

World Acrobatics Society Newsletter

Helping to Enhance Communication Between the Friends of Acrobatics Worldwide

World Acrobatics Society Convention a Success

The first annual World Acrobatics Society (W.A.S.) Convention was held in the exciting city of Las Vegas - a perfect place for a gathering of acrobatics enthusiasts!

From February 6-9, some of the most renowned people in the field of acrobatics came together to share ideas and information in an effort to enhance the stability and growth of all acrobatic activities.

Among the important issues addressed at this first W.A.S. Convention was the election of officers. The following people

were elected to positions: Hobie Billingsley (President), Charlie Pond (First Vice-President), Paula Boelsems (Second Vice-President), Dian Nissen-Ramirez (Secretary), and Dick Smith (Treasurer). In addition, an election for members of the Board of Directors was held. In order to establish continuity within this new organization, the twelve previous board members were retained, and only three new board members were selected: Don Leas, Lani Loken-Dahle, and Dian Nissen-Ramirez. Loken-Dahle was also appointed as the Editor of the World Acrobatics Society Newsletter, which is to be published quarterly.



Members group together after a meal at a fine Italian restaurant.

Regarding future meetings, it was decided that: 1) An annual convention for all W.A.S. members would be held. This convention would take place in conjunction with a special acrobatic event (such as the "Go For It Classic" - a gymnastics competition with over 1,800 participants which was being held at the same location as this first convention); 2) the Board of Directors would meet separately, at least two times each year; 3) educational symposiums would be developed. The first symposium, entitled the "Twisting Symposium," is to be held May 23-25. Frank Bare Jr., many

times World Aerial Ski Champion, will host this event at his aerial ski training facility in Salt Lake City, Utah. The symposium will include discussion and presentation of twisting techniques and progressions used in a variety of acrobatic disciplines.

Throughout the convention, W.A.S. members were not only engaged in meetings, but also in entertaining social events! Thanks to Nelle Filliger, W.A.S. members were treated to a "champagne" tour of Las Vegas, followed by fine dining at a delightful Italian restaurant. The next day, several W.A.S. members had the opportunity to go "behind the scenes" at Cirque du Soleil to observe the performer's training session. Many thanks go to Rob Bollinger, a member of the W.A.S. Board of Directors and a Cirque du Soleil performer, and Andre Vallerand, a W.A.S. member and the Acrobatic Talent Scout for Cirque du Soleil, for arranging this opportunity.

(continued on page 2)



Nelle Filliger treats W.A.S. members to a champagne tour of Las Vegas (above).

Russ Saunders, Bil Copp, Nelle Filliger, and Joe Schabacker gather for a moment between meetings (right).





President's Corner

by Hobie Billingsley, W.A.S. President

We are now into our second year of the World Acrobatics Society (W.A.S.). When originally formed in March, 1996, twenty-five people were present. Our next meeting of the Society was in Las Vegas in February, 1997. During the year between these two meetings, Bob Bollinger almost single handedly kept the Society moving forward by turning out several newsletters which offered information regarding the history, biographies, activities and functions that had been or were being staged. During this period, the membership grew from twenty-five members to more than one hundred. The members and others interested in acrobatics were invited to the W.A.S. Convention, with the intent of participating in meetings, electing new officers and board members, enjoying the gymnastics events, and basking in the Las Vegas night life at the various casinos and hotels.

We met for a board meeting on February 6th, then proceeded with the meetings on February 7th and 8th. Many discussions concerning W.A.S. activities were covered during the first scheduled meeting. The following day, officers and board members were elected. As it worked out, most of the original officers were retained. Many felt their short duty over one year hadn't provided sufficient time to get established. In addition to the election of the same board members, the decision was made to add three new ones: Don Leas, Lani Loken-Dahle, and Dian Nissen-Ramirez. The position of Executive Director will be taken over, in part, by the duties of the Secretary and the Newsletter Editor.

A lot of territory was covered

in those three days; many changes were made in different areas. We voted to have a yearly convention, and a board of director's meeting at least twice a year. Other W.A.S. activities will be held intermittently. Everyone is invited to take part in a symposium in Salt Lake City in May, where experts will discuss the different methods used in performing twisting somersaults. This will be a two and one-half day symposium loaded with information regarding acrobatic movement. I think it will be a blast and a lot of fun for everyone to participate. One thing for sure, all who attend will be more informed of what acrobatic movements are used in various sports and how such movements are initiated.

It should be noted that many members of W.A.S. are experts in their chosen fields. They are willing to share their expertise and knowledge with all of us. I urge you to take advantage of everything W.A.S. has to offer, and to help W.A.S. grow. *

Our Readers Write...

*Hearing from our
readers is important to
us. Please send your
comments to:*

*Lani Loken-Dahle,
Editor*

*World Acrobatics
Society Newsletter
1063 East 21st Ave.
Eugene, Oregon
97405*

*The editor reserves the right
to edit letters for length,
clarity, and style.*



Charlie Pond, Lani Loken-Dahle and
Dick Smith share stories over dinner.

W.A.S. Convention a Success

(continued from page 1)

Not only were W.A.S. members treated to a rare glimpse of the performers in training, but they were also given the "best seats in the house" at an evening performance. This was truly a memorable experience!

Finally, Don Dunfield, another W.A.S. member and a former national diving champion and professional acrobat, treated many W.A.S. members to a tour of the MGM Grand stage operations, and an evening performance of the fantastic *EFX*.

Show. Don is presently head of stage operations at the MGM Grand, which has the most automated stage in the world. Our hats go off to Dunfield's expertise and generous hospitality!

During this 3-day convention, valuable connections were made between people representing different acrobatic sports. The World Acrobatics Society promotes these connections, recognizing that they are invaluable for the growth and development of all acrobatic activities. We urge you to involve yourself in the unique opportunities offered by W.A.S., and to embrace the friends of acrobatics worldwide.

*

-By Lani Loken-Dahle



Pictured at a meeting during the convention are: (front row, from left) Charlie Pond, Dick Smith, John Deininger; (back row, from left) Bill Copp, Don Leas, Dave Ardrey, and Christopher Harley.

Tributes



Charles Keeney, emeritus professor of Physical Education at the University of California, Berkeley died on March 29th, 1996 of a heart attack. He was 83 years old.

Called "Chuck" by his close friends, Keeney began his long relationship with UC Berkeley in 1932 when he enrolled in the graduate program. He received training in gymnastics at the San Diego YMCA, and San Diego High School. He received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from San Diego State College and immediately enrolled at UC Berkeley. He continued to train and assisted Charles Pease in coaching the intercollegiate gymnastics team. Keeney was Pacific Association AAU and West Coast AAU tumbling champion from 1933 - 1935. He participated in the NAAU Championships twice, placing third in 1933, and won Gold in 1935. He remained an active tumbler and was able to perform high level skills until the late fifties, when he retired as head coach.

Keeney developed and built his own trampolines and was an excellent performer, even though he never competed in that event. He developed a trampoline class at UC Berkeley, and taught the class for several decades. He was co-author of, and the demonstrator on the trampoline in a series of gymnastics manuals published by the NAVY at that time.

During his teaching years at UC Berkeley, Keeney was awarded the "Distinguished Teaching" award. This is given

to only a few individuals annually. He was a superb teacher. His analysis and presentation was thorough and his students appreciated his ability to transfer his knowledge to them. He continued to write, completing and publishing three books on diving, trampoline, and tumbling. He co-authored two books on gymnastics apparatus work. He produced a thirty minute, 16mm color film on Gymnastics USA in 1976. In conjunction, he became an administrator in the UC Berkeley Physical Education Department, while continuing his teaching of both trampoline and gymnastics.

His teams competed in the Pacific Coast Conference. They were successful in their development of strong, solid competitors. Some of the outstanding athletes to be coached by Keeney were: Chuck Thompson, many times NAAU Tumbling Champion; Ross Cunningham, National AAU runner-up, 1938; Davis Seed, NCAA runner-up, 1957; and Paul Goodale, NCAA runner-up, 1953. Cal placed 3rd in the 1949 NCAA Championship.

Upon retirement, Keeney joined the Gymnastics Coaching (continued on page 12)



Author,
Hal Frey
(left)

Frank Kurtz

Frank Kurtz, 1932 Olympic platform diving bronze medalist and a famed World War II aviation hero, has died at the age of 85. The retired U.S. Air Force colonel passed away at his home in Toluca Lake, Calif., on Oct. 31.

His diving career blossomed

during the late 1920's and early '30's, culminating in his selection to the 1932 U.S. Olympic Team. At the Games in Los Angeles, Kurtz won the bronze medal. Kurtz won his only national title in 1933, but continued diving and went on to qualify for the 1936 and '40 U.S. Olympic Teams. He competed in the '36 Games in Berlin, but missed a chance for a third Olympic appearance when the 1940 Games were canceled because of the war.

Best known as a pilot of the B-17 Flying Fortress, Kurtz flew the last of the 35 planes in the Pacific including "The Swoose," the famous airplane housed in the Smithsonian Institution

Kurtz's wartime exploits earned him three Distinguished Flying Crosses, three silver stars, three air medals and five presidential citations. Two books were written about his life. He was also selected to command the Kirkland Air Force Base during the Manhattan Atomic Bomb Project. Kurtz retired from the military in 1960, and went on to become an executive at the William May Garland development firm and an active participant in Olympic Affairs.

Al Patnik

One of diving's former great champions, Al Patnik, passed away on Dec. 18 at the age of 80. Considered to be one of the greatest springboard divers of all time, Patnik's four-year dominance of the springboard was unprecedented.

During his collegiate diving career (1938-40), Patnik won all three Big Ten Conference 1-meter titles, and five out of six National Intercollegiate titles on both 1-meter and 3-meter. He was also undefeated in every college dual meet in which he participated.

Patnik was denied a chance at Olympic glory in his prime

when the 1940 Olympic Games were canceled due to World War II. By the time the Olympics resumed in 1948, Patnik had retired.

Despite not having the chance to make an Olympic Team, Patnik was named to the mythical 1940 U.S. Olympic Team by the International Swimming Hall of Fame. He has been inducted into four hall of fames: The Helms Athletic Foundation Hall of Fame in 1967, ISHOF in 1969, the Pennsylvania Hall of Fame in 1970 and the Ohio State Sports Hall of Fame in 1977.

Larry Griswold

The legendary Larry Griswold passed away on August 24, 1996. After a long illness, Larry died in Cedar Rapids, Iowa at the age of 90.

While attending the University of Iowa, Larry was the Big Ten Tumbling Champion in 1929. Soon after, he and George Nissen met. They developed the concept of the modern Trampoline and together, founded the Griswold-Nissen Trampoline Co. in Cedar Rapids, Iowa in 1941.

Larry's fame developed from his many years performing a comedy acrobatic act. Combining a diving board with a trampoline, Larry performed his act worldwide. He appeared on the Ed Sullivan Show, the Jackie Gleason Show, the Ken Murray Show, and was featured at the Folies Bergere in Paris, France during the late 1960's. He had a command performance for the Queen of England and for Prince Ranier of Monaco. None could surpass his outstanding abilities as an acrobat and comedian.

Note: Because Larry is such a legend in the development of acrobatic activities, we will be devoting a large section of the next newsletter to Larry's life and influence.

Events Schedule April 24th - June 6th

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
April 24-27	The American Association of Cheerleading Coaches and Advisors National Conference	Hotel InterContinental Chicago, IL
April 25-27	Masters Indoor Diving Championships	Midland, TX
April 26-29	<i>Cirque du Soleil</i> Auditions	Santa Monica, CA
May 1-4	Dive Canada	Victoria, CAN
May 1-4	J.O. Gymnastics Championships (Women)	Orlando, FL
May 3-4	Sea Doo Pro Wakeboarding Tour Competition	Charleston, SC
May 2-4	U.S. Rhythmic Gymnastics National Championships	Houston, TX
May 5-7	Aggressive Skating World Tour Competition	Orlando, FL (at X-Games Trials)
May 8-11	FINA/USA Diving Grand Prix	Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.
May 10-11	J.O. Gymnastics Championships (Rhythmic)	Walnut Creek, CA
May 15-18	Torneo Internacional de Clavados Grand Prix (Diving)	Juarez City, MEX
May 16-18	J.O. Gymnastics Championships (Men)	Orlando, FL
May 24-25	6th FIT World Cup Competition (Trampoline)	Lisbon, POR
May 27-31	Junior World Competition (Sports Acrobatics)	Honolulu, HI
May 30- June 1	Boardstock '97 - East (Wakeboarding)	Atlanta, GA
May 31- June 1	FIT World Cup Competition (Tumbling)	Calgary, CAN
June 3-6	Four Continents Gymnastics Championships (Rhythmic)	Sydney, AUS
June 4-11	USA National Championships (Trampoline, Tumbling, Double Mini-Tramp)	Orlando, FL
June 5-8	FIT World Cup Competition (Tumbling)	Orlando, FL
June 7-8	World Wide Freestyle Federation Competition (BMX)	Hoffman Estates, IL
June 7-8	Aggressive Skating World Tour Competition	Philadelphia, PA
June 7-8	Sea Doo Pro Wakeboarding Tour Competition	Austin, TX

"On With The Show!"

Cirque du Soleil is a circus based out of Montréal with many shows travelling around the world - that is one way of describing it. Another way, is to say that Cirque du Soleil is probably the most amazing acrobatic and artistic display in the world!

At present, there are three shows being performed: *Alegria*, *Mystere*, and *Quidam*. *Salimbando*, Cirque du Soleil's longest running show, was retired recently after five years of touring. *Mystere* is a unique show. After touring for three years it became a permanent show in Las Vegas, Nevada, when it was purchased by the Treasure Island Hotel-Casino.

Two new permanent shows are being developed. The first show opens in June of 1998 at the Bellagio Hotel-Casino in Las Vegas. This show will be aquatic in nature, breaking new ground for Cirque. The second show opens in November of 1998 at DisneyWorld in Orlando, Florida. This show will include a cast of seventy. Each show will run for a minimum of ten years.



W.A.S. member, André Vallerand, (pictured above) is the Acrobatic Talent Scout for Cirque. A former gymnast and gymnastics coach, Vallerand has worked with Cirque for one year. His job involves travelling around the world promoting Cir-

que and selecting the most talented acrobats he can find to become part of the Cirque du Soleil "family".



Rob Bollinger (pictured above), is a member of this "family". A former competitive diver, trampolinist, and tumbler, Bollinger is a member of the W.A.S. Board of Directors.

Bollinger and his wife, Natalie (a former competitive gymnast), have been performing in the Cirque show, *Mystere*, for several years. Bollinger also choreographs and coaches some of the acts. In addition, he and his wife have performed stuntwork for Steven Spielberg productions, including "Jurassic Park," and the sequel, "The Lost World".

Cirque du Soleil provides a fine future for acrobats who have completed their competitive careers and who are interested in continuing professionally in the activity they love: acrobatics. If you are interested in auditioning, send a resume with photo and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

**Cirque du Soleil
Casting Department
8400 2nd Ave.
Montreal, Quebec H1Z 4M6
Canada**

Auditions are by invitation only!

*

-by Kendal Rhoaly

*For information on other
professional acrobatics
organizations, see page 10.*

-CHEERLEADING-

Jerry George, PhD, has just completed cheerleading's first safety manual. This comprehensive approach to cheerleading safety is an invaluable guide to everyone involved in cheerleading.

George brings a great deal of expertise to the writing of this manual. A prolific writer, George has served as author, contributor, and/or senior editor to ten textbooks, 75 article publications, and eight funded grants. Recipient of the 1996 American Spirit Award for Cheerleading Safety, George



Jerry George, PhD, author of the new Cheerleading Safety Manual.

authored safety manuals for Diving and Gymnastics. An accomplished gymnast, biomechanist, and legal expert, George has, once again, contributed to the safe practice of a popular acrobatic activity.

The manual is part of the American Association of Cheerleading Coaches and Advisors (AACCA) Cheerleading Safety Certification Program. The AACCA is a non-profit educational association for the over 50,000 cheerleading coaches across the United States. Founded in 1988, members of the association include: youth, junior high school, high school and college or university coaches/advisors as well as leading national cheerleading instructional and uniform companies dedicated to the safe and responsible practice of student

cheerleading. The AACCA Cheerleading Safety Certification Program includes a lecture course, study manual, and timed exam designed to educate cheerleading coaches in all aspects of cheerleading safety. The course covers such topics as legal responsibilities, medical responsibilities, spotting partner stunts, spotting tumbling, environmental safety concerns, psychological readiness, physical readiness, program evaluation and more. The certification is valid for four years.

George dedicated this manual to Dr. Newton Loken; a man who had a lasting influence on George's life. Loken was the Men's Gymnastics Coach at the University of Michigan for 38 years, and during that time coached the University of Michigan Cheerleaders. One of the premier "cheerleaders" in the country, Loken was the author of numerous cheerleading books, and was the recipient of the first University of Michigan Spirit Award.

The AACCA Cheerleading Safety Manual may be purchased by calling 1-800-238-0286, ext. 4595, or by sending a check for \$21.15 payable to:

AACCA
PO Box 508
Cordova, TN
38018-0508



Newton Loken: The Cheerleader

Sports Wrap-up

-DIVING-

The marketing firm, SMG, is moving US Diving into the 21st Century. A new diving logo has been developed, and there are more exciting changes to come!



Between March 1995 and November 1996, US Diving has had a record number of individuals or couples join as Life Members.

Olympic Springboard Diving Gold Medalist in 1956, Bob Clotworthy, PhD, is working on a history of diving book and film. Clotworthy has interviewed nearly 100 divers, coaches and contributors as part of his ongoing research. More interviews are planned in 1997. Clotworthy's goal is to complete the book between 1998-2000, with the film to come later.

Those interested in helping with this project should contact Clotworthy at the following address and phone number: HCR 74, Box 22313, El Prado, New Mexico 87529; (505) 737-0767; email: clotworthyb@aa.edu

U.S. Diving is also accepting tax deductible contributions to help this project. If interested in contributing, please send a check made payable to "United States Diving" to: US Diving; Attn: History of Diving Project; 201 South Capital Ave.; Suite 430; Indianapolis, IN 46225

The 1997 FINA Diving Grand Prix is underway! Divers can compete in any number of the thirteen scheduled events. Points from the best four meets are totaled to determine the winners.

The diver who accumulates the highest number of Grand Prix points in each event wins. \$5,000 is awarded for first place, \$2,000 for second place, and \$1,000 for third place.

The FINA/USA Diving Grand Prix will be held from May 8-11 in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, at the International Swimming and Diving Hall of Fame Pool.

-GYMNASTICS-

Historian/archivist for the World Acrobatics Society, Bruce Fredrick, PhD, is working on a new project. He is developing companion volumes for his acclaimed Roots of American Gymnastics, Who's Who and Was Who in American Gymnastics and An Illustrated History of American Gymnastics are in preparation. He would appreciate receiving any information which would help in the completion of these historical texts. Please send your information to: Dr. Bruce Frederick; 1043 11th Ave.; Wilmington, Delaware 19808; (302) 995-2148.



Bruce Fredrick, PhD

"Extreme" Aerial Acrobatics: the New Road to Gold

Years of dedication and hard work have finally paid off for the many "extreme sports" enthusiasts. The closing ceremonies of the Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta highlighted the future of "extreme" aerial acrobatics. Skateboarders, aggressive inline skaters, and BMX'ers had an opportunity to demonstrate their maneuvers to the single largest viewing audience ever. The "quest for the gold" has taken on a new meaning in these sports. Not only do they have sponsors lining up to have their products endorsed, but inclusion of these sports in Olympic medal competition is on the horizon.

The World Acrobatics Society embraces these sports with their unique blend of aerial acrobatics. According to its mission, the World Acrobatics Society is "a world-wide forum to enhance communication, cooperation, education and friendship among all individuals and organizations interested in preserving acrobatics history and the growth and development of the various acrobatics disciplines." We now have an opportunity to build bridges, sharing ideas between the "traditional" acrobatics and the new, "extreme" acrobatics, and ultimately challenging ourselves to reach beyond the "thinkable."

In order for us to truly embrace these extreme sports, we must first gain knowledge and experience of the sports themselves. There are several ways to do this: By reading the journals and watching the videos specific to each sport; by talking to the athletes - you'll find them on the slopes, behind a boat, riding rails, jumping curves, doing "verts" in the half-pipe, riding the back country — almost anywhere! You might even try an extreme sport yourself, and find that you love it!

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The place for many of us to start is simply to acknowledge the athleticism involved in these activities. Snowboarders are not just kids with baggy pants and big jackets who don't know skiing etiquette and ruin the slopes for others. Rather, snowboarders are athletes challenging themselves to get "big air" and are truly dedicated to their passion. They will be going for the gold in the 1988 Winter Olympics!

Skateboarders are not just "zeroes" who waste time with a stupid board, damaging rails, curbs, stairs, and making annoying noise outside businesses. Rather, they are athletes who have found a very efficient mode of travel. They blend strength, agility, speed, balance, and a love for challenge.

It is time for all of us "acrobats" to get to know and appreciate these fine athletes. Because of the commonalities shared by all of the aerial acrobatic sports, the transference between sport disciplines can be easily accomplished. By pushing the limits of creativity and diversity, these exciting and engaging new sports contribute to the growth and success of all acrobatics. New territory has been opened up and it is up to all of us as "acrobats" to explore this territory to its fullest! *

-by Lani Loken-Dahle

Snowboarders Go for the Gold!

Snowboarding will make its debut as an Olympic sport at the 1998 Winter Games in Nagano, Japan. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) formally accepted snowboarding in 1994, naming the International Ski Federation (FIS) as its representative international federation. Last December, the organizers of the 1998 Winter Olympic Games

in Nagano agreed to add snowboarding to the Olympic program. Giant Slalom (GS) and Halfpipe will be the two snowboard events next season when snowboarding becomes an official Olympic sport.

Officials in Nagano have set the following schedule for snowboard's entry in the Olympics:

Feb. 8 - Men's Giant Slalom;
Feb. 9 - Women's Giant Slalom;
Feb. 12 - Men's and Women's halfpipe. *

(From 1997 US Snowboard Media Guide)

Taking Aggressive Skating to the Next Level

The rate of growth of aggressive inline skating over the last two years has been virtually unparalleled in sports history. It has made the transition from hobby and showcase activity to competitive sport. At least five magazines which regularly cover aggressive skating have been launched during the last year and a half, and distribution for all of these magazines has grown.

There is a great need for a sanctioning body of aggressive inline skating. As the sport reaches a continually more mainstream audience, major sponsors are looking to produce internationally televised aggressive skating events with increasingly larger purses of prize money. The integrity of the sport calls for a well designed, fair, standardized judging system and judge certification program.

The Aggressive Skaters Association (ASA) Judging System is being used around the world in geographies such as Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Brazil, the United States, Canada, and several countries in Europe. ESPN's Extreme Games aggressive skating competition used a modified version of the ASA judging system in June. While this judging system has served well over the last year, the growing exposure of the sport calls for a more comprehensive set of rules. This will be a major focus of the ASA as it works to take aggressive skating to the next level.

Founded during the summer of 1994 by several top professional aggressive skaters from around the world, the ASA was quickly embraced by the inline skating industry, skate organizations from around the world, the

Twist, Twist,.....

For the first time, specialists from a variety of acrobatic disciplines v Acrobatics Society is holding a "Twisting Symposium" in Salt Lake C many times World Aerial Ski Champion and presently the Australian Oly the use of the acro-bungee system) "Visual Aspect Twisting," a techn multiple somersaults (including his quadruple twisting triple somersaul senting the concept of "Look-In Twisting," Olympic Diving Coach, Ho numerous other acrobatics experts will be discussing many aspects of t

This event will begin with a Friday evening social, starting at 6:00pm debate, videos, practice, etc. It will conclude on Sunday at 1:00pm. For for skiing and equipment rental discounts. The US Ski Association hea the aerial ski ramp into water), is being arranged for Friday.

For housing reservations, contact one of the following Bed & Breakf Bed & Breakfast (801) 943-0709. These lodges are a 5-8 minute walk motel 15 minutes away by car (801) 566-6677. Make sure to menti Symposium." Lower rates will be made available to you. R.S.V.P. to D

We hope to s

inline media, and the International Inline Skating Association.

In the first quarter of 1995, the founding members of the ASA decided to formalize the organization to further legitimize it and to secure the legal and financial grounding to further the mission of the organization. The ASA opened up for new members in September 1995.

JOIN! Send a note to:
application@asa.aggro skate.com.
*

(from <http://www.aggro skate.com/about.html>)

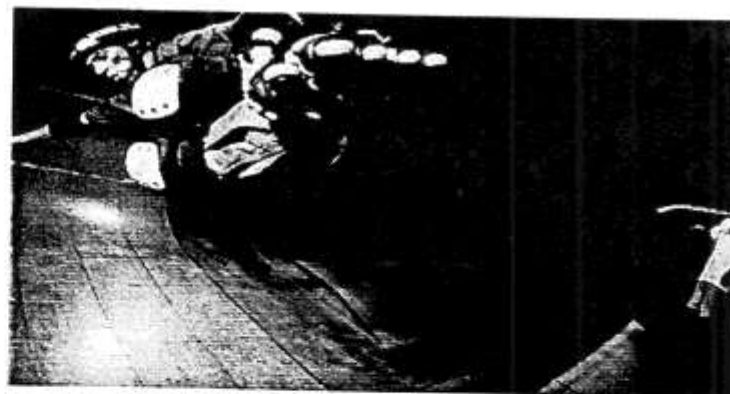
"Bio"-Rotation

In gymnastics and diving there are two main axes for rotation. The axis that splits you symmetrically from head to toe, and the axis located somewhere around your belly button. These are the two main axes to the human body. But, the problem with humans is that they are not linear ridged bodies. This is a very complicated problem, mathematically.

A "Bio" rotation in snowboarding and skating is a rotation that is "sideways". Basically, the axis of rotation is slightly off from a normal upright rotation. This is caused by

two factors. The first is the shape of the body. A "bio" probably is not possible if you were "laid out" or strait. The body is usually tucked in and the head is looking over the shoulder in the direction of rotation. Second, one needs to jump and spin into this off axis position. Many people who try and spin for their first time do this. They jump up and spin, and end up leaning off to one direction or the other. The result is that for part of the rotation the body is turned sideways. The key to understanding how this actually works is to realize that a "bio" 180 is not possible to land. Most bio's are multiples of 180 degrees starting at 540 degrees. This is because most of the time when your body comes around full circle you are where you started - a very difficult position to land. When you turn that last 180 you can break out of your tuck and "kip" down and around to your feet. (keeping in mind that you were never upside down, only sideways at the most.) Most good "bio"'s would never receive high marks in a gymnastics contest because of a bent over landing with one's feet broken apart.

A "corkscrew" is a rotation that is on the regular axis from head to toe, but is tilted either forward or backwards. This is



Steve Black rolls out for a bit of air on a half-pipe.

different from a "bio", where the axis of rotation is actually off the main axis from head to toe. A forward "corkscrew" can be landed nicely after multiples of 360 degrees of rotation. This is because your body can bend forward to reach the landing. Basically, this would look like a spinning human cannon ball. The head is usually never below the feet, or sideways. A backwards "corkscrew" is the same axis of rotation but backwards. Like a spinning human cannon ball coming out of the cannon feet first. Again the head is not below the feet and is usually not perfectly sideways (some "bio's" get really sideways). This trick is usually landed backwards after 540 degrees of rotation. The proper position of the head for a "corkscrew" is usually looking over your shoulder in the direction of rotation.

A "misty flip" is very similar to a front flip with a half twist, except that it is bent and slightly off from perfect. It's called a "misty flip" because it involves more flipping action than rotation. Basically there are two types: There is a trampoline or "gymnast" version that involves a nice technique. The body is launched into a front flipping half twist move with the body slightly tucked up. The head looks down at the landing almost the whole time. This is not a blind rotation like corkscrews or "bio's". The main axis of rotation is the gymnastic flipping axis with a slight skew and a 180 degree rotation of the head to toe main axis.

The second type of "misty flip" I like to call the "trippy flip". This is because the body is tripped by the jump. It rolls over in a "misty flip" looking roll, continuing around backwards to the feet. This flip usually is not nearly as high as a regular "misty flip".

These are explanations of 3 rotations that are done in aggressive inline skating. As a small history note, these rotations were taken from skateboarding and snowboarding. There are many more types of rotations that are possible. The axes of rotation for many other types of rotation are combinations of these three main classes.

At NIKE, where I am "Developmental Coordinator" for Aggressive Skates, we have found that the best way to understand many of these rotations is to conduct a small experiment. Take a G.I. Joe figure or a Barbie Doll and arrange them in various shapes (it's best to get a figure or doll with working hinges that aren't too loose in the hip, arm, and knee area). First, make the doll perfectly strait. Then throw it up into the air with different types of throws (let some spin off your fingers, and let others flip with twists.) Then rearrange the doll into various "skater" positions and try the same experiments. We do this every day at NIKE to try and visualize what we see in videos so that we can develop Aggressive Skates for enhanced performance. *

-by Steve Black

and More Twist!

come together to share their ideas on twisting techniques. The World Cup, May 23-25. Hosting this unique event will be Frank Bare Jr., Aerial Ski Coach. Bare will be discussing and demonstrating (with what he has successfully used in the teaching of multiple twisting techniques. In addition, legendary gymnastics coach Charlie Pond, will be prellingsley, will be discussing "The Biomechanics of Twisting," and theory.

owed by one and one-half days of discussion, demonstration, panel of you who may be able to arrive early or stay late, Bare is arranging ers is located nearby, and a tour of the training facilities (including

edges: 1) Log Cabin on the Hill (801) 272-2969; 2) Grandmother's unkie's. Additional housing is available at the "Day's Inn," a new t you will be attending the World Acrobatics Society "Twisting Nissen-Ramirez: (619) 558-0415; e-mail: dnr0097@aol.com there!



*Christopher
Harley*

Bil Copp



In an effort to help W.A.S. members stay abreast of new information which will play a role in the achievement of the goals of W.A.S., all issues of the newsletter will include:

- 1) A book or video review (by W.A.S. Education Director, Bil Copp).*
- 2) A discussion about computers, and the means of accessing information and communicating with W.A.S. members (by W.A.S. Newsletter Assistant Editor, Christopher Harley).*

- Video Review -

Trampoline Training For Body, Mind & Spirit - Astraea Inc. 1 1/2 hrs

An instructional video intended to acquaint backyard trampolinists with proper progressions and safety procedures associated with the sport.

Astraea, Inc.

1901 W. Main St.

St. Charles, IL 60174-1635

(630) 584-2535

In selecting author and former World Trampoline Champion Dan Millman to host this video, Astraea Inc. couldn't have done better. Millman's trampolining credentials are impeccable and his professional presentation does more than justice to this important topic: "Backyard Trampolining."

Millman clearly presents and demonstrates safety tips and progressions from straight jumping to advanced (for backyard trampoline) skills. Of nostalgic interest are trick names that harken back to the 60's jump center days: Corpse drop, Knees to Hands bounce and Stomach (as opposed to "front" drop). More advanced skills (Rudy, double back and fluffis) appear to be included as an effort to simply show trampoline possibilities rather than teach or encourage new jumpers to attempt them.

Trampoline-related lawsuits starting in the 70's saw a dra-



*Dan Millman, as seen on
the cover of the video.*

matic emphasis on warnings and disclaimers by trampoline manufacturers. Just as every modern trampoline has labels and tags graphically warning of the "dangers" associated with trampolining, so does this video. A full 6 minutes of disclaimers and warnings scroll across the screen before Millman begins speaking. Even more appear at the start of the section on somersaults. One noticeable omission, however, is the lack of spotters present while Millman and his assistant demonstrate information regarding training for spotters or advanced skills.

Overall, this is a very fine video. Millman is an excellent communicator and knows his stuff. Production quality is excellent and content is more than adequate to educate the home trampolinist. *

The Internet is a new world of information. It is a means of communication that is both inexpensive and fast. I can think of no better tool to help W.A.S. live up to its goal to increase the communication between the different acrobatic disciplines.

If you are not already "on-line" I'm sure you know someone who is. The following is a brief introduction to the World Wide Web and the convenience of Electronic mail.

Why go on-line? For anyone who conducts a great deal of their daily business by telephone, the Internet is a less costly means of doing what is already being done. In many ways, it's easier too.

Electronic Mail, or e-mail, is similar to faxing, but at a fraction of the cost. It can be free if you are affiliated with a school, library or large corporation. For everyone else, the best "servers" (businesses that specialize in "hooking you up" to the net) cost about twenty dollars a month plus the cost of a local phone call (which is nearly always free). You also pay for the time you spend on-line, usually by the hour.

Some popular and reliable servers are America Online, Prodigy Internet and The Microsoft Network. These servers have good reputations and supply complete service on the net. For most people, e-mail is all that they may need. In fact, I recommend this service to everyone.

For the more curious - the cravers of information - the World Wide Web has many possibilities. The Web is, essentially, a bunch of computers connected by modem (a device that acts like a telephone for a computer). All of these computers house Web sites. Each site has a Home Page and subsequent pages with information and links to other sites.

So, the Web is just a bunch of information zipping across

phone lines. Anyone can have a Web site, and anything can be put there that is desired. To find the many sites on the Internet, a person can either know the address (the name and location of the site), or just use a "browser" (a program that comes with all good Internet Software that finds sites using key words or phrases).

A few things to be aware of: You will need a computer with a modem, or a device turning your television into a Web Surfing device. If you already own a computer, but it is old, upgrades are available, so you don't have to buy a new one. If you do purchase a new computer, be aware that technology changes rapidly. You may need to add to your machine in the future for it to function at the increased standard.

As for Software (the programs your computer uses to make sense of everything), most good servers will provide the latest versions for free, or at a very low cost. Upgrading both Hardware (all the mechanical bits) and Software is almost always cheaper than buying the latest new thing out there, so staying fairly current should not be costly.

Here are the numbers for the servers already mentioned:

America Online

(800) 872-6364

Prodigy Internet

(800) 776-3449

The Microsoft Network

(800) 373-3676

Also, contact AT&T, MCI or Sprint directly for information about what they have to offer.

Stores such as CompUSA and EggHead will have staff and literature to help you. Remember to ask questions and not to be intimidated. Computer stores are used to newcomers; it's their business to know how to help you. Lastly, shop around. Find out what is offered by different servers, and compare prices. Get yourself the best deal you can. The Internet is about efficiency, but it's also about low cost. *



A Man with Lots of Time on His hands

Dr. Joe Schabacher, PhD, (pictured left) began his acrobatics training at an early age. In junior high school he participated in the Philadelphia Tumbling Club, giving performances at school shows and in amateur stage shows. This marked the beginning of his career, and the first of the many awards and prizes with which he would be accredited.

At Northeast High school, Schabacher formed a partnership with Bill Ault and Richard Lobs. Performing as a handbalancing act, the young acrobat and his partners won prizes and astounded audiences in various vaudeville shows. In addition, he was also a member of the high school cheerleading squad and gymnastics team. His superb balancing skills and arm strength helped him win competitions in side horse, long horse and parallel bars.

Schabacher attended college at Temple University. He continued to develop his skills on the Temple University Gymnastics Team. During his time there, Schabacher helped his team win the 1941 Intercollegiate Gymnastics Championship with a gold medal in pommel horse. He also won many medals in YMCA, AAU, and other gymnastics meets.

His entertainment career continued as well. With performances in amateur shows, such as the Madison Square Garden National Basketball Tournament, Schabacher was a member of a three man acrobatic act with partners, Elmer Binker and Emmy Evans. At the same time he continued his cheerleading as a tumbler and stunter for Temple University. Eventually, his knowledge of acrobatics led him to become a judge at Philadelphia high school gymnastics meets.

Beginning in 1943 and continuing through 1952, Schabacher began a professional career as a handbalancer. Adopting the name Joe Shannon, he performed in shows around the world while serving in the Marine Corps. Schabacher had many partners, some of whom may be well recognized: Al Motter, Dorothy Gaye, Jack Juvenile and Jim Allen. Sometimes he performed in a trio; at other times with only one partner.

Also at this time, Schabacher was able to pursue his interest in judging gymnastics. He judged in many cities around the United States while affiliated with the NCAA and the AAU. In addition to judging he also held a variety of officer positions within the AAU.

Always a busy man, Schabacher served as President of the United States Sports Acrobatics Federation, from 1975-1990. He served as a delegate to the International Federation of Sports Acrobatics (IFSA), and to the United States Olympic Committee. He chaired the IFSA Scientific Committee. All of this was done in conjunction with his duties as a high level Arizona State University administrator.

Schabacher has lived a busy and somewhat out of the ordinary life - but what W.A.S. member would have it any other way?

* -by Christopher Harley



Schabacher performs a handstand at a Marine Corps show.

Events Schedule June 13th - August 17th

Date	Event	Location
June 13-15	International Youth Diving Meet	Waldkraiburg, GER
June 14-15	Aggressive Skating World Tour Competition	Los Angeles, CA
June 14-15	Sea Doo Wakeboarding Tour Competition	Shreveport, LA
June 23-25	Hungarian Grand Prix (Diving)	Budapest, HUN
June 23-29	ESPN X Games (BMX Freestyle, Aggressive Skating, Skateboarding, Skysurfing, Wakeboarding, etc.)	San Diego, CA
June 26-29	USTA National Championships (Trampoline, Tumbling, Double Mini-Tramp)	Orlando, FL
June 27-29	Volksbank Diving Grand Prix	Vienna, AUT
June 28-29	U.S. Gymnastics Challenge -National Elite	Cincinnati, OH
June 30-July 5	Sr. Pan American Gymnastics Championships	Medellin, COL
July 4-6	Aggressive Skating World Tour Competition (Summer Fest)	Milwaukee, WI
July 12-13	Sea Doo Pro Wakeboarding Tour Competition	Hartford, CT
July 19-20	Aggressive Skating World Tour Competition	San Francisco, CA or Seattle, WA
July 19-20	International Gymnastics Junior Team Meet (Rhythmic)	TBD
July 24-27	U.S. Classic/National Gymnastics Festival (Women)	TBD
July 25-27	Aggressive Skating World Tour Competition	New York City, NY
July 29-Aug. 1	U.S. Sports Acrobatics National Championships	TBD
Aug. 1-3	Aggressive Skating World Tour Competition	Boston, MA
Aug. 2-3	Sea Doo Pro Wakeboarding Tour Competition	Sacramento, CA
Aug. 2-5	AAU Junior Olympics (Trampoline, Tumbling, Double Mini-Tramp)	Charlotte, NC
Aug. 5-10	Speedo National Junior Diving Championships	Austin, Texas
Aug. 7-17	World Games (Trampoline, Tumbling, Double Mini-Tramp)	Lahti, FIN

Acrobatic Organizations and Contact Information List

Aggressive Inline Skating

Aggressive Skaters Association
171 Pier Avenue, Suite 247
Santa Monica, CA 90405
(310) 399-3436
(310) 581-3552 (fax)
Website: <http://www.aggro skate.com>
email: asa@aggro skate.com

BMX Freestyle

World Wide Freestyle Federation (WWFF):
email: BMXPIMPS@aol.com
Website: <http://home.earthlink.net/~tailwhip/jinx.html>
(WWFF is a division of Massive MFG/Jinx Clothing Co.)

Cheerleading

American Association of Cheerleading Coaches and Advisors (AACC)
PO Box 508
Cordova, TN 38018-0508
(800) 533-6583
Website: <http://www.aacca.com>

National Cheerleaders Association (NCA)
P.O. Box 660359
Dallas, TX 75266-0359
(800) NCA-2-WIN

Universal Cheerleaders Association
P.O. Box 341609
Memphis, TN 38184-1609
(800) 328-5618
Website: <http://www.varsity.com/uca>

Diving

US Diving, Inc.
201 S. Capitol Ave.
Suite 430
Indianapolis, Indiana 46225
(317) 237-5252 (ph)
(317) 237-5257 (fax)
Executive Director: Todd Smith

US Masters Diving
(c/o US Diving, Inc.)

Freestyle Skiing

International Organizations-

The International Ski Federation
(Federation Internationale de Ski)
Blochastrasse 2
CH-3653 Oberkochen/Thunersee
Switzerland
41 (033) 244-6161 (ph)
41 (033) 242-5353 (fax)
Website:
<http://www.zip.com.au/~birdman/fis.html>
<http://www.zip.com.au/~birdman/freestyle.html> (FIS Freestyle Results
Archive: Includes latest results, schedules, emailing list, competition biographies, etc.)

United States-

US Skiing
P.O. Box 100
Park City, Utah 84060
(801) 649-9090 (ph)
(801) 649-3613 (fax)
Website: <http://www.uskiteam.com>
email: 103115.2062@compuserve.com
President, US Skiing: Nick Badami
Freestyle Program Manager:
Polly-Jo Clarke (801) 647-2046
email: 76516.3213@compuserve.com
USSA Freestyle Ski Head Coach:
Wayne Heltebrand
email: 71604.1077@compuserve.com
USSA Freestyle Ski Aerials Coach:
Bruce Erickson
USSA Acro Coach: Jeff Wintersteen
USSA Moguls Coach & Assistant Head Coach: Jeff Good

Gymnastics

International Gymnastics Federation (FIG)
Rue des Oeuches 10
case postale 359
2740 MOUTIER 1
Switzerland

International Associations-

Contact International Gymnastics Federation (FIG) or go directly to
Website: <http://www.usa-gymnastics.org/organization/fig-members.html> (for "snail" mail) or
<http://www.usa-gymnastics.org/organization> (for their online information)

United States-

USA Gymnastics
Pan American Plaza
201 S. Capitol
Suite 300
Indianapolis, IN 46225
Website: <http://www.usa-gymnastics.org/organization>
President: Kathy Scanlan

Professional Acrobatics

Cirque Du Soleil - Montreal
8400, 2nd Avenue
Montreal, Quebec, Canada
H1Z 4M6
(514) 722-2324
(514) 722-3692 (fax)
Website: <http://www.cirquedusoleil.com>
Andre Vallerand (Acrobatic Talent Scout):
104471.2624@compuserve.com

Karl Barry Artists
Website: <http://web.ukonline.co.uk/Members/kba.n/kba.htm>
email: Mo Matthews:kba.n@ukonline.co.uk
(United Kingdom)

Maxwell Associates
Norma Maxwell, Owner
7711 Collins Ave.
Miami Beach, FL 33141
(305) 866-6006
(305) 864-4100 (fax)

Pinnacle Productions
email: Ken Kovach:
njumpyee@warwick.net

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey
Tim Holst, Vice-President
Talent & Production
267 S. Tamiami Trail
Nokomis, FL 34275
(941) 484-9511
(941) 484-1283 (fax)

International Stunt Association
Website: <http://www.stuntnet.com/organization/isa.htm>

Skateboarding

Publications-

Transworld Skateboarding
Subscriptions Department TransWorld
SKATEboarding
PO Box 469006
Escondido, CA 92046
Editorial Office:
353 Airport Rd.
Oceanside, CA 92054
(619) 722-7777

Skydiving

United States Parachute Association
1440 Duke St.
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 836-3495
(703) 836-2843 (fax)
Website: <http://www.USPA.org>
email: uspa@uspa.org

Snowboarding

International Organizations-

The International Ski Federation
(Federation Internationale de Ski)
Blochastrasse 2
CH-3653 Oberkochen/Thunersee
Switzerland
41 (033) 244-6161 (ph)
41 (033) 242-5353 (fax)
Website: <http://www.zip.com.au/~birdman/fis.html>
<http://www.zip.com.au/~birdman/snowboard.html> (FIS Snowboard Results
Archive: Includes latest results, schedules, etc.)

United States-

US Skiing
P.O. Box 100
Park City, Utah 84060
(801) 649-9090 (ph)
(801) 649-3613 (fax)
Website: <http://www.uskiteam.com>
email: 103115.2062@compuserve.com
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73571.1552@compuserve.com
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Karen Salita
(801) 647-2097
Head Coach: Peter Foley
(503) 227-2472
email: 71736.403@compuserve.com
Half pipe Coach: Pete Del Guidice
(619) 924-2933
Alpine/Conditioning Coach:
Heath Van Aken

Sports Acrobatics

United States Sports Acrobatics Federation (USSAF)
Tonya Case-Patterson, President
PO Box 41356
Sacramento, CA 95841-0356
(USSAF Office Address same as above)

Trampoline/Tumbling/Double Mini-Tramp

International Organizations-

Federation Internationale De Trampoline (FIT)
Rue des Oeuches 10
Case Postale 359
2740 MOUTIER 1
Switzerland
Website: <http://www.worldsport.com/sports/trampoline/home.html>
President: Ron Froehlich

International Associations-

Contact the Federation Internationale De Trampoline at the following website:
<http://www.worldsport.com/sports/trampoline/home.html>

United States-

United States of America Trampoline & Tumbling (USATT)
PO Box 306
Brownfield, Texas 79316
(806) 637-8670
(806) 637-9046 (fax)
Website: <http://www.geocities.com/colossem/9196>
email: USATT@aol.com
Ann Simms, President

United States Trampoline & Tumbling Association (USTA)
National Office
300 East Oak Street
Kewanee, IL 61443
(309) 853-5253 (ph/fax)
Debbie Moser, President
1413 8th Avenue S.E.
Dyersville, IA 52040

AAU Trampoline & Tumbling
Jeanne Atkinson, National Chair
556 Beverly Hill
Waterloo, Iowa 50701
(319) 232-2760 (h)
(319) 233-9302 (o)

Wakeboarding

International Organizations-

World Wakeboard Association
P.O. Box 8400
Winter Park, FL 32790
(407) 628-5662
email: wakeboard@worldzine.com

A complete listing of all known acrobatic organizations and their contact information will soon be available in booklet form for W.A.S. members.



Can't Keep a Good Man Down

Risking frost bite to pursue his passion for acrobatics, John Deininger (President of Masters Diving) is seen above, indulging his "inner child".

The staff of this newsletter wish Deininger all the best in his pursuit of a sound mind and body.

W.A.S. President Gives Oath to Olympic Officials

Hobie Billingsley, W.A.S. President and 1996 Olympic Coach and Judge, had the honor of giving the Olympic Oath to Olympic Officials at the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta. The photo below shows Hobie, once again, being honored. At the "4th Annual Florida Workout" Hobie was presented with the "Living Legend" Award by former recipient, Bill Harris.



Former World Double Mini- Tramp Champion Goes to Hollywood, and Goes Bald!

Leigh Hennessey, 1976 and 1978 World Double Mini-Tramp Champion, recently completed work as Demi Moore's stuntdouble in the movie "GI Jane." The movie is about life in the military for a woman, and required that Demi (and Leigh) shave their heads! A member of numerous US teams, Leigh also won a silver medal in the 1976 World Synchronized Trampoline Championships.

Diving Coach Elected Coach of the Year by USOC

The US Olympic Committee named University of Southern California and Trojan Dive Club Diving Coach Jeff Shaffer as the 1996 USOC Developmental Coach of the Year.

This was the first year of USOC awards for coaches. Each Olympic sport selected a coach of the year in the elite and developmental divisions. Those coaches were then narrowed to the top five in each division by a vote of the nation's Olympic media. The winners were selected by a special USOC panel.

W.A.S. Member Developmental Coordinator for NIKE's Agro Skates

W.A.S. member, Steve Black, was recently hired by NIKE in the dual role of "Developmental Coordinator" and "Equipment Mechanical Test Coordinator." As Developmental Coordinator, Steve is developing NIKE's aggressive skates. He accumulates all of the design ideas and makes them a reality that is ready for production. As Equipment Mechanical Test Coordinator, Steve develops and runs the mechanical tests for the equipment division. These are tests that measure the mechanical parameters of finished products such as the stiffness of a snowboard or inline skate chassis, the breaking strength of a wheel or a snowboard binding. The purpose in many cases is to design products with a minimalist approach. NIKE wants strong, durable products without overbuilding (making a product too heavy or bulky). They also simulate the abuse that is seen in real life to test for potential failures or increase performance.

Steve recently graduated from the University of Oregon with a degree in Physics. While at the U of O, Steve was the Snowboarding Club Coach, and assisted with Trampoline classes. Also a talented aggressive inline skater and skateboarder, Steve was the "Technical Director" for Campus Skate, a local skate shop.

Champion Competitor and Coach of Champions Finds New Home Down Under

Frank Bare II has been selected as the Australian Olympic Aerial Ski Coach. Bare has won numerous World Titles in Aerial Skiing, as both an athlete and a coach.

Bare will be hosting the W.A.S. "Twisting Symposium" in Salt Lake City, Utah, in May.

Peaceful Warrior Earns Gold Yet Again

Dan Millman recently signed a lucrative contract with Time-Warner for his next book. A W.A.S. member, Millman was the Gold Medalist in the first World Trampoline Championships in 1964.

Millman is the nationally acclaimed author of the "Way of the Peaceful Warrior" book series.

Millman is pictured below with Lani Loken-Dahle at the "Fourth Annual Florida Workout" in Naples, FL.



1996 U S Olympic Diving Coach Retires

Legendary diving coach and W.A.S. member, Ron O'Brien, was selected as the 1996 Olympic Diving Coach, his 8th time in that position. Following the Olympics, O'Brien announced his retirement from coaching.

O'Brien will continue as U S Diving's Technical Director.

Nissen Appointed Honorary Chair of Senior Olympics

George Nissen, co-founder and owner of the Nissen Corporation, has been appointed Honorary Chairperson of the 1997 Senior Olympic Games.

Nissen is a member of the W.A.S. Board of Directors.

W.A.S. Member Re-Elected as U S Diving President

Steve McFarland, former outstanding diver and trampolinist, was recently re-elected for a second term as President of U S Diving.

Chuck Keeney

(continued from page 3)

staff as a volunteer assistant. His coaching skills were never more evident. He assisted such greats as Dan Millman, Sid Freudenstein, and Art Shurlock. He served as meet coordinator and announcer at all of the major gymnastics meets at UC Berkeley. He was also director of the Olympic trials in 1972 and 1976. These superb competitions were very popular with the local fans.

Keeney was a highly principled individual. He was a committed individual who was highly respected within the University. He was a friend to his gymnasts, and was a positive influence on many enthusiastic young gymnasts, as well as future champions. He served as President of the National Association of College Gymnastics Coaches, and as Chair of the NCAA Rules Committee.

Keeney had two coaching careers: The first from 1936 - 1957, and the second from 1973 - 1995. He coached his entire career without remuneration. He was always a full-time faculty member, with coaching as an additional assignment. He assisted with fund raising for the men's team when budget problems arose due to Title Nine laws. The dedication and personal sacrifice in the way of funds, time and energy to the Men's Gymnastics Program at UC Berkeley was considerable.

A man of all ages, a friend to young and old, Keeney could relate to everyone he came across. He lived through the depression years, and survived World War II. The difficult years helped to shape and strengthen him. His conviction to his ideals and fine moral standards were evident to all. He was a motivated man, and through his drive to succeed had a wonderful life and career. Those gymnasts who were on the team at the time of his passing will miss the way he would show up to practice every day and inspire them with his

presence, encouragement, and eternal smile. He will not be forgotten; not as an athlete, as a teacher, or as the great man that he was! *

by Hal Frey

Chuck Keeney's Successor at UC Berkeley (1957-1991)

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SUTHERLAND

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