

# SECOND ANNUAL AMOA--IFPA TOURNEY ON THE BEAM... (AS IN "UP")

The AMOA International Flipper Pinball Association held its second annual World Championships last month in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

My trip to the Chicago area began with a visit to the "big three." Most of the people I usually see were already in Milwaukee. They each (Data East, Premier, Williams, and Bally) had 20 games to set up and adjust in a very short time. The sight of 80 brand new games, side by side, all fired up and ready to go was interesting and exciting.

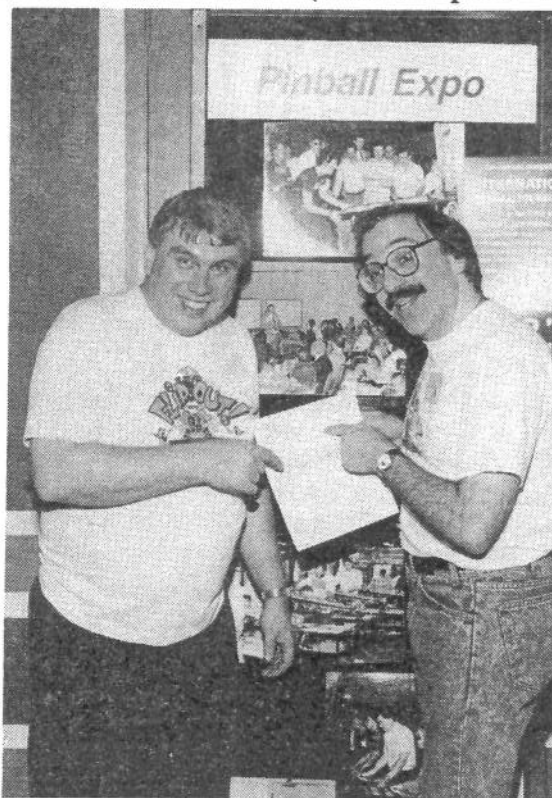
My wife spent the day with her brother, Ira, and they met me at Data East. Marilyn and I left to make the trek to Milwaukee... and I do mean trek.

We pulled up to the hotel, carried some bags in and I left Marilyn to register. On the way out to park the car, I met a group of people coming in.

One member of the group seemed very familiar to me. The few seconds it took for me to walk out to the car was all my mind needed to process the visual information I had just gathered. I had just passed Lt. Sulu!!!

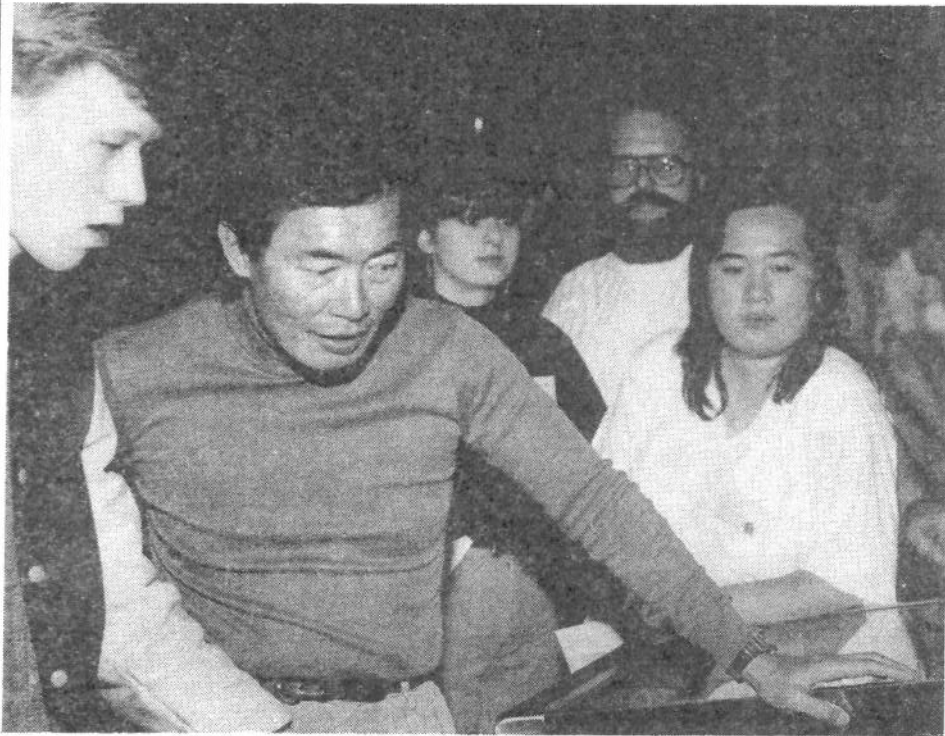
I later found out the Wisconsin Star Trek Convention was... not across the street, not in the next building, but in the very next room to the tournament. Regular readers of this publication know that my love for Star Trek is only slightly less than that for pinball. Star Trek and pinball... WOW.

My first thought was we NEED a Data East STAR TREK machine here. Unfortunately for us, (although, good for Data East) all the STAR TREKs were sold and none remained in the factory. The company did the best it could and sent up a box of the Star Trek VI movie posters, (used to pack in each game), to give to tournament players. These posters were being sold for \$10 in the next room. IFPA's Doug Young told me he had just refused an offer from an unfamiliar fellow with strangely large ears to buy the whole box at \$2 a piece... even Trekkies try to make a buck!



*Those two Expo guys were there. Mike Pacak and Rob Berk getting people ready for November 12--15 in Rosemont.*

Of course I had duel citizenship for the whole weekend, and wandered over to the convention whenever there was a lull in the pinball action. Although the last Star Trek convention I actually attended was in 1975, I did know that



*George "Lt. Sulu" Takai tries "flying" with Peter Pan on HOOK*

the highlight of any of them was the chance to meet the star "crew member" who was appearing.

I don't know how much money George Takai (Sulu) was paid, but he earned every penny of it. His day on Saturday began with a very early morning jog and full activities until his speech to the masses at about 1 pm.

At two or so he sat at a table to sign autographs and didn't get up for over three hours! He signed everything put in front of him, posed for pictures, answered stupid questions, sang songs (the stress was getting to him), and still looked great.

I was there primarily for pinball and was next door 98% of the time. But I couldn't resist peeking in every once in awhile. I wanted to get the STAR TREK issue of *the pinGame journal* signed so I kept an eye on the line. When it looked

reasonable I went over and waited.

Full credit goes to Doug Young for arranging to get his copy of issue six and give it to me to get signed-- Thanks Doug.

Earlier in the day I had asked the promoter of the event if George (we all know him by his first name) would like to come over and play some pinball. When I came up, last in line, for my autograph, he asked me if we were ready to go... We walked in the back

door and I led George to HOOK. (It was the closest thing to STAR TREK there.)

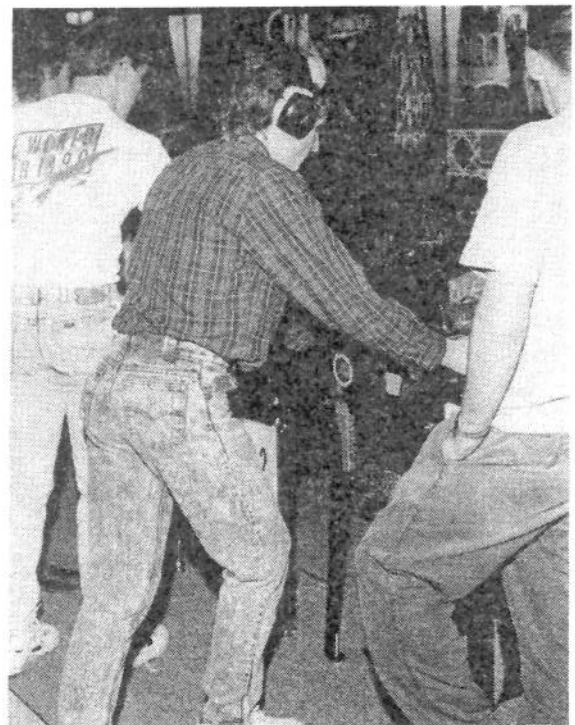
He was a little unsure how to play at first, but after I went over the basics, he loved it. A group started forming, but most players never knew he was there. When the promoter suggested he leave, he said he wanted to stay and play and he did. After about 15 minutes he had to go, I gave him a IFPA T-Shirt, and he was



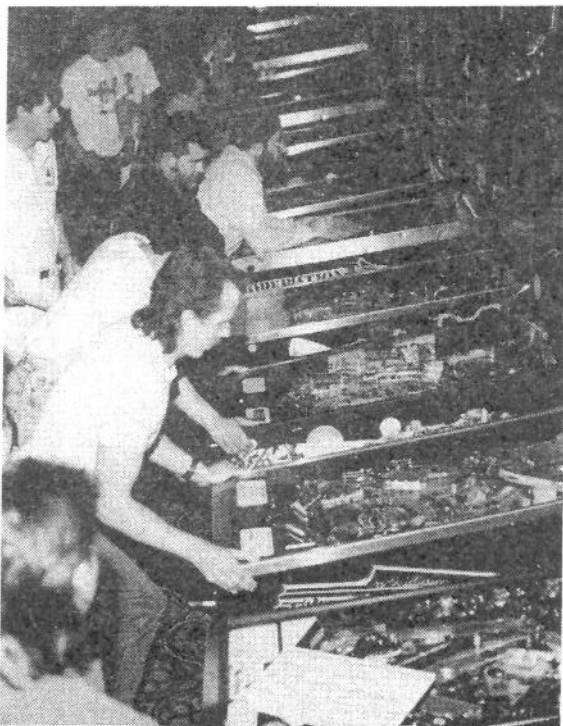
*It was that kind of a weekend for Rick Stetta*



*IFPA staffers Debbie Bohrer (l) and Pam Braam helped things "cruise."*



*Some players wanted to be "alone" with their machine.*



*The Manufacturer events were fun to watch and hotly contested.*



*Lyman Sheets gently tries to "nudge" a ball past Captain HOOK.*



*Women's team champs Jeri Lock (l) and Barb Chablewski show off their first place trophies.*

One disappointing surprise was that Rick Stetta, Flip Out '91 and PAPA champ, was out in the preliminary rounds. I did speak with Rick early and asked him how he was doing. He answered, "Losing." I asked how he was doing emotionally. His reply, "Losing."

Dave Hegge, winner at Flip Out '90, came out on top this time. I know both Dave and Rick and I'm glad to see things switch around a

gone. I don't want to give the impression I was totally "blown away" but it was quite an event. bit (sorry Rick). I think it makes for

The tournament was quite an event, also. It was well-run and well-attended. It was a difficult place to cover for the magazine, because flash photos are not wise while people are trying to compete. Many players are understandably not in the mood to be interviewed.



*An interesting group of players (l to r) Mark Ritchie, Jim Patla, Gil Polack, and manufacturer champ Jon Norris.*



*This "new game" was waiting by the elevators to tempt the tournament players... most managed to resist.*

better games and competition; perhaps it will make Rick try a little harder and not be so calm and subdued when he plays. Congratulations to Dave. I look forward to the next meeting.

Of course, there were many very good players who finished well and they all deserve their trophies.

I was unable to stay for most of the finals on Sunday, but the results are printed below. There will be more pictures next issue. pGj

# AMOA-IFPA Second Annual World Pinball Championships

March 27-29, 1992--Milwaukee, Wisconsin

## Final Results:

### *Pin Master Singles*

First: DAVE HEGGE--\$550--Brookfield, IL Second: JASON WERDRICH--\$415--Park Ridge, IL  
Third: RICK MILLER--\$275--Algonquin, IL Fourth: BOB WINTER--\$140--North Glenn, CO

### *Pin Master Team*

First: "The Slam Tilts"--\$600 LYMAN SHEATS and MIKE TEIXEIRA  
Second: "Out For Blood"--\$445 DOUG ONGSARD and JOHN ROSS  
Third: "Two-Way Combo"--\$285 DALE RICE and DAN WILSON

### *Open Singles*

First: DAVID ODYA--\$455 Second: TIM POST--\$380 Third: ROB LEACHMAN--\$250  
Fourth: DOUG ONGSARD--\$160

### *Open Team*

First: "Bimyows"--\$515 JAY BENJAMIN and JERRY ISREALOVE  
Second: "Terminators"--\$395 RON COYLE and DAN COYLE  
Third: "Skyway Deluxe"--\$260 PAUL MADISON and FRED RICHARDSON

### *Women's Singles*

First: JULIA SLAYTON--\$200 Second: JERI LOCK--\$150 Third: TERESA THEIS--\$100  
Fourth: BARB CHABLEWSKI--\$50

### *Women's Team*

First: "The Coils"--\$135 BARB CHABLEWSKI and JERI LOCK  
Second: "B.S. Bar"--\$85 CALI SEVERTSON and DEB KARNES  
Third: "C and M" CATHY ALLEN and MARLENE BENSON

### *Mixed Team*

First: "Special T and MC"--\$290 THRESA BYBEE and MICHAEL CUSTER  
Second: "Royal Pair"--\$215 JERI LOCK and ART TEACHOUT  
Third: "T N T"--\$145 TERESA THEIS and TOM DERY  
Fourth: "B. S. Bar"--\$70 CALI and BRIAN SEVERTSON

### *Manufacturer's Singles*

First: JON NORRIS--Premier Technology Second: TOM CAHILL--Williams Electronics

### *Manufacturer's Team*

First: Premier Technology  
RAY TANZER and MIKE VRETTOS  
Second: Data East Pinball  
NEIL FALCONER and TIM SECKEL

### *Youth 13--17 Division*

First: EHREN BILSHAUSEN  
Second: JOE CALLA  
Third: JIM PATLA  
Fourth: CHRIS KEHOE

### *Youth 12 and under Division*

First: MARK McCOMB  
Second: BRIAN ROMANS  
Third: MIKE PATLA  
Fourth: CRYSTAL LEMKE



The "Official British Team" of Malcolm Rimmer (l) and Gary Flower give "thumbs up" to the tournament.

*Part Two... In Pictures*

# AMOA--IFPA IN MILWAUKEE

## **PIN MASTER SINGLES**

*Third place:*

*Rick Miller (l)*

*Champ:*

*Dave Hegge (center)*

*Second place:*

*Jason Wendrick (r)*



## **WOMEN'S SINGLES**

*Champ, Julia Slayton, of London, England, and Phoenix, Arizona, accepts her trophy from IFPA president, Sharon Harris.*

## **PIN MASTER TEAM CHAMPS** *"The Slam Tilts"*

*Mike Teixeria (l)*

*Sudbury, MA*

*Lyman Sheats, Jr. (r)*

*Wayland, MA*





**MANUFACTURER'S  
TEAM CHAMPS**

*Premier Technology,  
Ray Tanzer (l)  
Mike Vrettos (r)*

**MIXED TEAM  
CHAMPS**

*"Special T and MC"  
Teresa Bybee and  
Michael Custer*



**OPEN SINGLES**

*Champ, Dave Ody (l)  
and Second place  
finisher, Tim Post (r)*

**OPEN TEAM CHAMPS**

*"Bimyows"  
Jerry Isrealov (l) and  
Jay Benjamin (r)*

