

JUGHEADS

JOURNAL

Monthly news of JUGHEADS Youth Juggling Company, LLC • Edina, Minnesota • April/May 2011

Juggle Jam 13 Checklist

Logistics enclosed for three-week countdown

The annual **Final Memo and Checklist** for all JH families regarding JJ13 logistics and etiquette is enclosed with this *Journal*. Four key dates that should be memorized: May 3 & 11; 13 & 14. Remember that student-created/borrowed/purchased costumes enhance all routines. Every Jughead should know the contents of the Final Memo; this will prevent long meetings at rehearsals.

Specialty Acts, Skits & Seniors

Distinguished Jugheads of JJ13

JJ13 “specialty act” auditions (solo, duet, ensemble) were held on April 12 in the Wooddale-Edina gym. Seven acts were chosen: three solos, two duets, a trio, and a quintet, with a duet as an alternate (see website for results). We’re also working on a good line-up of comedic/theatrical/musical skits. Twelve Jugheads completing their senior year active in the company will be featured according to their seniority experience (seven on 5/13; five on 5/14), joining the 27 graduates who have gone before them.

Senior Voice: Chris L.

I am what many might call a late bloomer. I have never performed a specialty act, emceed, or successfully attempted a five club five-up (parents, that’s pretty tough...). In my first seven years, I stepped on the JJ stage all of three times per year: “Rock this Town,” “Reach,” and my club routine vignette. I don’t have the stage presence of Brenden and I am simply not Jack. I didn’t even juggle three clubs until my third year! (I know many Jugheads who made Ultimate Club in less than three years!)

What I do have is a unique history and a personalized perspective. I didn’t make U.C. until 11th grade; I wasn’t an assistant until this year; and didn’t really place much stock in my involvement. For most of my JH tenure, I have been juggling (get it?) trumpet, soccer and academics as well as this weird company that taught me to be a clown. While I won State three times in soccer, attended college in middle school, and played lead trumpet in band, I attended the old ECC Auditorium (and now the Wooddale Church-Edina gym) weekly to improve bit by bit at this unique activity.

In the past two years, however, I have emerged from a bubble. My friends say that I am learning to interact on

a normal social level. I am a loud, intense personality in four different clubs and have earned respect as well as a reputation for goofiness, which combine to create a child-like spirit that allows me to connect with friends ranging from 6th grade (Anna) to near graduate school students (Billy Watson). I entirely credit this complete spin from my initial personality to my persistence in JH and the company’s motto, “Developing Youth Through Juggling.” Recently, I had a teacher tell me that he didn’t like that phrase. He thought it made the company seem too hands-on and instrumental in children’s adolescence and maturation. In my opinion, without that presence of community and the fostering of relationships, I would never have become best friends with Danny or Joey before I turned 11, and I wouldn’t be able to count the majority of my best friends as Jugheads. Sticking with the company for the past nine years has helped me learn perseverance, develop friendships with a wide range of peers, and have invaluable experiences.

So, while I am still not Jack, I will walk off the JJ stage for the last time next month, welling up with tears of joy and smiling as I exchange glances with the other eleven graduates I represent here. I made it. We made it. And for all my fellow late bloomers, the wait is so worth it.

—Chris Lovdal: EHS Senior, 9th year Jughead, Advanced Club Assistant, Elite & Ultimate Club Member

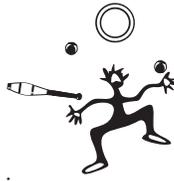
CLUB SPOTLIGHT: Ultimate

“Reaching New Heights” by Coach Billy Watson

At the close of every Juggle Jam, the Ultimate Club files on stage to the lyrics, “If I could reach...” As a former member and current coach, I’m convinced that this moment epitomizes what it means to be a Jughead: it represents the individual and corporate accomplishments, leadership through both example and service, and willingness to reach for lofty goals that JUGHEADS strives to teach. That’s not to say that every Jughead needs to be in U.C. Just as some students are better served by a M.A. than by a Ph.D., some kids will benefit more from Elite, Advanced or a Rec. Club than they would from U.C. However, for those who are well-suited for it, a year in U.C. presents an opportunity to fulfill the lyrics of “Reach” in ways they could never do alone.

This year, our Ultimate team has reached new heights in JH history. Gone are the days of my Ultimate years: what counted as impressive juggling then would be barely passable by today’s U.C. standards. Our annual Five Club Endurance Contest in the fall proved that the average five club record of an U.C. member is an outstanding 283 catches! Moreover, just as average skills have increased, so too has the average level of





commitment. The newly developed “Captain” position is now a highly coveted responsibility and is supplemented by several captains-without-a-title who aid Coach Jon and myself in running an effective practice. Involvement outside the walls of Wooddale Church has increased as well: The Five of Clubs have been performing regularly throughout the year, and three of them are teaching juggling for May Term through EHS.

Perhaps maturity is one reason why our team has reached so high this year. With 10 Seniors, this year’s U.C. is one of the oldest to date. Our maturity has proved to be a strength: it has certainly increased both our skill and commitment levels. At the same time, our maturity is also a liability: a mature club this year will make for a very rookie-heavy club next year. The year 2011 has raised the bar for what it means to be in U.C. It will be up to next year’s team to reach for the impressive new standard that they’ve set.

JUGHEADS Community News

—**ULTIMATES:** Lettering applications and \$20 to EPS is due 6/3; turn in to Paul. JH standards sheets must also be completely filled out, but you have until 7/31 to finish achieving them.

—**ULTIMATE CLUB IJA TEAMS AUDITION FILMING:** Saturday, June 4 from 8:15 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Location TBA.

—**SENIOR JUGHEADS:** JJ13 program bios are due 5/7. The deadline to submit Senior Presentation photos is 4/30.

—**SUMMER JUGGLING CAMP** forms are printed and online. Reminders: 1) Coupons expire 5/20; 2) punchcards are a very flexible option; 3) kids can bag-lunch-it if juggling all day; 4) The Edina Parade is 7/4, with priority going to camper-Jugheads; 4) our all-youth juggling meet is 7/16 at ECC’s track; 5) Billy’s Boot Camp (invitational) is now 8/22-26, **not** 8/15-19.

—**ULTIMATE CLUB ANNUAL FAMILY DRIVE-IN:** Saturday, June 25. Look for a flyer after Juggle Jam 13.

—**THE FALL 2011 REG. FORM** and the post-JJ13/Summer 2011 newsletter will arrive at the homes of all current Jugheads around 5/26. Immediately thereafter, all after school clubs spots will be up for grabs for current members (with director approval for Advanced and Elite). Fall discount for returning members lasts just over two weeks (post-marked by 6/10), then club spots will be offered to new rookies starting on 6/13. So whether to secure your spot or to simply save \$20, plan now to register for fall clubs choice in late May or early June! Contact P & W w/q’s.

Paul’s Platform: “Turnover, Adjustment, and Optimism”

For some reason, this year we faced unprecedented mid-year roster turnover from fall to winter. However, a surprising number of kids filled some of those vacancies in Monday Rec., while Advanced Club was simply reduced to a more “intimate” roster of 28 rather than 36. Similarly, this year’s senior class of 12 Jugheads matches our largest class from two years ago. The gaps left by the class of ‘09 are sure to be repeated by the departure of the class of ‘11, not to mention the gaps that will be left by forthcoming changes in my coaching staff. However, just as our clubs have adjusted since the mid-year turnover, and the company adjusted two years ago, I’m optimistic for future adjustments.

Meanwhile, let’s relish JJ13 and the end of this school year (and era, for many), knowing that the company will be left in the good hands of new upperclassmen, new (or returning!) coaches, and new ways for us to continue developing youth through juggling as has been done—in ways that I can neither count nor take glory for—since 1994.

Paul Arneberg, JUGHEADS Founder, Director & Head Coach
cell: 612.978.9707 • jugheads@comcast.net

Wendy Arneberg, JUGHEADS Office/Operations Manager
cell: 612.229.3348 • wendyarneberg@comcast.net

Billy Watson, **Asst. Head Coach** (Thurs./Fri. Rec., Elite, U.C.)
cell: 612.408.9745 • fwwatson@stthomas.edu

Coach Ben Hestness, Elite, Thursday Rec.
952.240.5029 • benhestness@yahoo.com

Coach Stefan Brancel, Advanced Club
651.890.2938 • branc051@umn.edu

Mailing Address: 5905 Concord Avenue, Edina, MN 55424

Web Site (info. & online registration): www.jugheads.com

JUGHEADS Club/Camps Physical Location: Wooddale Church—Edina • 5532 Wooddale Ave., Edina, MN 55424