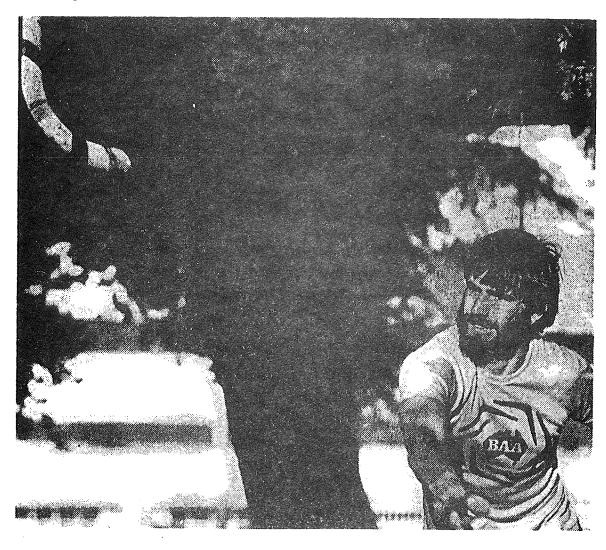


BOOMERANG BULLETIN

AUGUST 1981 Boomerang Association of Australia P.O. BOX 245, LILYDALE, VICTORIA, 3140, AUSTRALIA.

No. 26

Registered for posting as a publication-Category "B" $\,$



1981 Sydney Champion Morris Maxwell

SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS

BANK COMMONWEALTH

Someone strong beside you



"The secret of success is forward planning and daily activity" a successful estate agent once told me. And there is certainly a message in that statement for every organisation and association to note carefully. We do need to plan ahead and to keep working at the grass roots level to improve and develop our sport, and one of the ways this can be done is to keep trying new approaches to what we are doing.

Regional Supervisors should be free to implement new ways of organising competitions if it might improve the competition's efficiency, the enjoyment by competitors, or the public image of the sport. Even if it doesn't work, it's worth knowing that it was tried.

Once, for example, only the last ten scores of each competitor's throws in General Competition counted for the championship, but some years ago the current practice of the aggregate of 20 throws was introduced, as being fairer to all competitors. Likewise, the Accuracy Competition used to be determined by the nearest throw to the pin, but, because one lucky throw could win this competition, it was changed to the aggregate of 5 throws, while still acknowledging the 'nearest to the pin' in a separate award.

Now that the 3rd Sydney Championships have been held, it needs to be said (as my personal opinion, not necessarily those of the BAA) that we do need to do some re-thinking about our competitions, particularly the General Competition, which can drag on for hours with very little spectator interest, and when that goes, so does much of our public image. It can also be very trying for competitors having to wait around for hours for the next competition, or the next heat of the same competition. It is my view that we need a more efficient means of quickly determining a winner in each competition, so that on the one hand the action (and spectator interest) is kept up at all times, and on the other hand, the results truly reflect the abilities of competitors. We have the latter, but at the expense of the former.

Adaptability is a necessity.

TONY BUTZ

***** NEW MEMBERS *******

A very warm welcome to NEW MEMBERS of the BAA:

Eddie Siladi, Forestville Paul Crooks, Chatswood Nicholas Byrne, Chatswood Robert Costa, Chatswood Frank & Doug Boyling, Lane Cove Stephen Silady, Chatswood Christopher Harnett, West Pymble

Yoshi Kimura, N.S.W. Uni. (Japan) Peter Lister, Putney. N.S.W. David Williams, Chatswood Angelo Cosgayon, Artarmon Brian Croghan, Newport George F. Walker, Cremorne (78 years old) Arthur Mychael, Eastwood

Francis, Christopher, Roslind & Mylene Wan, Chatswood

Frank, Jill, Jason, David, Francine, Lara & Heidi Wilks, Greenacre

1981

SOUTH-EAST QUEENSLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

As some already know, at Easter this year while I was at the Gold Coast, I decided to go to Mudgeeraba to meet the new owner at the "Boomerang Farm", Peter Tomlinson. During the course of discussion, Peter disclosed that he knew very little of contests, but offered his cow paddock as a venue. One look at the paddock and I was a bit apprehensive. I said it was a long way from a competition field. None the less, Peter told me he would cut the grass and make it useable as a throwing area.

I immediately sent notification to Morris Maxwell that a contest was to be held on the 20th June, 1981. I had hoped that it would make the Bulletin but it didn't get there on time. A hasty batch of letters was sent out to let people know that the contest was on and to invite them to ask others along. This worked in at least two cases and I was able to get extras to compete. Thanks to Duncan and Barrie. Also thanks to those who tried and those who replied.

The media was notified and the only good responses were from Radio 4KQ (excellent), The Albert News (very good) and the Sunday Sun.

I tried for sponsorship from five big companies including one major plywood manufacturer who must have made thousands of dollars from plywood sold to make boomerangs, but all gave the same response: "We wish you well, but are committed at this time". C.W. Burwell came to the rescue with a donation for the Junior G.C. Trophy and an enthusiastic enterprising Manager of a fledgeling company donated the money for the Senior G.C. Trophy - David Redfern, the owner/manager of "Audio and Electronic Supplies" here in Brisbane.

The weekend before the contest I went to the "Boomerang Farm" to see how the cow paddock was and found it was still very much a cow paddock!

During the week Br. Brian Thomas, our National Coach, wrote to me (Telecom Industrial Dispute in progress - no phone) to say he was coming up and bringing Paul Heath, the 1980 Sydney Junior Champion. We went straight down to the Boomerang Farm to see how things were going. My worries were eased when we arrived and saw the grass being cut and lines being marked. ("This is really cutting it fine").

As a result of research into Bureau of Meteorology records to select the least windy month, June had been chosen. Saturday morning, on the way down to the Boomerang Farm

and within 10 km of the site, it started to blow. The blow increased and kept up all day and it was by far the windiest contest I have ever attended as the results will show. Some wanted to call it off, but we pressed on regardless.

Although the day was a disaster, weather-wise, at the end of the day I felt it was a complete success when told by the competitors that they had enjoyed the contest. This meant my aims were fulfilled, namely:

- (1) to hold a contest
- (2) to organise throwers
- (3) to present 14 trophies.

1981 Champion Br. Brian Thomas



There was a total of 18 throwers including 4 Juniors. I know some didn't turn up because of the wind and distance to travel (e.g., Tom Aaskov from Rockhampton, a very keen enthusiast, gave it a miss because of strong winds.)

The trophies were presented by <u>Master Boomerang Maker</u>, <u>Ces Burwell</u>. An invitation was sent to Senator Bonner to do the presentations some weeks before the Contest, but there was no reply.

Lorin Hawes was out of town for the contest, because of a prior commitment, and was missed as a local identity. Lorin has offered full co-operation to assist at any future events and this will be of great assistance.

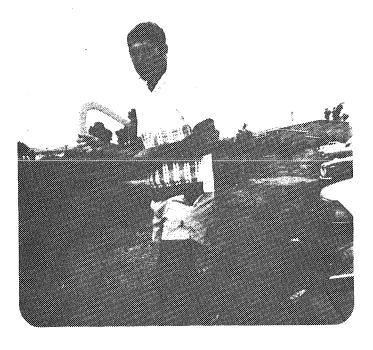
I feel quite confident now that if a team of six throwers needs to be formed up here as a challenge to the Americans we can do it. I don't say we will win, but with the tremendous spirit shown on Saturday, we will certainly have a go.

There is a lot more that could be said about the contest but as I have limited time to get this report out, I will have to leave it until some other time. To conclude, I would like to thank everybody for their attendance and for the sporting way in which they participated. In particular I would like to thank Mr. & Mrs. Heath, the parents of Paul for allowing this well-behaved young Australian to come and stay with me, and thus allowing him to be part of the contest.

Getting away from the South-East Queensland Contest, I would like to mention that I was invited in April, 1981, to teach a group of Scout Leaders (about 55) to make and throw boomerangs. Not all made their sticks right from blanks, but of those that did, there was not one failure.

The reception to boomerangs seemed to have a yo-yo appeal. They were very keen on the day, but there has been no follow-up interest with me since that day.

I think the idea of teaching them to throw has great potential and I feel we should try to push to see if we could get it as a badge that they could earn.



Bob Burwell holding his record-breaking long distance boomerang. 107 mts.

R. BURWELL QUEENSLAND REGIONAL SUPERVISOR

COMING EVENTS

- * 3rd,4th OCTOBER: ALBURY CHAMPIONSHIPS, Alexandra Park, Albury. (General Meeting on 3rd.)
- * NOVEMBER 12th onwards: AMERICAN CHALLENGE.
- * 3rd,4th APRIL,1982: AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS Alexandra Park,ALBURY.



MORRIS MAXWELL

SECRETARY!

We took the opportunity (during Morris Maxwell's trip to Sydney for the Sydney Championships) to ask our National Secretary how he became involved in the sport.

What a great double! One week he wins the Sydney Championships and the next he marries vivacious Catherine. Well, I suppose he's not known as 'Speedy' Maxwell for nothing. Yes, our bearded Morris has come a long way since entering this rotating world in 1948.

Boomerangs entered Morris's life before Catherine. While still under-age for marriage, Morris learnt to throw from big brother Dennis and Ralph Sinclair in the 50's. The first competition Morris attended was one run by Harold Blair. Ralph was there wheeling his darling little daughter, Linda, in her pram. When it came time for the competition, Ralph leant into the pram, shoved his hand under gurgling Linda, and pulled out his boomerangs to win the competition. The following year Dennis won the event. These comps were held at Northcote and Rosebud.

Meanwhile, back at the ranch ... I mean Albury ... Jeff Lewry had collected Les and Arthur Janetzki plus about 20 others and formed the Albury Boomerang Club ... our first official club. Morris travelled up to their first competition and won it. No doubt this Albury Club set a few thoughts gyrating in Morris's head for it wasn't long after this, when attending a competition at Northcote, that he discussed with Lorin Hawes the possibility of forming a National body. So Morris contacted Bob Schroeder, Harold Blair's organiser, and obtained a list of names. He then sent a duplicated letter to these people regarding the national idea, and received encouraging replies. The Harold Blair Committee gave their blessing and go-ahead to the venture, and so the first meeting to set up the BAA took place at Morris's parents' place in 1969.

Much valuable help was given by Jim Davison of Ivanhoe. He became the first President actually and, because of his great letter-writing ability, Morris was elected Secretary, a post he still holds. The next few meetings were held at Ralph Sinclair's, since his place was more central. One of these meetings was even attended by Cec Burwell, who travelled all the way down from N.S.W. to help get things going.

Dennis suggested that there should be a Newsletter to keep people informed and this job was initially taken on by Hamish Robb. However, when Hamish moved to Wedderburn, it became too much for him and it fell back onto Morris, who found publishing and secretarial work a bit overwhelming, so production did lag a little. However, during those years, twenty-four publications sent out boomerang news to enthusiasts. This has been a great basis upon which to build the future of boomerang throwing as a sport.

The initial rules used for competitions were those developed by Aborigines Bill and Eric Onus and Yarraville pensioner, Bobby Burns. Bobby was a keen thrower and gave much encouragement to the young enthusiastic Morris in getting things underway. The few lines of rules the BAA started with have now expanded into quite a few pages. And new competitions are being developed all the time, showing that our sport is an alive and thinking man's pastime.

Morris isn't too sure how many boomerangs he has (".. a few boxes full"); he hasn't bothered to count them. However, he is a little surer when asked who is the best thrower he has ever seen (outside of himself, of course). For all-round throwing ability he says he can't go past Bob Burwell of Queensland. He says that Bob was born to boomerangs, that they are a part of Bob, and that when Bob throws, it is just an extension of his arm. However, Morris does feel that there isn't much between the top ten throwers. He has a simple criterion here. "Just look at the results" says Morris. "It isn't an accident that the same names keep coming up". Actions do speak louder than words.

What is Morris's most treasured possession? Well, after Catherine (his most recent acquisition), I think he would name his Janetzki 'Greyhound' boomerang. No-one is allowed to touch it. Even Les Janetzki had to get special permission to have a throw with it last year. A few weeks ago I sneaked a throw in with it, before Morris was aware ... it does give him an unfair advantage over us!

Under that scraggy undergrowth on Morris's face is a pretty smart cookie. Morris not only knows how to throw boomerangs but understands all of the complicated dynamics that act upon them ... something that most throwers don't really understand ... and who blames them!! Apart from this genius, he is also a wiz-kid with Rubik cubes. On his recent visit to Sydney he astounded the school kids with his skill ... even to doing them behind his back!

Finally, what can we say of Morris? At competitions he competes without being worried about the results. He is more concerned with the organising. He has been the backbone of the BAA during its first dozen years of existence, and due to his efforts, boomerang throwing is now recognised by the Federal Government as a sport. He reminds me in some ways of God .. he never seems to be in a hurry but sets his own time for doing things, which get done in the long run. Catherine may make a few changes there! But we all wish Morris all the best for his future years of married life and sincerely thank him for the past 12 years of service given so willingly to the wonderful sport of boomerang throwing.

NEW MEMBER?

About a month ago BAA member Br.John Griffith headed off for Rome to attend a three months course.Apart from spiritual studies he has another great aim: To present Pope John Paul with a boomerang from Australia. That's what you call really flying high! Who knows,he may even sign the Pope up as a BAA member!

Br. B.M. Thomas





This year's Sydney Boomerang Championships were held in nearly ideal, still conditions up to midday, and in light, shifting breezes in the afternoon. It was obvious, from early scores, that most contestants had practised in and for windier conditions!

The standard of throwing amongst the juniors in the General Competition was very good, and Paul Heath (the 1980 Junior Champion) retained his title this year with a score of 118 points. Until the South-East Queensland Championships in June, Paul had used only Wycheproof Boomerangs to win his events, but following that contest he designed and made his own V-shape knobbed boomerang which proved to be a very accurate

flyer. He was followed in second place by Phil Walsh on 104 points and Scott Haywood on 103, in a large field of 31 contestants. Other scores in the Junior General Competition were: P. Avery (48), S. Silady (44), M. Lysowycz (42), C. Wan and J. Doughty (41), S. Sidhu and M. Gormly (38), D. Williams (36), M. Dymock (34), A. Cosgayon & P. Canalese (32), G. Dyer and G. Vidler (30), D. Ryan (27), D. Heath (26), P. Farquhar (24), R. Costa & T. Shields (22), B. Nelson (20), N. Byrne (15), D. Freeman & S. Chatfield (12), K. Micco (11), S. McNamee, G. Nelson & B. Gosselink (8), R. Arthur & S. Barkley (4).

In the Junior Accuracy Competition, place-getters were: First - C. Wan (17), Second - S. Sidhu (16), Third - R. Arthur, G. Vidler and P. Heath (10). Junior Catching place-getters were: First - P. Heath, Second - S. Silady, Third - D. Freeman and P. Farquhar.

The Senior General Championships saw BAA National Secretary, Morris Maxwell, take out the title (obviously mindful of big brother Dennis's win in the Australian National Championships this year). At one point, so desperate was Morris to keep this one in the bag that he stopped a low-flyer with his shin and proceeded to imitate, simultaneously, a kangaroo and a crippled emu as he clutched the wounded leg while gyrating on the other! His winning score of 176 was achieved with a Janetzki Greyhound boomerang (see the article on Morris in this issue of the Bulletin) and he was followed in second place by Bro. Brian Thomas (last year's Sydney Championship winner) on 160, and Bobbie Burns on 136. Other scores in the General Competition were: G. Durrant (54), E. Siladi (53), T. Butz, T. Patterson, Y. Kimura (47), B. Shattell (46), R. Haywood (44), K. Arthur (43), P. Johnson & N. Durrant (34), D. Boyling (29), J. Inglis (28), S. Silady (13).

The Accuracy Competition was of special interest this year for two reasons: (i) Yoshi Kimura, a Japanese student of Mining Engineering, won the "nearest to the pin" with an "absolute bullseye" - one of his throws returning to land right on top of the centre pin - a new world record, and (ii) it was the first time that on-the-line accuracy had been tried, and it was just as well that it was. During the event, wind strengths and directions changed constantly, so it was a much fairer test than it would have been if one thrower had been able to use the light constant breeze while another had to contend with shifting gusts. First place went to Tony Butz of Sydney on 15 points, followed by: Br. Brian Thomas (14),

Norm Durrant (13), Peter Johnson (12), Garry Durrant (11), and J. Inglis & P. Crooks (10).

1981 Junior Champion in action
Paul Heath



Other winners in the Senior Section were <u>Terry Patterson</u> (<u>Novice Champion</u>) who scored the highest aggregate for accuracy in the <u>General Competition</u>, and <u>Ken Arthur (Veterans Champion)</u> who used a boomerang he had made only a week beforehand. The crowd and press were very interested in the displays of novel boomerangs, including multibladers, large boomerangs and the Flying Tomahawk.

By 11.00 am there were over 120 spectators and this number rose to around 140 before midday. One of the reasons for a good crowd of spectators was the considerable publicity given to the event. All Sydney newspapers and radio and TV stations were notified, and altogether the event was covered by: Channel 7, a Japanese TV network, a Macquarie University video unit, a French professional photographer, the Daily Telegraph, The Sydney Morning Herald, The Australian, North Shore Times, North Shore Advocate, People, Woman's Day, and radio stations 2UE, 2GB, 5AD. More follow-ups are still being received from various mass media groups (e.g., Channel 10 is including boomerang throwing as a mystery sport on its new show "Be a Sport").

Although the day was excellent from the point of view of publicity and support, an executive meeting, after the contest, felt that it was much too long, as witnessed by the fact that some programmed events had to be postponed and the number of spectators dropped considerably after 12.30 pm. Accordingly, it was decided that for future events the junior section will be held on a prior occasion and only the finals will be held concurrently with the senior competitions. Other suggestions for reducing the time were: restrict number of contestants, either by heat or limited registration prior to the day, reduce the junior throws from 5 to 3, and allow only 2 rounds of 5 throws for the General Competition for seniors. (Members' views on these suggestions are welcomed).

Finally, the BAA would like to thank: Mr. Brian Lloyd and the Commonwealth Bank for donating trophies and allowing a large display of boomerangs in the Bank prior to the event; Alderman Jack Donnelly and Willoughby Municipal Council for donating two trophies and the use of Beauchamp Park, Sydney Sporting Supplies for donating a perpetual trophy and all branches of the mass media which notified the public of the event and reported on it.

N.B. The postponed events, namely:

Multibladers, Same Boomerang, Senior Catching and Duration will be held on Sunday, 27th September at Chaplin Oval, Mars Road, Lane Cove, starting at 9.30 am.

Contestants must have registered on the day before 9.15 am.



N.S.W. PATRONS
LES & ARTHUR
JANETZKI
WITH
83 YEAR OLD
SISTER, RUBY.

TONY BUTZ
N.S.W. STATE SECRETARY



Yoshi Kimura Record 'absolute bullseye'



There is a tremendous surge of interest overseas at present in boomerangs and competitions, especially in France, Holland and America. All these countries are producing regular magazines and newsletters informing members what is happening in the world of boomerangs. Quite a few competitions are being arranged and attended around Europe, and it is very encouraging to see the great spirit of co-operation that is prevailing there.

This year we have the Americans bringing a team to challenge Australia, but I feel sure that within a year or two France, Holland or Europe will be trying to do the same.

Of course it may not be long before Peru are here too, especially since Bunny Read received his order from there for 100,000 boomerangs ... that's even more than I have in my collection!!

People involved with spreading the good news of boomerang throwing are Max Hoeben (Holland), Jack Thomas and Jacques Beslot (France), John Jordan (England) and Ben Ruhe and Chet Snouffer (America).

Ali (Alison) Fujino of Seattle has been much of the power behind the throne in getting the American Challenge off the ground. Our special congratulations go to Ali on her July marriage to avid boomerang enthusiast, Dr. Steve Miller.. seems like the perfect marriage! (It is rumowred they spent the honeymoon night out throwing night boomerangs ... that's dedication!). I'm sure all Australians can hardly wait to see the style of this boomeranging couple.

Surely a useful exchange at present between the different countries could be some Super 8 film footage of the main throwers in each country showing their style and skill. Do we have a financial backer?

Br. Brian M. Thomas National Coach.

Did You Know?

How did this American visit come about? Well, if you take a look at Page 5 of Bulletin 15 (1975) you will find this:

POSSIBLE START OF INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

Duncan MacLennan, Regional Supervisor of Sydney, has suggested that a "United States versus Australia" series of competitions be organised. The function would involve a team of American throwers competing against an Australian team: the venue to alternate each year between the two countries.

Congratulations, Duncan! Your dream has come true.

THE YANKS ARE COMING



Yes, the American Challenge is at long last a reality. The article following is the official American Press Release. While a few facts on the first page are not quite right, it will let you know what has 'gone to air' in America.

Plane tickets have been booked. The Team arrives in Melbourne on 12th November at 9.20 am aboard Qantas. We hope Melbourne can turn on a fine reception committee to welcome them onto Australian soil. The team flies back to America from Brisbane on December 1st at 6.00 pm. In between we hope to fit in seven or eight competitions. At Melbourne, Albury, Sydney and Brisbane we plan to have the local team compete against the Americans, and then on another day have the Australian Team competing in a Test. The Tests will be held in Melbourne, Albury and Sydney. Should a big sponsor come to the party before then it may be possible to also hold a Test in Brisbane.

I hope that before long the Executive will be able to name the likely team members for these meetings, although I think that most throwers would have a pretty good idea of who will be involved. Just check out your comp. results in the last year or so.

If there is anyone who would be keen to be a judge or official, and knows the rules well, could they please drop me a line and let me know. It is never too early to plan.

We are hoping to hire an air-conditioned coach when the Yanks get to Melbourne and travel by coach to Wycheproof, Cobram, Albury, Canberra and Sydney over a period of about 10 days. In this way Americans and Australians can travel together and have plenty of time to talk and swap information. It will also be a far safer way to carry out travel plans, since you never know from one week to the next if you can use planes or trains. The cost per head for the ten days travel should be no more than \$100. At the end of this article there is a proposed itinerary. Naturally people other than throwers can travel

on the bus, provided there is room. The bus will hold 40, and we expect about 18 to 20 in the American group. If you would like a place on the bus please write and let me know as soon as possible.

Regarding sponsorship: at present we have an application in with one Life Assurance firm for full sponsorship and one for part sponsorship with a food company.

A proposed Itinerary for the American visit :

November 1981 ...

Thursday, 12th : Arrival in Melbourne - settling in.

Friday, 13th : State Challenge Match - 3 pm to 7 pm

Saturday, 14th : Sight-seeing day.

Sunday, 15th : 1st Australian-American Test 10.00 am to 2.00 pm.

Monday, 16th : 8.00 am bus to Ballarat - sight-seeing - onto Wycheproof,

stay night.

Tuesday, 17th : Bus to Cobram - see Jack's place. Onto Albury in afternoon.

Wednesday, 18th : Albury Challenge Match - 3.00 pm to 7.00 pm.

Thursday, 19th : 2nd Australian-American Test - 10.00 am to 2.00 pm.

Friday, 20th : 6.30 am bus to Canberra - tour and sight-see. 5.00 pm bus to Sydney

Saturday, 21st : Sydney Challenge Match - 12 noon to 4.00 pm.

Sunday, 22nd : 3rd Australian-American Test - 12 noon to 4.00 pm.

Monday, 23rd : Tour of Sydney.

Tuesday, 24th : Tour of Blue Mountains.

Wednesday, 25th : Fly to Brisbane.

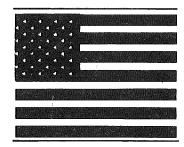
Thursday, 26th : State Challenge Match - 4.00 pm to 7.00 pm.

Friday, 27th : Possible Australian Team Challenge. Sight-seeing.

Saturday, 28th : Fly to Barrier Reef.

Sunday, 29th : Barrier Reef.

Monday, 30th : Fly back to America.



Br. B.M. Thomas Australian Organiser.

ADDRESSES

PRESIDENT: Jack Byham, Boorim Street, Cobram. VIC. 3644 (058) 72216

VICE-PRESIDENT: Br. Brian Thomas, 35 Anderson St., CHATSWOOD. 2067 (02) 411 4733
Bunny Read, 380 Broadway St., Wycheproof. VIC. 3527 (054) 937612

SECRETARY: Morris Maxwell, Box 245, P.O. Lilydale. VIC. 3140 (03) 739 1809

EDITOR: Tony Butz, 23 Alexander Ave., WILLOUGHBY, 2068. (02) 95 4445

TREASURER: Cliff Anderson, 7/18 Lewisham Road, Windsor.3181 (03)338 6611(BH)

REGISTRAR: Alan Thompson, 12 Highmoor Avenue, Bayswater, VIC. 3153

(Ben Ruhe's official press release in America)

U.S. TEAM CHALLENGING AUSTRALIA IN BOOMERANG-THROWING

Selection of a 12-man team to represent the United States in a boomerang-throwing challenge tour of Australia late this year was announced today by the sponsoring Pacific Museum of Flight, Seattle, Wash. The matches will take place next November and will be the first international team events ever held in this growing sport.

The Pacific Museum of Flight, now under construction for a 1982 opening, is a non-profit project of the Pacific Northwest Aviation Historical Foundation.

Venues for the U.S.-Australian matches will be Melbourne; Albury, New South Wales; and Sydney. A fourth match in Brisbane is probable. Dates during November have not yet been set.

Sen. Neville Bonner of Queensland, the only Aboriginal senator in Australia, has agreed to co-sponsor the tour and throw out the first boomerang of the test series. Before entering politics, Bonner had been a professional maker of boomerangs. He said he believes that "an Australian team composed of 50 percent Aboriginals could beat the socks off a team of Yanks."

This first international team competition in the sport of throwing and catching returning boomerangs grew out of the annual tournaments held by the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. The Smithsonian is a federal government agency whose museums include the National Air and Space Museum.

Members of the U.S. team have distinguished themselves over the past several years in competitions across the country. Competition events include long-distance throwing and catching, doubling (throwing two boomerangs at once and catching both), juggling (keeping one of two boomerangs in the air at all times

while throwing and catching them in turn), maximum time aloft, and catching with the feet, among other feats.

The team was selected by Benjamin Ruhe, of Washington, D. C., and Alison Fujino, of Seattle, with the counsel of the Pacific Museum of Flight and a number of boomerang experts. Ruhe is a federal government employee, author of the book Many Happy Returns (Viking-Penguin), honorary consultant on boomerangs to the Air and Space Museum and Smithsonian Resident Associates, and organizer of the Smithsonian's annual tournament, which has been held 13 years in a row. He will serve as captain of the U. S. team. Fujino, a former Smithsonian employee, works for the Woodland Park Zoological Gardens in Seattle. A proficient boomerang thrower and maker in her own right, she will serve as team manager.

Other members of the U.S. squad:

- *Al Gerhards (1127 Glenside Ave., Downingtown, Pa.). A dental appliances manufacturer, the six-foot-six Gerhards holds the long distance throwing record 123 yards outward with a complete, accurate return. This 1979 mark has been recognized by the Guinness Book of World Records.
- * Carl Naylor (120 96th St., Brooklyn). A pharmaceutical salesman, Naylor has been throwing and collecting becomerangs for three decades and will serve as co-captain of the U. S. team. He is another notable long-range thrower.
- * Steve Miller (2312 N. 62nd St., Seattle). A medical doctor, Miller is an attending physician at the University of Washington Hospital emergency clinic and is a Pacific Northwest winner in long-distance throwing.
- * Eric Darnell (Star Route, S. Strafford, Vt.). Darnell is the inventor of a wood-burning stove sold in the U. S., Canada, and Scandinavia. He devised an efficient method of lighting boomerangs so they can be thrown at night.
- * Chet Snouffer (340 Troy Road, Delaware, Ohio). Snouffer, a professional gymnast, has made his area of Ohio a center of boomerang-throwing enthusiasm. He holds the world's record of 106 consecutive juggles without a miss.
- * Peter Ruhf (Route 1, Barto, Pa.). A professional painter with some two dozen one-man shows to his credit, Ruhf is considered to have one of the strongest throwing arms on the squad. He is the only left-hander.
- * Larry Ruhf (31 Jackson St., Belchertown, Mass.). He is the twin brother of Peter Ruhf and holds a doctorate in psychology. He is a professional maker of boomerangs.
- * Jerry Caplan (428Camino Manzanas, 1000 Oaks, Cal.). Caplan is a boomerang maker and businessman, noted for his ability to throw boomerangs simultaneously with both his left and right hands and catch both.

- * Nick McAuliffe (9 Morrill Pl., Amesbury, Mass.). McAuliffe is a library science professional, and designer and producer of a noted trapezoid-shaped boomerang.
- * Barney Ruhe (57 Front St., Brooklyn). A former U. S. Navy lieutenant who served two tours of duty in Vietnam, Ruhe is now a professional artist. He is able to perform a unique boomerang version of the William Tell stunt: When a boomerang he has thrown comes back to him, he allows it to slice an apple off his head.
- * Doug DuFresne (P.O. Box 10141, Eugene, Ore.). DuFresne works for a timber company, and has been a consistant Pacific Northwest winner in distance-throwing.
- * Stuart Jones (729 E. 10th Ave., Shakepee, Minn.). Jones is an automotive expert and possesser of one of the best throwing arms on the team. He is able to throw five boomerangs in succession, then catch all five as they return.

The teams will view for a trophy donated by Marjorie Gerrish of Portland, Ore., in memory of her husband, Col. John Gerrish, a long-time collector and manufacturer of boomerangs. Additional support for the sport has been given by John Mauro, of Richmond, Va.; Brian Peck of the Australian Embassy in Washington, D. C.; Lyn Cooper and Peter Roennfeldt of QANTAS, the Australian overseas airline; John Daly and Associates, a Washington, D. C., direct mail order consulting firm; John Ramsay of All-Brands Importers, Lake Success, N.Y.; and the Australian Tourist Commission and Australian Information Service, both of New York City.

Brother Brian Thomas (35 Anderson St., Chatswood, N.S.W., Australia) is serving as Australian liaison for the challenge tour.

* * * * *

For further information, contact:

Benjamin Ruhe 1882 Columbia Road, N. W. Washington, D. C. 20009 202-523-3099 (work) 202-234-9208 (home)

Alison Fujino 2312 N. 62nd St. Seattle, WA 98103 206-625-4556 (work) 206-527-2841 (home) Georgia Franklin
Pacific Museum of Flight
2325 Financial Center
1215 4th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98161
206-622-3972 (work)