

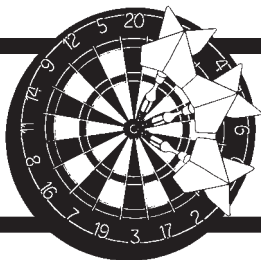
United We Stand!



**“What a Country!
I wonder what the poor people are doing.”**

— Jerry Hartwig (while playing darts, anytime.)

***Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of the
victims of terrorism on September 11, 2001.***



From the Oval Office

United We Stand

More than a month has passed since hijacked planes crashed into New York City, Washington D.C. and Pennsylvania. We are all still shocked at what seemed impossible. We all share in the grief of those who lost loved ones in the tragedy. I'm sure as you read this, the events concerning the acts of terrorism are still fresh in your mind. Isn't it odd that September 11th is 911, the start of league play and the date of my surgery. What a coincidence.

Friday, September 14th is also a date to note as the TCDA made the front page of the Variety Section of the Star Tribune. Among the duties of the ADO Rep. and Tournament Director, Mike Anderson found time to arrange for the story, "Hitting the Mark". We thank Mike, staff writer John Liu and photographer Tom Sweeney for a great job in their respective fields. We couldn't have asked for more and it is our honest desire that we have promoted darts in the TCDA in a most positive way.



INTERMISSION AT THE CAPTAIN'S MEETING

We had a good turnout at our first Tournament of Champions in August. We invited John Liu and Tom Sweeney who came and made the most of their visit. If you were alert you would also have spotted Bob Wirth and our good friend Stan Wartman close by. Good to see you Bob. As luck would have it, Mike had to be in Ohio at this time so it fell to workhorse Sharon to do her usual swell job of running the tournament. Her assistants were Margo and Karen Blades of Buffalo Tap. Setting up was done as usual by the esteemed Johnny Hubbard and his able assistant Kris Kirkendoll. I don't have the names of others who may have pitched in so thanks anyhow and know we appreciated what you did.



CAPTAIN'S MEETING STRATEGY QUARTET
(NOTE THE EAVESDROPPER)

You will recall that we had the Captain's meeting on September 4th at the Little Wagon. Thanks to our good friend Tommy Dunne for making the arrangements and thanks to the pub for showing us a good time. We covered the usual business of interest to Captains and were encouraged to practice good sportsmanship with a rousing speech by our good V.P. Peter Jirik.

It's always nice to hear from old friends, especially when it concerns darts. Though you might like to read the following that came to me on our web site (see page 7).

"From the Oval Office" continued on page 2

"From the Oval Office" continued.

While I'm at it, I hope you were able to attend the annual Awards Dinner held on October 20th at the Golden Valley VFW. Aaron Niznik, Manager, planned another swell dinner for us and made it a night to remember. More on the Dinner and the Banquet Tournament in the next issue of the Bull & Ton.

Good darting,
Charles



BOARD MEMBERS AT THE SEPTEMBER 2001 MEETING
(HARD AT WORK) OH YEAH!

REAL LIFE ADVENTURES by Wise & Aldrich



Our thoughts and sympathy are with Johnny Hubbard and his family with the recent death of Johnny's father.

Our thoughts and sympathy are also with Tommy Dunne and his family with the recent death of Tommy's father, Tommy Dunne Sr.

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Fall 2001 Captain's Meeting

September 4th we held our Fall captains meeting. As always, a tournament followed that was a very evenly matched competition. The top places were as follows:

- 1st Johnny Hubbard & Dave Blake
- 2nd George Peters & Kevin Christenson
- 3rd Jeff Hafner & Mike Anderson



1ST PLACE - JOHNNY AND DAVE



2ND PLACE - GEORGE AND KEVIN



3RD PLACE - JEFF AND MIKE

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Seize the moment!

That's what many TCDA'ers came to do on August 28th, 2001. It was the Second Annual Invitational Tournament of Champions. The event was held for teams that finished in 1st or 2nd Place during the Spring/Summer/Fall 2000 and Spring 2001. Host location this year was American Legion Post #1 in Minneapolis.



1ST PLACE - KRIS AND JASON

It was fun to see the darters from all the different divisions in the TCDA congregating for an evening of darts...and a great evening of darts it turned out to be! In addition to the 32 who participated in the event, many others came to cheer them on and help chalk. TCDA honorary life-long member Bob Wirth also came to join in the festivities. To add to the excitement, a reporter and a photographer from the Star Tribune were there doing a story on Charles Stutz, the TCDA and steel darts.

After the pairings were drawn and completed, Sharon Lohmar set up the tournament bracket sheet and the matches began. All matches were 2 out of 3 legs and the tournament was double elimination (with the stipulation that if the hour was getting late, Canadian knockout would be used in the middle rungs of the Losers Bracket). Payout was 100% of the \$5.00 entry fees, plus the TCDA added \$200 to the monies paid out.

As the tournament began, it was obvious that there would be terrific matches and great darts throughout the night. No one had lost "the knack" over the summer months. Darters were paired with others they may or may not have known previously, which added to the fun. There was no doubt that everyone was having a good time, whether participant or spectator.

And more great news...it was approximately midnight when the final match for First Place was completed (and there was no need for Canadian knockout during the entire tournament). Believe it or not, there was still a crowd to applaud and congratulate the finalists when the tournament ended.



2ND PLACE - TOMMY AND PERRY

Speaking of finalists, here is a list of the Top 8 winners.....CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

- | | |
|---------|---------------------------------|
| 1st | Kris Kirkendoll & Jason Stevens |
| 2nd | Tommy Dunne & Perry Daniels |
| 3rd | Gene Boivin & Crystal Ray |
| 4th | Kevin "KJ" Jones & Margo Ulrich |
| 5th-8th | Gean Halstead & Dan Hefferman |
| | John Josephson & Dick Sorensen |
| | Jeff Hafner & Brian Weiman |
| | Mike Hennen & Mike Raab |

There was also a "High Out" sheet set up for the event, with Jason Clark emerging victorious and taking home the winnings.

Without question, everyone who played in the tournament was a winner....which certainly showed in the caliber of matches played all night. Congratulations to all!



3RD PLACE - CRYSTAL AND GENE

Special thanks go to the great personnel at Post #1, who hosted our tournament and added to the success of the event. Thank you to John Hubbard and Kris Kirkendoll who set up all the standards, lights and dart boards (not an easy job)...and thank you also o all the members of the team "Once Again," who were there to help with anything that needed to be done throughout the course of the evening (from registration to take-down). With all of your help, we had a successful tournament.

Looking forward to the next Invitational Tournament of Champions (3rd Annual). Hope to see you there!!!! ☺



5TH THRU 8TH PLACE - GEAN AND DAN



5TH THRU 8TH PLACE - DICK AND JOHN



5TH THRU 8TH PLACE - JEFF AND BRIAN



4TH PLACE - MARGO AND KEVIN



5TH THRU 8TH PLACE - MIKE AND MIKE (SEEING DOUBLE?)

Vice Presidential Corner (or full page, whatever)

Fellow Darters:

A piece of TCDA history. Shooting against Parthian Shot recently made me think about this obscure piece of ancient TCDA history. Many moons ago the only way to get your name on the back of the score sheet was to shoot a score of 100 (commonly known as a "ton") or better. From time to time there would be scattered rumblings from those darters unable to overcome the gravitational forces necessary to shoot at the top of the board, location of the highest number, where one could hit an honest ton. Ninety-Five is just as good as One Hundred they would say (apparently they were mathematically challenged as well as gravitationally challenged). We should put Ninety-Fives on the back of the sheet they would wail. Most self-respecting darters ignored these wayward ones and the whining would subside. Then, magically, appeared a leader for these Ninety-Fivers. They marveled at the fact that, unbelievably, this Chosen One's name could be spelled and pronounced identically forward or backward. Bob they called him, (or boB). Mr. Bob Larson, leader of the Ninety-Fivers. He led the drive for the back of the sheet. He started a nonviolent campaign of excessive whining. Meeting after meeting after meeting after meeting after meeting, there was Bob (or boB) pleading for the Ninety-Fivers, begging for the Ninety-Fivers, whining for the Ninety-fivers. He never tired. His following grew. Others joined with his chorus. Soon the Hafnerites joined the whine procession. Then others. Ninety-Five, Ninety-Five, Ninety-Five! The din became unbearable. No real business could be done. Gandhi would have been proud of them. Finally, realizing the inevitable, the Wise and Benevolent TCDA Board granted the request. From that time forward a throw of only Ninety-five would be necessary for the hallowed back of the sheet. The only remaining problem was a name for this less than One Hundred throw. Many names were considered. Mini-ton, minor-ton and whiner-ton were all rejected. Hafneroni received minimal consideration. I need go no further. You all know by now that this is the story of the birth of the Larsonette. Go forth and be happy all you Ninety-Fivers. By the way, is a 57 a Baby Bob?

Be Good and Dart Well!

The Veep

Bull & Ton Staff

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Photography: Charles Stutz Jr. and Margo Ulrich; League Secretary: Sharon Fleming; Macintosh Publishing: Tom Cushing; Printing: Unisys, Printing Dept., St. Paul, MN; Distribution: Jeff Hafner

Bull & Ton is produced quarterly by the Twin City Darts Association. You may contact the B & T by writing to: Box 583133, Minneapolis, MN 55458-3133. www.twincitydarts.com

The E-mail Message

Hello Charlie,

I saw the article in the Star Tribune on Sept. 14 and was amazed to see you on the cover! Way to go. A real live celebrity that I know!!! I didn't realize that the TCDA was still alive and kicking. It sounds like there is still quite a bit of activity. I think it was some time in 1974/5 that we got started with you guys. Still have those old wooden darts that you were so good with? I still have one of the original sets of nails that I think I could still beat quite a few people with. I get them out from time to time here in the basement. Ever since we moved west of the cities we have kind have lost contact with most of the old regulars. This past weekend we had a long visit with Mike Rice and caught up on a lot of things. He said he very seldom talks with Ed or Sally in Vegas but that last spring they were in town for a son's wedding.

Do you believe that I still carry my original TCDA membership card in my wallet! You never know when you might need it. If there's anyone still playing that I might have known, please say Hi from Ted and Debbie harper and good luck to you all at staying active for so long a time. Mug's away!!!

Ted and Debbie Harper

tharper1@gte.net



ADO Regional Playoffs

Regional playoffs will be held October 19th at Castle Pub in North St. Paul at 7:30. You could qualify to win a free trip to Texas in January 2002 to play the national championships. For more information call our club ADO Rep. Margo at (612) 825-9112.



Magic Coin?

by Jeff Hafner

It was Tuesday August 28th. The occasion was the Tournament of Champions. Many a fine darter had assembled at Legion Post #1. The mood was festive as friends caught up with news of the summers events, and dusted off their darts from what, for many, had been months of neglect. Things were moving along as usual, everyone appeared to be having a good time. Then a strange thing occurred. Someone pulled a gold coin from their pocket to flip for the diddle. It sailed through the air, end over end. But when it landed, it was neither heads nor tails. There it sat, on edge for all to see. Was it a trick? Had we slipped into the Twilight Zone? Where was Mr. Ripley? Believe it... or not! ●



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