

April 2010

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# *Bullseye!*

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*Newsletter of the Utah Precision Marksmanship Society*

*Published as often as we can!*

## **WILL BROWN WINS JUNIOR TITLE AT MUNICH AIRGUN CHAMPIONSHIPS BY DAN BROWN**

More than five hundred competitors from around the world recently had the opportunity to stand at the same firing line as the 1972 Olympians and make their mark. Among them was Will Brown, a high school senior in Twin Falls, Idaho and a member of the Utah Precision Marksmanship Society. The Bavarian Air Gun Championships in Munich, Germany marks the beginning of the shooting season and gives the shooting athletes a chance to prepare for the World Cup Series. The match consisted of two separate competitions with finals matches held over two days in both open and junior categories.



Brown competed in Junior Air Pistol with fifty-one competitors representing twenty-two countries. Brown ended the first day of competition in the middle of the pack with a 564. Learning what adjustments to make, Brown entered the second day of competition with confidence. Brown fired a new USA Junior record of 579 to take the lead into the finals match. However, the match was far from over with two competitors tied for second at 578 including Lukas Grunder of Switzerland, the current junior world record-holder. Brown started the finals match with a 10.7 but yielded to the pressure on his third shot when he fired an 8.6. Grunder was not able to take advantage and shot an 8.9. Brown shot seven tens for a finals score of 99.6 and a total of 678.6 to win gold by 1.6 points over Grunder. Brown made his mark, gaining ground on a world record holder during finals.

## **AND NOW FOR A SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT FORMAT**

Help wanted: volunteer needed to take responsibility for repair of UPMS equipment. Currently in need of repair: Two Morini air pistols and one Hammerli free pistol (Repair mostly means boxing up and sending to repair centers.) Can also include replacing firing pins in Buckmarks, etc. (Like the two replaced this morning.) We also have several guns that need to be sold, probably on the Pilkguns website. Position is expected to require no more than a few days' work per year. Contact Matt at [delong@physics.utah.edu](mailto:delong@physics.utah.edu).

Help wanted: volunteer to take responsibility for managing UPMS's collection of trophies. Job description includes collecting travelling trophies from previous champions, getting new tags made and distributing to the new awardees. Will also require shopping for and acquiring new trophies to replace the ones that have been lost. Trophies are appropriate for no more than four matches per year, so this is not a huge job. This will require 2-3 days' work per year. Contact Matt at [delong@physics.utah.edu](mailto:delong@physics.utah.edu).

For Sale. One Fabulously Stupendous BENELLI MP95 .32 S&W LONG Asking \$600. Bought used a couple months ago. I shot 60 rounds through it during Arnie's Pistol Clinic back in January. Includes 140 rounds of Fiocchi 100gr wadcutter and 60 pieces of brass. Comes exactly how it came to me - 1 magazine, no box or papers. Contact Tim Lawrence: [Tim.Lawrence@slc.k12.ut.us](mailto:Tim.Lawrence@slc.k12.ut.us)

Want to buy: precision air rifle. Contact Monte LeBlanc: [mleblanc@GTRI.com](mailto:mleblanc@GTRI.com).

Help wanted: **Staffing for gun show table** to promote and publicize bullseye shooting opportunities in the state. Hand out literature, talk to people. **Weekend of 17 – 18 April**. Those willing to work a **2-hour shift** will have their entry fee reimbursed. Contact Matt to sign up for a shift: [delong@physics.utah.edu](mailto:delong@physics.utah.edu).

Help wanted: Match Coordinator to be responsible for submitting match applications and handling all paperwork associated with matches, including submitting results to the NRA and USAS. Requires about 1-2 days work per year, mostly in summer to get together the schedule for the following year and submit match applications. Contact Matt at [delong@physics.utah.edu](mailto:delong@physics.utah.edu).

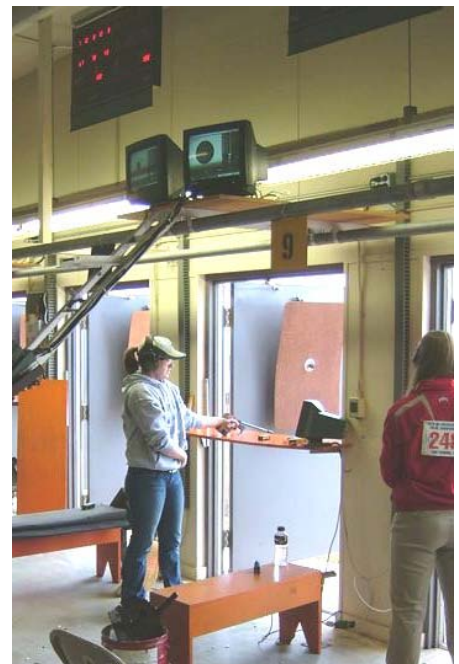
## HELP DESPERATELY NEEDED

This year's collegiate shooting season looked very promising at the outset: we had several very experienced shooters returning. Details are contained in an article below, but one very important item this year is that we did not receive our usual very generous travel support from the Val A. Browning Foundation. The cost to send our team to Collegiate Nationals was approximately \$3620. We need all the help we can get to cover this. Please send tax-deductible donations to UPMS, 2736 Commonwealth Ave., Salt Lake City UT 84109.

## REPORT FROM COACH ELWOOD POWELL ON THIS YEAR'S COLLEGIATE NATIONALS

As the countdown the week before the 2010 National Collegiate Pistol Matches commenced there were a few surprises in store for the University of Utah Pistol Team. One team member indicated he would not be able to go due to family conflicts. This meant a quick replacement had to be found. The only possibility was Andelyn Seeley. She had planned on going to shoot air pistol for training purposes only. This provided the team with a fourth firing member for the open air pistol team. And, she was also the only person who could possibly fill the fourth team slot for the free pistol team and the standard pistol team.

The amazing part of this story is that Andelyn had never fired a free pistol or a standard pistol until a week before the team was to leave for the National Matches. With great trepidation, she consented to shoot as a replacement team member on all three teams. With only one week to go, Matt commenced to give her a crash course in shooting free pistol and standard pistol. The first big task was to fit her with a pistol for both free



and standard. This meant reforming the grips on both pistols, and starting from scratch, teaching Andelyn to shoot both events.

Andelyn was shown the stance, grip, and shot sequence for firing both the free and standard team matches. She practiced as much as she could with both of these pistols. The amazing thing was that she exceeded both her and the team coach's expectations with the results she shot. The team did not come in dead last despite one member, Andelyn, having fired a free pistol as well as a standard pistol for only one week before participating as a firing team member at the National Matches. Congratulations go to Andelyn for a great job well done at the last moment. Furthermore, she fired her personal best in air pistol with a score of 515.

In other news from Nationals, Brad Collins brought home two All-American awards in Free and Air Pistol as well as finishing third in the aggregate, sixth in Air Pistol (moving up one position in Finals with a score of 94.2 and eighth in Free Pistol. The team finished eighth in Air Pistol, eighth in Free Pistol and ninth in Standard Pistol.

## WHAT BRAD COLLINS LEARNED AT COLLEGIATE NATIONALS



The 2010 national competition was an eye opener for me in many aspects. Before the U of U team ever left for Georgia we had three of our main teammates drop out of the team all because of extenuating circumstances. This left the team with only three members to compete. I learned from this experience that you cannot succeed without the trust and support of the team; it is very hard for me to rely on others for my success but I now see that there is no way around that in life. Therefore, I must be a more integral part of each team member's life in helping them succeed so that the team will succeed. The three of us who remained felt betrayed and hurt because we would now not be able to compete as a team after all of our hard work and dedication. A week before nationals a new member of the team with very little experience stepped up, giving us a fourth member for Nationals. We expected to fall in last place in every event but we kept our heads held high and worked to do our best. When we got to Georgia we were all very excited and anxious to start. The first day of competition, free pistol, I was slightly nervous but I knew what I was up against, having done this twice before. I performed well, had a few flyers but for the most part

shot about what I shoot in practice. I made it to eighth place for the finals. I had never been in finals before in free pistol; now I was nervous. I tried to stay calm by telling myself that I could not do any worse than eighth place but my heart started to race. I shot poorly because I was not able to control my anxiety. When the event was over Arnie came over to talk to me. He let me know that even though my heart was pounding and I was starting to sweat I could control my outcomes. I had the ability to place a good shot even though I had 300 people watching. He said "You must focus on your routine and your objective, nothing else exists, it is you and the bullet". I took that to heart and moved on. That night I had a bad reaction to some food and was awake all night trying to get rid of it; I did not get much rest before the next day of competition. (This is not an excuse, just information). When my standard competition started I was not feeling great but I was able to remember what Arnie had told me. So as my heart started to race I was able to force myself to concentrate on my objective. Because of this I shot very well except for two shots, but life happens. For both the Free and standard competitions the team placed second to last, but this was far better than what we were expecting and so we were all very happy. By the third day, the Open Air competition, I was determined to have control of myself. I was able to focus on my process for most of the match and I shot well. The score ended up a few points lower than normal but not bad. I finished in 7<sup>th</sup> place prior to finals. Now I knew that my heart was going to race and that I would be nervous but I had a secret weapon: myself. I concentrated on every shot to follow my process and not worry about my heart or those around me. I forced myself to focus and because of that I passed another shooter to take 6<sup>th</sup> place in the competition. Because I was able to focus I took 3<sup>rd</sup> place over all in the 2010 Nationals



Aggregate Competition. I was happy with my performance over all but I have much room for improvement. The team also has many things it needs to work on, starting with camaraderie.

The week after the competition I had a test in one of my classes where I got stuck on a question. My heart started to race and I began to get nervous. I spent 20 min on this question with no luck and only had 10 min left in the test. I finally thought that I needed to force myself to concentrate and not worry about the outcome; just do it. All of the sudden the answer came to me and I was able to finish the test 30 seconds before time was up and I did well. Shooting has benefited my life in many ways and I am sure that the lessons I learn from this team will continue to help me throughout my life.

## STATUS ON NEW AIRGUN RANGE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

Our efforts to establish a dedicated airgun range at the University of Utah have taken a severe step backwards. In response to a request to the Office of Space Planning and Management for conversion of two classrooms to an airgun range we learned that (a) the person in charge of this Office has a request in to the Senior Academic Vice President that no classrooms on campus be converted to other uses for the next year (a number have been lost to unavailability of funds for maintenance) and the Vice President for Development now says that he will attempt to raise the necessary funds only if the relevant Deans (Health Sciences and Social and Behavioral Sciences) are willing to list the range as a “high priority”. Needless to say, since the Deans were unaware of a movement to establish the range and had no supporting information, they did not immediately support it. We are beginning to do the groundwork to change this situation.

## AIRGUN PELLETS: DO THEY REALLY MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Some time ago there was an article on Target Talk claiming that the quality of airgun pellets had a significant impact on group size for air rifles but for pistols the issue was moot. Rich Sheya has some hard data to contradict this opinion.

March 21, 2010, Matt’s garage.

I’ve often wondered if the air gun pellet really makes *that* much difference. I figured that if you buy high quality pellets they’ll have similar characteristics in both ballistics and accuracy. How much difference can there be? Is a \$14.00 tin of pellets *that* much better than a \$5.00 tin?

To test this we clamped a Steyr LP10 into a bench vice (very *very* carefully) and aimed it at the back of a target about 30 feet away. We had several different pellet brands: Vogel Green 4.49, RWS Hobby Sport Line (orange lid), RWS R-10 Match (black lid), Diabolo Yellow, Diabolo Green, H&N Finale Match & Walther Finale. We fired 5 shots with each pellet then marked the group and moved the target. The velocity of the pistol chronyed at ~560fps with the RWS Hobby Sport Line pellets. The results were pretty amazing, at least to me. Most of the pellets made a fairly tight group with the exception of the H&Ns and the Finale Match which were spread by about ½”, far enough to make a difference in scores. Second best with about a 2 pellet spread was a three way tie between the Vogel Green, Diabolo Green and the RWS Hobby Sport Lines. But the best by far were the RWS R-10 match pellets which made a true one-hole group. If I hadn’t been there and seen it I wouldn’t have believed it possible. Please see the test target, the hole under “R10” is 5 shots. Please remember that on this day, in this place, in these conditions, with this pistol these were the results. Your results may vary.

So to answer our question “Do pellets really make a difference?” the answer is “Yes”. Do they make *that* much of a difference? I’d have to say “yes” again. If your air gun is sighted-in exactly on the center of the 10



Several brands of pellet groups fired from a Steyr LP-10 air pistol

ring (and you can *hit* the center of the 10 ring...) then *most* of these pellets would be ok. But there is enough of a variation in the point of impact of the various brands to have an adverse effect on your score.

From our results it is apparent that pellet testing is something every (semi) serious competitor should do. When you find one that works in your gun it would be worthwhile to buy enough of them to carry you through a season or two.

## 2010 UTAH RIFLE AND PISTOL SECTIONAL CHAMPIONS

1 – 3 February 2010

U of U Ranges

Open Air Pistol	Gold	Don McGraw	557
	Silver	Brad Collins	550
	Bronze	Robert Taylor	546
Women's Air Pistol	Gold	Ashley Davis	352
	Silver	Ashley Miller	337
	Bronze	Andelyn Seeley	315
Standard Pistol	Gold	Brad Collins	535
	Silver	Arnie Vitarbo	528
	Bronze	Eugene Mishchenko	517
Free Pistol	Gold	Brad Collins	505
	Silver	Don McGraw	503
	Bronze	Robert Taylor	495
Rapid Fire	Gold	Arnie Vitarbo	522
	Silver	Matt DeLong	499
	Bronze	Eugene Mishchenko	492
Women's Sport	Gold	Ashley Miller	546
	Silver	Ashley Davis	525
Centerfire	Gold	Matt DeLong	525
	Silver	Mark Morris	512
	Bronze	Eugene Mishchenko	509
Men's Air rifle	Gold	Dan Wrobel	475
	Silver	Rich Sheya	393

## 2010 Indoor State Champions Crowned

12 – 13 March 2010

U of U Ranges

Utah State Conventional Indoor Pistol

TOTAL	X	NAME, LAST	FIRST	CLASS
2472	57	Mishchenko	Eugene	SS
2447	44	McNee	Brent	MA
2414	35	Brumitt	Ron	EX
2365	36	Howa	Steve	MA
2357	33	Arterburn	Robert	SS
2090	31	Thompson	Tony	MK
692	4	Oberg	Brian	MK
1492	13	Peterson	Rachel	MU
820	10	McGraw	Don	MU
750	5	Martin	Michael	MU
507	2	Moody	Mitch	MU
384	1	Sexton	Jason	MU
241	1	Herman	Adam	MU
230	1	Archuleta	Tim	MU
226	0	Kunkel	William	MU
162	0	Webb	Chris	MU

This year's participation in the Conventional State Indoor Pistol Championship more than doubled the number of competitors we had last year and last year's attendance was the largest we had had in quite a while. The real novelty was that we had a huge group of new shooters, many for the first time and many who are members of the Small Arms Readiness Group at Fort Douglas.

This year's Utah State Conventional Indoor Pistol Champion is , Associate Chair of the Physics Department and a theoretical condensed matter physicist at the University of Utah. Eugene is an NRA Certified Pistol Instructor who has helped teach the marksmanship class. Remarking on his victory, Eugene says: "When I started bullseye, one-handed precision shooting seemed ridiculously difficult and certainly beyond any hope for me. I did not have high expectations, and so I decided to quit after I fire 10 lucky shots all in the black. (Surely it was not going to happen twice anyway.) I do not remember when that happened along the road... but I guess I am going to stick around for a little bit longer..."

Second place went to Brent McNee, former member of the All-Guard pistol team shooting in his first match since 1996. Welcome back Brent!



*Eugene Mishchenko*

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The Utah Precision Marksmanship Society is a non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) corporation, founded for the purpose of supporting education, training of amateur athletes, and competition in the shooting sports.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
10-11 April	Conventional Pistol 2700	Boise ID Larry Wetzel 208-377-4312
17-18 April	International and Conventional Pistol	Phoenix Don Plante (480) 855-0002
24-25 April	Conventional Pistol Regional	Phoenix Don Plante (480) 855-0002
24 April	Conventional Pistol 2700	Denver CO Steve Locatelli slocat@aol.com
30 April – 2 May	International Pistol and Rifle PTO	UPMS/UU
8 May	Conventional Pistol 2700	Hendriksen
15-16 May	International and Conventional Pistol	Phoenix Don Plante (480) 855-0002
16 May	Conventional Pistol Indoor State Championship	Byers CO Wayne Harris wwharris@q.com
4-6 June	Southwest Regional International Rifle and Pistol PTO	UPMS/UU
12 June	Conventional Pistol Regional	Hendriksen

<p>Contact for PTOs and NRA matches:</p>	<p>Matt DeLong 2736 Commonwealth Ave Salt Lake City, UT 84109  801-581-7462</p>
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