

JUGHEADS

JOURNAL

Monthly news of JUGHEADS Youth Juggling Company, LLC • Edina, Minnesota • September 2010

Sweet Sixteen

Company continues maturing with age

Like a high schooler, coming of age as an organization comes with its ups & downs, growing pains & joys. Unlike our youth counterparts in sports, theatre, Boy Scouts, church youth groups, and child care, this company has no comparable precedent other than our own experience; this truly is a grassroots, one-of-a-kind, multi-layered setting to develop and nurture kids from a wide age range. Here are some demographical stats for this year:

2010-'11 JUGHEADS (JH) Company Stats At-a-Glance

2nd Graders:	1	8th Graders:	11
3rd Graders:	9	Freshmen:	23
4th Graders:	8	Sophomores:	9
5th Graders:	19	Juniors:	7
6th Graders:	20	Seniors:	12
7th Graders:	20	[Graduates:	27]

Total Current Jugheads: 139 (plus two "punchcard" teens)
Avg. Jughead Grade: 7th/8th; **Avg. Jughead Year:** 3rd/4th
Returning Jugheads: 119; **Rookie Jugheads:** 20
Boys: 98 (70.5%); **Girls:** 41 (29.5%)
Sets of Siblings: 25 (totaling 55 Jugheads)
Edina Public Schools: 100 (71.9%); **Non-E.P.S.:** 39 (28.1%)
Cities of Residence: 14 (Bloomington, Burnsville, Chaska, Eden Prairie, Edina, Excelsior, Golden Valley, Minneapolis, Minnetonka, Plymouth, Richfield, Roseville, St. Louis Park, and Shorewood)

Coach Corner: Meet the Men

Five Coaches and an Intern

Five (5) Coaches and a fall Intern work alongside **Director Paul Arneberg** as the crucial day-to-day leaders of our six juggling clubs and supervisors of our team of 12 student Assistants.

ASST. HEAD COACH BILLY WATSON has been affiliated with JH for 11 years. As a Jughead (Class of '07), he directed Ultimate Club (U.C.) for three years (IJA Teams bronze, '03 & '04) and performed seven Juggle Jam specialty acts. For five years, Billy trained as a world-class juggling athlete, resulting in an IJA Juniors bronze ('06) and two IJA Individuals silvers ('08-'09). He also voluntarily coached several peers in IJA competitions from '04-'10. A 3rd year coach and Paul's right-hand man (helping with Officer meetings and leadership at festivals), Billy is a senior in Philosophy at St. Thomas preparing for a first-rate law school next fall with the dream of becoming a professor of jurisprudence (the Philosophy of Law).



COACH RICKY HARR is in his 2nd year of coaching, co-leading Monday Rec. and his beloved Wednesday Advanced Club. He was a Jughead for 10 years, culminating as a member of the 2009 U.C. gold medal team in Winston-Salem, NC. He is a sophomore at St. Thomas majoring in Criminal Justice for a career as a police officer, hopefully right here in Edina!

COACH BEN HESTNESS was a Jughead for six years (Class of '09). He began his career in Thursday Rec. and emerged as a competitive juggler: IJA Juniors bronze, '08; IJA Teams gold, '09; IJA Individuals, '10; and several medals in IJA Numbers. Ben is pursuing Exercise Physiology part-time at Normandale College and will study full-time next fall. He coaches Elite and Thursday Rec.

COACH STEFAN BRANCEL joined JH in 5th grade and made U.C. by 7th grade. His 8-year Jughead career included several Juggle Jam solos, three IJA Juniors solos, several Numbers medals, and the IJA Teams gold. Stefan has a big heart for teaching kids of all ages and abilities, juggling every chance he gets as a freshman at the U of M double-majoring in Neuroscience and Psychology.

SPECIALIST COACH JON O'CONNOR is in his 6th year working with U.C. Teaming up with Coach Billy, Jon's focus is to return U.C. to IJA Teams in '11. A pro juggler & actor, Jon toured for 25 years as one-third of The Flaming Idiots, and he's currently appearing at the Renaissance Festival with his new trio, The Mighty Hindenburgs. Jon has been married to Stephanie for 14 years.

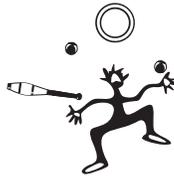
INTERN COLIN REVERE invested seven years in JH before graduating in '09 and earning the IJA gold along with peers Ricky, Ben, Stefan, etc. He's taking a semester off from the U of M-Morris in order "to learn the business side of JH and to help train the Assistants to be the best they can be at JH and at home." Colin is pursuing Business Management and aims to be a great manager.

Sparks & Props Flew in Nevada

The Jugheads' glowing impact at IJA Fest

For the 15th year, a team of Jugheads traveled to the International Jugglers' Association (IJA) Festival. Sparks, NV was the site of many highlights, all made possible by our team of chaperones: **Katherine Carney, Jennifer Collins, Diane Harr; volunteer Coaches Ricky Harr, Colin Revere, Billy Watson.**

1. JOGGLING: 11 Jugheads, two grads, three coaches and a director came home with 38 medals spread among four divisions, with **Coach Paul, Sean C., Jack L., Chris L., and Joey S.** earning the most hardware. Of special note was **Coach Billy's** dropless 5:27 gold in the Men's Open 1600!



2. YOUTH SHOWCASE: **Danny G., Hannah B., The Moettus Sisters, TARP,** and **Colin Revere** all received appreciative reactions in the show Paul founded in '98.

3. JUNIORS: **Joey S.** was granted a spot in the finals against one of the best fields of IJA Juniors in history. His composed performance was well-received by the crowd, and he bonded with the other Junior competitors through a week of intense and challenging new juggling moves (and dodge ball! :-).

4. INDIVIDUALS: **Coach Ben Hestness** trained six hours a day all summer. Although his performance had a several drops, he placed a very respectable 5th in the world-class field of eight.

5. TEAMS: **The Five of Clubs** achieved their goal of a Teams performance with five or fewer drops, but they were given the bronze rather than our collective expectation of the gold (they were ranked #1 going in to the finals). However, they felt a bit exonerated when they won first place in the MN State Fair Amateur Talent Contest (Teen Div.) in front of 9,000 people a month later!

6. NUMBERS: **Sean C. & Brenden Y.** earned silver with duo club passing (10 clubs, 91 catches); **Ben H.** won silver with duo ring passing (11 rings with **Chris Hodge**); **Stefan B., Sean C. and Ben H.** "settled" for silver in trio club passing (14 clubs, 101 catches), despite having broken the IJA record in prelims!

7. INDIV. RINGS: The creative **Tom G.** tied for 3rd.

8. RISING STAR: **Hannah B.** received the "Rising Star" award from The Flamingo Club for her Showcase solo which featured 3-5 ball juggling while beautifully singing "Think of Me" from *Phantom of the Opera*. Hannah received seven balls from Sport Juggling Co. and earrings from Little Wooden Clubs.

9. GAMES: As usual, the Jugheads were an ever-felt presence on Saturday at the IJA, but this Director's memory (and the IJA Website, juggle.org) isn't sufficient to detail the accolades here!

10. SPECIAL GUESTS/THE CASCADE OF STARS: For the first time ever, the Jugheads were invited to perform in the prestigious Cascade of Stars, the big show at the end of the week. The combined team of Ultimate & Elite Club members reprised "Jugga-wockeez," the hit routine created for Juggle Jam 12 by **Coaches Scott Richter & Billy Watson.**

Company News

- **Congrats** to three new Ultimate Club rookies: **Reid J.** (8th), **Griffin K.** (freshman), and **Mara M.** (senior). Mara is the first senior rookie in U.C. history! Also, congrats to **David K.** (soph.; 4th yr Jughead) for achieving his last U.C. technical standards, making him wait-listed for next fall.
- **Ultimate Club Banquet:** Fri., Oct. 8. Look for invitations.

Paul's Platform:

"JH: Bigger than one man, class, or era"

I'm a nostalgic, sensitive, and statistical type guy--the triple threat when waxing eloquent about our company's uniqueness and history. In this brief space, I'll kick off the new school year by simply reminding my leaders, parents, veterans, and rookies alike that JH is bigger than any one factor.

Yes, I founded it/direct it and Wendy organizes it, but we do so dependent on our coaching staff, parent volunteers and student assistants. Yes, I'm thrilled by seeing so many kids choose to stay Jugheads through H.S. graduation, but even with a record-tying 12 seniors this year, they still represent less than 9% of our roster. Yes, many would say that a certain year or Juggle Jam or IJA Festival was "the best ever," but remember that there have already been many pinnacles, firsts, and notable eras in our 16 year history, and the beauty of each is truly in the eye of the beholder.

When I'm tempted to grow weary of directing this company, I'll remember that JH is really one big team, much larger than my career and empowered by God's grace to fulfill His will. I thank God for JH, from the simple joys of a contented beginner discovering a new skill/social niche to the profound experience of a young adult whose life was forever changed here. May we all cherish this juggling year, which could be another "best ever"—even for just one child.

Developing Youth Through Juggling Since 1994,

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