THE FLYER

Issue 26 ✦ Disc Golf Newsletter of the LFDC & RCFDA ✦ Spring '98

And the Winner is: The Nebraska Food Bank

"Mr. Bill" Hulbert

OMAHA WINTERFEST ICE BOWL '98 (Field 41 1/2) -- Could there have been a better day for Omaha's Ice Bowl '98? Sunshine, light winds, and 7 inches of fresh, powdery snow made the course beautiful. Temps peaked at 30 degrees, so it was warm enough to be comfy, but cold enough to keep it from becoming a slushy mess (see Lincoln IB). The '98 IB format was simple - - Pay some money, donate some food, lose some discs, and HAVE FUN!! And perhaps win a prize in the raffle at Cornwell's afterwards! Our total donation to the Nebraska Food Bank was $220 and 227 pounds of food, thanks primarily to Tony Placzek's solo contribution of more than 100 pounds!! Plaz is way above the curve when it comes to giving — what a great guy!

Chuck reunited with pager

The unofficial lost disc count was seven, but thanks to Doug Campbell & the Spatula DG Inebriators almost all were returned. Most fun recognition goes to Cody Cossi, whose VPS was only 4 1/2 cents. He got one of Ban Tow's unique Japanese print minis for his achievement. The most fortunate Ice Bowler was Chuck Williams. By calling himself on his cell phone and having his group stand and listen he recovered his $80 pager, lost during practice. Thanx to all who attended, and tell some wimps what they missed!! Ⓕ

Distance Record Set

Scott Stokely has set an unofficial new World Flying Disc Distance Record of 211.32 meters (693.3 feet). This incredible throw occurred Sunday, April 5th, during the 1998 New Mexico State Overall Championships sponsored by Wham-O, The Black Range Lodge and neighbor, Jimmy Bason.

Stokely used a new 167 gram white Discraft XL which has just been approved by the Professional Disc Golf Association. Winds were moderate and variable at about 10 mph, temperature was around 70° and elevation was approximately 5800 feet. Measurements were taken using a Bushnell Yardage Pro 400 Laser Ranging system mounted on a tripod. This established the 211 meters, a metric tape measure established the centimeters. Forms have been submitted to the World Flying Disc Federation for proper verification. Ⓕ

Pete Fust/Tom Lander, Kingston, New Mexico, "Cliff Towne" <cliffiowne@loop.com> Internet Discussion Group: rec.sport.disc

'Twas a Bowl o' Ice and Slush

Kim Theesen

LINCOLN, NE - Beautiful weather, lots o'divisions, big trophies, loads of added cash... These are things we did *not* have at our seventh annual Ice Bowl here in Lincoln, Nebraska, held on February 1st. What we did have, however, was 45 pitching plastic people around 18 holes of the now 27-hole Interstate Disc Golf Course. In addition, these 45 fanatical Frisbee flingers raised $200 in cash and 308 pounds of food for the Lincoln Food Bank. Omaha's Tony Placzek earned first place as the biggest food contributor of the day with his big-hearted donation of 117 pounds of canned goods. Lincoln's own Mel Joy came in second with 42 pounds.

Earlier in the week, Wednesday's high hit an unseasonable 48. That day's weather report forecast a high of 46 degrees for the upcoming Sunday Ice Bowl. The rain started late Saturday night and turned to snow for an accumulation of close to two inches. The snow coated the trees with a layer of white frosting and the many of fairways appeared to be the remains of a giant Quickie Mart squishee. It was pretty to the eye and help to set the mood; 1998 will go down as the ice *and slush* bowl.

The hosting Lincoln Flying Disc Club agreed with me that we have enough competitive events throughout the year and decided to put the emphasis on fun and camaraderie. Just get out and throw 18 holes. Those who finished and showed up at the post-Ice Bowl party were eligible for a door prize.

Interstate Disc Golf Course now features 27 holes. The back nine and north nine made up the day's course. Two alternative tees were established. The one across the creek to hole #10 was first featured in the final nine of last year's Cornhusker State Games. The second alternative was to #27 (old #18). I set up a short hole of about 175 feet and Assistant TD Pat Raybould painted a 15' orange circle around it. If you got inside the orange lines, you qualified for the CTP prize. Instead of many qualifying, only four got in. Omaha's Chris Oien got closest, but Lincoln's John Hansen won the sweatshirt in the drawing..

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Tom Schlueter, Publisher, Responds

Twenty Questions for *Disc Golf Journal*

It's about time that somebody turn the tables and interview the publisher of *Disc Golf Journal* for a change. Tom Schlueter agreed to answer twenty questions for us. (In addition, I was also hoping to quiz Rick Rothstein of *Disc Golf World News.* He declined the interview.)

1. Let's start off with some history questions. How and when did you find out about the sport of disc golf?
It was 1985, my wife (then girlfriend) and I were looking for things to do when we weren't hitting the books at St. Louis University. Disc golf at Hazelwood Recreation Center was an activity listed in a St. Louis guide. We thought it would be fun since we often threw 165s around in the parks.

2. Can you remember when you first saw some printed material about disc golf, like a newsletter or tourney flyer?
I'm certain it was at Hazelwood Recreation Center. I vaguely remember examining the inside bulletin board with course records and tournament listings.

3. What's your PDGA number and in what PDGA division do you play?
#4847. When I do play, which unfortunately has greatly decreased since the birth of my daughter Megan, I play open.

4. What's your favorite disc golf tournament and why?
I would have to say Illinois States or the Peoria Open simply because I know almost every person at the event.

5. How long has your publication been in existence? Feel free to add any comments on its evolution.
The *Journal* debuted at the 1991 Edgewood Electric Open June 1st. In the beginning it was painfully obvious that the photographs were our weakness. It took a good year to figure out proper scanning techniques, etc. Honestly, we didn't make a radical change until the November/December '95 issue when we added a 50# cover. It was 1995 when we also finally purchased Macintosh equipment for the business. Up until then the magazine was designed after hours and on the weekend on my partner's Macintosh where he works. There were some close calls with his supervisors! Our next major improvement was the July/August '97 issue when we introduced a slightly altered masthead and quite a few design changes inside the magazine. I suppose color will be the next step.

6. What was the approximate press run of your last issue?
2,000.

7. What are the pros and cons of the newspaper and bi-monthly format?
Aside from a little ink on the fingers and a less durable format, I love the newspaper format. It really makes us unique. The large size makes design more interesting. And the printing of the newspaper is quick, literally hours. Subscribers and distributors are mailed their copies 24 hours after they're printed. A downside to bi-monthly? Well, it's more work obviously. But, it's my job and I love it. I'm not going to sit here and complain. Readers want us to go monthly. They just can't get enough. Our production has been really fine-tuned to a masterpiece. Each issue is based on the previous so it's not like we're reinventing the wheel every two months.

(Editor's note: According to May-June *DGJ*, look for a major change. The newspaper in format will soon be history.)

8. I want to take out a full-page black & white ad in your publications. What's it going to cost?
$175 (for the new *DGJ* format).

9. If you were to die right now (well, after this interview anyway) and find yourself in disc golf heaven, on what course would you be spending eternity?
The Pearly Gates Disc Golf Course located due north of earth. Seriously, this is a tough question. We have featured so many World Class Courses in the *Journal* that I have never played that sound incredible. I'll have to go with Orlando's Barnett Park.

10. Prediction Time: I still get the blank stare and the "oh, you mean Frisbee golf" type of response when telling people that I play disc golf. Compared to disc golf's current state, in regard to numbers of tournaments/participants and the recreational/casual players, how big do you think disc golf will be ten years from now? Twenty years from now?
Well, examining our own growth on a yearly basis, as well as the similar increase in PDGA membership numbers, a conser-

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THE FLYER

Contributors Include: "Mr. Bill" Hulbert, Anita Jackson, Pat Raybould, Tom Schlueter, Chuck Williams

Published Quarterly by the **Lincoln Flying Disc Club**

In Cooperation with the **River City Flying Disc Association**

THE FLYER is a quarterly (really, 4 times a year!) newsletter dedicated to promoting disc golf in Nebraska and its neighboring states in the Midwest. This issue was created, edited, and published by disKimages, my little chunk of the creative world. Please communicate with us. This is *your* newsletter. Snail mail can be sent to 1008 South 32nd Street, Lincoln, NE 68510-3230. Phone us at (402) 476-8892. (We change the outgoing message more than once a week!) Send us a Fax at (402) 472-1396 (ATTN: Anita Jackson). Make first contact in cyberspace at ktheesen@unlinfo.unl.edu. We'll distribute one free issue to any disc devotee who contacts us.

Our newsletter welcomes your submissions of feature articles, photographs, comments, and critiques. Tell us why you think we're the best (or why you think we suck. We dare you to write us. Heck, we DOUBLE-DOG dare ya!). We will accept ads. Besides, unsolicited articles and letters makes the editor tingle. All will be considered for publication. (Hey, we'll print just about anything.) E-mail whenever possible.

THE FLYER reserves the right to edit submitted material. Opinions contained within are not necessarily those of THE FLYER staff, Lincoln Flying Disc Club or River City Flying Disc Association. (Hey, if you're tired of our opinions, send us some of yours!) You may reproduce anything in this issue as long as you give credit and the phone number of THE FLYER and acknowledge the growing sport of disc golf in Nebraska and the Midwest. If you don't, may your golf disc sink to the bottom of the next water hazard you encounter.

Subscription: 1 year of four issues for only $5. This publication also comes with a LFDC or RCFDA membership which is only $15 per year per person or $25 per year for BOTH CLUBS. Sign up today! If you've read this tiny print this far, it shows you are interested. Why aren't you a member? If membership/subscription form is missing, send us your vitals and $5 cash or check. We'll put you on the list!

"Only two things are infinite, the Universe and human stupidity, and I'm not sure about the former."
Albert Einstein

(Continued from Page 2)

vative estimate is 10-15% growth per year. So if we're talking about 50,000 total people playing the sport right now, 130,000 should be playing in 10 years and 330,000 in 20 years. That's only a 10% increase. Mass marketing and national sponsorship on the level of beach volleyball or the X-Games could greatly change the numbers.

11. I'd like to think that there will be more regional newsletters evolving from what's out right now. From what you've seen of *The Flyer* and others, what's your opinion on the future of disc golf publications, big and small?
With the development of electronic media it's scary to wonder if there will be any printed magazines or newsletters in 20 or 30 years. Until then, I think the majority of people like holding something in their hands. Isn't it interesting how many product wars boil down to a two-horse race? And this is precisely what has happened in disc golf publications: *DGWN* and *DGJ*. I foresee many new regional publications. Whether they will be profitable and can charge for subscriptions and advertising with small circulation is to be seen.

12. Let's lighten up this a little. Some folks believe you are what you eat. What's your favorite breakfast cereal? If you're not a cereal eater, how do you like your eggs?
I'm a big man, and you don't have to tell me I am what I eat! I like oatmeal for cereal and on-the-soft-side scrambled eggs.

13. When you're not playing or writing about disc golf, what else do you like to do in any spare time that you may have? (And I won't allow "taking inventory of my disc collection" or "fondling plastic" as an answer.)
Since I quit my full time job last May at the city paper, I've become a "Mr. Mom." So entertaining and stimulating my daughter is my main job. I work on the magazine when Megan is occupied with her toys or TV and when my wife comes home to give me a break. Leaving my job last spring was the one of my best decisions I've ever made.

14. Cliché question time: You're going on a trip. You only have room for two discs, what are you taking with ya?
It's an old disc, but I still use a Shark. And I have always putted with an Aviar.

15. Another future question: Plastic technology continues to improve. Stokely throws close to 700 feet. Even an average arm like me can throw the length of a football field. The flight distances of the average disc golfer will continue to get longer, thus shortening courses every where. Are the biggest arms, combined with ever - improving plastic technology, going to make pitch and putts out of the majority of our current public-park style courses?
Actually I feel disc technology has somewhat stabilized. Thank goodness. When the world distance records are broken, it's by smaller and smaller amounts. Unfortunately, many courses today are completely outdated for the type of plastic most golfers use. On a different note, more difficulty and strategy could be added to a sanctioned event by limiting the number of discs a player could use. This has been a rule in ball golf forever; disc golf should do the same thing.

16. Another one of *THE* disc golf questions: What do we have to do to get more women and kids (younger than 16) to get hooked throwing golf discs?
Since I'm not a woman and I'm older than 16, other people would be better qualified to answer this question. But, the answers lie in promoting those groups from within the existing women and youth ranks. Creativity is key in finding new people. Cub scouts, Boy Scouts, women's shelters, women's prisons, bulletin boards at women's colleges, YMCA's... the sources of new women and youth are endless. The challenge is to keep them playing the game. Are the rewards there? World's Biggest is a great idea, but that's the main annual event of the sport for promotion. Why? There should be more promotions. Tournaments are for players already into the game.

17. One more future-prediction question: As plans are drawn, a beautiful tract of land is found, purchased, and contoured to exact specifications. A clubhouse and pro-shop are erected. There are no joggers, picnickers, bicyclists or disc-magnet baby strollers allowed inside. Eighteen holes are installed, many with multiple tees and pin placements per target. Golfers will be charged a modest fee to play a round of 18 (~$10 in today's dollars). Approximately what year is it?
Come on, Kim...it's 1998! Oh, in the example? Hmmmm.... a $10 fee to play probably wouldn't slide until at least five years from now.

18. When's the last time you played catch with a good ol' Frisbee?
Years. I'm embarrassed to admit I no longer even own a Frisbee.

19. I keep thinking about how disc golf is just about ready to "explode" on the national scene. It's almost the perfect game for everyone, young and old. It's inexpensive, easy to learn the rules, play by your self or with friends, etc. What do we need to do and why is it taking so long for the "overnight explosion"?
I don't want it to explode overnight. Think about it. Most disc golf businesses are one-person operations. If there was an incredible flood of non-stop business too quickly, many businesses would fail because of lack of resources. If the PDGA, *DGWN*, or *DGJ* had 1,000 new people to take care of, and they all wanted their magazine NOW, it might cripple them. If the DGA or Innova received orders for 50 new courses, how quickly do you think those could be shipped? I think disc golf is growing at a healthy rate.

20. What's the craziest, wackiest thing you've ever seen on a disc golf course and/or at a disc golf tournament?
The funniest disc golf course I have ever played is on the grounds of the Elizabeth Ludman Development Center in Park Forest, Illinois (Chicagoland). This nine-hole course weaves through a small community where mentally retarded adults reside. If you play on a warm day, many residents are out and about spectating and making comments on your play and some odd noises. The icing on the cake is at the end of the round. As you walk back to your car, stop and stand at the middle of the free-throw line on the basketball court. Look straight ahead and you'll find the basketball pole four feet off center to the right of you. Somehow it's appropriate for the environment. Ⓟ

From the Editor's K.Tee Pad

Disc Golf Masters – One More Look

(Editor's Note: The source for this information is public record. No offense is meant at any given event or its directors; I'm simply citing and comparing results. Hey, I even critiqued some of our own events.)

Everybody who plays in a tournament does this. You look at your final scores and compare it to the other divisions to see where you would have placed. Then you look at the winners and see where they would have finished in different divisions. In addition to comparing top advanced ams with the pros, the masters' scores (both pro and am) are always... How does Spock say it? "Fascinating." The objective of tournaments should be getting our best players competing against each other, right? *There's something wrong with this picture, when a pro master's score is good enough to cash in the open and he takes home more money than several open players that competed against a larger field.* Look at the scores. They do paint a most "fascinating" picture.

And for the so called "advanced" amateur masters, aren't they really just older intermediate ams who aren't good enough to compete with the advanced amateurs? Well, if they are *good enough*, why aren't they playing advanced amateur? Does disc golf really need two *advanced* divisions for the men?

I'm going to attempt to answer these questions. For those of you who won't be master's age for a few years (which is still 35 by PDGA standards) or if you have absolutely no desire in helping to run tournaments, you may go ahead and skip this bit. Now that the kids have left the room let's have another look at this masters business, locally and nationally, pro and amateur.

The Professional Masters

Many (most?) tournaments are not doing what it takes to entice the masters to play with the open pros. In fact, current cash pay out schemes utilized in most events actually encourage those 35 and older to play in the masters instead of the open. If you are currently a competitive masters aged player, but not quite at the top open pro level, what would motivate you to play in the open when the odds favor you cashing in the masters? Let me attempt to explain.

For the purposes of this little diatribe, I sampled fifteen tourneys from the March/April '98 issue of *Disc Golf Journal* and three of our local events covered in *The Flyer*. (See Table 1.) I'm also going to make three assumptions. My first is that when the field is ninety or less, both the pro open and pro masters played the same courses. This allows direct score comparisons across the divisions. Next, I'm assuming that in most cases the masters pay *less* than their open counterpart, never more. (We've always charged them less in Lincoln and Omaha.) And the last assumption, the masters' field is almost always smaller than the open (17 out of the 18 surveyed). In fact, at 50% of these events, with the PDGA minimum of three per card, there's barely enough to warrant two cards of players.

Let's take a closer look at some of these events, two in Nebraska and one in California. In the 1997 version of "A Call To Arms," the pro masters' winner shot a 214. First place received $193 for defeating four players. If he had played in the open, he would have placed sixth (only two strokes from the

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Table 2. '97 ACTA (*The Flyer* #25)

Pro Open (9)	V/R	Pro Masters (5)	Proposed
1. 198 ($388)	$388	1. 214 ($193)	1. $65
2. 212 ($159)	$212	2. 223 ($103)	2. $50
212 ($159)	$106	3. 224 ($0)	3. $35
4. 213 ($0)		4. 229 ($0)	4. $0
213 ($0)		5. 240 ($0)	5. $0

Table 1. Comparisons of 18 Tournaments

Tournament	# Pro Open	# Pro Masters	$ Pay out to 1st Pro Master	If 1st Pro Master played Open Pro, $ won (position placed)	% of Open Pro who were paid ≤ the 1st Place Pro Master	# of Cashing Masters who would've cashed in Open Pro	# Advanced Am Compared to # Advanced Am Masters
1. WVO	36	15	$350	$250 (4th)	92% (11/12)	*	NM
2. FC	37	27	$485	$155 (5th)	92% (11/12)	5/8	NM
3. CSIII	12	**2	$90	NC	0% (0/4)	0/3	25-10
4. GPO	26	13	$175	$100 (4th)	78% (7/9)	4/5	28-9
5. Otter	15	9	$200	NC	80% (4/5)	0/3	18-6
6. Ch Op	14	8	$140	NC	83% (5/6)	0/3	9-2
7. DDW	16	9	$70	$100 (1st)	67% (4/6)	3/4	10-NM
8. DAC	20	5	$100	NC	78% (7/9)	0/2	8-NM
9. SWCl	9	5	$114	NC	67% (2/3)	0/2	6-2
10. FHT	12	6	$90	$120 (2nd)	50% (2/4)	2/2	8-NM
11. Ft Sm	11	†1	$30	NC	0% (0/3)	0/1	NA-3
12. CCW	5	4	$40	$30	67% (2/3)	2/2	2-NM
13. 100Y	9	4	$105	NC	67% (2/3)	0/1	4-4
14. SCO	12	13	$126	$100 (2nd)	75% (3/4)	3/6	25-15
15. CPC	20	4	$120	NC	71% (5/7)	0/2	21-NM
16. SFF8	10	5	$122	NC	80% (4/5)	0/2	24-14
17. ACTA	9	5	$193	NC	67% (2/3)	0/2	17-9
18. SCSO	19	7	$143	NC	57% (4/7)	0/3	26-6

Sources: #1-#15: *Disc Golf Journal*, March/April '98. Pages 36-37. **#16-#17:** *The Flyer*, #24 & #25.
NC = Would not have cashed in the open with the same score; NM = No masters offered.
* From the looks of the scores, a play off must have followed the three rounds. The first place masters was the only one with a fourth column of scores. Go figure. Did one guy playoff alone? His three round score of 194 places him 7th in the open pro.
** Grand masters, no masters here. † One grandmaster, no pro masters. Only one. Why?
#6: Top am master would've tied top advanced amateur. **#7:** This first place PM would've won first place in the open and $30 more.
Columns 4 & 5: Only two 1st place pro masters would've made more money by playing in the open with the same score.
Column 6: Out of the 109 open players, 75 were paid less than the 1st place pro master (68%).
Column 7: Out of the 51 pro masters who cashed, only 19 had scores good enough to cash in the open.
Column 8: 11 out of 18 events offered an am masters division (61%).

Please photocopy and/or post at a highly visible place.

THE MIDWEST'S FRIENDLIEST TOURNAMENT

STAR CITY SHOOT-OUT

6-7 JUNE 98

LINCOLN, NE

EARTH

diskimages

PDGA B-TIER • 72 HOLES • MIN $500 ADDED PURSE

DIVISIONS (FEES)

Pros: Open ($45), Women ($35), Masters ($30)
Amateur: Adv ($30), Adv Women ($25), Adv Masters ($20), Int ($20), Int Women ($15), Beginning ($12)

Putting Contest, CTPs, Players' Party, Free Pop & Pizza Snacks, Ace Fund. Players' Packs Guaranteed to First 72 registered. Free T-Shirt if Registered before May 27.

THE FINE PRINT: Checks payable to LINCOLN FLYING DISC CLUB. Entries to TD Pat Raybould, 1515 Harrison, Lincoln ,NE, 68502. (402) 477-9872. If entry form is not available, send in Name, address, PDGA#, and birthdate (if master.) All Pros & Adv Ams must be paid PDGA members; Non-member Adv Ams must pay $5 temporary fee. Registration closes June 6th, 9 a.m.

'98 FLYER CALENDAR

MAY				
TBA	May-August Summer League	Omaha, NE	RCFDA	402.393.6370
5	RCFDA Monthly Meeting*	Omaha, NE	Mr. Bill	402.393.6370
9	Lincoln MINI	Lincoln, NE	Eric Knoflicek	402.489-5773
9-10	Old Barn Rendezvous	St. Paul, MN	Greg Rife	612.698.0295
16-17	World's Biggest DGWkend	Lincoln, NE	Rick Fleege	402.466.0857
		Omaha, NE	Kurt Kopp	402.330.7297
20	LFDC Monthly Meeting**	Lincoln, NE	Ken Scdoris	402.476.9535
23-24	Des Moines Challenge [B]	Des Moines, IA	Jason Neifert	515.278.1970
30-31	Stockton/Norton [Oz Tour]	Stockton/Norton, KS	Ron Rice	785.628.8334
31	I-80 Challenge	Lincoln-Omaha,NE	Kim Theesen	402.476.8892
			Mike Fleege	402.466.2321
			Aaron Slezak	402.455.4106
JUNE				
2	RCFDA Monthly Meeting*	Omaha, NE	Mr. Bill	402.393.6370
6-7	Star City Shoot-Out [B]	Lincoln, NE	Pat Raybould	402.477.9872
13-14	Kansas City Wide Open [A]	Kansas City, KS/MO	Rick Rothstein	816.471.3472
20	Hemophilia Foundation Benefit	Omaha, NE	Mr. Bill	402.393.6370
20-21	Minnesota Majestic [A]	Mpls, St. Paul, MN	Alan Uetz	612.824.6693
17	LFDC Monthly Meeting**	Lincoln, NE	Ken Scdoris	402.476.9535
27	Waverly MINI	Waverly	Eric Knoflicek	402.489-5773
27-28	Emporia	Emporia, KS	Kevin Babbit	316.342.7751
JULY				
4-5	Sinissippi Open	Sterling, IL	Terry Batten	915-626-2420
7	RCFDA Monthly Meeting*	Omaha, NE	Mr. Bill	402.393.6370
12	Hutchinson [Oz Tour]	Hutchinson, KS	Justin Hanson	316.669.8135
15	LFDC Monthly Meeting**	Lincoln, NE	Ken Scdoris	402.476.9535
18-19	Cornhusker State Games (Nebraska Amateurs)	Lincoln, NE	David Nolte	402.489.8405
			Anita Jackson	402.476.8892
25-26	Moon Child Campout	Fremont, NE	Mr. Bill	402.393.6370
AUGUST				
1	Parsons [Oz Tour]	Parsons, KS	Harvey Barger	316.342.7751
3-8	PDGA Pro Worlds Champ.	Cincinnatti, OH	Kerry Keith	513.662.8601
7	RCFDA Monthly Meeting*	Omaha, NE	Mr. Bill	402.393.6370
15-16	A Call To Arms	Omaha, NE	RCFDA	402.393.6370
19	LFDC Monthly Meeting**	Lincoln, NE	Ken Scdoris	402.476.9535
21-25	PDGA Am Worlds Champ.	Appleton, WI	Don Hoffman	608.437.5193
23	Beloit [Oz Tour]	Beloit, KS	Harv & Bud	316.262.7879
29-30	Shunga Nunga [Oz Tour]	Topeka, KS	Bruce Hudson	785.267.2608
SEPTEMBER				
1	RCFDA Monthly Meeting*	Omaha, NE	Mr. Bill	402.393.6370
5-6	Hüsker Dübs	Lincoln, NE	Mike Fleege	402.466.2321
12-13	Frontier Open [B]	Hays, KS	Ron Rice	785.628.8334
16	LFDC Monthly Meeting**	Lincoln, NE	Ken Scdoris	402.476.9535
19-20	Throwers' Cup	Lincoln, NE	Rick Fleege	402.466.0857
26	Lake Shawnee [Oz Tour]	Topeka, KS	Larry Gordon	785.267.6355
OCTOBER				
3	Lawrence Doubles [Oz Tour]	Lawrence, KS	Reggie Craft	785.842-7246
6	RCFDA Monthly Meeting*	Omaha, NE	Mr. Bill	402.393.6370
8-11	The OctoberFRIZ [Oz Tour]	Winfield, KS	Harvey Barger	316.221.1017
18	Lindsborg [Oz Tour]	Lindsborg	Bud & Harv	316.262.7879
TBA	Havest FallBack	Lincoln, NE	Anita Jackson	402.476.8892
21	LFDC Monthly Meeting**	Lincoln, NE	Ken Scdoris	402.476.9535
31	Halloween Moon Glow	Omaha, NE	RCFDA	402.393.6370
NOVEMBER				
3	RCFDA Monthly Meeting*	Omaha, NE	Mr. Bill	402.393.6370
7	Oak Park [Oz Tour]	Wichita, KS	Buddy Kasner	316.262.7879
18	LFDC Monthly Meeting**	Lincoln, NE	Ken Scdoris	402.476.9535

*RCFDA meets at 7 p.m., first Tuesday of the month, at Camelot Community Center, 93rd & Cady (2 blocks north of Blondo). Also TBA: '98 Junior Firsbee Contest, Nebraska Oveall Flying Disc Championships, and monthly weekend 'FUN MINIS.'

**LFDC meets at 8 p.m., third Wednesday of the month, at Ken's apartment Club House, 7th & Superior.

The **'98 Flyer Calendar** is compiled from listings from the *Disc Golf Journal, Disc Golf World News,* the Internet, and this guy from Oz named Harvey. Criteria used in selecting tournaments includes geography, general interest, and, uh, just because. [A] and [B] refers to PDGA tier status. [Oz Tour] is, uh, like from the photocopied *Oz Tour Schedule* that I found on a bathroom floor in Herrington, KS. If you see an error, please contact us and we will correct it. Remember, before traveling to any disc golf tournament ***ALWAYS CALL THE T.D. FIRST!*** Registration, fees, PDGA sanctioning, and divisions offered vary significantly from event to event. Whenever possible register and pay in advance. Keep the TDs happy. And tell 'em where you heard about their tourney, *THE FLYER,* duh.

STAR CITY SHOOT-OUT REGISTRATION FORM ○ 6-7 JUNE 98 ○ LINCOLN, NE

Name_____ **PDGA#**_____

Address _____ **Phone** _____

City/St/Zip _____ **Birthday**_____
(Required for Masters)

DIVISIONS (Check One)...
PRO: ☐ Open ($45), ☐ Women ($35), ☐ Masters ($30)
AMATEUR: ☐ Adv ($30), ☐ Adv Women ($25), ☐ Adv Masters ($20),
☐ Intermediate ($20), ☐ Intermediate Women ($15), ☐ Beginning ($12)

PDGA Fee & Putting Contest included...Checks to Lincoln Flying Disc Club, 1515 Harrison, Lincoln, NE, 68502...More Info: TD Pat Raybould, 402.477.9872...Free T-shirt if registered by May 27...Player Packs guaranteed to first 72 registered.

(Masters...Continued from Page 4)

cashing top third). And since there was a tie for second and third in the open, he won more than 2/3 of those who cashed.

Except for first place, ties are cashed out evenly. If there hadn't been a tie, second place masters would've been paid $3 less than third place open. That's right; second place master defeats three while third place open defeats six and the master would've earned just $3 less?! This is equitable distribution? What incentive is there for this pro master to play pro open?

In last year's "Star City Shoot-Out," first place pro master won $143 with a score of 203. (See Table 3.) He wouldn't have cashed in the open, having missed by six strokes. He did, however, make more money than four open guys. Sixth place in open scored a 197, surpassed 12 guys, and earned $60. First place in masters defeated six. Even if first place pro masters tried his luck and played with the pro open, he would have had to shoot 11 strokes better to make more money. Somebody tell me where the incentive is for this guy to play open? He knows the system; he knows his skill level; he's playin' smart by playin' masters.

Table 3. '97 SCSO (*The Flyer* #24)

Pro Open (19)	Pro Masters (7)	Proposed
1. 190 ($377)	1. 203 ($143)	1. $75
2. 192 ($193)	2. 204 ($78)	2. $55
192 ($193)	3. 207 ($40)	3. $45
4. 194 ($108)	4. 211 ($0)	4. $35
5. 196 ($86)	5. 215 ($0)	5. $0
6. 197 ($60)	6. 215 ($0)	6. $0
7. 197 ($60)	7. 236 ($0)	7. $0

Looking at the Gold Pan Open in Somersent, California, (See Table 1, Tourney #4) there were twice as many playing open than masters (26 to 13). The master's winner received $175. If he would have played in the open, he would have placed fourth and won $100. The master's winner earned more money than seven of the nine who cashed in open (78%). If second and third place would have played in the open instead of the masters, they would have received $100 and $90 instead of the master's pay out of $125 and $80, respectively. Master's fourth place score of 189 and the $80 prize would have only earned him only $45 in the open. Only the last paid place in the masters (5th out of 13 for $30) would have been out of the cash if he had played in the open. Good thing *he* played masters, huh? Another smart golfer.

If pro masters aren't skilled enough to compete in the open, why are we rewarding them a disproportionate amount? In 16 of these 18 events, had the pro master winner had played open, he would have earned less money. Out of the 51 masters who received cash, only 19 (37%) would've played well enough to win cash in the open. In addition, 69% (75 of the 109) of all of the open players who cashed were paid the same or less than the winner of their respective pro master division. Oh sure, maybe one could argue that the top master should get more than the last place open guy. Still, when you take away the bottom 18 of the 75 pro open cashers, you end up with 52% (57/109). Do we really want to pay the masters more money for beating fewer players?

Pro Masters to Pro Open?

So how do we get our top masters aged players to compete in the open? First, significantly reduce the entry fees by at least a third. Logically, if you pay (i.e. risk) less, you have to expect to win less. For our next event, the "Star City Shoot-Out," we're charging $45 for the open and $30 for the masters. Second, there should be little to no added cash to the masters. Most of the added cash should go to the top divisions of open pro men and pro women. (Hey, if you're lucky enough to get a card of pro women, you better pay them to keep them coming back.) What's the point of equally distributing the added cash if the masters are paying a smaller entry fee? And third, *pay the top three or top half*, which ever is *more.* Flatten out the cash prizes with a Modified Monroe instead of the Voakes-Ruth pay out. Well, some of you pro masters are no doubt yelling "blasphemy!" by now. But if I were a fledgling pro, I'd be pissed to see so much of the cash going to masters, and couldn't wait until I turned 35. If you *pay* in the open, the good ones will *play* in the open.

Mini Divisions of Advanced Amateur Masters

Seven of the 18 surveyed events did not offer amateur masters, which means about two out of three did. Out of the eleven that fielded the am masters, six had six players or less. You can't play in a six-some (PDGA rule, fivesomes are bad enough), so they could only put together two threesomes. Four events had four or less. In my humble opinion, if you haven't got at least two foursomes, what's the point? As I mentioned earlier, do we really need a whole bunch of tiny divisions to accommo-date a few older players? Due to the small numbers of women playing, they *have* to play in small divisions. Is splitting up the advanced ams, using age instead of skill level, really what's best for competitive, tournament disc golf?

As of this writing, I'm 39 years old. My current skill level is a damn good intermediate amateur or a mediocre advanced am. I've gone back and forth between advanced and am masters. I have played in larger advanced am fields when I could have played in smaller am masters. I'll admit I'd rather play with the advanced am masters because (and I'm speaking in broad

"Is splitting up the advanced ams, using age instead of skill level, really what's best for competitive, tournament disc golf?"

generalities here) they are *usually* more mature. They have fun, rarely kick their bags or throw things, and are there to have a good time. If I should ever take first (and as long as I got a decent players pack), a small trophy for my victory would be just fine. I don't need a bag, a shirt, a big trophy and a stack of plastic. The recognition is what Iwant.

Amateurs Masters to Advanced Amateur

Like many, I'd like to think I received good value for my tourney dollar, regardless of where I finished. So, like the pros, the am master fees must be significantly smaller than their advanced counterparts. Charge them what you charge the intermediate amateur. Flatten out the prize values and give out prizes to at least the top 50%. In addition, to even the playing field, we have to provide shorter tees to the amateurs in intermediate, beginning, *and masters.* These divisions aren't skilled enough to play against the advanced amateur, so they should play on shorter courses. Now, before all you overworked TDs start screaming about setting up shorter tees, all

(Conclusion on Page 9)

Spring Fever Fling #9
Seymour Smith, Omaha, NE
April 18, 1998
TD: "Mr. Bill" Hulbert
Field: 81 Pro Purse: $870

Open Pro Men (12) ($360+$125=$485)

1	Chris Oien	44	53	97	$215
2	Tim Peyton	47	49	98	$105
	Troy McElroy	46	52	98	$105
4	Mark Ramsey	45	54	99	$60
5	George Zorbaugh	48	54	102	
	Troy Parker	47	55	102	
	Aaron Slezak	47	55	102	
8	Sean Murphy	52	52	104	
9	Blake Needles	51	55	106	
10	Mike Clay	52	55	107	
11	Tim Ahmad	52	57	109	
12	Eric Knoflicek	55	56	111	

Pro Women (3) ($75+$35 = $110)

1	Juliana Bower	53	56	109	$75
2	Anita Jackson	58	64	122	$35
3	Sandy Clark	59	67	126	

Pro Masters (9) ($225+$50=$275)

1	Scott Innis	48	53	101	$130
2	Doug Peyton	50	52	102	$48
	Tom Cremer	47	55	102	$48
	Jeff Homburg	49	53	102	$48
5	Terry Parker	54	55	109	
6	Kurt Kopp	53	57	110	
7	Steve Rose	54	61	115	
8	Bantow	54	64	118	
9	Ken Scdoris Sr	61	67	128	

Advanced Amateur Men (16)

1	Mike Fleege	48	59	107
2	Kenny Scdoris Jr	54	54	108
3	Bob Walker	53	56	109
4	Jeff Orlouski	54	56	110
	Justin Deronde	53	57	110
	Chris Claring	56	55	110
6	Rick Fleege	54	57	111
7	Dale Bare**	55	57	112
	Steve Kenton	54	58	112
	Mark Pendgraft	53	59	112
11	Dave Peyton	56	57	113
	Russ Peterson	54	59	113
13	Travis Wilson	51	63	114
14	Bruce Anderson	56	61	117
15	Randy Bower	54	65	119
16	Bryan Crowdy	56	64	120

**Ace (#16 - AA $135)

Advanced Amateur Masters (9)

1	Chuck Straub	55	52	107
2	Brett George	55	55	110
3	Phil Schmidt	52	60	112
4	Doug Foust	53	61	114
5	Larry Wallace	58	59	117
6	Pete Van Brundt	56	64	120
7	Mel Joy	58	63	121
8	Kim Theesen	60	66	126
9	F. Placzek	61	68	129

Intermediate Amateur Men (24)

1	Eric Rhodes	47	58	105
2	James Shafer	54	62	116
3	Andy Moore	55	63	118*
4	Tony Dutiel	54	64	118
	Jon Kemling	55	63	118
6	Roger Mohler	58	61	119
	Steve Keith	57	62	119
8	Mike Crowdy	55	65	120
9	Tom Kortje	60	62	122
10	Josh Roza	61	63	124
11	Jeff Rethmeier	58	67	125
12	Gene Ray	62	65	127
	Doug Campbell	60	67	127
14	Mike Wallace	63	66	129
15	Chris Fletcher	63	68	131
	Nich Conditt	62	69	131
	Luke Warburton	61	70	131
	James Woodman	60	71	131
19	Geoff Wertheim	62	71	133
	Russel Overbay	61	72	133
21	Jonas Thomas	61	73	134
22	Mike Ricketts	61	74	135
23	Tom Metz	65	75	140
	Yale Thomas	65	75	140
25	Pat Murphy	65	77	142
26	Paul Henderson	62	--	DNF

Intermediate Amateur Women (2)

1	Kim Walker	62	57	119
2	Joan Van Brundt	70	74	144

Recreational (5)

1	Jason Holacek	61	66	127
2	Mike Conditt	65	66	131
3	Marc White	66	69	135
4	Ken Morton	75	67	141
5	Stu Hald	74	78	152

Junior (1)

1	Jamey Fleege	75	--	75

Fling Notes

Pros: Omaha's own Chris Oien holds on to shoot a 97 and beat last year's winner Tim Peyton by one shot. Troy McElroy, who tied for second in advanced am last year, tied for second in open pro this year. Also cashing in the pro open was Mark Ramsey, who shot a 99. The pro women's division finsihed exactly the same for two years in a row: Juliana Bower, Anita Jackson, and Sandra Clark respectively finished first, second, and third. Scott Innis repeats in pro master; Doug Peyton, who played advanced am in SFF #8, tied for second along with Tom Cremer, and Jeff Homburg.

Amateurs: Mike Fleege wins his second event in a row in advanced amateur. (Ed. note: Mike took top am honors at the *Discs Unlimited Open* in Herrington, Kans.) Chuck Straub, whose score of 107 tied the advanced am's winner, took first in amateur masters. Eric Rhodes shot a hot first round of 47 in round one to easily win the intermediate am men. Kim Walker, Jason Holacek, and Jamey Fleege take firsts in amatuer women, recreational, and juniors, respectively.

TD "Mr. Bill" and Am Champ Eric Rhodes

The temp peaked at 64°,with moderate winds and plenty of sun. Pros and advanced ams played A tees in the first round and B tees on the second; pin positions were mixed. Hot 1st Rounds: Chris Oien...44, Mark Ramsey...45. Hot 2nd Rounds: Tim Peyton...49, Troy McElroy, Sean Murphy, Doug Peyton, and Chuck Straub...52. Better scores on the longer second round: Chris Claring: 56 to 55, Charles Straub: 55 to 52.

Loads of thank yous to our wonderful sponsors: Convenient Food Mart, the Packett Family and Quantum Leap, Inebriators, Chris Oien, Ray Coooper Construction, Dennis Vahsholtz, the Kopp Bros, Digital Hot Type, "Mr. Bill," Play It Again Sports, Heidi the Wonder Pooch, Parker Painting, Best Western, Walker-VanBrunt, Heironimous Anonymos, Pendgraph & Jeff Rethmeier. The Spring Fever Fling wouldn't be the same without your generous contributions. Ⓡ

Mike Fleege takes his second win of the season, so far...

Cornhusker State Games Update

Ask Dr. Disc

Dear Dr. Disc,

What's the deal with the masters at the State Games this year? I'm 35 years old; will I be able to play masters?

Gentle Golfer,

Like last year, the State Games are sanctioned as an X-tier event. The "X" stands for experimental. As part of the experiment, the age of the "master" player will be 40. So, yes you can play, just not in the masters' division. You will also note, gentle golfer, that the masters division is listed as intermediate masters, and not advanced masters. This was done so as not to "dilute" the title of State Amateur Champion. There should be only two state champions: men's and women's advanced division winners.

Dear Dr. Disc,

Is it really worth it to come to Lincoln early for the Games' opening ceremonies?

Gentle Golfer,

In a word, YES! They go all out for this one. Skydivers, fireworks, the mystery torch runner, and the parade of athletes all add to the sports festival atmosphere. And in case that isn't enough to convince you to show up, disc golf will be one of the featured demonstrations at the opening ceremonies!!! You may have the chance to wow the honorable E. Ben Nelson, Governor of the Great State of Nebraska and the thousands of folks in the stadium and the TV viewing public with your golfing skill. No, no pressure to sink that "gimme" putt. So, past medal winners, start working on that "drive for show," because it will be show time!

Attention Gentle State Games Golfers: There is an error in the State Games' handbook. Open your books to page 47 and find the section marked "sanction." In the last sentence it says that people playing in the advanced division may pay an additional $5 on site for PDGA points. If you are not a paid member of the PDGA and are playing in the advanced division, you WILL have to pay the $5 temporary membership and $2 for PGDA points. If you are a paid member of the PDGA, you will have to pay only the $2 for PDGA points. Dr. Disc regrets this over sight, and will make sure that it won't happen again.

Dr. Disc is in and available to diagnose your most difficult disc golf questions. Please feel free to toss a note to Dr. Disc c/o THE FLYER.

Kawasaki
North Nine Disc Golf Sponsor!

(Masters...Continued from Page 7)

I'm suggesting is three or four of the longest holes. For about ten bucks, you can get a boatload of reusable, survey flags. Pace off about a hundred feet or so and plant 'em. Announce the shorter tees at the players meeting. That's it. For the true intermediate/beginning player (and our am women and juniors too), this will go a long way in evening the playing field. (We did this at the Cornhusker State Games last year and it works.)

Listen. Ya hear that? Now, it's the top 35 and older amateurs screaming "blasphemy!" If they don't want their stack of plastic depleted for the good of the game, perhaps they should be playing advanced amateur. The prizes are a little bigger and they can play the same, more difficult courses of the advanced and pro players. Somebody please give me a convincing argument as to why the 35 and older amateur should throw the same course as the advanced ams and pros. (OK, call 'em advanced if you want, *slightly advanced age* perhaps.)

In Conclusion...finally...

I thought it was the masters players (both pro and am) who were the supposed to the more mature laid back I-just-want-to-play-and-have-fun-with-my-friends style of disc golfer. Hey, if you're a highly competitive player, pony up and play with the big boys. Put yer money where yer mouth is. Pro and am masters: pay the reduced fees,have fun, and take the reduced rewards. Let's get our best players together, stop diluting our tournaments with minie divisions, and play to our skill level, not our age.

It's time for a change. *If not now, when?*

- Kim Theesen, Editor, THE FLYER

(Ice Bowl...Continued from Page 1)

About three dozen door prize tickets were given to those who attended the party. Due to the super contributors (and cleaning out some of the old LFDC prize vault) every one in attendance received a prize. This year's sponsors included Brewski's, *Disc Golf Journal,* disKimages, Anita Jackson, Jumbo Sports, Pat Raybould, Phil Schmidt, and Ken Scdoris Sr.

If you'd like to know more about disc golf or the organization that serves it, contact the:

Professional Disc Golf Association
Administrator: Brian "The Guru" Hoeniger
65 Front Street, Suite 0116-24
Toronto, ONT M5J 1E6 Canada
416-203-9628 (voice) 416-203-9629 (fax)
email: pdga@ front.net

II want to thank my friends and area disc golfers who expressed their condolences for the loss of my Mother.

She loved meeting and talking to all of my "Frisbee friends," and took great interest in all our events and achievements.

I love you all,
Mr. Bill

Shoot-Out Update

by TD Pat Raybould

It is hard to believe but this will be our 9th annual SCSO (formerly know as the Cornhusker Open). Assistant TD Ken Scdoris, other volunteers, and myself are at work making preparations for the June 6th & 7th tournament.

We are pleased to announce that Matt's Bar has signed on to be a major sponsor. Several other sponsors have committed including ATOS Computer and all of last year's food vendors. We are challenging all disc golfers to sign up a sponsor. Give me a call at (402) 477-9872 for a sponsor information package. Proceeds from the tournament will go to beefing up the tournament prize packages. That way we can reward more players! Also, the remaining funds will go to the club for future projects.

Kim Theesen and disKimages has once again developed a dynamite tournament design. Anyone signing up by May 26th will receive a free tournament t-shirt. Plus, we would love to see more beginners. Hey, it is only $12 for them, plus they will receive a players pack and they just have to play one day. Why not turn on a beginner to our biggest and best event? Sign up a friend and they're guaranteed a good time.

Look for a slightly altered format and, yes, we will be using the east side of the park on Saturday. This year when you throw your disc down into the creek, we will not stroke you for OB unless your disc is surrounded by water. Saturday nite be sure to go down to Matt's for some chow, spirits and a speed putting contest. Let's show our support for our major sponsor!

Earthlings, it's gonna be far-out. An all fun, all disc golf weekend: **The Star City Shoot-Out!** Ⓕ

Cruisin' the Net...and rec.sport.disc, the discussion group for disc related sports...

Subject: <DG!> Humor and ....

Bill "ex-Czar" Burns notes the Burns' Corollary: Buy another disc as close as possible in type, weight, color, etc., to the lost disc, and play the hole again. (I did and found the lost disc about 2 ft. away from the new one)

Hill's Axiom: The likelihood of a disc stabilizing is inversely proportional to the proximity of a hazard.

Snow's Hypothesis: The length of a drive is inversely proportional to the intended direction of the throw: "Goes the wrong way, *goes a long way.*"

Reptile's Unwritten Amphibian Law: Never talk to a disc while it is in glight ("Hey, nice..." silence, followed by glare of thrower toward commentarian.)

Waldron's Theorem: The likelihood of missing a mandatory in directly proportional to the importance of the round and inversely proportional to the number of times you have played the course.

Headrick's Revenge: The height of the nubs is proportional to the distance the pole hole has sunk into the ground.

Cellulose Attraction Theory (CAT): The likelihood of a negative disc/wood interaction is proportional to the expected outcome without the interaction. Translation: "Oh, the trees will stop it from going OB (giggle...)." Ⓕ

THE FLYER
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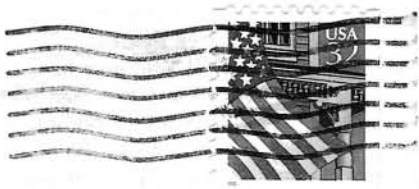

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