



BOOMERANG

BULLETIN 23.

***** OCTOBER 1980 *****

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IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

B.O.O.M.E.R.A.N.G. Special Christmas event. 14th. December, Flemington.

Moomba Boomerang Championships.. Saturday 28th. of February and...
At Flinders Park Melbourne. Sunday 1st. of March.

Australia National Championships and Annual General Meeting.
Saturday 7th. and Sunday the 8th. of March 1981.
At Albury NSW and possibly at Mitta Mitta on the Sunday .

....STOP PRESS..... Darlington Point Competitions 1980 CANCELLED!

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP.

	total catches in 20 throws.	total points for 10 throws.	time for 5 catches in no more than 2 mins.	total catches in 5 mins.	General Championship.
L. v. Dam.	5	7.	90 sec.	11	27
T. v. d. Gijp.	3	32	2 min.	12	20
K. B. aliker.	3	8	127 sec	5	20
G. Schurink.	15	19	73	26	32
J. v. d. Hood.	8	1	49	23	27
J. Jordan	13	22	45	22	26
J. Wray.	9	22	2 min.	---	18
M. Hanson.	15	13	48 sec.	18	33
W. Pa mmartl.	17	15	100	13	38
G. Veit,	11	10	44	28	33
Deveau.	10	9	110	16	20
J. Quin	7	2	2 minm	16	---
J. Boslot.	11	22	70 sec	28	18
J. Pineau.	13	16	2 min	3	18
B Honnier	11	25	63 sec	24	18
P. Paille	15	10	105	24	38

Summary of participants place.

	1st place,	shared 1st & 2nd.	2nd place.	shared 2nd, 3rd & 4th place.	3rd place.
T. v. d. Gijp.	1				
W. Baumgartl.	1	1			
G. Vait.	1	1			
G. Schurink.				1	1
J. Beslot.		1			
B. Bonnier.			1		
P. Paille		1		1	
J. Jordan.			1		
M. Hanson.				1	1

Summary of total places for countries.

multiplicant

	7	6	3	4	3
Germany.	2	2			
France.		2	1	1	
Holland.	1				1
England.			1		
Scotland.				1	

FINAL RESULTS :::

GERMANY 28. FRANCE 22. HOLLAND 14. ENGLAND 7. SCOTLAND 9.

REPORT ON THE SMITHSONIAN TOURNAMENT

Weather in the eighties, a good breeze, 78 registered throwers and 2000 people to watch at the Washington Mall made this the best fling ever.

Amongst the long distance visitors were, Dr. Felix Hess of Groningen, Holland, Yves Simonson of Brussels, Belgium, and eleven people from the west coast including Marjorie Gerrish of Portland, Oregon, and a Pacific northwest team led by Ali Fujino of Seattle.

Brad Smith of Vienna, Virginia, won the throwing-to-the-peg competition. In the first 12 year old and under category, Barney Ruhe of Coburn, Pennsylvania, took firstplace. Consecutive catching went to Brad Smith and Michael Tichnell of Dearpark, Maryland.

Next followed a demonstration of the most oddly shaped boomerangs in the history of boomerang throwing in the United States.

Rusty Harding of Vero Beach, Florida, showed oddly shaped tomahawk boomerangs. Larry Ruhf of Belchertown, Massachusetts had a beautiful bird-rang that whistled as it flew. Barney Ruhe of Brooklyn, actually knocked an apple off his head on the first try. Chet Snouffer, performed a standing backflip before making a catch. And so it goes on, flamingo catches, catches with feet, throwing left and right handed boomerangs together and catching them.

Consecutive catching (alias "the mob throw" alias "suicide") involved simultaneous throwing and then catching, one has to keep track of one's own boomerang while avoiding other competitors. When the field was narrowed down to four throwers the referee ruled one handed catches. All four survivors succeeded. After just right handed then just left handed catches the next feat was to catch with the feet. This produced the true winner in Allen Lilly.

For the Grand Finale teams of five staged a routine. Many wore costumes, and the applause of the crowd determined the winner. First place went to a novice team who used a live prop--a baby racoon--

The tournament was highlighted by the appearance of Jack Byham of Cobram, Victoria, president of the Australian Boomerang Association. Jackie showed off his strong throwing arm and particularly the Australian way of throwing. He regaled partygoers afterwards with his tales of the Australian bush.

INCURSION OF AIR SPACE ?

After America, President Jack Byham continued onto Europe and while visiting Poland tried a very special throw. Standing on Polish/Russian Border, he threw a boomerang out over the Russian side and back. Fortunately, no official protest has been received to date from the U.S.S.R. regarding such an incursion of their air space.

"Missile versus missiles"

Ultimately the white man triumphed over the black man in the gun versus boomerang event which carried on for some years.

In more recent years I was invited by the Shepparton gun club to participate in their major annual shoot. This came about in a casual discussion with their secretary, who was visiting my boomerang factory at Cobram. My theory was that it would be most difficult to shoot a boomerang out of the air with a shotgun. The results of the event were more surprising than I would have imagined possible. Conditions were excellent, the lightest breeze from the most favoured quarter and I took up a position some five metres on the left of the shooters. After a couple of preliminary throws to give an indication of the flight path I launched a 14 inch lead weighted boomerang and the first shooters let go with two barrels. The boomerang's flight appeared undisturbed and after homing, it was found to be unmarked. Several other shooters tried their luck, an odd pellet only had scored a hit. Using an identical unmarked boomerang 12 shooters lined up. Double barrels under and overs and an ancient muzzle loader were at the ready, it was stipulated that no shooter had his gun to the shoulder before the boomerang was released. My thought on this being that the boomerang would be out some 30 metres before the first shot was fired, also as it was a fast 50-60 metre model, the target in all probability would be no wider than about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch. (12 mm) At the flag fall it sounded like the barrage at El Alamein, some 20 odd barrels in the space of 2-3 seconds - upwards of some 10,000 invisible missiles projected at one very visible and obvious missile escaping for its life.

The results were astounding, when the boomerang returned it was examined by the shooters 2 or 3 obvious wounds 2 or 3 light markings where pellets had ricocheted.

At a subsequent shoot at the Cobram gun club results were similar. However it was not long before the shooters realized that the most opportune time for a kill was when the boomerang was almost at its maximum range or at the beginning of its return flight.

Shortly the stage was reached when a man from Wangaratta won the event with 27 pellets from one barrel.

Finally with the practice of sweating on the boomerang, till it had almost homed, it became so lead weighted and shattered to become unthrowable.

An interesting feature of the whole event was the gradual improvement of the general flight, up to the stage when the boomerang contained more than 150 pellets. So there chaps is a new thought for improving the flight of your best boomerangs, Shoot- em down.

Jack Byham.

Second City of Sydney Championships...1980.

Time: 20th July, 1980. 9 a.m till 4 p.m.

Place: Beauchamp Park, Chatswood, Sydney.

Conditions: Although a little cold, perfect throwing weather right throughout the day.

Contestants: A remarkable turn-out of new throwers. Of the 17 throwers in the Seniors, 10 were entering their first competition. In the Juniors 35 of the 37 competitors were first timers.

Standard of throwing: This was exceptionally high considering the number of new comers competing. In the Senior Accuracy five throwers scored 20 or more points, usually enough to win any Accuracy Competition. There were some remarkable diving catches taken by quite a few throwers throughout the day, that brought deserved praise from the good crowd watching.

Results: (In order of running)

Junior Accuracy: 1st: Greg Cooper (Strathfield) 15 points.

2nd: Jeffrey Clarke (Sydney) 14 points.

3rd: Sean Wynn & Andrew Peters 12 points.

Near est the Pin: Jeffrey Clarke. 1152 mm.

Senior Accuracy: 1st: Br. Brian Thomas 25 points.

2nd: Greg Foley, Garry Durrant & Grant Arnold 22 points.

3rd: Rick Haywood 20 points.

Nearest the Pin: Greg Foley 750 mm.

Junior General Championship: 1st: Paul Heath 129 points.

2nd: Chris Wan 114 points.

3rd: Phillip Walsh 77 points

Senior General Championship: 1st: Br. Brian Thomas 102 + 61 = 163

2nd: Garry Durrant 74 + 69 = 143

3rd: Greg Foley 73 + 50 = 123

Champion Novice Thrower: Rick Haywood 69 points.

Junior Catching Champion: 1st: Paul Avery

2nd: Craig Gowan

3rd: Chris Wan

Senior Catching Champion: 1st: Br. Brian Thomas 15 not out

2nd: Br. Michael Gallagher 14 catches

3rd: Chris Henzgen 7 catches

Same Boomerang Champion: 1st: Chris Henzgen 36 points

2nd: Greg Foley & Br. Brian Thomas 32 points

3rd: Yoshinobu Kimura (Japan) 29 points

One Hand Catching Champion: 1st: Br. Brian Thomas 10 not out

2nd: Garry Durrant 9 catches

3rd: John Starreveld 4 catches

Champion Girl Thrower: Kerri Mico (10 years)..40 points.

General Comments:

The On-The-Line catching worked very well, and puts a different type of pressure on throwers...throwers were in favour of it.

Novice Champion Rick Haywood threw accurately and caught well.

Yoshinobu Kimura, using a Captain Cook Hat boomerang, threw very well..52 points.

Garry Durrant, competing in only his second competition, was a strong competitor in all events. Chris Henzgen delighted people with his usual spectacular catches.

We had our biggest turn up of girl throwers..eleven in all.

We had a great representation of nationalities ..Dutch, Chinese, Lebanese, Italian, Canadian, Japanese, American & Australian!

Trophies were donated by the Commonwealth Bank, the Willoughby Council, Mr. Lance Scoular (Novices Trophy) & Br. Thomas. The Mayor of Chatswood, Mr. Noel Reidy, presented the prizes, and spoke in favour of encouraging the sport.

Competitor	Accuracy	General	Catching	Competitor	Accuracy	General	Catching
Warren Tang	6			Paul Hivery	8	27	4
Paul Heath	8	52+77	1	Sean Barkley	4	42	1
Phillip Walsh	10	49+28	1	Matthew Hunt	6	42	1
Kerri Mico	8	40		Matthew Brown	2	6	0
Douglas Hodge	2	4	0	Chris Wan	0	64+50	2
Matthew Granville	6			Michael Clarke	6	26	0
Jeffrey Clarke	14	34	0	Andrew Peters	12	26	0
Philip Canalese	6	10		Darren Griffith	8	45	1
Joanne Doughty	2	1	0	Vanessa Leong	0		
Emma Anastasi	9			Kellie Jackson	0		
Rachel Bradley	0			Craig Gowan	10	26	3
Martin Campe	9	20	1	Sean Wynn	12		
Scott Patterson	5	23	0	Greg Cooper	15	39	1
Bianca Gosselink	0			John Cunningham	3		
Cath. Cunningham	7			Sean Brannon		6	
Eliz. Cunningham	2			Adrian Brannon		2	
Bernadette Brannon		3		Brigit Brannon		15	
Martin Brannon		2		Cameron Griffith		6	

Seniors

Competitor	Accuracy	General	Consec. Catch.	Same Boom.	One-Hand Catch.
John Starreveld	10	36	1	16	4
Tony Butz	11	34	4	26	1
Chris Henzgen	8	72	7	36	3
Greg Foley	22	73 + 50	0	32	1
Lance Scoular	0	20	0	17	0
Yoshinobu Kimura	10	52	1	29	
Grant Arnold	22	25			
Rick Haywood	20	69			
Francis Wan	4				
Peter Monaghan Sn.	0				
Peter Monaghan Jr.	0	50	2	7	
Garry Durrant	22	74 + 69	3	25	9
Craig Liddell	6	36			
Br. Thomas	25	102 + 61	15 n.o.	32	10 n.o.

Br. Michael Gallagher	0	50	14	22	
Roger Kinsley	2	8			
B. Rose			0		

2 nd. CITY OF SYDNEY CHAMPIONSHIPS ****

From a Melbournites viewpoint.....

Sydney continued the trend set at Whyalla by attracting a large number of new throwers. Of the 54 competitors taking part, more than 85% were in their first ever comp. However the standard was surprisingly high. This was possible because throwing conditions were ideal. (even better than Albury) Everyone present was encouraged by successful throwing and the chilly weather provided just the incentive to keep competitors on the run. This provided good viewing for the large crowd present, estimated at more than 200 spectators. Media coverage was the best ever and thousands more found out about our sport on television, radio and press coverages.

In many ways it was an historic occasion. For the first time in recent years timed catching was not included in as an event. However, this was more than compensated for with several new improvements and innovations.

One-handed catching was included in an attempt to break the record of 35. While this did not occur the event was adjudged a success and should have potential for inclusion in future competitions. Another first was the "Same boomerang" competition, in which all competitors had to use the same boomerang. This could probably be improved by having a diverse selection of boomerangs from which the boomerang-of-the-day could be chosen by lot. Another point of interest was the new method of running the consecutive catching. "On the line" proved to be a huge success with both spectators and participants, while imposing a special sort of pressure on the latter.

The only things lacking were a lot of top throwers (particularly from interstate) and a separate area in which to warm up. (space is at a premium in Sydney)

These championships stand as a most encouraging example to new throwers. Several people did very well in their first competition including:- Grant Arnold and Rick Haywood in the accuracy comp. and Yashinobu Kimura in the same boomer and comp. In addition, Chris Wan demonstrated what a valuable experience going to Albury was, by taking out 2nd. place in the General and 3rd. in the catching.

I had an enjoyable weekend in Sydney and it was the first time I have ever enjoyed the beer there. (One of the breweries was on strike and most of the pubs were serving the Melbourne brew).....

Chris Henzgen.

***** ALBURY CHAMPIONSHIPS 1980 *****

A few comments on the event by a sore, sunburnt Secretary.

The local event at Albury this year was held in typical "Albury calm" weather - Fine and warm with no really strong wind but random breezes picking up from different directions sometimes requiring a 180° shift in throwing direction. Making good throws possible if one is able to pick the wind effects for each throw.

The venue left a bit to be desired as we had the use of two small soccer grounds with poles, fences, goal posts and trees at or about the 40m mark in at least 2 directions on each ground. Chris Henzgen broke his special "Gundawarra" on a fence and I got my Janetzki "Greyhound" tangled in a tree on the 50 m mark during the catching comp. This was just one result of "last minute" booking which we hope to be able to avoid in future. (Re. my notice of motion elsewhere in this Bulletin)

The best all round performance was by Br. BRIAN THOMAS who won the General Championship, Accuracy competition and was runner up in the Consecutive Catching event.

A Special "Best Novice" trophy for the most improved thrower who has not won a place, was presented to MICHAEL GALLAGHER. He did well in all events and looks like improving further.

A bit of international flavour was added with YOSHINOBU KIMURA competing. He made fair scores in General and Accuracy and in the catching event, made nine straight catches in the "free" section but unluckily missed the first of the compulsory part.

One of our keener new throwers, CLIFF ANDERSON, drove from Melbourne to participate in a comp for the first time. He came third in the accuracy event, after a throw-off for second place.

Those well known Octogenarians, LES and ARTHUR JANETZKI, were in fine form, with Les taking second place in the Accuracy comp and Arthur only a point behind.

Organiser of many Albury events, KEN OVINGTON, was talked into competing and surprised himself with a good score once he had warmed up.

Most notable of the junior throwers was Ken's son MICHAEL OVINGTON. He scooped the pool by winning the General Championship, Consecutive catching, runner up in the Accuracy as well as winning fastest five catches and nearest the pin.

TERESA MILLS won the Junior accuracy after a throw off.

***** ALBURY CHAMPIONSHIPS 1980 *****

....continued..

The highlight of the day was CHRIS HENZGEN's effort in the Consecutive Catching event. He had one practice throw and then started catching, catching and catching. And catching in his own unique and spectacular style including occasional leaps, rolls and dives.

To start with, he took the shortest time for his first five, being 44.3 seconds, then he proceeded to equal Br. Thomas's total for the day of 46 and topped this with a diving-sliding catch for number 47. He then continued with throws well over 30 m and reading wind changes which sometimes required a 90° or more alteration in throwing direction. His most spectacular catch was about the 80 mark, when he sort of rolled on his back for a "normal" catch (normal for him that is) but misjudged the boomerang's "final approach" and while rolling had to reach out at full arms length to take a one-handed catch.

At the century mark Chris stopped for his only rest break, which could not have been for more than half a minute, then continued, but now with what seemed to be more relaxed confidence. Everybody watching had by this time taken up lounging positions outside the 20 m line and we were so engrossed in Chris's performance now within sight of the 146 record, that we chose to ignore the Sun's effect on our exposed "winter skins". But we sure noticed later on.

When Chris reached the 140 mark, everyone was waiting with baited breath as the catches were counted off. Now only seven more needed to make a new World Record and he was catching steadier than ever. At 144, he had equalled the record made by Bob Burwell over two years ago. Now only two more needed to equal the World Record set by Bunny Read in April of this year.

Throw number one hundred and forty-five and the catch is a sitter - Chris takes up a half squat position as he has done so often - everything right - then drops it. Commiserations Chris, but congratulations - on the most spectacular and enduring display of catching I have seen.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Our thanks to Ken Ovington for organising the event and accomodating a few interstate attendees.

Trophies were donated by IAN BARKERS PHARMACY and engraved by MICHAEL EGAN. Thank you gentlemen for your continued support.

**** ALBURY CHAMPIONSHIPS ****

-- RESULTS --

Competitors (in order of throwing)	Rounds 1&2, General C'shp	Accuracy comp.	Consec. Catches	Time for five.
Br. Thomas	36, 49	16	46	51.5 secs.
C. Anderson	6, 4	14	1	
Y. Kimura	32, 6	7	9	61.2 secs.
C. Henzgen	36, 24	2	144	44.3 secs.
L. Janetzki	12, 10	14		
A. Janetzki	34, 22	13		
M. Gallagher	32, 23	13	6	1.45.6 secs.
M. Maxwell	34, 37	3	16	
K. Ovington	4, 35		2	
Juniors..				
M. Ovington	27, 41	16	25	55.1 secs.
B. Taylor	18, 23	13	6	1.55.9
P. Avery	10, 8	4	1	
T. Mills	33, 4	16	6	1.11.2
S. Knight	53, 23	4	16	
J. Knight	4, 9	2		

General Championship Finals

Finalists	Heat 1 score (from above)	Final heat (2 rounds)	Grand total
1st. Br. Thomas	85	52+42= 94	179
2nd. M. Maxwell	71	26+50= 76	147
3rd. C. Henzgen	60	39+40= 79	139
Juniors			
1st. M. Ovington	68	38+45= 83	151
2nd. S. Knight	76	25+34= 59	135
3rd. B. Taylor	41	29+44= 73	114

Nearest the pin was won by Br. Thomas with a return landing 480 mm from the centre point.

