

# BULL & TON

TWIN CITY DARTS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

# Back in the ADO.

**THE TCDA IS ONCE AGAIN A MEMBER OF THE  
AMERICAN DARTS ORGANIZATION. SEE STORY INSIDE.**

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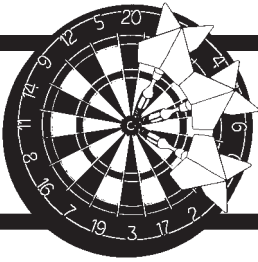
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## FROM THE OVAL OFFICE

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I would like you to know again, I will always have wonderful memories of October 9, 1999, our 25th Anniversary Banquet. My thanks to all who made it possible. You were great.

You will recall we had the History of the TCDA by Founder and Executive Director Ed Otjen. Although Ed will not be adding to our history, I would like to hear from a member who is interested in bringing our history up to date. I know it is work, but just think of how gratifying it would be for the member who takes on the assignment. Let me hear from you, okay.

It is now July 5th meeting and I can tell you the fireworks were great on TV from New York, Washington and locally. Hope you have a wonderful vacation, safe and happy. Keep in mind and on your calendar the Captain's meeting is Tuesday, September 5th at American Legion Post #1.

The TCDA Awards Dinner is Saturday, September 30th, 2000, at the Golden Valley VFW.

I'll take a moment to thank Jan Van Oppen for a great job he did while a member of the Board. We will miss him but know his personal life comes first so we truly wish him the best and know we can count on seeing him again on the Board.

With the above in mind, let me say how happy I am to know that Jan is being replaced with Jan Anderson. Jan is a long time member who comes

with excellent credentials in the TCDA. We are all happy to welcome her to the Board. As you will see later in this issue she is already busy.

To keep you up to date and hope your plans will include dates with coming tournaments, I am happy to say that we are once again members of the ADO thanks to the effort of Mike Anderson who was recently unanimously elected ADO Regional Director.

To keep you informed, I'm glad to say that Divisional Advisor Mike Morson is working with the Board to develop a Web Site for the TCDA. More to come as plans gel. Thanks Mike.

Let me take a moment to say thanks to Sharon for the great job she did with the latest mailing covering the Calendar of Upcoming Events, the Election Ballot, the Final Standings and the promotion of the Summer League. Good job Sharon.

I'm happy to say thanks to all of the Division Advisors for their cooperation in taking the time to report on their respective Mid-League Tournaments. It isn't always easy to take the time out of your busy daily life to sit down and write. You all did a great job and with the photos it was good reporting. Keep up the good work.

Stutz Bearcat looking forward to Division "A".  
Good Darting

Charles



## **AMERICAN DART ORGANIZATION**

by Bob Marley

Welcome back to the American Dart Organization (ADO).

The TCDA is one again a member of the ADO.

Sunday, July 23rd, 2000 was the first chance to qualify for the ADO Regionals. The tournament was held at Castle Pub, hosted by Bard who provided the treats to go with the beverages. The round robin was managed by our new ADO representative, Jan Anderson. She is to be congratulated for a job well done. And the winner was David Jankowski of the Stutz Bearcat. Congratulations, David, you are the first and we want to wish you the best at the Regionals.

Upcoming will be several more tournaments which will let many of our members go to the Regionals and could qualify them for some National events. Hopefully, we will have a large membership turnout for these events.

As our new ADO Representative, Jan Anderson will help in setting up our local tournaments. Our newly elected Regional Director is Mike Anderson. Mike will also be helping Jan with

local tournaments along with setting up the Regional playoffs.

If you have any questions, please call either of us for more information. Mike - 612-529-2244, Jan 763-753-1936.

We hope to have a tournament in September. Please call for more information if you are interested in playing in the tournament.

Let's see if we can send some players to a National event. ●



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**FIRST EVER TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS, THE MISSING PHOTOS**

*Sorry that we overlooked  
the following pictures of  
the winners at the  
TCDA's First Annual  
Tournament of Champions  
as reported in the last  
Bull & Ton.*



## VICE-PRESIDENTIAL CORNER

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by Peter Jirik

Hello Fellow Darters! While I was sitting around waiting for my Captain to call I was thinking about how much I enjoy throwing darts in the TCDA (on those rare occasions where my team is willing to accept the guaranteed losses I will have) and it occurred to me that while there are many people who help the TCDA to function as an organization there really are two people who truly go above and beyond the call of duty year after year after year. Many of you will already know that I refer to TCDA President Charles Stutz and TCDA Secretary Sharon Lohmar. Let's face it folks, without everything Sharon and Charles do we don't have a functioning league. Charles and Sharon put in more hours on TCDA matters than many of us put in at our jobs. Year after year after year Charles and Sharon keep on doing all of the things that need to be done to keep the TCDA functioning smoothly. Next time you see them, why not let them know that their efforts are greatly appreciated.

THANKS CHARLES!! THANKS SHARON!!

Historical Note: Gene Mauch, Bill Buckner, the Polish Cavalry in WWII, Conesco's purchase of Greentree, and an unnamed member of my team (Mrk Wegmi\_ler)!! What is this list you ask? Everyone on this list had a chance at greatness; their destiny and the destiny of others was in their hands and they failed miserably. Let's just say that my unnamed teammate needs a Viagra supplement for his darts. Second place by one point and our self-proclaimed "Ace" goes 0 for the last few weeks. Hard to throw darts with both hands around your neck!

(Of course no one else on the team remembers losing any points themselves. Age and the selective memory it brings can be great things!)

That's all for now! Be good and throw well! ●

## IDEAS FOR INCREASING MEMBERSHIP

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by Jeff Hafner

The TCDA has, for years now, tried to solve the problem of how to increase our membership. Many programs have been tried but the usual result is that when we are contacted by prospective members, we can't place them with an existing team and they end up falling through the cracks so to speak.

We are presently considering the start up of a singles league. One suggestion is to have a nine-point format, three legs of 501, three legs of 301 and three legs of cricket. Points would be earned by winning legs and players would rise or fall in the standing according to how they fare, eventually ending at a level with other players of similar ability. In this way the league could be open to all members with new members being averaged into the standings at any time.

For current members it could be an avenue to sharpen your game or maybe find a new player for your team. For people interested in joining the TCDA it would be a great way to get them involved and give them an opportunity to meet current members. Hopefully, this could lead them to finding a team to join or meeting enough new members to form a team of their own.

We would like to hear from anyone interested in participating in such a league or from anyone who has suggestions along these lines. Probable start time for the league would be fall. Anyone interested can contact the TCDA through Jeff Hafner at 651-482-0425 or e-mail your ideas to [vagabonddarts@yahoo.com](mailto:vagabonddarts@yahoo.com). ●

## **SPRING CLASSIC AA MID-LEAGUE**

by Johnny Hubbard, Classic AA Advisor

The Classic AA Mid Season Tournament was held at Legends Cafe. The teams were evenly matched and with some well thrown darts and with everyone enjoying themselves the games had began.

Luck of the Draw Double Elimination with everyone chasing the high out, which Kris Kirkendoll took out in the very first match with a Ton Forty-Nine.

1st: Scott Mattsen & Kris Kirkendoll

2nd: Geno Boivin & Bob Mielke

3rd: Jeff Zimmerman & Tommy Dunne

I would like at this time to thank the TCDA for their donation to the tournament and to the members that participated and helped run the tournament and to Legends for having us there. ●

## **SPRING CLASSIC A MID-LEAGUE**

by Jeff Hafner.

The Mid-League Tournament for Classic A League was held at Castle Pub on the 7th of March, 2000. A small group of ten players representing five of the eight teams assembled that night. Although the size of the group was small, the intensity was high and the competition was keen. Many of the matches were very close and could have gone either way. When the dust had settled though, it was the team of Dave Blake and Greg Oldencamp taking the top prize.

Coming in second was the team of Roy Dahl and Jeff Hafner with the team of Brandon Dahl and Scott Miller coming in a close third. All ten players had entered in a high out contest which was won by Dave Blake with a high out of 75. Thanks to everyone who came and made it such a fun night and a special thanks to Jerry Deegan who showed up with the intention of only playing if he made it an even number but stayed long enough to chalk the first match for us even though he didn't stay to play. ●





## **SPRING CLASSIC B MID-LEAGUE**

The weather was great and the darters were greater. On a balmy March 7th night (yes...March 7th), Classic B Division players entered the Little Wagon for the Mid-League Tournament and prepared for the night's competition. Several teams were represented, Rusty Covers, Down 'n Out, Pittbulls and the Straight Arrows.

Sharon Lohmar ran the tournament, allowing Dick Sorensen (the new Divisional Advisor) an opportunity to play.

After some exciting tight-scoring matches, Dick and partner met elimination, allowing them to help run the remainder of the tourney.

It then came to the point where the dynamic duo of Mike and Carmen Lamminen found themselves face-to-face as opponents in the semi-finals. Carmen and partner Brian Nass succumbed to the darts of Mike and his teammate Paul Harfield, who eventually garnered 3rd Place.

When the smoke cleared (which it never really did), Brian Kraft and Mark Wegmiller took most of the prize money for 1st Place, beating Perry Daniels and Charles Cunningham (2nd Place).

Hospitality rules at the Little Wagon. Thank you for the half-time drinks, and our special thanks to the staff for always promoting our sport and encouraging us all along the way.

The night ended early enough to have a drinking and joke telling session (which we would never do during serious darts!).





## DARTS SHINE AT THE GOLD DIVISION MID-LEAGUE TOURNEY

A night out at darts is always fun in the Gold Division and the premium darts were indeed out on March 9th.

Twenty-four darters showed up at the Little Wagon for the Mid-League Tourney, ready and rarin' to play.

Names were drawn and the matches began. Almost all matches went to 3 legs, with each team determined to take home "a piece of the pot."

So much talent!!!! Some of the regular customers even came in to check out the action.

After our half-time drinks (compliments of the Little Wagon) and many more trips to the oche line for all competitors, the semi-finals and finals were underway.

Each match again went 3 legs with nail-biting finishes right down to the last dart thrown.

And the Top four teams emerged:

1st: Dave Ciaciura and Chris Williams

2nd: Dave Lawrence and Daryl Ware

3rd: Brad Bannister and Crystal Ray

4th: Bill Marengo and  
Donn Vellekson

Congratulations!

Thanks should go to the Little Wagon staff for their hospitality, always making us feel welcome, especially top-notch mixologist (and great resident darter) Mile Oliver, affectionately known as "Ollie".

Again, congratulations to all the winners and to everyone who participated. Even if it wasn't in the cards to garner 1st Place that night, I know that every darter had a good time and an awesome night of darts.



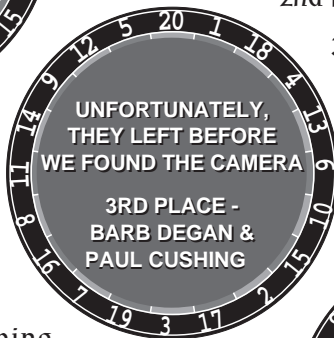
## SIX PAIR TO DRAW TO, NOTHING WILD!

by Mike Morson, Divisional Advisor,  
Photos thanks to Pierre Burtnick

No, it wasn't a poker game, and only occasionally were there any jokers in the deck. We're talking about the big Classic C Mid-League Tournament here, which took place at the Top Hat Lounge this past March 7th. The pair of "Aces" for the night were Pierre Burtnick and Andrew Morson who went through the ranks undefeated to take home the First Place money. Thanks to the TCDA's contribution towards the purse, Andrew and Pierre went home with \$25.00 each - not bad for a \$5.00 investment

With just a little "convincing", we got 12 players names in the hat and were under way by 8:00 o'clock.

Ron Pfau, Steve Weidner and Dave Burton came from the Pointer Brothers, Andrew Morson and Lyndsey Lang represented the Dugouts, Mark Wojciak and Pierre Burtnick signed up from GAC, Tom and Paul Cushing entered from the Stick It! team and representing the host team from the Top Hat were Rawhide's own Jules, Barb Degan and Barb Tellin. Quite a bunch to draw to!



One commendable thing about Classic C players is worth pointing out here - everyone has a full night of FUN whenever we meet on a Tuesday night to play darts and this night was no exception. ●



By the time the last dart was thrown, the top four winning teams were as follows:

1st Place - Andrew Morson & Pierre Burtnick

2nd Place - Tom Cushing & Steve Weidner

3rd Place - Barb Degan & Paul Cushing

4th Place - Lyndsey Lang & Ron Pfau

As official tournament direction (with a lot of help from Barb Tellin and others), I can personally attest to the fact that Good Sportsmanship prevailed throughout the night.

## CASTLE PUB FUN LEAGUE

by Pete Franco

The Castle Pub Fun League Mid Summer Dart Tournament was held on March 8, 2000.

First Place winners were Tim Wennermark from the Triple X and John McGehee from Team #2 - \$52.00.

Second Place winners were Paul Harfield from the Whoo Team and Kevin Radue from Triple X - \$42.00.

Third Place winners were Steve Schneider from the Flyboys and Dave Swanson from the Flyboys - \$26.00.

Fourth Place winners were Sue Airhart from the Tap Team and Allen Sukow from the Blockheads - \$12.00.

Other players were Debbie Plan from Tap and Josh Bohnback from the Flyboys. John Tuller from the Blockheads and Barb Tellin from Tap. Charlie Swanson from the Blockheads and Dick Stinger from the Whoo. Jesse Henning from the Flyboys and Mike Hilleshein from the Bloodshots.

All in all it was a very good turnout with all teams having representation. Congratulations to the winners, and to all who participated.

The Spring Season is coming to an end. Hope everyone has a good summer and will see you all in the fall. ●

## HIGHWAY LENGTH

*Question: Which is the Longest Highway in Minnesota?*

*Answer: It is Highway 75 which runs 409.73 miles from the Iowa/Minnesota border south of Luverne to the Canadian border northwest of Hallock.*

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CLOSELY AT THE PLAYERS'**

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(from *The Times* in the United Kingdom)

For the spectator, the joys of darts are quite simple. "Ted, you require 40," says the referee into a microphone. Then comes a brief silence, a meaningful thud and a big cheer. And that's it. The thud is the dart hitting the board in the requisite double-top segment, you see. You'll get the hang of this as we proceed. Best not to run before you can walk.

So if you can just imagine yourself in a large, packed, artificially lit function room in deepest Surrey on a Saturday afternoon, alongside a couple of thousand darts fans in funny T-shirts who can miraculously calculate  $3 \times 17$  plus  $3 \times 19$  plus 50 without a sheet of paper, I'll do the rest. Just one more thing.

Sometimes there is a variation to the nail-biting tension when the referee says: "Ted, you require 40," and there are three thuds, arranged in the following manner: thud, sharp gasp (missed it); thud, even sharper gasp (missed it); thud, groan, burst of hysterical yelling (missed again).

What delicious agony darts is. All these years I had it bracketed as light entertainment. All these years I laughed at the idea of it having "finer points". This game has tension and skill and even a certain amount of beauty, if you don't look too closely at the players. But the main thing is, it has absolutely no problem straddling the line between entertainment and serious contest.

Saturday afternoon at Frimley Green's Lakeside Country Club saw both semi-finals of the world darts championship, and I have to say that it was a great sporting occasion, with not only one perfect, graceful victory (Ronnie Baxter against Co Stompe from The Netherlands), but one absolutely

superb fight-for-life comeback (Ted Hankey against Chris Mason) that was immediately acknowledged as "the greatest game of darts ever seen at the Lakeside".

True, I am naturally predisposed to any sport that takes place indoors in the warm, especially where you can sit at a table among larky Dutch people and eat high-cholesterol food. And true, the whole thing was on the telly anyway. But if BBC Sport can give the world darts championship coverage roughly equivalent to Wimbledon, I don't see why I shouldn't.

So what that it's a pub game played by lard-butts? Hankey's astonishing ultimate defeat of Mason still very much resembled a Borg-McEnroe five-setter. In fact, it was a bit more dignified, if anything, because there are no problematic line-calls in darts. The player hits or misses, narrows his eyes and carries on.

This mature ability to face facts is, I should say, the darts player's principal claim to sporting respect. Also, unlike in cricket, throwing is not illegal. Between you and me, it is positively encouraged.

Luckily, what I didn't know until after the first semi-final was Hankey's date of birth, because in the No 5 seed's game against the ambitious, unseeded Mason, we seemed to have a classic contest between old gunslinger and young whipper-snapper, John Wayne v Montgomery Clift. Hankey is balding, pale and doesn't smile. He wears loose black shirts with "The Count" printed on the back, enters in a cheap cape, distributes vampire paraphernalia to fans, and generally affects consanguinity with Dracula. He appears to

be of the same generation as my dad. He is, in fact, 31.

Meanwhile, Mason is 30, so bang goes that idea. But this broad-Bristolian speaker ("The Prince of Dartness") was still very much the junior in the contest, since he was unseeded for the tournament, and began the week by beating the nice Dutch reigning champion, Raymond Barneveld, and pledging to win the title.

All week, Mason made immature and decidedly charmless statements about his opponents, which reinforced this sense of youthful explosiveness - he was juvenile yet bullying, baby-faced yet tattooed. Remember Pinkie in Brighton Rock? I'll say no more. On the plus side, it was quite good to see a sportsman who clearly has received no media training. But on the minus, it was worrying to imagine how he would adjust to defeat, were it ever to present itself.

So this was the line-up for the match. It was a best of nine, and Mason led from the start, principally because he was better at finishing. Despite an astonishing consistency with the 180s from Hankey (he scored 22 of them, a record), the relentless Kid was 3-1 up at the interval. When Old Man Hankey retrieved a set, making it 3-2, the Kid responded with a deadly run of unanswerable play to go 4-2. Hankey looked out of it. He appeared to be dwindling.

Perhaps some natural daylight had seeped into the room. His head sweated. At one point, he reached into his open-necked shirt and adjusted his medalion. I didn't know he was 31. I thought he was a poor old soul.

But just when Mason looked unbeatable, Hankey fought back. He put pressure on Mason, who began to make mistakes and talk to himself. Thud, thud, thud, hoorah. What a cruel sound that can be. Especially when your opponent is breaking records. The audience were on their feet applauding as Ted "True Grit" Hankey won the seventh set, and the eighth, pulling level at 4-4.

By this time, the Kid was rattled. He threw wildly and talked to himself even more. Suddenly he was trailing. In the final set, Ted won the first leg, and the second. In fact, hang on, how did that happen - Ted required only 45 to win the match. We held our breath. He shot a five, and then missed the double 20 with two darts. Aargh. This gave Mason a chance but, likewise, he blew it.

People in the audience were dancing in agony. Ted tried for the double 20 again. He got a single. Eek. He tried for the double 10, and got a single. He tried for the double five. The world stood still. He got it.

They played the Bee Gees' Tragedy for the benefit of Mason, who was openly in tears. On the BBC, he writhed sulkily in his seat and told Garry Richardson: "I was the best player here this week, but my name wasn't on the pot."

Meanwhile, Hankey presumably retired to his silk-lined coffin, in preparation for the final yesterday. Honestly, though, it was a great game of darts. It is just unfortunate that if you put the words "great" and "darts" in the same sentence, it seems you can never quite get away with it. ●



## CARE FOR SOME INTERESTING TRIVIA?

1. The first couple to be shown in bed together on prime time television were Fred and Wilma Flintstone.
2. Coca-Cola was originally green.
3. Every day more money is printed for Monopoly than the U.S. Treasury.
4. Men can read smaller print than women; women can hear better.
5. The state with the highest percentage of people who walk to work: Alaska.
6. The percentage of Africa that is wilderness: 28%.
7. The percentage of North America that is wilderness: 38%.
8. The cost of raising a medium-size dog to the age of eleven: \$6,400.
9. The average number of people airborne over the U.S. and given hour: 61,000.
10. Intelligent people have more zinc and copper in their hair.
11. The world's youngest parents were 8 and 9 and lived in China in 1910.
12. The youngest Pope was 11 years old.
13. The first novel ever written on a typewriter: Tom Sawyer.
14. San Francisco cable cars are the only mobile National Monuments.
15. Each king in a deck of playing cards represents a great king from history:  
Spades - King David  
Hearts - Charlemagne  
Clubs - Alexander the Great  
Diamonds - Julius Caesar
16.  $111,111,111 \times 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987,654,321$
17. "I am." is the shortest complete sentence in the English language.
18. Hershey's Kisses are called that because the machine that makes them looks like it's kissing the conveyor belt.
19. No NFL team which plays its home games in a dome stadium has ever won a Superbowl.
20. The only two days of the year in which there are no professional sports games (MLB, NBA, NHL, or NFL) are the day before and the day after the Major League All-Star Game.
21. What occurs more often in December than any other month? Conception.
22. Half of all Americans live within 50 miles of what? Their birthplace.
23. Most boat owners name their boats. What is the most popular name requested? Obsession.
24. If you were to spell out numbers, how far would you have to go before you would find the letter "A"?  
One Thousand.

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**ENGLISH IS A STRANGE LANGUAGE**

We polish the Polish furniture.  
He would lead if he would get the lead out.  
A farm can produce produce.  
The dump was so full it had to refuse refuse.  
The soldier decided to desert in the desert.  
The present is a good time to present the present.  
At the army base, a bass was painted on the head  
of a bass drum.  
The dove dove into the bushes.  
I did not object to the object.  
The insurance for the invalid was invalid.  
The bandage was wound around the wound.  
They were too close to the door to close it.  
A buck does funny things when does are present.



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