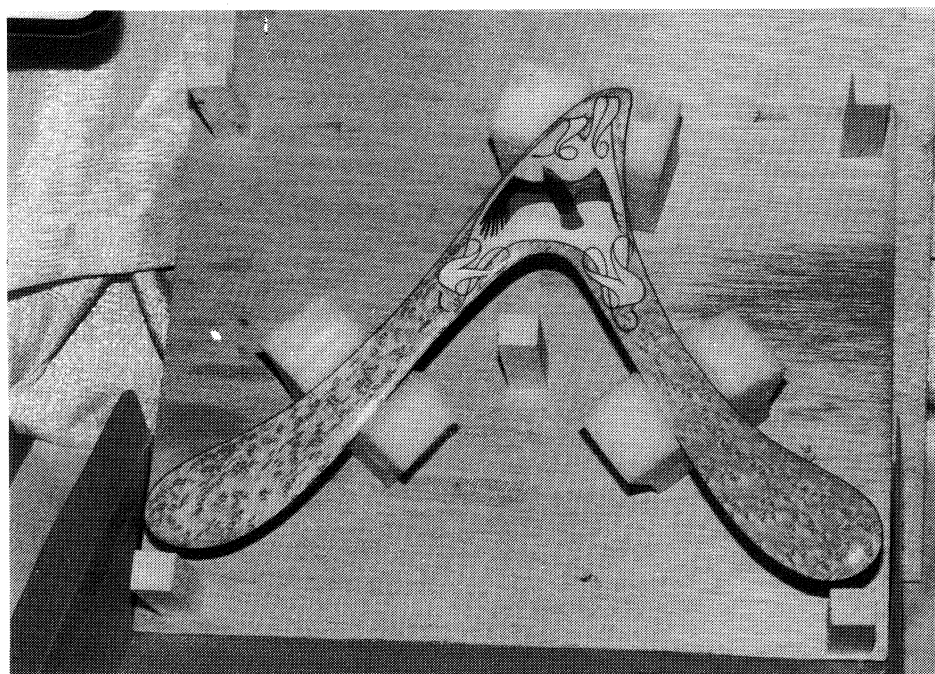
Canadians: **Ken Farr** and **André Lambert** and Americans: **Ted Bailey** and **Fred Malmberg** also made an appearance at the wood show.

The winner of the rarewood boomerang/case raffle was **Dr. Clifton Furukawa** of Seattle, Wa. Cliff, who bought 50 tickets, was selected over many other ticket holders, including **Gary Broadbent**. Gary purchased hundreds of tickets to help raise money for the 1994 World Cup.

A total of thirteen boomerangs were entered in the design contest. Boomerangs



The First Place Trophy and Giant S/L Gerhards Hook Replica



First Place Entry by Jonas Romblad of Sweden

photo by Ken Farr

No. _____
 NAME *Clifton Furukawa*
 ADDRESS *Seattle*
 1074 _____
 PHONE _____

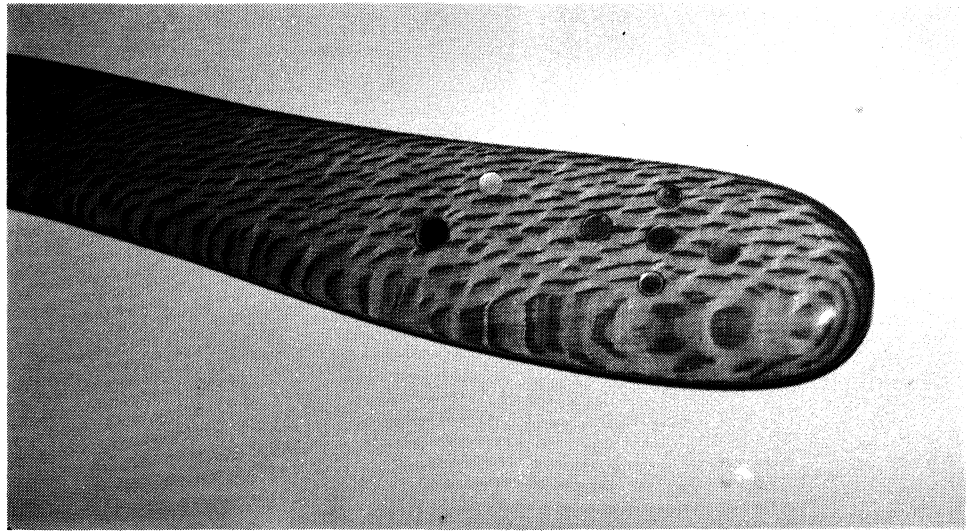
The Winning Raffle Ticket

were judged on: construction difficulty; surface finish; design; originality; presentation; practicality and aerodynamic design.

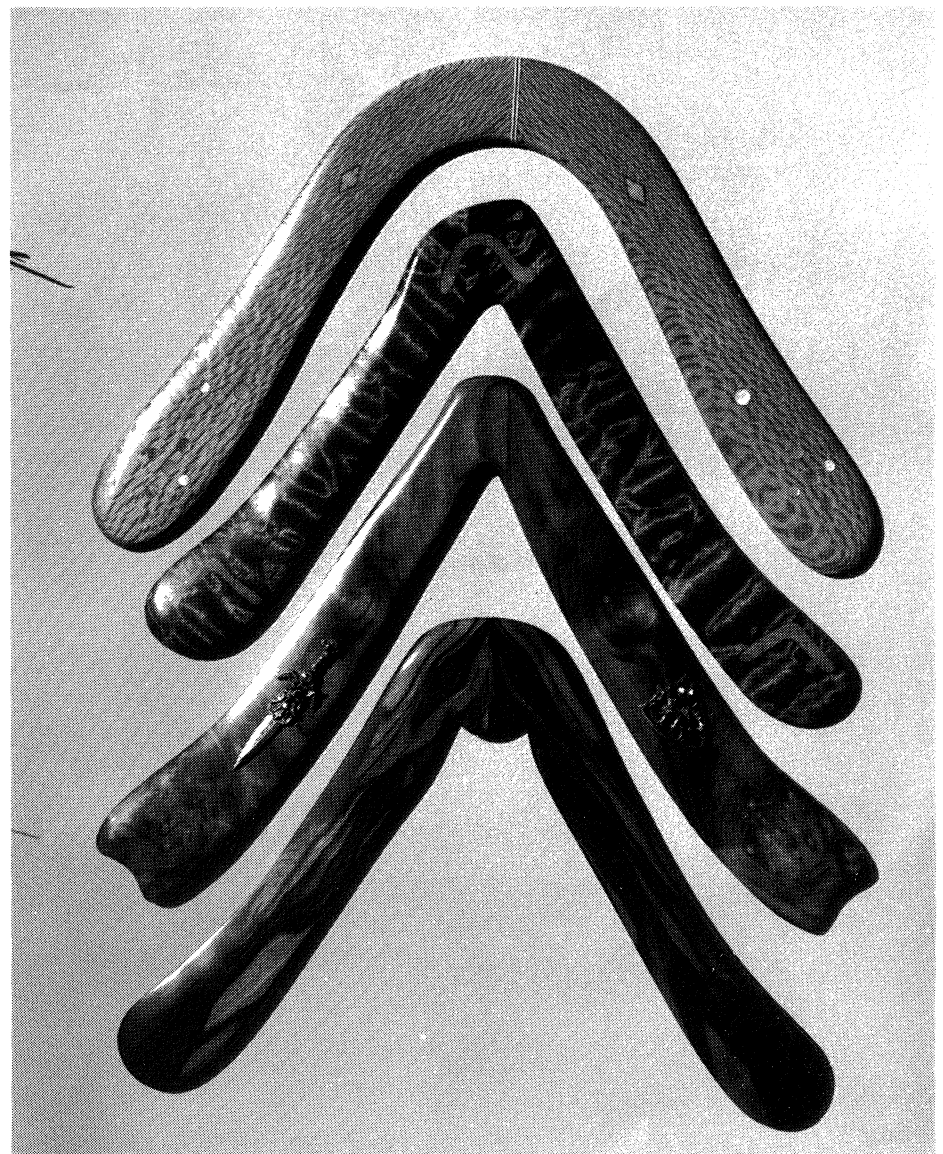
First Place was a complete tie between two Swedes: **Jonas Romblad** of Sweden and **Fred Malmberg** of York, Pa.

Jonas Romblad made a gorgeous omega (pictured on previous page) out of highly figured *Bird's Eye Maple* featuring an elbow delicately inlaid with a raptor in flight on a scroll-like background. This boomerang was previously featured on the cover of *Boomerang Journal* No. 6 (Fall 1991). It is again featured on the cover of this issue of MHR.

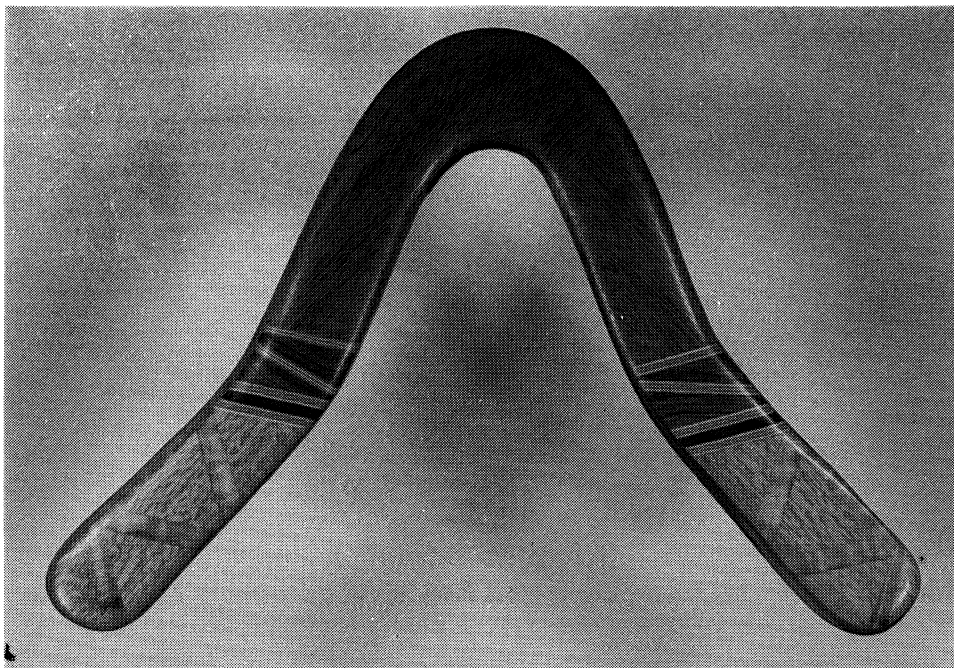
Fred Malmberg entered several boomerangs. All were lap joint designs featuring exotic woods and inlay of various kinds. Fred's boomerangs are well known for their beauty as he has captured first place in other design contests. His products are heavily sought after by boomerang collectors. Fred begins his finishing process by hand sanding in multiple steps using grit paper from 220 to 12000. The boomerang is rubbed with boiled linseed oil to produce an almost glass-like surface finish. The first boomerang in the photo to the bottom right is made out of an African wood called "Rewa Rewa". The inlaid circular sections are Mother-of-Pearl. The second boomerang is made out of "Blistered Mahogany". This wood has an unusual 3-D motion appearance with a reptilian skin pattern. Boomerang shaped "Pink Ivory" wood inlay graced both tips



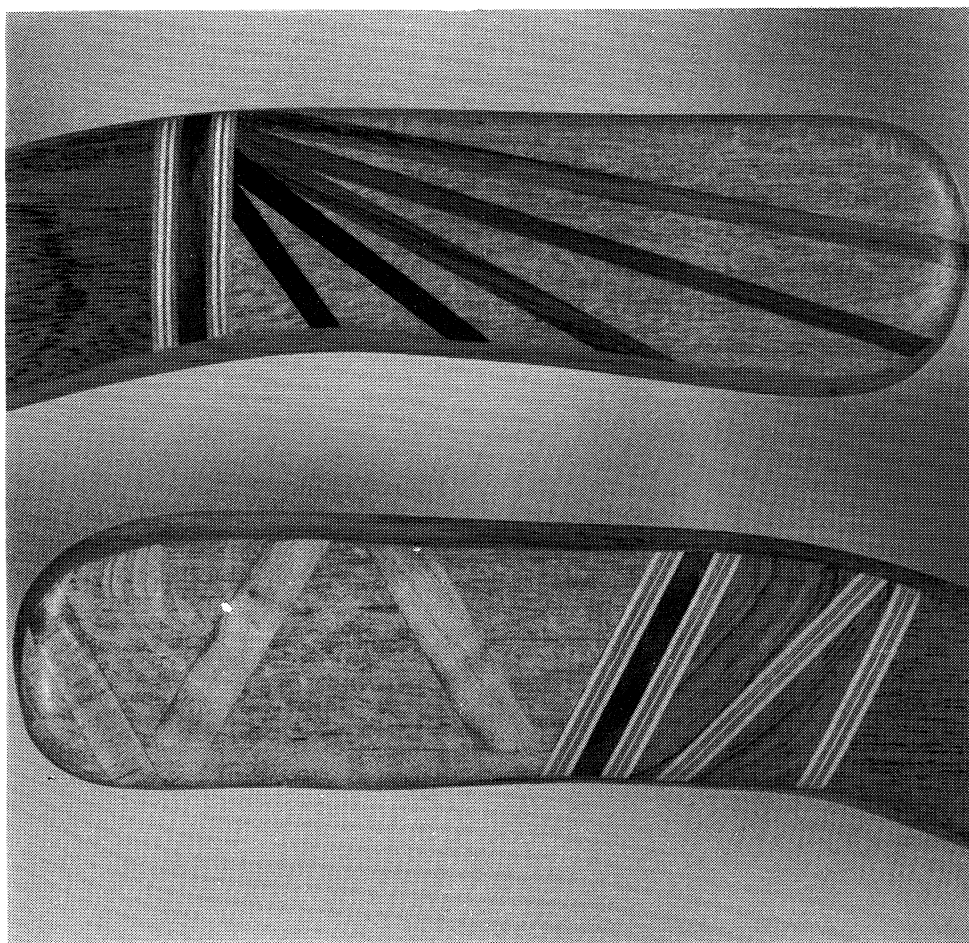
Mother-Of-Pearl Inlay in "Rewa Rewa" Wood by F. Malmberg



Fred Malmberg's First Place Entries in the Design Contest.



Lap Joint Omega With Woods From All Seven Continents



Detailed Marquetry in Rarewood Omega Tips by Ted Bailey

and the elbow. The third boomerang is made of American "Myrtle" wood. Pre-cast Pewter inlays grace both arms. The fourth boomerang is made out of "Black Rose" wood from South America.

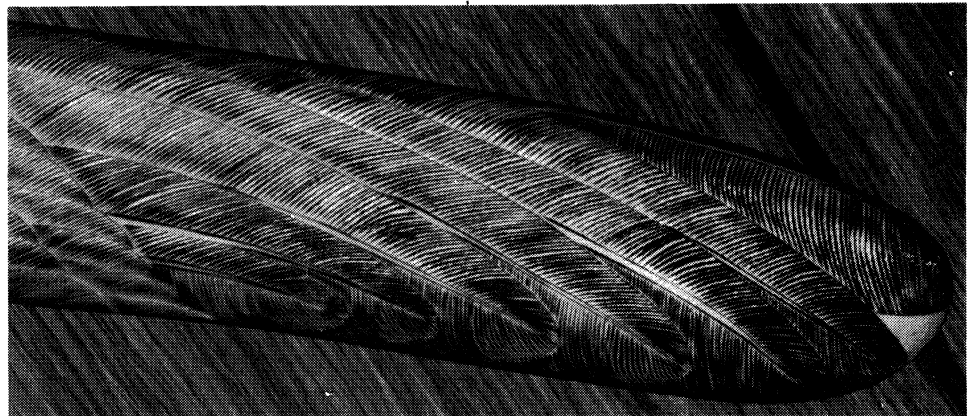
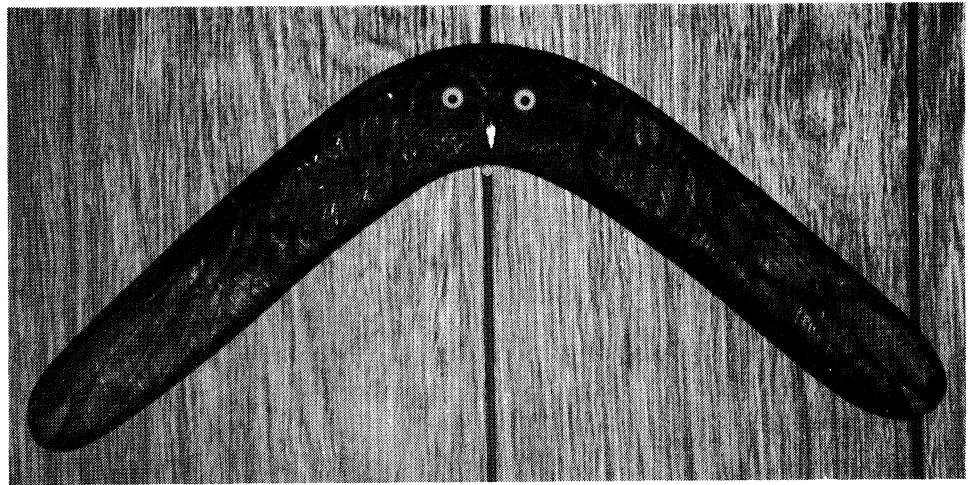
Ted Bailey took second place with several examples of horizontally lapped hardwood V's and omegas. Two omegas featured woods from all 7 continents in linearly contrasting patterns as depicted below left. These boomerangs were popular with collectors in the mid 1980s before newsletter production and the demand for MTAs took all of Ted's leisure time.

Pierre (Pete) R. Martin of Grande Pointe, Ontario, Canada (pictured on the following page) is a relatively unknown craftsman in the world of boomerangs. Yet he took 3rd Place with his submittal of several beautiful boomerangs; each delicately carved to simulate avian features, including the intricate detailing of bird feathers as is done on decorative bird decoys. Pete has always been an avid wood worker. A turning point in his life came when he took a course on decorative decoy carving from **Jill Ellis** of Dover Centre some six years ago. It was here that Pete learned the basics of feather carving which translated into the exquisite boomerangs that he submitted for the wood show. The photographs do not do justice to the quality of the workmanship that took many hours of hard work. Pete remains an active member of *Sunparlour Woodcarvers*

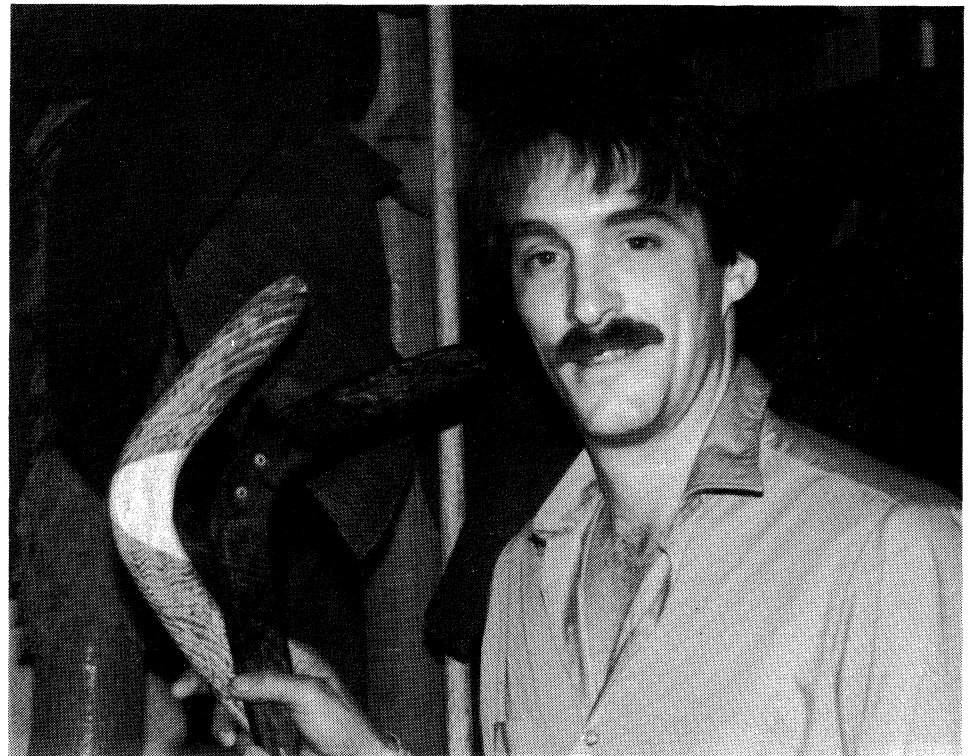
Club of Windsor.

And who had the highest bid for the giant strip laminated Gerhards style hook? **Ken Farr** of Ontario had the maximum bid of \$525, narrowly beating out a competing bid of \$491. The funds were converted into ¥ (see below) and then mailed to **Yoshinobu Sakimitsu** of *The Japan Boomerang Association* to financially assist him in his organization of the 1994 World Cup.

And what's next for John Cryderman? John plans on making a pair of offset laminated (standard & white lightning) hooks to auction off as a fund raiser for the 1994 World Cup.



Details of Pierre Martin's Fine Bird Boomerang Workmanship



Pierre Martin and his Winning "Bird" Boomerang Entries

Comenqa Bank

No. 93245

Pay to The Order of Yoshinobu Sakimitsu*****

the sum of Fourty-three thousand eight hundred and eleven JPY*****

.001591

Bank of Tokyo Ltd.
Operations Center International Div.
P.O. Box 191 Nishinashi
Tokyo, Japan 103-91

Date May 24, 1993

****43811.00 JPY****

Authorized
Signature

Cryderman Hook auction funds for the 1994 World Cup

The Whistler Boomerang

by Ed B. Russell

A Whistler made out of an Aluminum drink can & having a round sound box instead of a rectangular one is easy to make.

This description shows the whistler fitted to an $\frac{1}{8}$ " (3mm) 3 ply tri-blader. However, with adjustment to the top disk because of airfoil thickness, the whistler can be made on thicker plywood boomerangs. The photos show the finished job and tools required, while Sketch 1 provides an explanation as to how it works.

Step-by-step Instructions

1. From a clean Aluminum drink can, separate the cylindrical tube, make a cut lengthwise & remove the curvature so as to leave the 0.005" Aluminum flat.

2. Cut both $1\frac{1}{2}$ " (38 mm) and $1\frac{5}{8}$ " (41 mm) diameter disks & scrape all varnish or paint from the surface to be glued to the wood.

3. On the $1\frac{5}{8}$ " ϕ disk, scribe lines as shown by Sketch 2. Make two cuts, designated by A & B. With pliers or multi-grips, bend the centre piece on the fold line about 90° to the surface so that cut C can be made. Nip off the points from tip of sides A.

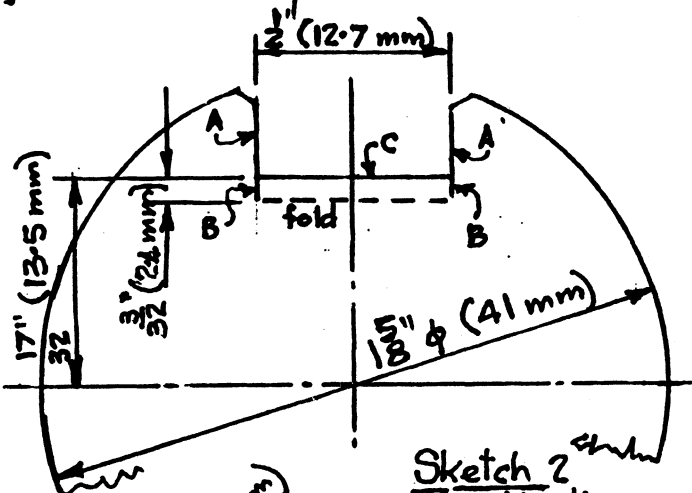
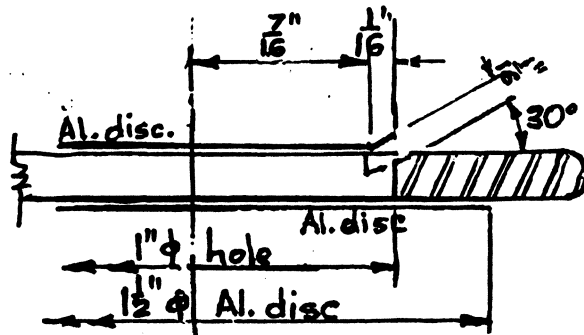
4. Drill a 1" (25 mm) ϕ hole in the wing tip, using the hole saw shown in Photo E. To avoid the likelihood of splitting the edge of the hole, clamp scrap pieces of plywood to both sides.

5. With a sharp pen knife, cut the edge of the hole as shown in Sketch 3. Take care to insure that the edge is straight.

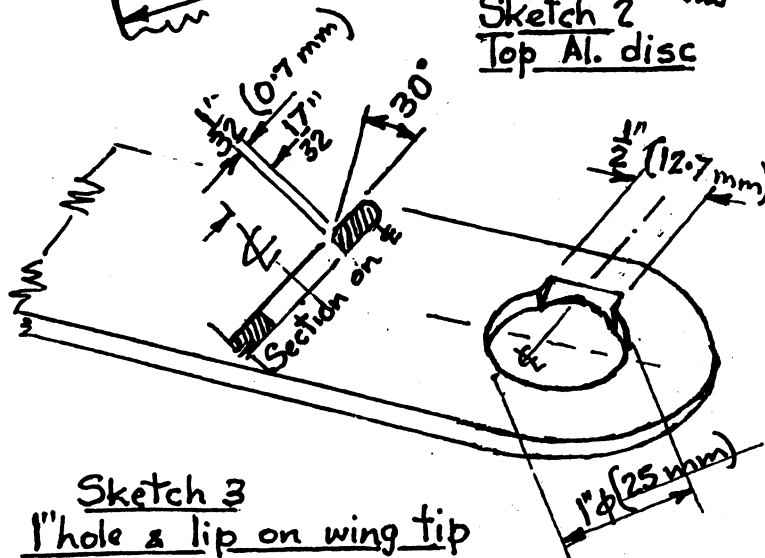
6. Attach the $1\frac{1}{2}$ " ϕ disk to the bottom face of the boomerang with epoxy resin.

7. Glue $1\frac{5}{8}$ " ϕ disk to top surface. Refer to Photo F and Sketch 1 for the correct location.

Sketch 1
Assembly



Sketch 2
Top Al. disc



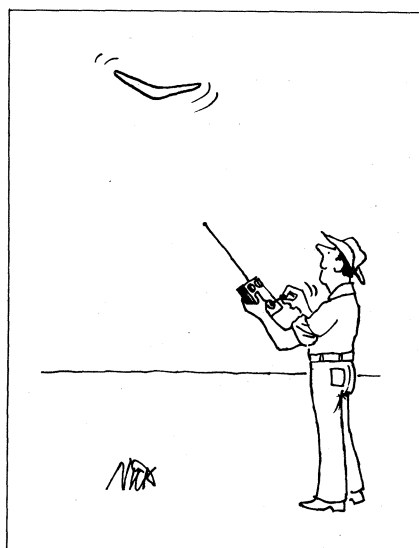
Sketch 3
1 hole & lip on wing tip

8. Adjust the angle of the lip to about 30°. The space between the lip and the carved edge of the hole should be about 1/16".

9. Make minor adjustments to the lip to produce the best tone of the whistle.

Ed B. Russell
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Cheltenham 5014
South Australia
Australia

Editor's note: Ed B. Russell is a retired Tool & Die Maker. Ed spent 9 years in Canada and knows North America well. Ed is a boomerang enthusiast and a tinkerer, but he is not a boomerang manufacturer for wholesale purposes. Peter Close was the contact between Ed and MHR. These plans are based upon a design by Robert Leckie. The plans were provided by Brian Kemp.



A Cartoon From The August 4, 1987 issue of Machine Design Magazine.

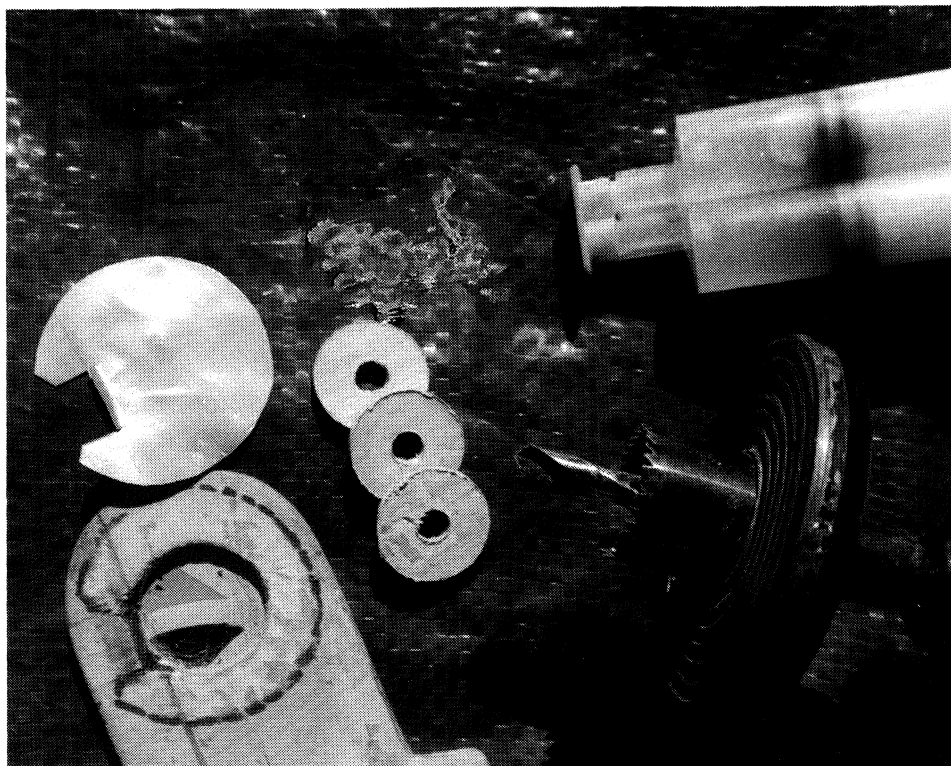


Photo E - shows the hole cutter, epoxy, drill plugs to be discarded, the 1 5/8" disk as modified in Sketch 2 and the drilled blade with the 1 1/2" disk already glued to the underside of the blade tip.

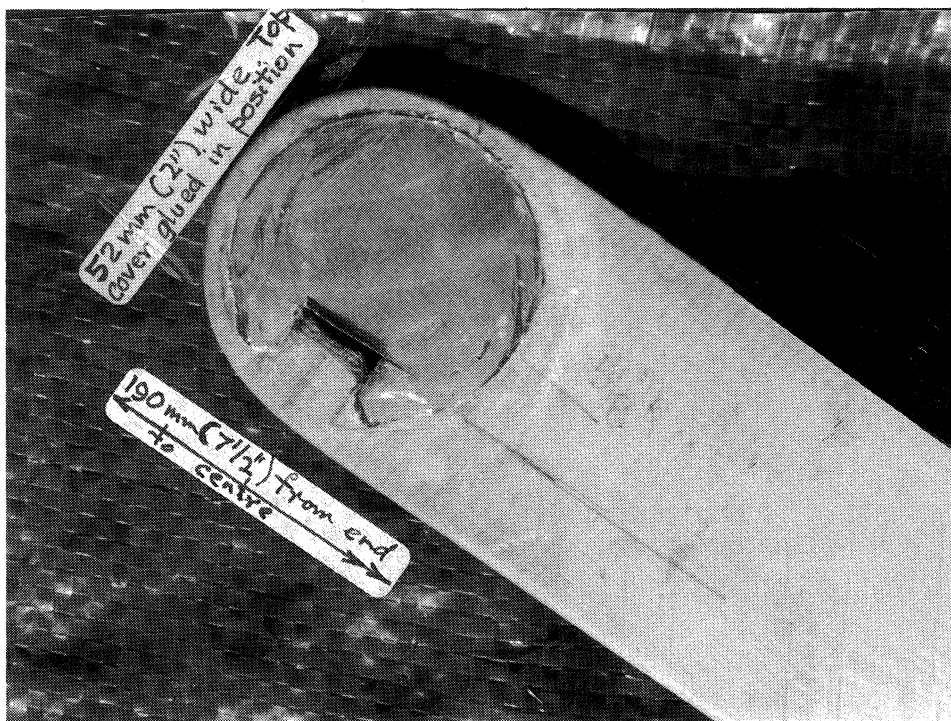


Photo F - Shows the completed Whistler in the tip of a 3 mm thick tri-blader tip.

Mark Twain on Australia

Art Adamson is a retired consultant Engineer that the editor worked with a General Electric Aircraft Engine Co. in Cincinnati, Ohio. Art passed a copy of the 1897 edition of "Mark Twain's Works; Following The Equator"; Vol. 1 on to the editor because it contained passages within on both the boomerang and another remarkable device called the "Weet Weet". Although the editor had never read anything by Mark Twain (movies and comic books were abundant on his works already), the volume was devoured with much enthusiasm. A few of the passages that may be of interest to the reader follow. Much of the book is devoted to other interesting tidbits of Australian life from a 19th century perspective. The editor highly recommends this book to anyone with an interest in Australia.

..... One of these old gentlemen told me some things of interest afterward; things about the aboriginals, mainly. He thought them intelligent--- remarkably so in some directions---and he said that along with their unpleasant qualities they had some exceedingly good ones; and he considered it a great pity that the race had died out. He instanced their invention of the boomerang and the "weet-weet" as evidences of their brightness; and as another evidence of it he said he had never seen a white man who had 'cleverness enough to learn to do the miracles with those two toys that the aboriginals achieved. He said that

even the smartest whites had been obliged to confess that they could not learn the trick of the boomerang in perfection; that it had possibilities which they could not master. The white man could not control its motions, could not make it obey him; but the aboriginal could. He told me some wonderful things--some almost incredible things--which he had seen the blacks do with the boomerang and the weet-weet.

They have been confirmed to me since by other early settlers and by trustworthy books. It is contended---and may be said to be conceded ----that the boomerang was known to certain savage tribes in Europe in Roman times. In support of this, Virgil and two other Roman poets are quoted. It is also contended that it was known to the ancient Egyptians. One of two things is then apparent: either some one with a boomerang arrived in Australia in the days of antiquity before European knowledge of the thing had been lost, or the Australian aboriginal re-invented it. It will take some time to find out which of these two propositions is the fact. But there is no hurry.

..... From my diary: There are several sorts of ills in the world from which a person can never escape altogether, let him journey as far as he will. One escapes from one breed of an ill only to encounter another breed of it. We have come far from the snake liar and the fish liar, and there was rest and peace in the thought; but now we have reached the

realm of the boomerang liar, and sorrow is with us once more. The first officer has seen a man try to escape from his enemy by getting behind a tree; but the enemy sent his boomerang sailing into the sky far above and beyond the tree; then it turned, descended, and killed the man. The Australian passenger has seen this thing done to two men, behind two trees---and by the one arrow. This being received with a large silence that suggested doubt, he buttressed it with the statement that his brother once saw the boomerang kill a bird away off a hundred yards and bring it to the thrower. But these are ills which must be borne. There is no other way. The talk passed from the boomerang to dreams - usually a fruitful subject, afloat or ashore---but this time the output was poor.

..... Before I saw Australia I had never heard of the "weet-weet" at all. I met but few men who had seen it thrown---at least I met but few who mentioned having seen it thrown. Roughly described, it is a fat wooden cigar with its butt-end fastened to a flexible twig. The whole thing is only a couple of feet long, and weighs less than two ounces. This feather--so to call it--is not thrown through the air, but is flung with an underhanded throw and made to strike the ground a little way in front of the thrower; then it glances and makes a long skip; glances again, skips again, and again and again, like the flat stone which a boy sends skating over

the water. The water is smooth, and the stone has a good chance; so a strong man may make it travel fifty or seventy-five yards; but the weet weet has no such good chance, for it strikes sand, grass, and earth in its course. Yet an expert aboriginal has sent it a measured distance of two hundred and twenty yards. It would have gone even further, but it encountered rank ferns and underwood on its passage and they damaged its speed. Two hundred and twenty yards; and so weightless a toy—a mouse on the end of bit of wire, in effect; and not sailing through the accommodating air, but encountering grass and sand and stuff at every jump, it looks wholly impossible; but Mr. Brough Smyth saw the feat and did the measuring, and set down the facts in his book about aboriginal life, which he wrote by command of the Victorian Government. What is the secret of the feat? No one explains. It cannot be physical strength, for that could not drive such a feather-weight any distance. It must be art. But no one explains what the art of it is; nor how it gets around that law of nature which says you shall not throw any two-ounce thing 220 yards, either through the air or bumping along the ground. Rev. J. G. Wood says: "The distance to which the weet-weet or kangaroo-rat can be thrown is truly astonishing. I have seen an Australian stand at one side of Kennington Oval and throw the kangaroo-rat completely across it." (Width of Kennington Oval not stated.) "It darts through

the air with the sharp and menacing hiss of a rifle-ball, its greatest height from 'the ground being some seven or eight feet.

When properly thrown it looks just like a living animal leaping along. Its movements have a wonderful resemblance to the long leaps of a kangaroo-rat fleeing in alarm, with its long tail trailing behind it."

The Old Settler said that he had seen distances made by the weet-weet in the early days, which almost convinced him that it was as extraordinary an instrument as the boomerang. There must have been a large distribution of acuteness among those naked, skinny aboriginals, or they couldn't have been such unapproachable trackers and boomerangers and weet-weeters. It must have been race-aversion that put upon them a good deal of the low-rate intellectual reputation which they bear and have borne this long time in the world's estimate of them.

.He takes his reluctant bride by force, he courts her with a club, then loves her faithfully through a long life—it is of record. He gathers to himself another wife by the same processes, beats and bangs her as a daily diversion, and by and by lays down his life in defending her from some outside harm—it is of record. He will face a hundred hostiles to rescue one of his children, and will kill another of his children because the family is large enough without it.

His delicate stomach turns, at certain details of the white man's food; but he likes over-ripe fish, and braised dog, and

cat, and rat, and will eat his own uncle with relish. He is a sociable animal, yet he turns aside and hides behind his shield when his mother-in-law goes by. He is childishly afraid of ghosts and other trivialities that menace his soul, but dread of physical pain is a weakness which he is not acquainted with. He knows all the great and many of the little constellations, and has names for them; he has a symbol-writing by means of which he can convey messages far and wide among the tribes; he has a correct eye for form and expression, and draws a good picture; he can track a fugitive by delicate traces which the white man's eye cannot discern, and by methods which the finest white intelligence cannot master.

He makes a missile which science itself cannot duplicate without the model—if with it; a missile whose secret baffled and defeated the searchings and theorizings of the white mathematicians for seventy years; and by an art all his own he performs miracles with it which the white man cannot approach untaught, nor parallel after teaching. Within certain limits this savage's intellect is the alertest and the brightest known to history or tradition; and yet the poor creature was never able to invent a counting system that would reach above five, nor a vessel that he could boil water in. He is the prize-curiosity of all the races. To all intents and purposes he is dead—in the body; but he has features that will live in literature.

BITS & PIECES

News From The USA

Keith Mullinar found the ultimate use for home made boomerangs. Keith challenged a traffic ticket in court and was able to avoid paying a fine (and getting points on his license) by donating some of his handicrafts to a children's Christmas charity. This was a great way to satisfy the courts and spread the word about boomerangs.

Moleman became the first to report completing the fabled SuperCatch for the 1993 season. Out throwing with his Mother in April, he improved his standings by catching 6 F/C booms under the MTA. See page 6 for a complete listing of those in the S/C Club. **Rick Reynolds** has the first 1993 report of a sacrifice to Jet Stream God. Rick was using a Bailey Maxi-MTA model. **Tony Brazelton** had back to back MTA throws of 57.40 and 92.71 seconds at a club practice in December. A catch was made on both. The longer flight went 150 metres and crashed into a greenhouse before

landing in Tony arms. Tony used a modified Bailey Midi-MTA for both throws. **Jessie Robertson** and **Richard Surace** each had MTA flights of approximately 2.5 minutes at the Merritt Island Toss Across America.

Tim Price of Livonia, Mi., set a new record, of sorts, when he launched a Midi-MTA for his first time ever and had a flight of 1 minute and 31 seconds. This new thrower also caught 10 out of 12 in the Trick Catch event. Watch out for Tim at the first Michigan Tournament set for June 19 in Livonia, Michigan.

Chet Snouffer took a trip to Los Angeles in March to participate in the pilot for a new CBS television show called "Won A Bet". The show was supposed to air on May 21. Late word came to Chet that the segment on boomerang throwing was cut at the last minute. If the pilot is a success, the segment on boomerang throwing will be repeated at a later date. This is a great way to spread the word about boomerangs.

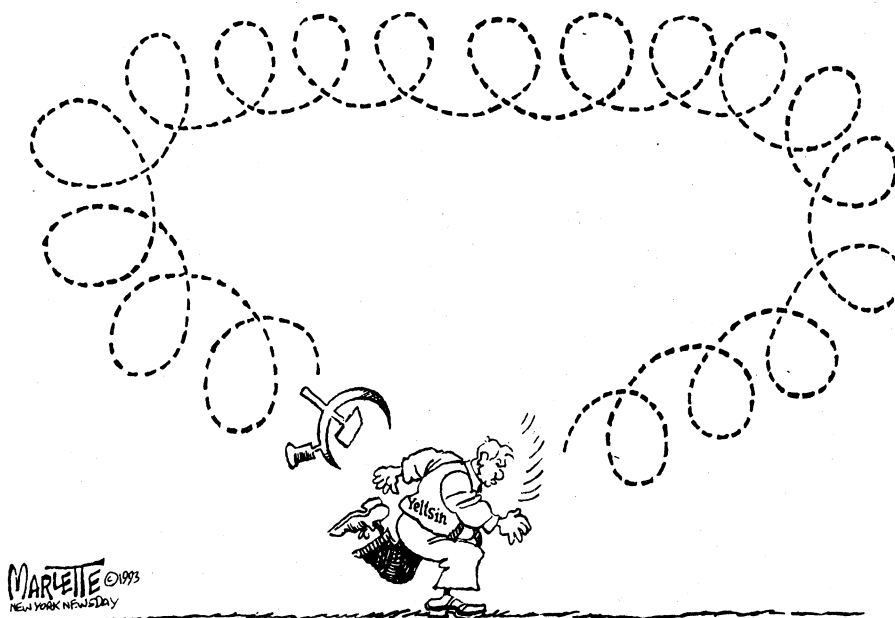
Taking another approach at promoting the sport, **Ted Bailey** was featured in the 1992 *NASA Spinoff* publication. Details were

mentioned in MHR #54. Secondary publicity followed with several newspaper and television stations soliciting information on those *high tech booms*. Among the best coverage was a half page spread in both the 13 and 14 April editions of the "Detroit News". The story introduced the reader to particulars of the sport, mentioned the upcoming Toss Across America and provided the reader with a phone number for further information. Other local coverage included a two minute TAA advertisement on Detroit's TV Channel 2 and a 10 minute TAA promotion on WAAM radio in Ann Arbor.

CNN News came all the way to Ann Arbor on 11 April to film a documentary on the MTA boomerang. The 2.5 minute blip was shown the following day throughout the World. **Bruce Carter** of Australia wrote to mention that the MTA video was seen by **Nick Gottschalk** in New Guinea, of all places. **Brother Brian Thomas** of Australia also mentioned that the CNN tape was viewed in Australia by his Mother's friend. The tape included footage on how to make a MTA; portions of a 71 second flight that made believers of a doubting film crew; and assorted throwing and catching clips by both **Ted Bailey** and **Jay Emerson**.

Other secondary fall-out from the NASA publicity included solicitations from: a golf ball company that wanted to develop an illuminated golf ball; Children's Television Network who wanted information for Sesame Street and 3-2-1 Contact; a manufacturer who wanted to develop a boomerang clay pigeon; a toy company who wanted the editor to design and endorse a mass produced boomerang; and KDN Videoworks who wanted to do a show on Toss Across America.

Pete Close sent in the political cartoon, pictured to the left, which he captured from the 10 April edition of the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*.



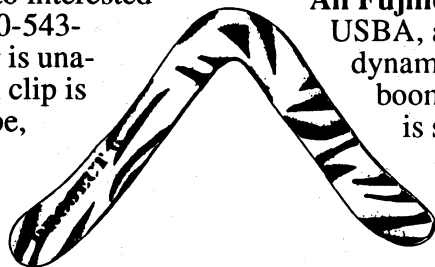
Ben Ruhe writes to inform MHR readers that *National Geographic* is in the process of producing a film on boomerangs. More on this in the near future.

Fred Malmberg mentions that *Maryland Public Broadcasting* aired a show called "American Wood Shop" in early April. A gentleman named **Scott Phillips** instructed the viewers on the process of making an Omega shaped boomerang and the proper techniques of throwing it. Unfortunately, Fred missed the beginning of the show and was unable to capture it on video. **Tony Brazelton** also mentioned this show in *The Returning Flier* newsletter. Tony said there are two separate half hour segments. If any of the readers did catch this one on video, please let the editor know.

On May 2, the Cable Travel Channel featured Western Australia. There was a 4 minute segment on **Paul Bryden** from Perth. The video, which introduced Paul as the [6 times] Australian National Champion, gave a review of his shop and boomerang products, as well as a demonstration on how to throw and catch a boomerang. [For the Aussie readers: How many National Champions do you guys really have?]

For the first two weeks in May, the *Good Morning America* television show toured Australia and New Zealand. They produced several video shorts on various aspects of Australian life. On May 7, there were segments on Aboriginal dancers, Didgeradoo players, and a 3 minute clip of **Bob Burwell** throwing boomerangs on the beach. The show mentioned that a low cost video of the Australian tour was available to interested parties who call 800-543-4GMA. The editor is unaware if the Burwell clip is included on this tape, but you can ask before ordering.

In MHR #54,
Offshore Screen



Kites

AN OCCASIONAL NEWSLETTER

Printing ran an advertisement depicting various products that include: T-shirts, a boomerang, and a cassette tape. One of the T-shirts and the cassette tape were reviewed in MHR #52. In this issue, the editor reviews the "Project 6" boomerang and the "Insomniac Theatre" T-shirt. The boomerang (pictured below) was a quality Baltic Birch plywood omega with undercutting, made by **Michael Girvin** and priced at just \$22. Most throwers are familiar with the high quality of "Gel" style booms. The Project 6 T-shirt is a quality *Hanes* Beefy-T with bizarre multi-colored art depicting aliens and boomerang shaped space craft. This T-shirt would be a real attention grabber at the mall or on the throwing field. Interested parties can write to the following address for full product info:

Offshore Screen Printing
1830 B. Palmetto Ave.
Pacifica, Ca. 94044

Ben Ruhe and **Scott Skinner** have teamed to write an attractive newsletter about kites titled: "Kites: An Occasional Newsletter". Ben has even acquired a Macintosh Powerbook computer to help him with writing on his frequent air flights. And who is producing this new publication?

Ali Fujino, past President of USBA, and one of the most dynamic organizers that boomeranging ever saw, is spear heading the effort. A membership in the *World Kite Museum* will

provide the reader with a subscription to the quarterly newsletter: "Kites: An Occasional Newsletter". Other benefits include: a subscription to the museum's own quarterly newsletter; free admission to the museum in Long Beach, WA; invitations to special events around the country, and many other benefits that kite enthusiasts will not want to be without. Join now so that you can visit the museum on your trip to the USBA Nationals this Summer. Membership costs \$15/year (\$25 for 2 years) for an individual or \$25/year (\$45 for 2 years) for a family membership. Send payment to:

The World Kite Museum
(and Hall of Fame)
P. O. Box 964
Long Beach, Wa. 98631

Rob Fraser writes to suggest that MHR publish boomerang plans to benefit USBA members who live in Boomvoid regions like Oklahoma City, Ok. The editor thinks that this is a good idea. If *Playboy* magazine can have it's centerfold, then MHR can too! Boomerang designers are invited to send quality line art with a description of their products to the editor. Please include special instructions for tuning, etc. The editor would also like to know about commercial sources, for collections of plans that can be purchased by Boomvoid readers like Rob. There are several sources for boomerang plans in Europe. Are there any in the USA?

HERB SMITH BOOMERANGS for sale

Send S.A.S.E. for info
San Francisco
Boomerang School
127 Knollview Way
San Francisco, CA 94131
(415)-550-6746

Paul Sprague founded the Illini Boomerang Club back in 1983 when he attended the University of Illinois in Urbana. The club went into hibernation when Paul graduated in 1986 and remained dormant until Tony Brazelton and Rob Friar resurrected the club in 1992. Tony serves as the President and Rob is the Treasurer. Shortly after formation, Tara Hemami joined and made the club a trio team. On February 9, the club put on sort of an early

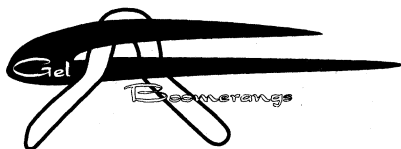
YEAR AFTER YEAR

FINE FINISHES, DYNAMIC COLORS,
INNOVATION, PROVEN QUALITY.

20 Models Available
Beginner to Competition.

**Phenolic MTA,
Tri Doublers,
Aussie Round and
Fast Catch Booms.**

New Wood Tri Fast Catch!!
New Comp. & Beg. Sets



SEND FOR FREE COLOR CATALOG

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

TAA on the campus and increased the membership of the club by a respectable 21. On February 16, the club had their first meeting, complete with boomerang shaped cookies. Currently, the club holds a boomerang clinic every Saturday on campus to attract more throwers. The club has a total of 57 members as of this writing. A separate group called the Illini Boomerang Team has formed to participate in the 1993 competition season. Look for this new team in most of the Midwest comps this summer. The club issues a newsletter titled "The Returning Flier".

Anyone can subscribe to the publication by sending a \$5 payment to Tony at the address below. Students from other campuses are strongly encouraged to make contact at this time. A quality boomerang T-shirt is also available at a price of \$15 plus \$1 (domestic) or \$2 (overseas) postage.

Tony Brazelton
1205 West Main #2A
Urbana, Il. 61801

Bill Tumath and Liz Toomey from the San Francisco Boomerang School wrote to let the readers know that the response to the offering of Herb Smith boomerang products has been excellent. Several models are still available to any readers who went without; and still want to sample Herb's technology. The Paxolin models require a bit of dihedral tuning and a little more lay over than regular wooden booms. Instructions will be provided with all orders. These collectable and high performance boomerangs are reasonably priced between \$28 and \$88. They went for much more than that in a recent auction. Get them while you can by calling Bill & Liz at (415)-550-6746 or by writing to:

S.F. Boomerang School
127 Knollview Way
San Francisco, CA 94131

Dave Hetrick and Eddie Gonzales found a variety of low cost plastic boomerangs in a retail outlet in Topeka, Ks. The shapes included the Hawes M17, a Herb Smith style V boom, a five blader and an offset four blader with a ring around the perimeter. Some of these worked quite well.

Richard Harrison wrote to mention that *Stick-Around Boomerangs* is no longer in business. Those readers who have boomerangs from this manufacturer should hold on to them as their collectability is bound to increase. Rich is also seeking reliable manufacturers of quality low cost boomerang products for his catalog. If you think your product will qualify, drop Rich a line at the B'Man address below.

Richard Harrison would like to hear from any school teachers that read MHR. Rich has a special project that might help tie all boom teachers into a neat program this coming Fall.

Richard Harrison has suggested that a new project be initiated to send information and inexpensive boomerang packages to developing countries to stimulate active participation in the sport. In the past, this has worked out well in Poland, the Philippines, and other countries. Rich suggests that the project be called "What Goes Around, Comes Around". Anyone with artistic abilities should send line art proposals for a logo directly to Rich at the address below:

Boomerang Man
1806 No. 3rd St.
Monroe, La. 71201

News From Australia

Brother Brian Thomas writes to warn readers that Aussie custom agents are very suspicious of packages that declare the contents to be boomerangs. Both Brian and Adam Carroll have recently received boomerang packages marked as opened and searched.



Bob Burwell on his 50th Birthday - 22 March 1993

Adam Carroll, Ken Arthur, Ray Freebody, and Brother Brian Thomas taught 500 Americans to throw booms at the *Tobruk Merino Sheep Ranch*. The Americans had all won a week long trip from an insurance company. [Now we know why those rates are so high!]

Brother Brian Thomas mentioned that he received extensive coverage of the NSW Titles Competition in the *Telegraph Mirror*, a large Sydney based newspaper. The story generated calls from as far away as Darwin. Ken Arthur and Dave Martin also received extensive coverage in their local newspapers. One of the stories mentioned that Ken, aged 72, has been throwing for 61 years. Dave is no spring-chicken himself at age 63. Dave's newspaper article showed three generations of boomerang throwers, as his son

Phil and grandson Darren were pictured with him. Brian and **Günter Wandtke** did a 13 minute interview on the local ABC radio station. Brian's local Channel 7 TV also ran a spot with Brian, Günter, and **Andrew Ettinghausen (ET)** throwing boomerangs. Andrew is one of Australia's top *Football* players and an ideal person to help promote our sport.

News From Bulgaria

Georgi Dimantchev is currently involved in a research project to improve the tip shapes of high technology boomerangs, like his Magic MTAs and other composite competition booms. Georgi is experimenting with tip designs from a recent *Journal of Aircraft* article. More information on the results of his experimental successes will be discussed in a future issue of MHR.

And how do Georgi's "Magic" boomerangs work? Recently, 15 year old **Miroslav Ditchev** put up a "Magic" MTA (pictured above) for an impressive 79 seconds. The other "Magic" models helped Georgi, and other members of the Bulgarian Boomerang Club, do quite well in their first international competition last year.

Georgi uses a high tech light and unbreakable epoxy/glass fiber/metal composite material on his "Magic" boomerangs. The "Magic" series includes six different models. The MTA and the hook shape, depicted in the middle, are two of the models. Other models include: V Training;

V Competition; Trapezoid; and Omega. Prices for these boomerangs vary from \$30 - \$45 to USA customers. The prices include airmail delivery to anywhere in the USA.

Another boomerang style is the "OPIT". This beautiful and strong strip laminated omega is depicted at the bottom of the page. The "OPIT" is priced to sell at \$45. Interested parties can write to either the editor of MHR, or directly to Georgi at the address below for a more complete description of Georgi's quality Bulgarian boomerang products.

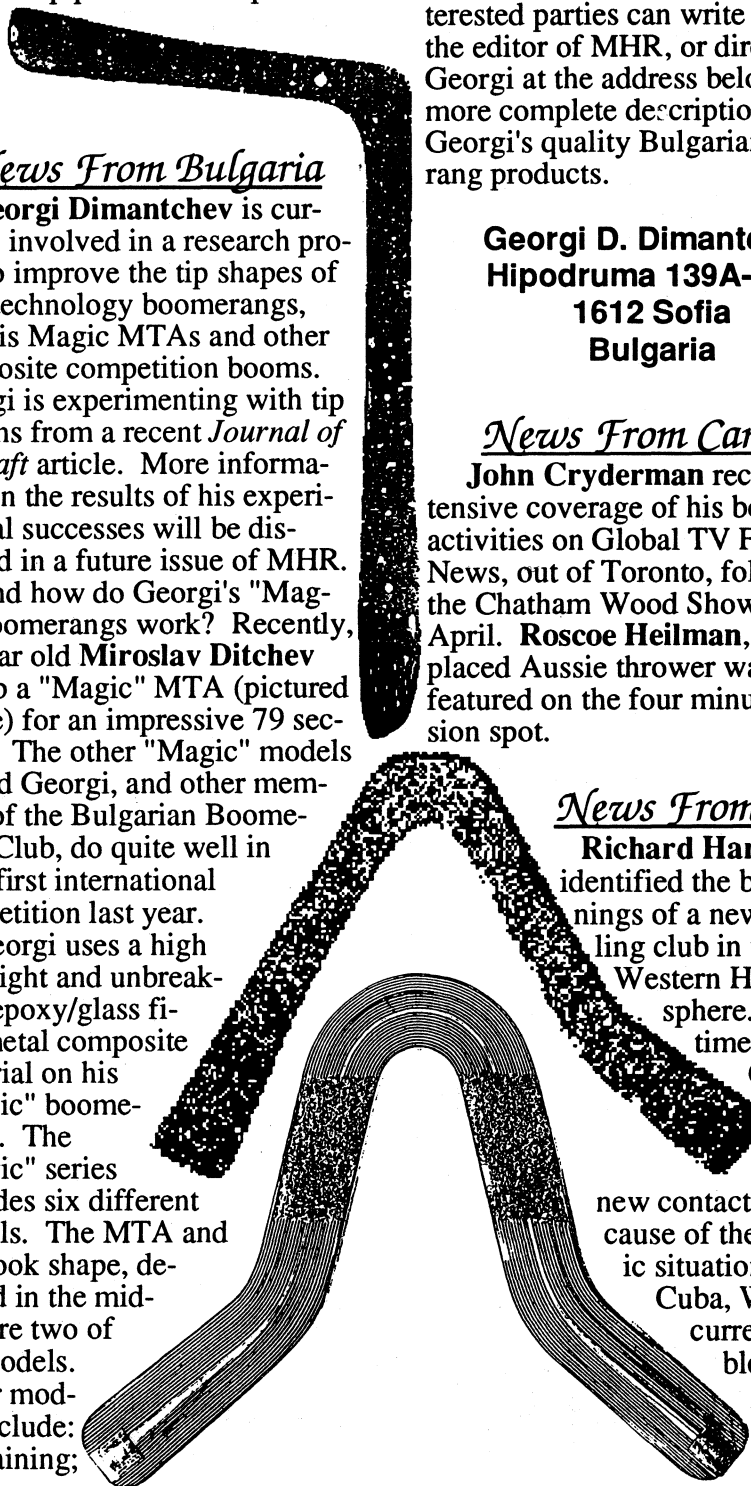
Georgi D. Dimantchev
Hipodruma 139A-a-23
1612 Sofia
Bulgaria

News From Canada

John Cryderman received extensive coverage of his boomerang activities on Global TV First News, out of Toronto, following the Chatham Wood Show on 25 April. **Roscoe Heilman**, a displaced Aussie thrower was also featured on the four minute television spot.

News From Cuba

Richard Harrison identified the beginnings of a new fledgling club in the Western Hemisphere. This time it is from Cuba. **Wilbur Medina** is the new contact. Because of the economic situation in Cuba, Wilbur is currently unable to travel internationally or order



boomerangs. However, both the B'Man and the editor encourage donations of product samples and literature to help this new club get on its feet and become a contributing force in the future. Interested parties can write or send contribu-

tions directly to the address below:

Wilbur Medina
Apartado 181
Cienfuegos
Cuba

News From England

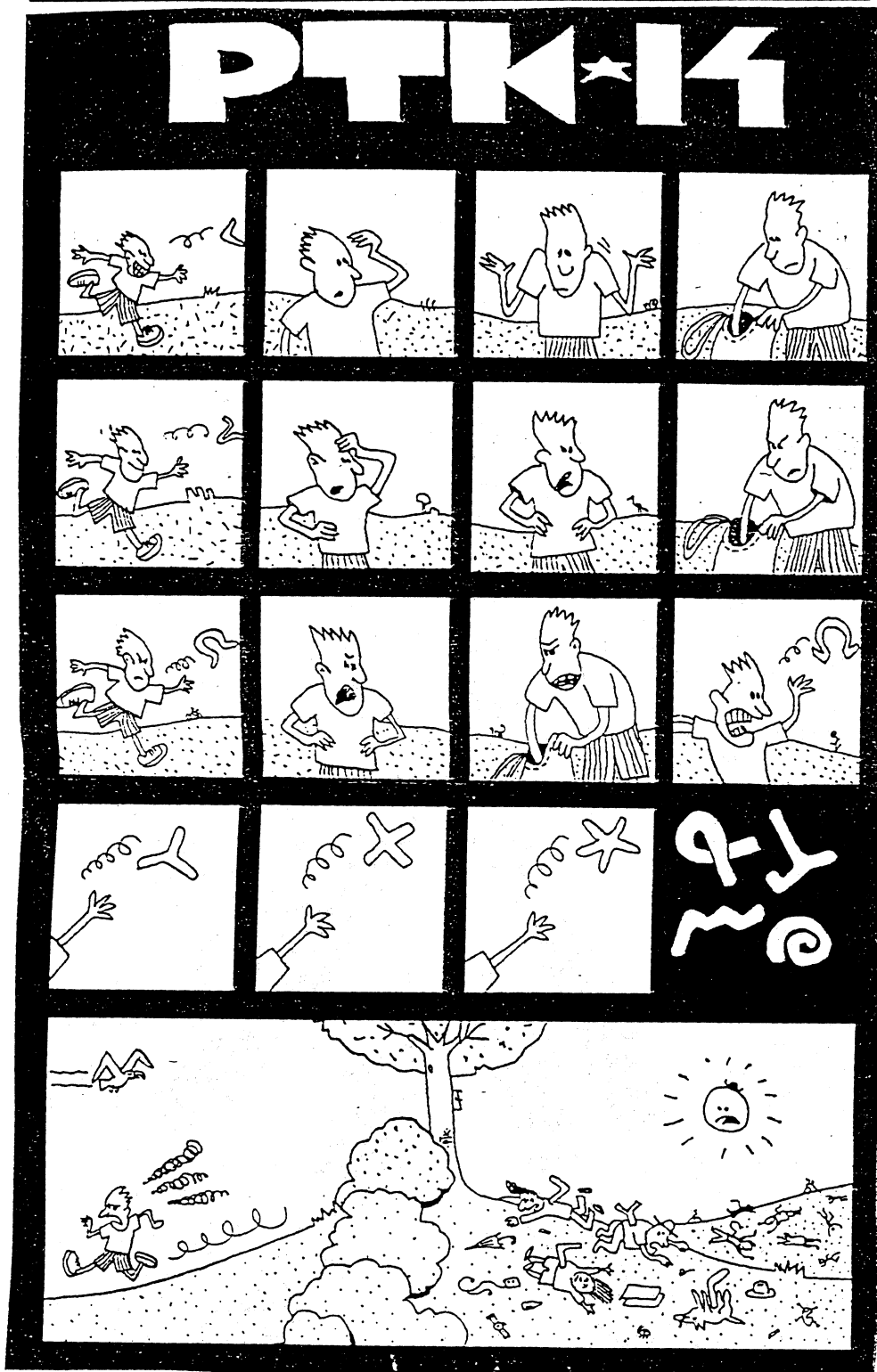
A short article about *The Society for the Promotion and Avoidance of Boomerangs* appeared in the January 1993 issue of *The BBS Journal*. It was written by **Dr. Brenning James** and mentioned early British Long Distance technology. In the early 1970s, an event, titled the *Lucas Lancaster Contest* was held to establish the furthest distance attainable by a man made object. Dr. James supplied the technical expertise for design and tuning. **Paul Dickenson** (an Olympic hammer thrower who could throw a cricket ball 100 metres) supplied the throwing power. A small fibreglass boomerang with a span of less than 12" proved to be the best boomerang for the event. Paul could average 150 metres with his throws, which were also very accurate. His best throw in practice was 206 metres. In the competition, Paul's best throw was 190 metres, besting the next best contender by 50 metres. The article implies that the boomerang used was not a returner, so the distance measured was one-way and is not a challenge to current returning boomerang records of lesser magnitude.

In the same issue of *The BBS Journal*, **Sean Slade** mentions that Dr. James is marketing a new book titled "Boomerang Throwing and Construction". Dr. James can be reached at:

Dr. Brenning James
Cherry Orchard
Marlow Common
Bucks SL7 2QP
United Kingdom

News From France

Jacques Thomas writes to let MHR readers know that he has been extremely busy over the past couple of years setting up and operating the new boomerang museum in Lure, France. The mu-



A Cartoon by Bruno From the 3/92 Swiss Boomerang Newsletter

seum, titled: "Musee Historique du Boomerang et des Bois de Jet" features the collection of **Jacques Thomas**, as well as many other notable displays. For those traveling in France from May through October, this would be an excellent place to stop and visit. For more information, call Jacques at: 78 89 47 60 or write to the following address:

Jacques Thomas
24, rue Tronchet
69006 Lyon
France

News From Russia

Vladimir Alekseev of The Russian Boomerang Association writes to let the MHR readers know that club members are very active in the design and manufacture of unconventional boomerangs made of plastics and other materials. Two photographs depicting the various styles are illustrated to the right. Many are ornately decorated, like Ukrainian Easter Eggs. Interested parties can contact the Russian Club by writing to the following address:

Vladimir Alekseev
Nansen Street, 2/2, 22
Moscow, Russia

News From Switzerland

The 3/92 issue of the Swiss Boomerang newsletter included the rather bizarre cartoon on boomerang safety by **Bruno**. The cartoon, illustrated on the preceding page, carries the note: "Look before you throw".

Thomas Stehrensberger writes to inform MHR that **Beat Aepli**, who was SBC President for 6 years, has resigned. Thomas is currently filling in as the new President. The club plans on publishing 3 newsletters in 1993. The Swiss Championships are planned in either St. Gallen or Winterthur at the end of the season.

Last Minute News

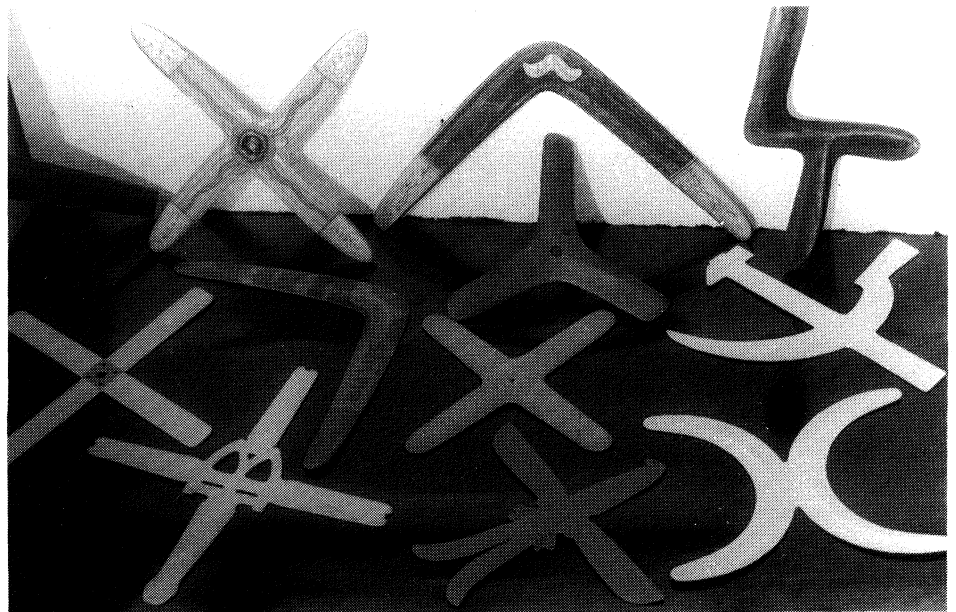
From Betsylew Miale-Gix

There are new rules regarding competing in a tournament as either a veteran or a novice. Any thrower can choose to compete as a novice without regard to age, sex, creed, color, or experience.

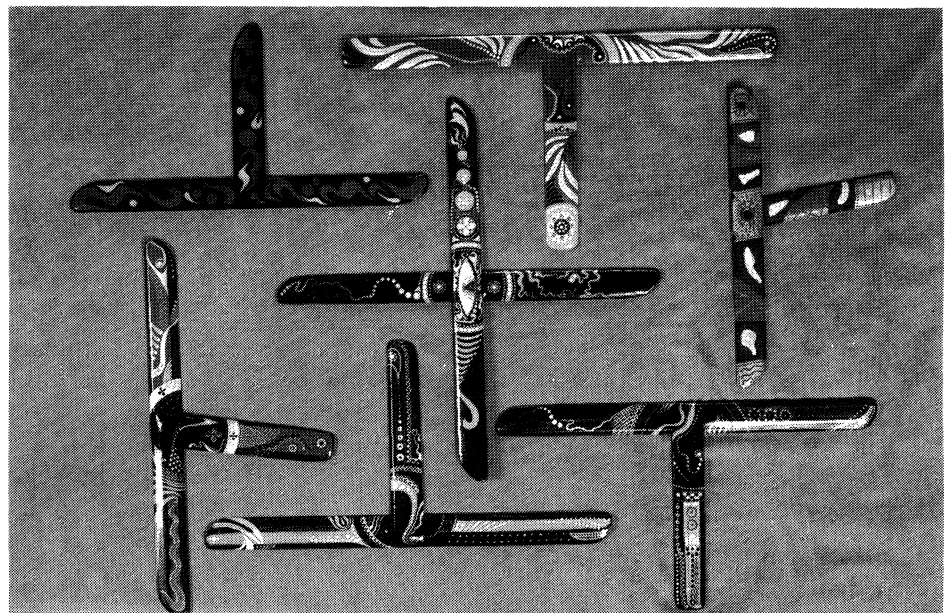
Both divisions will run according to USBA rules. All throwers will throw together in the normal flow of the tournament.

However, each division will compete for scoring purposes only against itself. Awards for the two divisions will be separate as well.

To compete in the novice division, you do not have to be a



A Selection of Quality Russian Boomerangs



Ornately Decorated Russian T-Rangs

USBA member. The only distinction is that the novice division will not be ranked at the end of the year. Novice division scores cannot be used towards the ranking of a veteran.

Both novice and veteran throwers may set a record in competition, provided the tournament is properly run by USBA rules.

The USBA Nationals will include both veteran and novice divisions. Novices cannot qualify for participation in the Championship tournament on Monday.

A room has been obtained at Arnold's Motor Inn for an Award's Ceremony on Sunday evening. Snacks and non-alcoholic beverages will be available.

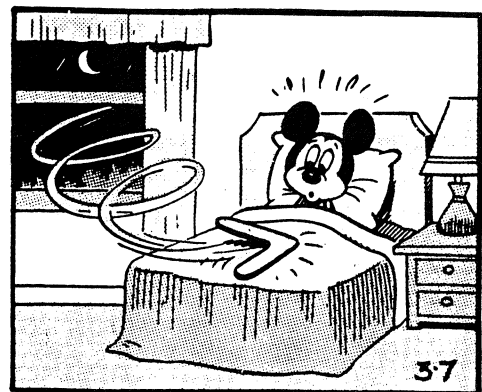
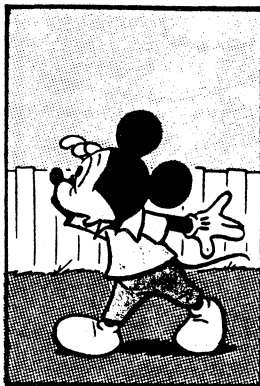
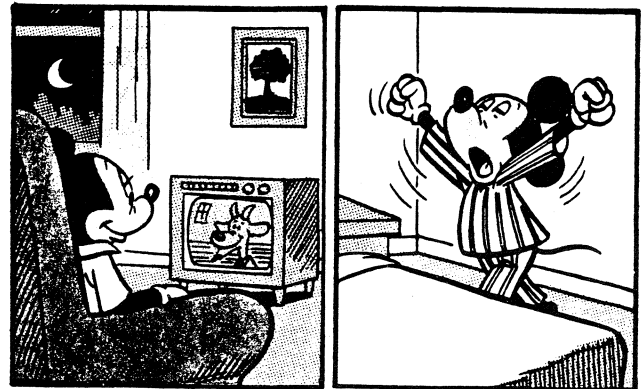
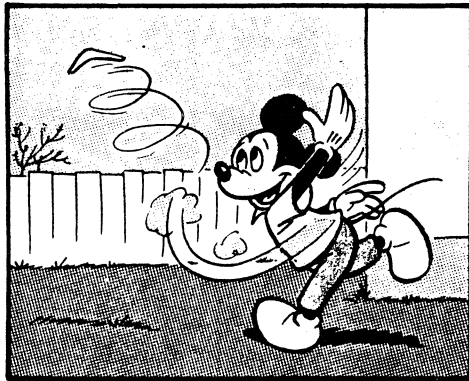
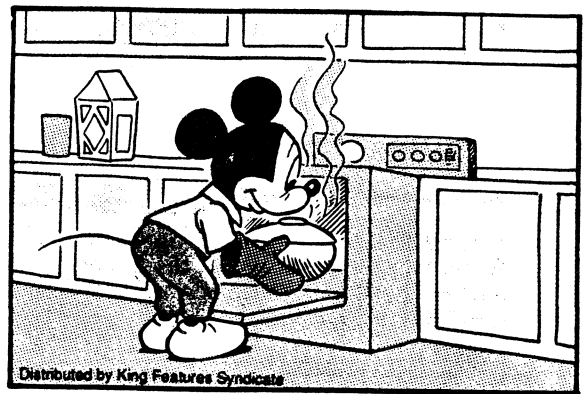
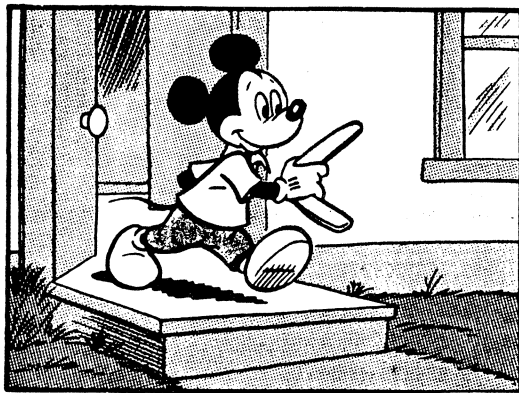
Day 1 of the competition will include: Consecutive Catch; Fast Catch; Australian Round; & MTA.

Day 2 will include Accuracy; Doubling; Juggling; & Endurance.

Two team events will be contested on both Day 1 and Day 2.

All eight events will be contested on the Championship day.

Mickey Mouse by Walt Disney



USBA INFORMATION PAGE

Many Happy Returns

Circulation: 500 Worldwide.

Published by the:

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

Mechanical Measurements:

Image area: 9.5" deep by 7.5" wide; 3 columns to a page; width of a single column: 2.25"

Advertising Rates:

Full Page	\$200
2 Columns	\$150
1/2 Page	\$115
1 Column	\$80
Per Column inch	\$10

10% discount for 4 consecutive issues. All advertisements must be pre-paid in USD by check or M. O. to U.S.B.A. Camera-ready copy preferred. The editor reserves the right to refuse any advertisement or cancel a contract without reason. The deadline for all advertisements is March 1, June 1, September 1 and December 1 for the Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter issues respectively. Newsletter submittal priority is based on submission date and content. Please notify the editor of upcoming tournament dates as soon as possible. A copy of the tournament results, with commentary, should be submitted as soon as the tournament is completed. Questions regarding newsletter submittals can be directed to **Ted Bailey** at (313)-971-2970. All newsletter submittals, including advertisements, should be mailed without delay to the following address:

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

Questions regarding *newsletter delivery status* should be directed to Publishing Director **Jay Emerson** by calling (313)-416-0966 or by writing to the following address:

Jay Emerson
374 A Roe
Plymouth, Mi. 48170

USBA INFORMATION

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

USBA
P.O. Box 182
Delaware, Ohio 43015

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

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USBA MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

All membership dues should be paid by check or money order in US\$D\$.

Make checks payable to: U.S.B.A. Domestic and Canadian annual membership dues are \$10 per year. A domestic lifetime membership is \$150. Annual overseas dues are \$20. A lifetime overseas membership is \$250. Check your newsletter label for expiration issue. Mail all checks or money orders to the address below:

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

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

New Member Application

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

name

address

address

city/state/zip or country

phone number (optional)

USBA member sponsor's name

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

USBA
P. O. Box 182
Delaware, Ohio 43015



PRINTED MATTER

**UNITED STATES BOOMERANG ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 182
Delaware, Ohio 43015
U.S.A.**