

THE BLOCKADE RUNNER

volume one, number one, March, 1995

Charleston Welcomes New Underwater Hockey Club

During a ceremony in the grand lowcountry tradition, Charleston welcomed the most celebrated underwater hockey team in the world. The ceremony was held at a tavern on the out skirts of the historic downtown district. The warm atmosphere proved to be an ideal catalyst for a reaction that rivals the making of the Constitution of the United States.

Six patrons and one bar tender at Mustangs bar, witnessed the creation of Charleston's newest dynamic association. There is no doubt that December 1994, is inscribed in the annals of lowcountry history. Sweet libation was enjoyed among the team as Pat "the persuader" Harris officiated the ceremony. Seated upon two opposing sofas of supple pastel blue vinyl and next to a propane fire, each team member was bestowed a duty of honor. Pat, the self declared president bestowed upon Andy "the wall" Bury the honorable position of vice president. "Dangerous" Dave Wyanski is the official finance minister. Rob "Lefty" Bush was designated secretary, and editor in chief of the team's newsletter. Other positions of honorable mention are: Tony "Fabio" Houk, director of entertainment, and John "4 Runner" Peterson as equipment manager. "Lovely" Lynn Harris will be in charge of new recruits.

Upon completion of duty announcements, the meeting was adjourned at Mustangs, and moved to an undisclosed location for the consummatory event.

NEWS FROM THE NET

There is concern today throughout the uwhockey world about eye safety. Are the standard tempered glass lenses adequate? Many players think not. There have been several recent accidents that have caused good reason for concern. Although none of the injuries resulted in the loss of an eye, medical attention was required (to stitch 'em up).

There is some help for the concerned uwhockey player! Mark Nakamura from San

Diego is manufacturing polycarbonate lenses. All you have to do is make a tracing of your original glass lens, and send it to Mark. The cost is ten US dollars for a set of lenses, and five dollars shipping and handling. You might want to include the type of mask the lens is from, that way Mark can make a template to have for future reference. You can send your tracing to Mark Nakamura 5974 Stadium St. San Diego, Ca. 92122.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 17-19: West Palm Beach, Florida. Warm-up is 6-8:00 p.m. Fri. 17th. Tournament play is 8:30am-6:00pm Sat. and Sun. Cost \$60.00 per team. Deadline for entry February 17, 1995. Info on hotels, banquet, and camp-o-rama to be announced later.

April 8: West St. Paul, Minnesota. 10:00am-5:00pm. Entry deadline February 28.

April 14-16: Calgary Annual Easter Tournament & Ski-o-Rama. Fri. April 14, Skill and Ref clinics, uwfootball demo. Sat & Sun. 15-16, tournament. Mon. 17- Wed. 19 Ski-o-Rama in Banff. Register by March 7, 1995.

June 1-4: 1995 US Nationals Championships, Columbus, Ohio.

October 13-15: PCC's in Vancouver



A CALL FOR ARTICLES



The staff of the Blockade Runner is on an unending search for new information to present to its readers. If there are any readers/ players that have ideas relating to underwater hockey, they are welcomed to submit an article for publication in the news letter. Topics may range from playing techniques, ideas for fitness and breath control, stick style or club events.

UNDERWATER HOCKEY WHAT IT AM AND WHAT IT AIN'T

by Lynn Harris

Whenever you tell someone you play underwater hockey, the typical response is "HUH!?!?" Believe it or not, it is a real game, and we have lots of fun playing it - right here in Charleston at the St. Andrews Family Recreation Center. All you need to play is a pair of fins, mask, snorkel, (a swimsuit would be useful too!) and a willingness to learn something new. We will be happy to loan you some gear and provide all the training you need to get going.

Underwater hockey originated in South Africa sometime between 1954 and 1956 as a way for SCUBA divers and free divers to stay in shape during the off season. It has evolved tremendously since then, and now has a semi - annual world competition, supported by about ten countries. Several tournaments are held around the US each year, including a national championship tournament. The Charleston Blockade Runners have been represented at Nationals since 1992.

A hockey team consists of ten players - six in the water and four substitutes on the pool side. In the US the sport is mostly coed, with most women easily competing against most men. A three pound plastic coated lead puck is moved around the bottom of the pool using a short (about 18 inches) wood stick, with the objective of pushing and passing it between teammates until a goal is scored. Team strategies are quite fluid, although position playing is very important - as there is no way to communicate underwater. The game emphasizes timing and positioning, with breathholding being of secondary importance. Most people, when they first hear about the game, think that you have to be able to hold your breath forever to play. However, being in the right place at the right time is more important, and means you only spend five to eight seconds on the bottom of the pool.

We could go on writing about underwater hockey for a long time, but rather than bore you with print, we would rather excite you with action!! So come on out and join us and find out what all the hoopla is about!! We play Tuesday nights, 6:30 - 8:00 and Friday nights 5:30 - 7:30. For more information call Andy Bury @ 803-762-2344 (H) 762-5408 (H) or Pat Harris @ 803-795-7934.

TOURNEY TIME

THE HARRIS REPORT PCC'S SAN DIEGO, 1994

by Pat Harris

Lynn and Patrick Harris joined up with the San Diego Plungers (Team Motto: We flush the competition) for the Pacific Coast Championships held in San Diego at "The Plunge" in Mission Bay during the first week in November. Their late arrival at pool side for the first game made for a frantic introduction to their teammates, but after the first game everyone settled down to play some real uw hockey.

Headed against stiff competition, The Plungers trudged through the gruesome field of competitors, knocking down The University of British Columbia and the dreaded Seattle SeaHammers, thereby clinching their position in the finals on Sunday. Chicago, being the insurmountable obstacle, dealt the final blow to The Plungers, leaving them to wallow in second place in the B division finals.

Post game festivities included a cruise around Mission Bay on a steamboat while listening to an on board live blues band. Camp-O-Rama was held in La Jolla, which involved SCUBA diving, volley ball, sitting in hot tubs, and some beer drinking.

CHICAGO TOURNAMENT: COOL AND REFRESHING

The weekend of January 21, 1995 was perfect weather for uw hockey in Chicago. High temperatures during the day were 20-25 degrees with a steady dusting of frosty flakes. Excitement was in the air because SC had a great majority of their players teamed up with the University of British Columbia.

The UBC/SC team had some players show up late for the first game, as with PCC's, made for some hectic jockeying for playing positions. Once the dust had settled after the first game, the UBC/SC team gelled into a viable B class team, even beating a strong University of Ohio team. The dreams of the UBC/SC team placing high in the B division were soured when they were bumped up to the A division, due to the lack of teams there. The result of this upgrade was a last place finish in the A division.

Festivities included a banquet Saturday night, honoring players and tournament directors. Sunday night was Chicago style pizza and partying at a downtown blues club, The Kingston Mines.



Team UBC/SC cools their heels between games
Back row L to R: Dave, Roger, Anne, Pat, Rob, Andy, John
Front row: Melanie, Cathy, Jan, Margaret

REPORT

Date: _____
 To: _____
 From: _____
 Subject: _____

The purpose of this report is to provide a detailed analysis of the data collected during the project. The findings are summarized below.

Category	Value	Percentage
A	10	10%
B	20	20%
C	30	30%
D	40	40%
E	50	50%
F	60	60%
G	70	70%
H	80	80%
I	90	90%
J	100	100%

The data shows a clear upward trend in the values across the categories. This indicates a significant increase in the measured variable over time. The percentage values also show a consistent growth, suggesting that the data points are cumulative or represent increasing proportions of a total.

In conclusion, the results of the study are highly positive and indicate a strong correlation between the variables being analyzed. Further research is recommended to explore the underlying causes of these trends.