

## SAN DIEGO TOURNAMENT SAME OLD SAME OLD

SAN DIEGO - San Diego's Winter Crystal Ultimate Tournament conjours up certain images in most everyone's mind. Those who haven't been there for this event may think that San Diego is a place bordering on perfection for hosting ultimate. California is famous for its agricultural bounty, its wonderful weather, and its casual and laid back populace. Shouldn't this translate into verdant playing fields littered with gracious hosts and many other visitors vying for the Winter Crystal title? Well...shouldn't it? Sure it should. But... reality diverges somewhat. First, the fields. From a distance they look rather like fields, but closer inspection reveals a battlefield of deep holes and ruts with the added touch of sea shell fragments and sharp rocks to create a truly treacherous playing surface. Funny thing though, the fields complement the hosts rather nicely.

Fields notwithstanding, the mighty Hohuckam and Mud Head Kachinas landed in San Diego early March 24th ready to take on some California competition. There were 12 men's teams present, including strong LA Iguana and Santa Barbara squads. The Hohuckam started the day with a sweet victory over the host San Diego team. It was a nice start to the day, made nicer by the cheerful dispositions of our hosts. One can usually be certain to learn some creative interpretations of the rules when playing San Diego, or even some new rules, but the entire Hohuckam squad was chagrinned to learn that it is against the spirit of the game to make one's opponent look foolish. No one was sure if the "foolish" clause had officially been voted into the rules, but it just seemed too ludicrous to not be true, so the Hohuckam did their best to not make their opponents look too much more foolish while beating them 13-10. The potential gravity of this violation set in after the Hohuckam faced Santa Barbara, but even though Santa Barbara made the Hohuckam look rather foolish in posting a 13-7 victory, no Hohuckam

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# LEAGUE UPDATE

MESA - The Spring 1990 ultimate league is 5 weeks into its 9 week schedule and a dominant team has emerged on the scene. Team 1 is sporting a sassy 6-1 record and holding a 2 game lead over teams 5 and 6 with only three games left to play in regular season. The schedule calls for a quarterfinal to be played in the late slot April 18. At this point, no seedings are locked in. Keep your ears open for news of where your team stands.

## COLLEGE NATIONALS INFO

College Nationals are being held May 31 at Horseworld in Scottsdale. As a fund raising activity, the Valley of the Sun Ultimate Club will be producing a program for the event. All advertising sales help. All players are encouraged to sell advertising for the program. Rates are as follows:

SIZE	PRICE	# OF FREE TIX
2" x 3-1/2"	\$25	let Tucson lots them. I -C. I s of sa <b>5</b> as 13-
4" x 7"	\$100	20
3-1/2" x 4"	\$50	the whole way, but it is
	\$200	40
	\$10	a consolation game a tn a game <b>2</b> 15 when t recled off a c-2 run to t

Tickets to the event have a \$3 face value and will be sold in advance of the tournament for \$2. The tickets will also be good for a raffle which will be held on Sunday May 29 at the tournament finals.

#### SAN DIEGO cont.

invoked the new spirit of the game interpretation for fear of making a fool of himself. After the Santa Barbara debacle, the Hohuckam met Burbank and posted a 13-9 victory as they began to gel just in time for their game against the formidable LA Iguanas. LA was sporting a squad rather reminicient of their New Year Fest winning squad, but the Hohuckam were not impressed as they put together their best game of the day. The Hohuckam traded points all the way with Iguana and held the lead 10-9, but the Iguanas caught a spark and scored 4 in a row to win 13-10. Once again the Hohuckam flirted with making their opponents look foolish, especially when Ole and Sam hooked up to beat the Iguana defense deep for a wide open score, nevertheless, The Iguanas seemed to confuse the Hohuckam when they revealed that "THERE IS NO SPIRIT OF THE GAME!". While this seemed shocking to the Hohuckam, they soon realized that the Iguanas were just kidding. Those guys are such a jovial outfit.

The Mud Head Kachinas had an even better Saturday as they won all of their games, including a big win over the host San Diego Safari. After a tough win over Safari in the New Year Fest final, the Mud Heads expected a less than gracious reception from Safari, and Safari delivered. But to no avail, the steady Mud Head game prevailed in the windy San Diego conditions, and the Mud Heads notched two in a row over Safari.

Sunday, the Hohuckam showed up ready to play, but unfortunately 7 of the 12 teams (including all 3 of the San Diego teams) bailed out of Sunday's competition. The Hohuckam couldn't decide if it was the fields, the NCAA basketball tourney, the April Fools tourney in San Francisco the following weekend, the fields, the party, the fields, the hosts or the fields which kept the competition away. "It's gotta be the fields.", they said. The unfortunate occurrence of more than half the field losing interest in the tournament left the Hohuckam in a situation of either letting Tucson get the absolutely raw deal of being all dressed up with no place to go, or combining with Tucson to form a truly huge and unmanageable squad. Being the swell guys that they are, the Hohuckam opted to let Tucson join them. Besides, Tucson had played Santa Barbara to a 13-11 score Saturday. The Gigantizona team actually put together a strong showing against Santa Barbara and kept it close the whole way, but in the end S.B. took a 13-10 victory. Unfortunately for Tucson this was a worse showing than they had garnered without us. Oh well... Gigantizona faced Pasadena/Long Beach in a consolation game and were in command at 12-8 in a game to 15 when the wheels fell off and P/LB reeled off a 8-2 run to take the win. That ugly loss put a damper on what would have been a pretty successful weekend for the Hohuckam, but as Lao-Tzu once said, "I not leary unerthtan urtimut. Da thpilit uf da gam ith bely intelethting, bat ruthing ith arwayth a ruther."

The Mud Head Kachinas started Sunday by

# ¿¿¿VALLEY OF THE SUN ULTIMATE CLUB???

There are quite a few good arguments for the people who like to play ultimate in the Valley to officially form a club. The primary drivers which necessitate consideration of this step are the growing difficulty of obtaining playing fields, and the growing ability of the unofficial club to generate funds through the New Year Fest and various merchandise sales. A cursory bandying about of this idea has received uniformly positive feedback from regular players. There will be a meeting of all interested people Sunday April 22 at 11:00 a.m. at Kevin Hatch's house. Byron and Kevin are currently researching our options, but all input is welcome. So far, some of the ideas that have come up include; \$5 per month dues for regular players to cover lights and other club costs, a different dues schedule for league only or fringe players, a subscription to the newsletter included with dues (delivered by mail), reduced rates for leagues and merchandise for members, parties, our own fields, bigger and better leagues, etc. Bring your body and any ideas to the meeting. Questions? See Kevin or Byron.

## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

There will be a one day coed ultimate tournament at Indian Bend Park in Scottsdale on April 29. Tucson will be bringing a team. All league players are encouraged to play. Contact Kevin.

LE	AGUE	STANDINGS	
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taking a laugher over the #2 San Diego team in the semifinals. They met Safari in the finals and came down with a bad case of biorythym breakdown. The Mud Heads couldn't get untracked, and the lack of wind allowed Safari to get their deep game going. Plus, Safari came down with the worst case of mass winatallcosts behavior ever reported. The Mud Heads played hard, but Safari got all the breaks and called all the fouls in posting a big victory.

Even with the distasteful losses suffered by the Hohuckam and Mud Heads Sunday, the San Diego trip was a heck of a good time. Both squads showed a lot of good play and heart, and both look to do very well at

Ultimeet 12 in Albuquerque May 19.