

spotlight

SUNDAY,
OCTOBER
22ND,
2006

Team Fusion
Photo by: mike mcgowan
FunAirPhotos.com

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Sun Path, Relative Workshop and
Performance Designs



the USPA Nationals by Skydive Arizona in Eloy

CRW Begins Tomorrow

Today Official Practice Day

Today, October 22nd marks the official practice day for Canopy Formation. All Canopy Formation competitors must be registered today by 5 p.m. At this time, the probable event order will be 4-Way Rotation, 4-Way Sequential, 8-Way Speed - Finish 4, 8, 2-Way. This is subject to change. The briefing and draw will take place tonight at 6 p.m.

I would like to bring up how much fun the CRW competitors are having - singing in the plane, dance-like dirt dives and lots of

smiles. Now, that's what I'm talking about - having fun!!

Have fun and fly safe!

ARTISTIC EVENTS (AE)

Monday (10.23.06) will be the official practice day for Artistic Events - Freely, Freestyle and Skysurf and Classics - Style and Accuracy. Registration will close tomorrow at 5 p.m. and the briefing and draw will take place at 6 p.m.

Competition for these events will begin on Tuesday (10.24.06) and start times will be announced at the close of registration.

Keep close track of your favorite teams on www.OmniSkore.com!!



black cats - (G) russia
photo by: mike mcGowan

Competition Magic



2006

Once upon a time we embark on a journey 13,500 feet beyond the blue infinity. We stare out the door, unknowst to us our lives are about to change forever. The heart racing thrill of free-fall, the heart pounding canopy ride to the familiar earth. Once we reach the ground and after consuming the adrenaline, our eyes open wide to a whole new world - we have each passed the dimension of fear and become skydivers.

We rise above the horizons, we move with grace...we long to be in the air. We are the fifth element in human body flight, we are the key to the magic in the skies.

- melissa nelson

Skydive Chicago Furies

Hailing from the Midwest, this all female four way team just nailed 16 points in Round 1. I have a feeling this well-rounded Intermediate team will have a good showing at their 2nd National competition.

Here, let's meet the SDC Furies: Shannon Sweet - Tail, Sarah Lawrence - Point, Lisa DeSimone - Inside Center, Gosia Cienkosz - Outside Center and Charles Lane - Cool Guy Camera Flyer.

What attracts you to 4-Way FS than all other disciplines?

Gosia - I like the technical part and learning the fundamentals on how to go increase your speed. It's also a discipline good for all levels of skydivers.

Shannon - I like the planning and structure. Every skydive is different, even if you do the same dive.

Lisa - You never stop learning.

What do you think of the introduction of 4-Way VRW?

All the Girls - AWESOME!

Shannon - When I quit RW I want to do VRW. It'll take me 5 years to learn it though!

Sarah - I think it's a historical step in skydiving and it's great to witness it unfold.

Gosia - It brings belly fliers and freefliers together. At the VRW competition last August at Skydive Chicago many of the VRW 4-Way teams were asking us questions. Overall it's bringing us all together.

How did you get your team name?

Sarah - We became a team in 2003 and looked it up on the internet. We wanted a feminine, powerful and cool name and Furies fit us well.

What does Furies mean?

Roman goddesses of vengeance and justice, the Furies were mythical vixens who sought out fugitives of the law and wrought justice with their own merciless hands. They were legendary for their drive, determination, and ruthlessness in the name of what was right and good.



Carolina Ice

All the way from the East Coast these folks with a fantastic southern drawl from Skydive Carolina are here in the Advanced class for 4-Way. Let's meet this fun and personable team.

Rhonda Wilcox - Point, Jan Lane - Tail, Joey Freeman - Outside Center, John Patten - Inside Center and Chad Wilcox - fun loving Camera Flyer.

How was the draw for you?

Jan - Draw was what we were looking for - lots of randoms.

What attracts you to 4-Way FS than all other disciplines?

Rhonda - I like the competition. You can do more formations than bigger events.

John - It's the best way to improve your skills as a skydiver.

What do you think of the introduction of 4-Way VRW?

The Team - It's awesome! We think it's great.

On a Scale from 1 - 10 (one the easiest), how hard is this year's draw?

Jan - 3-4

Rhonda - 6

John - 4-5

Joey - 5

How did you get your team name?

John - Well, we were watching a basketball game and the a player had two free throws to win the game. He was the visiting team and the home team crowd was wild. They player's teammate approached him with a pat on the butt and telling him, "Ice." It was like grace under pressure. He then made the free throw shots and won the game. So, we're Carolina Ice.

Shout Outs

"Hello to my wife, Kathy."

"Hi Brian & Jamie - they just had a baby at 6:46 a.m. this morning!"

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THE LOUNGE

By Kim Pothuisje

Welcome all athletes to the 2006 USPA Nationals at Skydive Ari-

zona! We are excited to be here and look forward to some great competition among the top skydivers in the United States.

To support all competitors, Sun Path, United Parachute Technologies (formerly Relative Workshop), Performance Designs, and Vigil have created The Lounge. Our large tent is filled with several comfortable couches, 2 big screen TV's, and complimentary snacks and refreshments throughout the day. There is even a massage room! The Lounge is a comfortable place to step away from the madness and to recharge.

Several representatives from three companies are manning the tent. Say hello to some friendly people who are looking forward to seeing old friends and meeting new ones. Alicia Wolfe from Sun Path, Greg Rau from United Parachute Technologies, and Morten Pedersen, Tammy Pedersen, Kolla Kolbeinsdottir, Kim Pothuisje, Al Berchtold, and Rob Wilson from PD are all present to enjoy the Nationals experience with you. Sarah Bratcher from Bliss Therapeutic Massage is also available to provide a relaxing rub down at no cost. We've brought hot coffee; cool beverages like Gatorade, Red Bull, juice, and water; fruit; pastries; and other snacks. These samples are to help you get through your day and we encourage you to visit the nearby vendors.

Be sure to stop by, grab something to quench your thirst, relax, and say hello. We'll be here all week and we look forward to seeing you!

WEATHER

(According to www.Weather.com)

TODAY 10.22.06

- * Sunny
- * High 90F; Low 58F
- * Winds - Light/Variable

TOMORROW 10.23.06

- * Partly Cloudy
(Late overnight showers)
- * High 90F; Low 63F
- * Winds - SE 6 mph
- * SUNRISE: 6:36 a.m.
- * SUNSET: 5:46 p.m.

TUESDAY 10.24.06

- * Few Showers
(Clearing Overnight)
- * High 75F; Low 58F
- * Winds - NE 4 mph
- * SUNRISE: 6:37 a.m.
- * SUNSET 5:43 p.m.

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VRW 4-WAY – A Flash in the pan or the future of competitive skydiving?

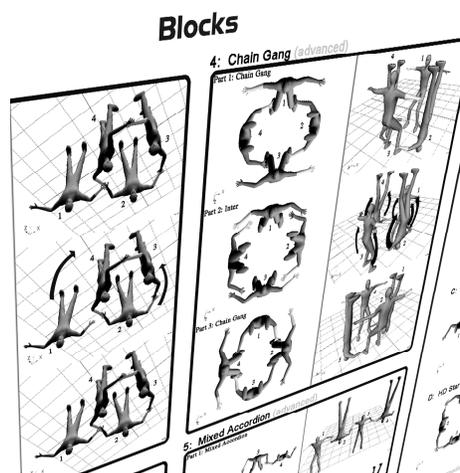
by eric deren

Welcome to 2006. Head down free-fly formations are over 50 skydivers strong. Head down and sit formations of 18 people are turning three or more points. Yet, as a freeflier, the only competition available is an artistic-based system, which while it is fun and beautiful to watch, is

based on a subjective judging system.

VRW 4-Way has been created as the solution. Based completely on formation skydiving rules, teams of four skydivers execute formation after formation in freefall, and the team that has executed the most formations in 35 seconds, wins.

It's fun, it's challenging, and it looks cool on video. Better yet, it's easy to judge.



“VRW offers many of the same creative freedoms (i.e. multiple orientations, variety of flight maneuvers, etc.) of traditional freeflying,” says Brian Buckland, cameraman for Team Mandrin, “However, it provides a quantitative way to train, compete and measure performance.”

The USPA VRW 4-Way Nationals test event is scheduled for Friday, October 27th.

* * * *

Who's in First?
Check out
www.OmniSkore.com!!

SHOUT OUTS!!

- A “hooray” for all the Dallas teams! Those stuck at home are cheering you all you guys!
And a Happy Birthday to Ron Hill of Dallas Thunder (10/2306).

-Heather Buckridge

- All paws to Carolina Ice!!



-Anonymous

Keep the “Shout Outs” coming!!
E-mail me at
SDASpotlight@yahoo.com or see me (melissa nelson) around the DZ!

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CORRECTIONS TO 10.21.06
NEWSLETTER

I SPELLED BRYAN BURKE'S NAME
WRONG!! SORRY BRYAN!

* * * *

*Be still in your mind, strong with
your body and one with your team
and you will do well.*

* * * *

Here's What You Said About Who You Think Is Going To Win 4-Way

- Wilmar Castano

Open - Dallas Thunder

Adv - Undecided

Int - SDC Furies

- Shannon Sweet/Sarah Lawrence

Open - DeLand Groove

Adv - Misha's Team

Int - SDC Furies!!

- Kolla Kolbeinsdottir

Open - DeLand Groove

Adv - Not Sure

Int - SDC Furies

- Laura Kennard

Open - Dallas Thunder

Int - Avalanche

- Sara Bratcher

Open - DeLand Groove

Thanks for your picks!! Keep `em coming!! Let me know who you think is going to win!!

SDASpotlight@yahoo.com or see me around the DZ!

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ATTENTION COMPETITORS

Important Notice About the Wind Tunnel

National competitors **are NOT allowed** to fly in the tunnel after the draw in their event. They are allowed to fly again one hour after the last rounds scores are posted (if there is no protest).

If they are in two events, they still have to wait until the last event's round scores are posted to either jump or fly in the tunnel.

If one event finished an hour ago and their next event draw is later that night, they may fly in the tunnel until the draw has been done.

If a National Competitor enters the chamber, they will be disqualified in their event.



Team Select-Photo by mike mcgowan

