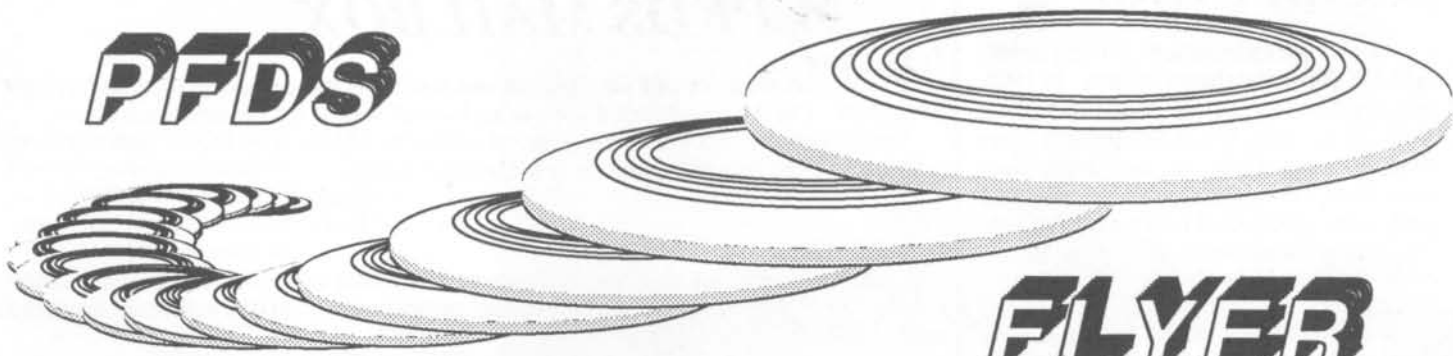


PFDS



FLYER

PITTSBURGH FLYING DISC SOCIETY WINTER 1989

Women's Ultimate Arrives in Pittsburgh: Schizo Discos Make Auspicious Debut

By Nina Robin

Fall of '88 featured the debut of the Schizo Discos, the first women's Ultimate team to compete in Pittsburgh. Although Pittsburgh has been called the most liveable city, it was a mere shadow of a place before women's Ultimate appeared on the scene.

The team began their season with the highly competitive Knisely Cup Tournament. This was an educational experience for all of the Schizo women. The two-day tournament was no piece of cake, considering we had only nine players and had never played together in a game of Ultimate before. We left the tourney with a 0-4 record, but we had played against some of the best teams in the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast regions, including Cool Mama Seven (CMS) from Washington, D.C. and the current national champs, Lady Godiva of Boston.

But the thrill of Ultimate, the desire to sky over opponents' heads, to dive for the (almost) impossible catch, and the drive to stuff and score only baited the team for more playing time. The Schizos had played "REAL" Ultimate, and there was no turning back.

So what do you do after a tournament? Practice, practice, and more practice. Official practices were held at Kennard field twice a week from September through November. Practices included running, drills, and games. The Schizos practiced side by side with Crash, the men's Ultimate team. They worked with us and for us and were a vital part of the spirit of the team.

The season culminated in the Mid-Atlantic Regional Competition held November 5-6 in Pittsburgh. Nine women's teams competed for the spot to go to the National Championships. We were an outside shot, but we were ready this time to give these women some real competition. Torrential rains, low visibility, high winds, and mud up to the ankles couldn't stop the Schizos.

Although we lost our first two games against two veteran Washington teams,

Lawn Party and CMS, we weren't daunted. We came back for a juicy 11-0 victory against No Conflicks from North Carolina. Sunday, we came back stronger, even with only eight players. With only one sub, we were still able to conquer Philly's Kamikaze 11-7. We finished third in our pool, happy, exhausted, and muddy.

And, according to Robin Barney's report on Women's Regionals in the UPA Newsletter, the Schizos team "...has some great potential to be a real powerhouse in future seasons."

Infinite thanks go out to the whole team and all their supporters for making the Schizo Discos possible. The split personalities on the Schizos last season included co-captains Nina Robin and Nancy McNamee, Summer League veterans Mary Scott Soo, Teri Breier, Jenny Robinson, Sara Solin, Pam Wolford, Chris Leach, and Ann Wright, and Red Emma (CMU) alumni Shelley Pressley, Aelan Tierney and Catherine Singstadt. We will be back next year with more women, ready for the next Ultimate challenge.

JUNIORS COMPETE

By Tom Kaylor

The 1988 World Junior Frisbee Disc Contest was held in Dallas, Texas, October 20-22, in conjunction with the Texas State Fair.

Two of the five events scheduled in the contest — Distance and Maximum Time Aloft — were held in the Cotton Bowl. Accuracy and Freestyle were demonstrated on the fairgrounds, while Disc Golf was held at Lake Highlands North, a local recreational area which has a fine disc golf course.

Sponsors of the event, Wham-O, Kellogg's Frosted Flakes and True Value Hardware, played hosts to eight boys and seven girls from around the United States. These contestants were local winners of regional events held nearby or in their home cities.

Shawn Kennedy of Wetherfields, Connecticut, was the overall winner in the Boys' Division, taking first place in four of the five events. Shawn won the Distance, MTA, Disc Golf and Accuracy contests. Top prize

Continued on page 3



Schizo Discos have the Spirit of the Game after successful first season

SOCIETY PAGE

As with all organizations, it is the people in PFDS that make things happen. In 1988, people made a lot of flying disc firsts in our area: people like Vince Hurley and Tony DiMaria from Citiparks, and John Hunt from Hunt Foundation, who helped make the Schenley Disc Golf Links a reality here; Bill Bishop for donating the scorecard box on the first tee; Mike Queally from Bubba's Breakaway, Dan Mangone of Discovering the World, Tim Selinski of Innova-Champion, and Stork, Danny McInnes, and Linda Garcia at Wham-O who made the first tournament on the new course a success with their sponsorship; Nancy McNamee and Nina Robin and the others women players who started Schizo Discos, Pittsburgh's first womens Ultimate team; Todd Williams and Mark Licata who organized the first UPA Regional tournament held in Pittsburgh; John Caporali who founded the Ultimate Archives at PSU-Shenango; and the many people whose names you have seen in this column and on these pages who were responsible for producing this quarterly newsletter that informs and connects Disc athletes and enthusiasts in the area. Our mailing list now numbers over 600 and reaches physical education instructors, parks officials, Disc Golfers, Ultimate and Freestyle players predominantly in Western PA, but as far afield as Canada and California.

1989 should be another year of growth for the disc sports in Pittsburgh. PFDS will host at least two Professional Disc Golf Association tournaments this year at Schenley Park: the Pittsburgh Flying Disc Open on April 15, and the PA State Flying Disc Championships over Labor Day weekend September 2-3.

The PFDO is the first tourney in the 89 CAN-AM series and should draw many players from around the region as well as the city. The PA State Championships figures to bring freestyle and field events (Distance, Accuracy, and MTA) back to Pittsburgh (absent since 1983) in conjunction with the Schenley Park Centennial celebration.

PFDS needs help in making course improvements at Schenley this year. We want to install alternative pin placements, pro tees, and a Disc Golf bulletin board on the course, but need people who can donate time and materials to this project. We also hope to see the installation of another pole hole course in the area.

Ultimate will continue to grow with more demonstrations planned at local high schools this spring. The Pitt Frisbee Club is already holding open indoor practices on Sunday mornings from 9 a.m. to noon at Trees Hall. Pitt and CMU are back to compete for the UPA College National championships. And the Summer Ultimate

PFDS MAILBOX

To the Editor:

Please send me a copy of your tournament results so that I may use them in the TSFC newsletter. I'm the new editor, I hope to include all results for Pennsylvania events.

Enclosed is my check for a one year subscription. By the way, I think your newsletter is great. If I can help or contribute don't hesitate to ask.

Frank E. Senk Jr.
Phila., PA

Dear P.F.D.S.,

I want to register my new Master Tournament Frisbee with you. The owner's number is 6004729. I believe you are the appropriate organization to do this with since the demise of the I.F.A.

Sincerely yours,
Sonny Watta
Pittsburgh, PA

The IFA, brainchild of Ed Headrick while Sports Promotion Director at Wham-O in the early 1970's, folded in 1983. The idea of an owner's number was a nifty gimmick to ensure that should the disc be lost, a finder could report the number to the manufacturer and speed the identification of the way-gone disc. At the time of its introduction, the Master was state of the art, THE disc for Ultimate although it has since been surpassed by Wham-O's Eighty mold series and Discraft's Ultrastar. It still looks nice though, and a flat flip flies straight.

Dear Gary —

Sorry it took so long to get you this mysterious mystery disc. The origins of the "Super Sky Flyer Model 1" are shrouded in fog. You will have to ask some one like Jim Palmeri where this beauty came from.

I believe it is from Europe. Keep sending me stuff about Schenley Park and the Pittsburgh disc scene. We here at the Disc Golfer appreciate it, as do the many readers.

Fly high, score low!
Joe Feidt

League, the social and sporting event of the local disc scene returns for its seventh year of friendly fun.

And this newsletter will keep flying, tying all of this together and keeping you informed. What is needed to make it better is your support that you can give in many ways. The most important thing is to get involved in the activity. Come out and play in the tournaments (there is always an amateur division), join a summer league team, write an article, a letter to the editor, and send your tournament results to make sure that the FLYER covers your event. We need input to make the newsletter useful to you.

We also need your annual subscription to keep it flying your way. If you haven't yet sent PFDS your \$3, this issue will be your last. Check your mailing label. If it has no expiration date, then our records do not show your renewed subscription. If we've made a mistake on your records, please drop us a note and we'll correct it. Annual newsletter production costs of over \$1000 have forced us to fundraise from our members; but then, if we can't ask you to support your own sport, then who can we ask?

Many of us share a vision of flying disc sports being played intramurally and inter-scholastically in high schools; of Disc Golf courses and Ultimate fields in major parks all over the world. But as in life, there are

really only two kinds of disc players, those that make things happen, and those that say "What happened?" Let's be in that first group. Howboutit!

JGD

The PFDS FLYER is a quarterly publication of the Pittsburgh Flying Disc Society. PFDS is a club of enthusiasts committed to the promotion of fun through flying disc sports and games.

Editors: J.Gary Dropcho and Teri Breier
Contributors: Tom Kaylor, Steve Kohman, Nina Robin, Frank Schneider, Henry Thorne, Mark Licata, Todd Williams
Art: Jumpin' Joe Enck, Jay Cohen
Photos: K. B. Clark, Tom Kaylor, J. G. Dropcho
Printing: First Impression Printing

We want your input. Send us your news releases, changes in schedule, copies of tournament results, advertisements, letters, articles, photos, cartoons, graphics and minis. We reserve the right to edit or reject all submissions.

Send to: PFDS FLYER 1818 Morrell Street, PGH, PA, 15212. Deadline for the next issue is Friday, March 10.

JUNIORS (from page 1)

for that achievement was a \$1,000 savings bond plus a trophy for each first place finish.

Second place winner among the boys was Matthew Hunter of Detroit, Michigan, who won a \$500 savings bond plus a trophy for one first place finish. Matt came in first place in Freestyle.

Third place finisher was Matt Helber of Ann Arbor, Michigan, who received a \$250 savings bond.

Angie Rodriguez of Sterling, Illinois, finished first in the Girls' Division. Angie won a \$1,000 savings bond, plus three first place trophies for MTA, Disc Golf, and Accuracy.

Michelle Lamory of Allison Park, PA, was the second place winner in that division. Along with a \$500 savings bond, Michelle took home two first place trophies for her fine efforts in the Distance and Freestyle events.

Tina Woods of Orlando, Florida, was the third place girl and received a \$250 savings bond.

Martin Kaylor of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, placed sixth in the Boys' Division.

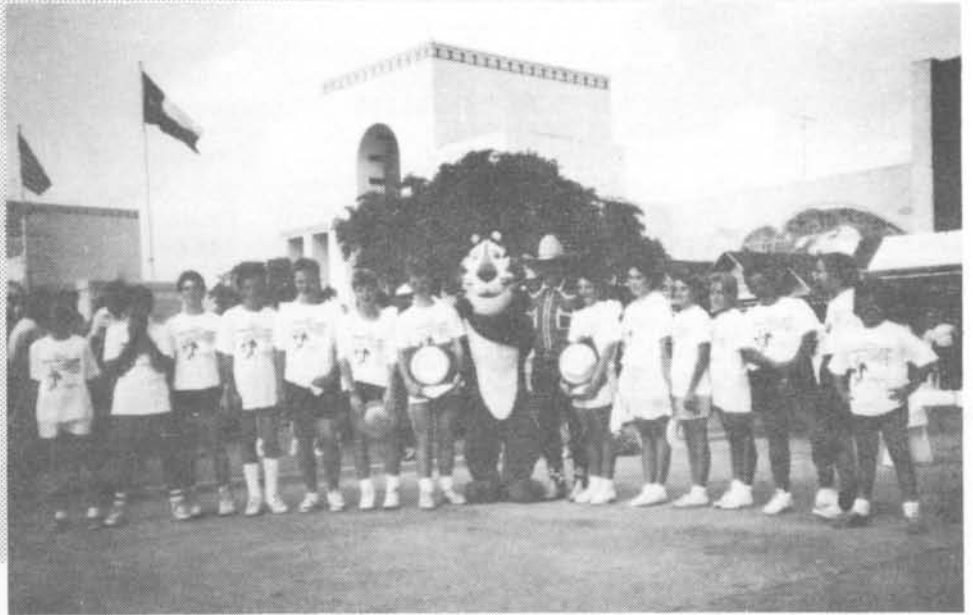
All contestants involved were winners, however, as each received a \$100 savings bond. In addition, this select group of fine young men and women were given a variety of flying discs, a Reebok disc bag, shorts, shirts, sweatshirts, and money for traveling expenses. Airfare, hotel accommodations, some meals and ground transportation for each contestant and one guardian was covered by the sponsors of the event.

The City of Dallas Parks and Recreation Department played a vital role in helping to make the tournament a success. They helped ready the Cotton Bowl and State Fairgrounds for tournament use.

Dan Roddick, manager of Wham-O Sports Promotion, was the leader of a very helpful group of officials. They, along with contest director Linda Garcia of San Gabriel, California, made every effort to insure the 1988 World Junior Frisbee Disc Contest was a memorable time for all.

The author accompanied his son to Dallas for the Finals. When in Pittsburgh, Tom plays Disc Golf at Schenley Park.

**For more information
on junior competition,
contact Tony DiMaria
at Citiparks.
412-488-8397**



Martin Kaylor (third from l) and Michelle Lamory (sixth from r) pose with Tony the Tiger in Dallas, Texas.

Michelle Lamory lands second in World Jr. Championships

By Teri Breier

Michelle Lamory is no ordinary 15-year-old. The Allison Park teenager is the nation's best Girl's Junior Frisbee freestyler. And she has proved this in three World Junior Championships since 1985.

Beginning in 1984, Michelle has competed in five Championships, never ranking lower than fourth overall. In fact, her very first competition -- also the first year girls were eligible to compete -- resulted in a second-place finish. That year, there was no freestyle category for girls.

In the 1988 Junior Championships in Dallas last October (see related article, page 1), her last year of age eligibility, Michelle repeated her second-place overall results. And she recaptured her first-place standing in the Freestyle event, which she had earned in 1985 and 1986. However, from 1985-87, Michelle had some tough competition that put her in third or fourth place overall for those years.

But Michelle has no regrets.

"I met many people and had lots of fun," she says. And she has seen much more of this country than most 15-year-olds -- she has traveled to Orlando, FL (twice), Atlanta, GA, Dallas and Valencia, CA in the course of her competitions. She adds, "My parents enjoyed the trips, too."

She and her brother, Walter, first tried their hands at throwing a disc when they were in elementary school. She entered her first competition the following year. Walter, one year older, couldn't compete that year, but did get involved the year after that, in 1985. Both kids caught on quick and practiced together often.

Eventually, they began to get some professional freestyle coaching from "Disc Activators" John Gyenes and Matthew Wolff.

"We couldn't get any spin on our discs, practicing by ourselves," Michelle explains. "So John and Matt helped us with that and gave us pointers."

Michelle plans to continue her disc hobby, "although not during the school year, because of time." In addition to competing and playing disc golf, the Hampton High 10th grader plays soccer, follows an advanced academic curriculum, belongs to Student Council, and cheers on the junior varsity cheerleading squad. However, she does hope to travel to the U.S. Open in La Mirada, CA, this summer, if her schedule permits.

As yet, Michelle has no definite college or career plans. But you can be sure that whatever she decides to do with her life, this talented and determined girl will succeed!

FLYING DISC CALENDAR

2/11	UPA East Coast Cptns Mtg.	Fairfield, CT	Eric Simon	703-892-1279
2/12	PFDS Pro/Am (2 rds noon)	Schenley Park, PGH, PA	KB Clark	412-364-2718
3/12	PFDS Pro/Am (2 rds noon)	Schenley Park, PGH, PA	KB Clark	412-364-2718
3/18-19	Spring Break Ultimate Trny	Miami, FL	Kurt Dahlberg	
4/15-16	PGH Open PDGA/CAN-AM #1 Hacky Sack and Frisbee Fest.	Schenley Park, PGH, PA	Steve Kohman	412-431-1985
4/22	Sherando Spring Open PDGA	Stephens City, VA	Clark Putman	703-869-3275
4/23	St. Thomas Open CANAM #2	St. Thomas, ONT, CAN	Kerry MacDonald	519-633-2482
4/29	Sedgeley Woods Open PDGA	Philadelphia, PA	Barry Noakes	609-461-8579
4/30	Brandywine PDGA	Brandywine St. Pk, DE	B. Yerd	302-652-3799
5/6	Lums Lumberjack Open PDGA	Kirkwood, DE	Steve Winchester	302-738-4893
5/6-7	Ohio Valley Open PDGA	Dayton, OH	Steve Wisecup	513-223-5992
5/7	Warwick Open PDGA	Knauertown, PA	Jim Powers	215-363-0464
5/13-14	11th Disc Derby PDGA Super T	Louisville, KY	Randy Clark	502-363-2851
5/20	Oaks Classic PDGA	Oaks, PA	Steve Deering	215-275-7917
5/20	D.G. Chllnge PDGA/CANAM #3	Toronto, ONT, CAN	Bob Blakely	416-699-5755
5/21	CANAM #4	Etobickoe, ONT, CAN	Rob Laurie	416-425-9446
6/3-4	Mt. Kisko Open	Mt. Kisko, NY	David Jones	914-737-3939
6/3-4	Edgewood Electric Open	Cincinnati, OH	Kerry Keith	513-662-8601
6/10	Akron Open PDGA	Akron, PA	Merrill Deitweiler	717-394-7044
6/10-11	Hardee's Open PDGA Super T	Baltimore, MD	Steve Alpern	301-377-4845
6/11	Joseph P. Davis Open CANAM #5	Lewiston, NY	Royce Racinowski	716-482-8697
6/24	Dead Dog Woods Open PDGA	French Crk St. PK, PA	Dave Tomaszewski	215-777-6242
6/24	Great Lakes Open CANAM #6	Detroit, MI	Bob Huston	313-398-0779

DGA RECOMMENDS COURSE DESIGN

By Ed Headrick

There are continuing discussions about length of courses and complaints about old courses being too short. While we agree with most of the complaints, we strongly disagree with the solution that some have instituted.

Courses have been ripped out and moved to 300+ foot holes without any consideration being given to the new players that have not yet learned to throw 50 feet. Many of these courses have shown a dramatic decline in player activity. It is hard to remember that the courses we all learned on were 4000' or less.

Obviously, our sport will die without a consistent infusion of new players. We therefore strongly recommend that prior to taking any direct action you consider the following recommendations on existing courses:

A. Amateur tee locations should not exceed an average of 250' or 4500' per 18 holes.

B. If your course complies with A, leave it undisturbed.

C. If you wish a pro course, design pro tees and leave the tee signs on the amateur tees.

D. New courses: Do not design a course longer than 4500' without first designing amateur tee locations. When the course is installed, put tee signs on the amateur tees (pros don't use or need tee signs after the first round).

The "State of the Art" courses now being designed by the DGA attempt to answer all

of the problems currently under discussion with "regular" hole placement layouts generally following these specifications:

Regular hole placement

- Amateur tees up to 4500'.
- Pro tees up to 6000'

Tournament hole placement (championship play)

- Amateur tee at approximately 5500'
- Pro tees up to 7000'

The tee signs will show all four combinations and will be located at the amateur tee. The holes normally will be located at the regular positions and will be moved to the championship locations during tournaments only.

Two of these courses are in the process of being installed. One is located in St. Louis, MO and one in Mishawaka, IN. Where practical, we are recommending this design feature on all new course installations. Please discuss this "State of the Art" plan with your potential customers and PLEASE consider the future of our sport before changing your course.

Several "over-water" holes have turned up in recent months. Please consider the consequences of a child who throws his new \$8.00 disc in the water and drowns attempting to retrieve it. Temporary water holes for a supervised tournament are great fun, but potentially deadly on a permanent course. If you have any "over-water" holes, please relocate your tees and save a life and our sport as well.

The author is PDGA #001, and inventor of the Pole Hole.

1988 Autumn Sherando PDGA Open

October 15, 1988

Stephens City, Virginia

27 Pro (M), 33 Am (M), 7 Am (W)

PRO (M)	R1	R2	R3	TOT	SS
1. Hunt Hyde	44	47	46	137	150
2. Clark Putman	47	47	43	137	100
3. Wayne Zink	46	49	44	139	75
4. Jim Myers	46	46	49	141	60
5. Spencer Thurman	48	52	42	142	40
5. Mark Czumak	51	46	45	142	40
7. Glenn Henry	50	47	46	143	21
8. Chip Spinella	48	47	49	144	
8. Rick Connor	46	49	49	144	
10. Dave Griffin	50	49	47	146	

AM (M)

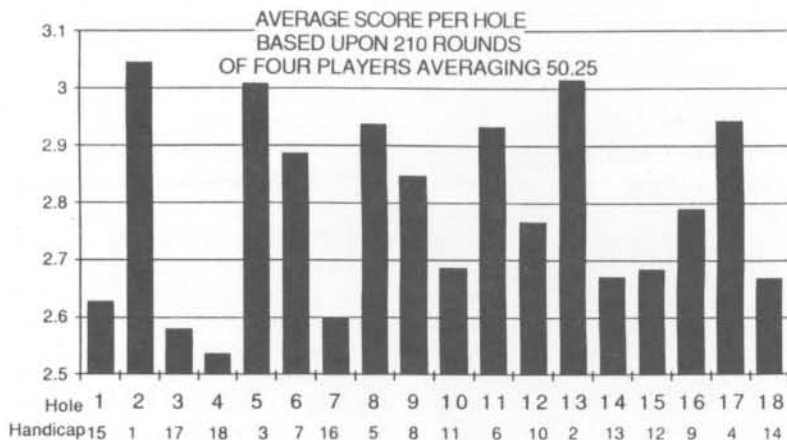
1. Thomas Aten	52	49	49	150	9d
2. Bill Yerd	50	51	53	154	7d
3. Shahid Isham	50	50	55	155	6d
4. Paul Clark	50	52	54	156	5d
5. Dan Zukowski	53	54	52	159	3d
5. John van de Putte	53	53	53	159	3d
7. Mark I. Hilton	51	56	54	161	2d
8. Douglas Opiela	54	56	52	162	1d
9. Dean Firth	55	55	53	163	
9. Michael Novara	53	57	53	163	
9. Mike Lipetzky	53	56	54	163	
9. David Crouse	52	57	54	163	

AM (W)

1. Amy Harshman	61	64	63	188	3d
2. Maureen Snyder	63	65	63	191	2d
3. Cory Baach	62	70	63	195	1d
4. Eka Kapiotis-Lipetzky	71	73	72	216	
5. Margret Dorr	70	76	73	219	
6. Gail Willingham	71	72	77	220	
7. Merrie Newlond	83	80	80	243	

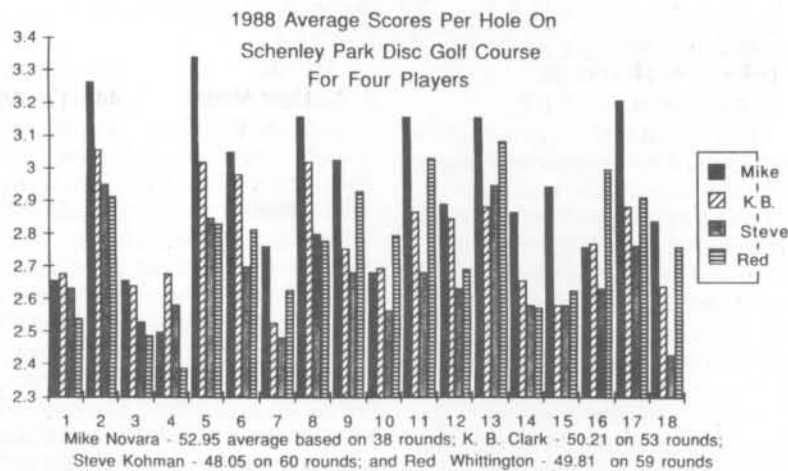
HANDICAPPING

is a way to allow different skill level players compete in Disc Golf tournament play. As a way of demonstrating how this might work, the results have been tallied from four of the most frequent players of the Schenley Park Disc Golf course. This allows us to rate each of the holes from hardest to easiest. The graph below depicts the average scores per hole. The handicap numbers show which holes are hardest and easiest. The lower the number, the harder the hole. This can be used in handicapped match play rounds and skins games.



Handicapping can be determined by using the difference between players average scores. Eighty percent of your average score over the lowest player's average score rounded downward is one way to determine the number of handicap throws awarded. The throws are awarded from the hardest holes to the easiest.

As an example, let's determine the handicaps for the four players from which the above graph was made. Another graph shows the average scores per hole for each player:



Handicapping would be determined relative to the lowest player's score, Steve's of 48.05. Differences between this average and the others are Red - 1.76; K. B. - 2.16; and Mike - 4.90. Eighty percent of these amounts are Red - 1.41; K. B. - 1.73; and Mike 3.92. Rounding down, this means Red and K. B. each receive one and Mike three throws when competing in a match with Steve.

Using a large number of rounds to determine a player's average score for handicapping purposes may not be fair because it does not always reflect the way a player is currently scoring. This is usually the case when a new player starts. His scores, initially high, improve dramatically, and the resultant high handicap gives him quite an advantage. For this reason, it is better to base the handicap on the most recent predetermined number of rounds, say 30.

Several other rules are required for a fair system of handicapping. All scores should be turned in. Players must not attempt to play poorly. All rules of the game must be followed. Scorecards must be dated and signed.

Handicapping makes it fun to play in best total score competition, but is also good for match play and skins games. Match play is essentially how many holes you win and is used in one on one matches. Skins are won by beating everyone's score on a hole. If no one wins outright, the skins carry over to the next hole for everyone.

The scorecard holder on the first tee sign is great. If we could get one near the 18th hole to turn the scorecards in, we may be able to average all scores easier. In any case, save all your cards if you want to play a handicapped round. Anyone could win.

DGers Flip Their Lids in '88

By Steve Kohman

1988 was the best year in Pittsburgh's history for Disc Golf as we saw a permanent pole hole course placed in Schenley Park with a scenic view overlooking the city. Some of the other notable events were:

- We began holding monthly tournaments and will be on the 1989 PDGA Tour this year.

- We had a tremendous inaugural event sponsored by Magic97 FM with the largest number of people to play in one day so far. Players teed off continuously from about 1 PM until dusk, keeping the course filled. Course picnickers and sunbathers were constantly turned away. One day there were picnickers all over the first five holes. We have nightmares about this occurring during a tournament.

- Several holes-in-one were recorded, including Steve Kohman on number 11 (twice), John Hahka on number 4, J. Gary Dropcho on number 14, Red Whittington on number 12, Mat Miao on number 16, K. B. Clark on hole 7, Judo Jim Tullio on hole 18, and Mike Novara and Mark Licata on hole 10, among others.

- We hosted the Russians during the Peace Walk and turned them on to Freestyle and boomerangs as well as Disc Golf. They camped on the course.

- Record rounds, one of 40 for Steve when playing with Amy and two of 41 for Steve and one 41 for Red were shot on the amateur course and a phenomenal 46 with a bogey by Steve on the pro course.

- Steve and Red were afforded the privilege of meeting course donor John Hunt and his friend Lock Walrath, by chance on the course, and playing a round with them.

One concern has been the killing of some plants, trees, and shrubs on the links. The rules of Disc Golf explicitly state this to be strictly forbidden. The natural obstacles are what makes Schenley Park one of the nicest courses to play. The branches and trees are meant to be in the way of the golf throws; it gives the course its character. Without the woods and plant life, it would soon become a dull and boring course. A golfer's momentary anger at a bad shot can permanently ruin the course. Non-golfers have also been seen causing destruction. So let's keep our eyes open and protect the course by speaking up.

Anyone interested in being certified as a non-playing PFDS official for the PFDO, contact me at 412-431-1985.

WANTED: Donated labor and materials to design and construct PFDS Bulletin board on site at Schenley Park. If you can help on this project, call 412-431-1985 or 412-856-8070

VIEWPOINT: THE FUTURE OF ULTIMATE COMPETITION

By Robert L. Rauch

I think it's time we take a look at how we determine the UPA open Division National Champion. Many players have an opinion on this issue, although it affects only a small segment of the Ultimate community. After all, Nationals is the showcase tournament of the sport.

I think there are several problems with the present system. First, there is the issue of regional redrawing. Currently, only two teams (or three with a wild card) from a region qualify for Nationals, leading some people to feel that some teams in a strong region are denied a chance to go, while other not-as-strong teams from a weak region may qualify due to their geographic luck.

Second, the success or failure of an entire year of Ultimate comes down to a team's performance over three weekends. Performance over the rest of the year has little impact (except for seeding) on a team's standing. Thus, there is not necessarily any incentive for a team to play as a team in tournaments throughout the year.

Third, the present system does not encourage better organization of tournaments. We set up our sectionals/regionals schedule only about one or two months in advance of the tournaments. I think everyone would agree that advance planning definitely improves the quality of an event (e.g., Boulder).

So, what are the alternatives? I see two viable options. The first is organizing a grand prix series — prospective tournament directors would submit a proposal at the beginning of the year to be sanctioned to hold a tournament. Sanctions would be awarded and weighted to provide for fairly equal regional representation in fairness to traveling teams. Points would be awarded to teams based upon their finish in each tournament and adjusted according to the assigned weighting factor. At the end of the season, the top four or eight teams would then play off for the championship, maybe a best of three series.

Alternatively, we could establish a league. I would propose something along the following lines: Sixteen teams would be chosen from around the country, based upon strength and geography. A franchise would be awarded to each team, and would reside with an individual — the owner/captain—who would purchase it for, say, \$1,000. This would be a non-interest-bearing deposit to ensure commitment to the league. In addition, league fees would probably be necessary for expenses. A schedule would be established over six to eight weekends in the fall, comprised of regional tournaments to minimize traveling, as well as national tournaments for crossovers. At the end of the season, a national series would be held be-

tween the top two finishers in a best of three series held over a three-day weekend. The other league teams would also play for league standings.

The benefit of a league is that you have a set schedule in advance so that it is easier to arrange sponsorship and media coverage. In fact, one of the duties of the league commissioner would be to obtain sponsorship to subsidize the required traveling expenses.

There is another side to this story. While we would set up a league for the most competitive teams, we would continue to host a UPA National Championship series for the non-league teams. Let's face it, the top contenders these days are semi-professionals. The big difference between the top two teams in each region and the number 5-8 finishers in each region is not just talent but commitment of time and money at the expense of careers and personal lives. Thus, the UPA series would become a true amateur event, and provide a venue for the competitive streaks of most of the rest of Ultimate.

In addition, to give up-and-coming teams a chance to break into the big league,

at least in the first couple years, at the end of each season the bottom two teams in the league would be refunded their deposit and asked to resign and the top UPA finishers given the opportunity to join the league if they wished. In this way we could keep things fresh and give new talent an opportunity to prove themselves.

How would we ever choose the teams to join the league? What criteria do we use? Maybe the best way would be to use the grand prix as the vehicle. Top sixteen finishers are invited, with invitations that are declined going to numbers 17 on down.

Obviously, these ideas are sketchy. But while change is always difficult, maybe there is some merit in the ideas, or maybe there are better ideas. Last January in our questionnaire, 62% of the respondents responded favorably to the idea of a league, and only 30% responded negatively. Let us know what you think — call your regional coordinator or me direct at 212-645-6498.

Mr. Rauch is Executive Director of the UPA and plays for New York.

COUNTERPOINT: THE FUTURE OF ULTIMATE COMPETITION

By Mark Licata

Competition is part of everyone's lives. At work or play, the need to compete with each other or against nature is in our blood. Winning can mean as much to a high school kid playing in the summer league finals, as to the 10-year veteran at Nationals. This spirit of competition originally led to the formation of the UPA, with commitment to ALL Ultimate players.

A UPA Open Division National Championship should be a possibility for all Ultimate teams, not just for those who played in a grand prix or in a league. Any championship that excludes teams with UPA members should be governed by a separate charter, with its own dues, teams, director, and newsletter.

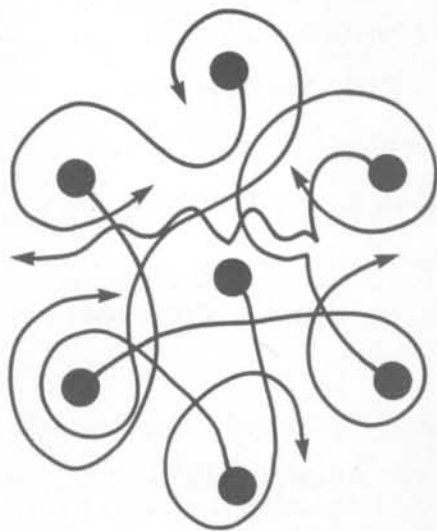
It may be a good idea to establish a separate league or grand prix series. This would provide an opportunity for the strongest teams to compete at a higher level. This separate organization might lead to professional Ultimate and we could watch it on TV. It would be great.

Let's concentrate the UPA's energy on efforts that would benefit all of the membership. For instance, the most recent edition of the UPA Newsletter has an article on high school Ultimate. This area needs more work if we want Ultimate to grow. The PFDS is committed to help Neil Brown, the new high school director, with promoting Ultimate in Pittsburgh area high schools.

We challenge all other local disc organizations to do the same.

If you are a physical education teacher and would like to start using Ultimate and other flying disc games in your curriculum, we have two deals for you. First, for middle school and junior high school teachers, you could conduct the Junior Frisbee Contest in your school. Wham-O, makers of the Frisbee will send you a free contest kit that includes all that you would need to run the event. call Linda Garcia at 1-800-423-4174 by February 24 to get registered.

Second, if you would like to start an intramural Ultimate league, or begin playing the game in your class, PFDS would like to help you get started by coming to your school and putting on a demonstration for your students and faculty and talking about how easy it is for YOU to run this activity. Call Mark Licata at 412-422-7333 or Gary Dropcho at 412-734-0321



A Tradition of TURMOIL

By Henry Thorne

The Panther Hollow Inn on Forbes Avenue in Pittsburgh has been the brewing ground for many Carnegie Mellon students' good ideas, one of which was "Turmoil." It was at that local hangout that Chip O'Connor, currently playing in L.A. with The Polo Club, and Henry Thorne, of Michigan's Coffee and Donuts, dreamed up the idea of taking the CMU Ultimate team on a tour of Florida for Spring Break '83.

Scrounging up an RV and a Mazda 626, a few Lilts, and nine players from CMU, Pittsburgh, Penn State and Philly, Turmoil took off on a driving tour of the Florida coast and beat every team we played (9), except the Gainesville Fat Women. The Turmoil tradition was begun.

As the name implies, Turmoil is a pick-up team, and now only meets once a year for the Miami Spring Break Tournament on the third weekend in March. The team generally includes players from teams representing all five regions, such as the Boozy Idiots, Yo Mama, Atlanta, and Windy City.

Turmoil has the reputation of a winner. The 1984 team again beat all Florida teams except Gainesville, and what was left of us at the end of the week (nicknamed The Seven Ballsy Guys) also won a tournament in South Carolina. Turmoil won the Spring Break Tournament in 1987, and finished second and fourth over the years. In 1988, Turmoil was plagued by overconfidence and didn't make it out of pool play, although we did beat the eventual runner up. We may have lost the tournament, but we won the beach. Thirty pounds of shrimp barbecued in orange juice on Miami Beach was our consolation.

CRASH SEASON HAS HIGHS AND LOWS

By Frank Schneider

Hopes for a national tournament bid for Crash, the Pittsburgh Men's Ultimate team, ended in the frigid quagmire of North Park during the Mid-Atlantic Regional Ultimate Tournament on November 5th and 6th. Crash squandered a 3-goal lead, losing to Philmore (Philadelphia/Baltimore) 17-14 in the Semi-Finals.

"We were in control," says Crash Captain Greg Wolff. "Then I don't know what happened." The defeat handed Crash a fourth place finish and gave Philmore the last laugh in a season-long rivalry.

Crash opened the tournament with two easy wins before being placed in the loser's bracket by Washington, D.C.'s Yo Mama in semi-final action. Yo Mama took an early lead and held on for a 17-14 win. Once in the loser's bracket, Crash avenged an earlier season loss to Just Say No (Washington), with a come-from-behind victory. Just Say No was up by one at halftime, with Crash receiving the disc and facing a fierce wind.

"We were trapped in the corner," described Wolff. "Then David Steere completed a crossfield blade to break the zone. From there we must have completed about 50 passes to score the upwinder." From then on it was gravy, as Crash coasted to a 15-9 win.

After defeating Crash, Philmore went on to earn a National tournament bid by defeating Yo Mama. New Jersey's Looney Tunes, also, breezed through the tournament unscathed, enroute to their second straight Mid-Atlantic Regional Championship.

At Nationals, held in San Diego, CA, over Thanksgiving, Looney Tunes and Philmore represented the Mid-Atlantic Region well, posting 3-2 and 2-3 records, respectively. Tsunami (San Francisco) won the national championship, defeating Titanic in the finals. The expected rematch of last year's national final between New York and Windy City (Chicago) was not to be, as both teams were semi-final losers.

A week prior to Regionals, Crash had defeated Philmore on their home turf in an eleventh-hour 18-16 overtime win at the Sectional Ultimate finals in Philadelphia. Crash was down 16-13 when Bob Wharton and Pat Wright each came up with diving defense blocks, and scored the ensuing goals to lead Crash past Philmore.

Crash also posted upset wins over the number two team in the country, Titanic (Boston) and consistent national tournament qualifier Chain-Lightning (Atlanta), in earlier competitions this season.

In a game where "Steve Neuman" was synonymous with "goal," Jumpin' Joe Enck spent more time horizontal than vertical, and Mike Soo arrived late in the game like a knight in shining armor, it was a total team effort that sunk the mighty Titanic in miserable conditions. Crash hung tough with Titanic, never leading until the final goal was scored.

In another thrilling upset, Crash came back from a 9-2 halftime deficit to overtake Chain-Lightning 17-14. Led by Jumpin' Joe's offense and a strong defensive effort by Mark Licata, Crash outscored Chain-Lightning 15-5 in the clutch.

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J. Gary Dropcho	53	54	107	
Mark Washek	58	57	115	

AMATEUR MEN

David Crouse	51	51	102	3 discs
Michael Novara	53	55	108	2 discs
John Pacinelli	56	56	112	1 disc
Mark Licata	59	54	113	
Stevo Prime	57	61	118	
Don Opelia	61	59	120	
Rex Nordheimer	60	66	126	
David Eckberg	63	63	126	

AMATEUR WOMEN

Deb Shearer	62	60	122	3 discs
Lynn Giroux	62	64	126	2 discs
Jodi Boysza	70	73	143	
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Teri Breier	77	77	154	
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