Of, By, and For Disc Enthusiasts
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Editor.....Dan "The Stork" Roddick
Assoc. Editor.....Gary Seubert
Eastern Editor.....Bob "Flash" Eberle
Western Editor.....The White Crane
Mid-Western Editor.....Bruce P. Koger
Canadian Editors.....Ken Westerfield, Jim Kenner
Mexican Editor.....Tony Pfeiffer
Editorial Office.....Flying Disc World
P.O. Box 101 R.C.M.H.C.
Piscataway, New Jersey 08854
(201) 564-4390
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For many readers this is the last issue of their subscription. We hope that they have enjoyed their six issues of F.D.W. and will support our further efforts by resubscribing. Promptness in this matter is important to us both in terms of record-keeping and finances. If your issue is stamped "subscription due" please respond immediately.

This issue is a bit late as a result of the holidays and some of the changes in format. We are proud of the new layout and hope you will appreciate it and view the change as an indication of the product we ultimately hope to produce with your support.

We also wish to renew our invitation to all readers to submit articles or other information for publication. During the past year we have been very pleased with the quality of the contributions which have been received. Please exercise this unique opportunity to share your thoughts about the sport with others who are equally captivated by this simple toy.

Stork

The F.D.W. Christmas List

Just a few stocking stuffers for the readers. Everyone else got coal--but at its price, they're the winners!

Irv "Dr. I." Kalb - a case of pros with master hot stamps

Morris of the North - a "Did you Saucer Tosser today?" bumper sticker

Don Pierce - a chart showing 31 pros he missed

Flash - roller skates and directions to Berkeley

Jim Palmeri - 10,000 spectators

"Super Scott" Dickson - an introduction to the five finger throw

Bruce Koger - Mr. Zig Zag award for best roller

José - a memorable last name

Goldy - an autographed copy of The Official Hula Hoop Handbook

Jumbo Jon - twenty square feet of dry, level U.P.

Irv Lander - someone willing to take Kirkland's old IFA number

White Crane - a shoe box to hold his personal collection

The Aces - a case of Geritol from the Library

Larry Schindel - his own Netbee goal

Stork - another left hand

Victor - a case of Twirlabooms in three colors and (because he's been so good) a copy of Dave Johnson's new article - "The Lengthened Flight Path"

The 1974 DISPO's

The First Annual Flying Disc World Awards for Outstanding Service in the Disc Sports

The conclusion of a magnificent flying disc year is at hand, and with this issue of F.D.W., so concludes the first

year of publication. F.D.W. has had its growing pains and struggles, but with your interest and contributing support we have been able to continue with the challenge of publishing.

We would like to bring forth an idea that we hope will be the "icing on the cake," so to speak. Hopefully, the idea will become acceptable and it will establish a long standing tradition. We feel that an award is in order for the individual or group of individuals who have extended themselves for the cause of disc athletics. The people who are considered for this award need not be proficient throwers, but rather, they should possess the general interest in disc sports and most important it should be recognized that they have contributed highly to the advancement of flying disc sports.

There are many ways in which a person can contribute his time and effort. All of these possible contributing factors have been considered for the selection of the candidates for this distinguished honor. Some of the criteria are: promoting sportsmanship in disc sports, sponsoring of events, organization of groups and concepts for the common good of throwers. These are just a few of the premises.

We, the editorial staff of F.D.W. feel that it is especially important to recognize the specific merits of individuals who have spent so much time and effort for the common good of all throwers. In order to make the award available to all, dual awards will be given. One will be awarded to a manufacturing company, and the other will be given to an individual.

This year's individual award will be presented to V. James Palmeri of Rochester, New York. Jim has been actively interested in flying disc sports for a number of years, but as for many of us this year was the "big year" for getting together with other throwers from different parts of the country for the common good of competition and communication.

Jim saw the need for advanced and better organized competition and he met that need with a very well put together tournament held in early August 1974. The American Flying Disc Open was a huge success due to Jim's efforts along with the Rochester Frisbee Club, in which Jim is this year's president.

Jim is an active participant in many fields of athletics, and due to his experience he found that disc sports needs a record keeping and standard setting organization. He has spent a lot of his time in thought and in the suggestion of ideas for that purpose. Jim's latest concern has been the opening of the first predominantly disc oriented store in the United States. His store is called The Flying Disc & Chess Shop, and it is located in East Rochester, New York. His store not only carries many different brands of new discs, but he also carries a selection of collector's items available too. Jim is also carrying a line of general purpose games and hobby items.

We of the F.D.W. congratulate Jim for his many contributions to disc athletics for 1974.

The other award will be presented to the Wham-O Manufacturing Company of San Gabriel, California. During this past, great year of tournaments Wham-O took on the sole sponsorship of an event which had a tremendous impact on our sport. The Rose Bowl World Frisbee Championships was an event beyond the ambitions or capabilities of any of us. Through this concrete demonstration of commitment to the players the company has truly distinguished itself.

We of F.D.W. congratulate the people of Wham-O for contributing so much toward the success and advancement of our sport.

The actual awards themselves will be presented to the afore mentioned during the 1975 tournament season. We, of the F.D.W., hope that throwers and disc enthusiasts everywhere will agree with us on our award choices for 1974; and we also hope that everyone will be looking forward to next year's tournament season and award announcements for the 1975 season.

M.T.A. - Mind Trip Aloft

It leaps from my hand, no longer itself, but me.
I rise in a smooth and cutting curve,
The air streaming over my spinning frenzy.

The earth drops away as if not to return.
My climb is breathcatchingly clean
And the quickening air lifts me as I turn.

The instant nears as my climb begins to slow.
Earth has still its hold and
Reins my rising spirit beckoning from far below.

But spinning still, I float and rise on that moment.
Using the earth's own winds to defy
Her giant pull and firm intent.

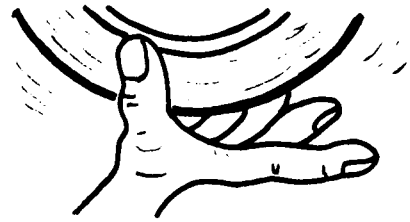
I nod to her power and drift a level down.
Its airy surface holds me and
I plane a moment longer still above the ground.

A lower level, then a lower still.
The earth leaps up to dull my spinning grace
Its grassy hold my flight to kill.

But no, my hand is firm and I return.
A mind that's flown upon the sky
And known a grace no body ever learns.

Stork

It's Catching



THE "PUSH CATCH"

(a.k.a. The "Kalb Scoop")

By Irv "Dr. I." Kalb

After a long series of tipping, the rotation of a disc will obviously get slowed down quite a bit. Now what do you do? Well, if you'd like to attempt a push catch, you will give the disc a full hand slap underneath (for the purpose of almost stopping the rotation altogether). You are now ready for the catch.

As the disc is floating down (after the slap), quickly place your hand flat on the top surface of the disc and push down. Push until the disc comes below your waist, turn your wrist, push up and let go. If done correctly, the disc will make a complete 360° flip and turn right-side-up.

Now for the trick. There are two basic variations of the push catch; the behind-the-back and the between-the-legs. The former is achieved by pushing the disc down on your side, turning your wrist, and pushing behind the back. The disc will right itself in front of you. The latter is achieved similarly except while pushing the disc down in front of you, spread your legs and push through. Now turn your wrist and push up. The disc will flip and land right side up.

Other variations consist of the backward between-the-legs, combination of a behind-the-back to a between the legs, and a push used in a coop to another person. Experiment yourself. I'm sure you will find the push catch to be an interestingly new addition to the avid trick catcher.

A Canadian Mindblower

The Kick and Roll

By Ken Westerfield

During one of our practice sessions in a local gym my partner, Jim Kenner, and I developed the kick and roll. Although it sounds a bit like a karate defense move it is actually an interesting four part catch.

Jim starts by throwing the disc, using a crossbody (or backhand grip), at an almost vertical position towards the floor. I then proceed to kick the disc up off the floor catching the lip on my index finger. Immediately I raise the disc above my head and let it roll down my arm across my shoulder on to my other arm catching it with my other hand. Despite the fact that this catch does not utilize the disc's aerodynamic versatility it makes for a surprising variation.

Dream Shot

By John F. Weyand

This shot is known around the country by different names, but because of its origin it is known in the Berkeley Area as the "Dream Shot." One night after meditating I fell into a profound slumber which produced the image of myself throwing a very special shot to my partner, the Frisbee Wizard, Vic Malafornte. Holding the disc with my thumb on the inside rim and fingers curled over the top, I reached back as if throwing a baseball. Then as I threw forward, I pulled my head back so as to not chop it off and jerked my whole body down and backwards away from the direction of the toss. This produces a tremendous spin and snap. The release was upside down and about 45°. The frisbee took off, curved left (I'm left handed), then evened out curving to the right. While it was curving the height of the frisbee varied. It was at first sloping towards the ground 'till it was 4 or 5 inches off the ground, then it started to rise (up to here I've been able to duplicate the dream) then it rose leading edge up, stopped in the air, came down, then up again in an inverted arc away from my partner, then stopped again and swooped down into his little italian hands. I'm still working on the last part.

I was so excited, I've always wanted a vision of Jesus or The Holy Mother, but I took this frisbee dream as divinely inspired and headed for Lower Sproul. In a few weeks I had control of it but I couldn't teach it to anyone of the resident experts for many months. They'd throw it and it would grind into the gravel. The situation is different now, of course; but it remains the most spectacular shot in Frisbee.*

*Frisbee is a registered T.M. of the Wham-O Mfg. Co.

I've put on demonstrations including one before the Oakland A's game in the Oakland Colosseum and always the crowd's largest response comes from this shot. After the demo Reggie Jackson ran out of the dugout and said, "I didn't know you could do that with a frisbee."

It can be thrown like a baseball pitch to a catcher's target or can be thrown in a high arc so that it drops straight down on your partner's head from a heighth of 30 - 40 feet. It can have a single or double curve. To throw it and achieve the lift it must be released hard and fast. When I came up with this shot, it eliminated the game of "Frisbee Hockey," where the thrower tries to get it past a goalie from a predetermined distance. The shot was impossible to stop. My friends wouldn't allow it in "guts" games and appropriate rules were invented to keep it out. It is an essential shot in Frisbee Golf and is a must shot for everyone considering themselves to be experts.

The angle of release varies from 30^{o} to 60^{o} (upside down) depending on speed and heighth of throw. Like other upside down shots it is conducive to spinning behind the back catches. Make sure you try it in a lake or swimming pool, it's one of the few water skip shots. Keep on throwin', and when you knock someone down with one of these weird experiments remember to say "oops!"

A Night With "The Boys"

By Gary Seubert

On a cold, Monday night in Shippensburg, Pennsylvania, I had the opportunity to see John Kirkland and Vic Malafronte "do their thing" before 5,000 appreciative fans. As most FDW readers are doubtless aware, the two IFA World Frisbee Champions are currently on tour with the Harlem Globetrotters doing 179 pre-game flying disc demonstrations throughout the country. Needless to say, Vic and John have worked out a polished, well-organized routine which demonstrates everything from "Guts" to "Air Bounces."

After the 10 - 15 minute demonstration, The Stork and I got together with "The Boys" to rap about many aspects of the tour. We tried to ask them some of the questions we felt most readers would have on their minds, as well as a few of our own.

Here's a summary of the thoughts exchanged.

FDW - How did a tour with "The Trotters" come about?

John - I actually got the gig for us. It was one of those things where I know someone who was a friend of a relative of Abe Saperstein's (the founder of the Globetrotters). I made quite a few phone calls, talking to people who are almost impossible to reach, and finally set up an audition in Chicago.

FDW - Once the "Trotter Organization" saw you perform, did they just sign you up and put you on the bus?

Vic - Not exactly. The place for the audition was awfully hot, the lighting was poor, the area to work in was small, and we just couldn't get it all together. Their "final" decision was that they weren't sure and would have to think it over.

John - Several days after the audition I made some more calls and the parties involved decided they would like to have another look at us. At the next audition, conditions were right and so were we; so, now, here we are.

FDW - I recognized part of the music you use in your act as the "Star Trek Theme," but not the original version. Explaination?

John - We arranged, played, and recorded all our own music. I played the drums and Vic played the Japanese Classical Flute.

Vic - That way we could create our own variety of rhythms and musical moods to match the routine.

FDW - Would you rather play to large or small audiences?

Vic - We find that we can relate better to a small crowd. The people are usually sitting closer and it gives us a chance to talk and joke with them while we're throwing. Large audiences always seem divorced from the action due to the size of the arena and, in general, don't react as well to the overall presentation.

FDW - Do the crowds seem to expect a "100%" performance?

Vic - We find that the way you handle a dropped disc has a great deal to do with audience reaction. Picking a disc up with some flair can almost make the audience forget it was dropped.

John - Also, dropping a few (especially one of the "Guts" shots) sort of "humanizes" the routine and lets people know it's not as easy as it sometimes looks.

FDW - I notice your tight schedule includes a well deserved four day rest in December. Any special plans?

John - Believe it or not, we're doing a halftime show in Louisville, Kentucky for a Kentucky game on December 22! Other than that, no special plans at the moment, but I'm sure we'll fill up the time somehow.

FDW - Since you'r both avid disc collectors, I suppose every town is "disc-less" by the time you leave.

Vic - Unfortunately, that's not always the case. Most of the time we stay in a motel outside of the downtown area and with traveling, rehearsing, and performing we don't get too much time for sightseeing or collecting.

John - Of course, we have picked up a few nice items!

FDW - Do the Globetrotters ever throw with you when you're practicing?

John - They do on occasion. Sometimes Vic and I will be practicing on one end of the court and the Trotters will be shooting at the other end. Duane Diller comes over once in a while and throws a few discs with us. He seems to have the most interest and learns really fast. Curly Neal could be quite good also if he would take the time to work on it.

FDW - What about "Meadowlark?"

Vic - "Meadowlark" laughs and kids around quite a bit and doesn't really take Frisbee® too seriously. However, since the Trotters have a lot of work to do themselves, none of them really have time to concentrate on Frisbee®.

FDW - Have the Globetrotters been satisfied with the overall response to a frisbee demonstration?

Vic - Apparently they have. On January 19 we'll be the first variety act to ever appear with the Globetrotters on national television.

(At this point, autograph seekers overwhelmed the security system and we were unable to continue the interview.)

Collectors' Corner

By Gary Seubert

I'm sure that many readers have seen my small notebooks which now contain a fairly detailed description of every disc in our collection. ("Our collection" being defined as the combined collection of Dan "The Stork" Roddick and myself.) Each entry contains manufacturer, model, mold, color, label description and miscellaneous information about every disc. This makes it very simple during trades to be certain you don't trade away your last blue Flying Saucer for another red Pluto Platter.

Taking this system one step further, I'm currently in the process of putting all entries contained in my notebooks into a Digital Equipment Corporation computer at New Jersey Bell Telephone Company in New Brunswick. The final result (hopefully) will be a list in which entries can easily be added, deleted, changed or sorted, with a final copy being generated on a high-speed printer in a matter of minutes.

In the future, I hope to be able to compile a similar list of every known disc. (Yes, I know it will be quite a project!!) This would be the only way for new or established collectors to be certain of items they were still missing. Along these same lines, Flying Disc World hopes to promote more interaction between collectors by possibly printing a form of "Want Ad", listing specific discs desired by individuals. Perhaps you need a white, double-label Master for your collection and a non-collecting reader has a whole case of them in his closet that he (or she) uses for "Ultimate" practice!

The other side of this coin (disc ?) is that of walking into an old Sweet Shop and seeing only one disc at the bottom of a large pile of dusty toys. Immediately one imagines: Pluto Platter? Speedee? Mystery "Y"? (more often than not, only to find a Wham-O regular!). F.D.W. would like to initiate the practice of collectors writing articles describing the situations under which some of their prized possessions were discovered. Below is an example of one special moment in collecting.

A Classic Find - The Space Saucer

Monday morning, and a particularly dreary one at that. I looked out of my offic window at the mental health center

and saw only the dull grayness of a Jersey mid-winter morning hanging over our playing area. In the Spring the sun often sparkled in that same window tempting me to slip a few appointments and get a flurry of throwing in with Flash if we could both manage to escape from work simultaneously. No such schemes crossed my mind that winter morning however - five heavy appointments faced me and I tried to cool some overly hot tea as I gazed out on that terrarium view and reviewed the cases I would be meeting.

The knock was a light and hesitant one. Typically schizophrenic I thought as I rose and went to greet what I thought was my 9:00 client. But it was not Miss 9:00 but rather a bright surprise in the form of the new student intern who was working with us for the semester. She chirped a quick "hi, busy yet?" I waved to the empty office and asked her in. She was rushed however and just shoved a paper bag toward me without coming in.

"I was home this weekend," she said, "and I remembered you were looking for old frisbees. You probably have alot like this but here it is anyway. My older brother played with it when he was a kid and I found it in the attic. I have to run," she said, as she turned and left.

Just as she reached the corner I shouted "How old is he?"

"Who?" she said.

"Your brother."

"Oh, about thirty-six."

I closed the door, carried the bag to my desk and sat down. What a delicious moment. A Pluto Platter? Hopefully in a new color or period. A Sailing Satellite though - that would be our first. I played a game briefly and pressed my hands over its shape through the brown paper. Weird - it had very squarish shoulder and a perfectly flat upper surface.

I pulled it out and uttered a low "oh my."

It was dark maroon and mottled like the plastic knobs on old radios - very hard and absolutely mint. 'Space Saucer was in raised letters around the crown and the underside warned not to throw against hard objects. Later calls to Gary Seubert and Roger Barrett and a visit with Victor and John would provide some wonderful moments of enjoyment of this piece but in that first viewing I was entranced by its beauty and aged mystery. I held it up and marveled again at its perfect condition. A loud and insistant knock disturbed my intense pleasure. Typically schizophrenic I thought, and I rose to greet Miss 9:00.

SOME NEWS

On the weekend of April 25th-27th the first annual Eastern Intercollegiate Ultimate Frisbee Championships will be held at Yale University. Participating teams will include Tufts, Cornell, Clark, Hampshire, Princeton, R.P.I., Yale and Last year's national champions, Rutgers. A single elimination format will be used with the finals tentatively to be held in the Yale Bowl.

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The second annual Octad-World Individual Flying Disc Championship will be held at Rutgers University on the Memorial Day weekend (May 24th and 25th). The eight events will be: MTA, TR&C, Free Form, Distance, Golf, Accuracy, Trick Throw Accuracy, and Discathon.

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Madison Square Garden was a flying disc frenzy in the month of December. Three free style shows were presented during the half times of college basketball games. The performing groups were:

-Dave Perell, Carl Baker, Ben Brief
Gerald Lynas, Peter Bloeme
-Kerry Kollmar & Marc Danna
-Stork, Dr. I & Flash

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In Coming Issues:

Technical Report on the Amsun Super Saucer - Dr. I
The Game of Conversion - author unknown
Freestyle as an Art Form - Alan Blake
The In-flip for Freestyle and Guts - Dr. I
The Ten Commandments of the Flying Disc
The Fall Ultimate Review and Rule Changes - U.F.O.

Flying Disc World
P. O. Box 101 R.C.M.H.C.
Piscataway, New Jersey 08854