



A TEAM OF OUR OWN

"Lions, and Tigers, and Bears! Oh, my!" While this may sound like a line from a famous motion picture, it is actually a partial listing of professional sports mascots and nicknames.¹

While Americans often think of professional sports as being limited to football, baseball, basketball, and ice hockey, the *Sports Logo Guide* also identifies professional lacrosse, roller derby, roller hockey, soccer, team tennis, and volleyball. In all, that reference identifies 82 professional North American sports leagues, both active and defunct, from before the turn of the century to 1997.

Organized sports goes back to the very dawn of civilization, with every culture having some sort of athletic competition as part of its heritage. This is especially true in today's society. We seem enamored with the performance and antics of our legions of highly skilled, highly paid athletes. To the fan, these teams represent not only a city or region, but also an attribute, whether real or imagined. The heritage of a given locality is often embodied by the team logo, colors, or nickname.

Team nicknames are not a modern phenomenon, but rather part of

18th ICV On The Web

Plans are underfoot for photos and reports from the 18th International Congress of Vexillology to be posted daily during the Congress onto NAVA's award-winning web site! NAVA's Webmaster, Dick Gideon and President, Dave Martucci have collaborated on a plan to transmit digital photos and written reports each night to the web site's special 18ICV pages. Check it out each day! It's the next best thing to being there. Look for this and other features at <http://www.nava.org/>

by John H. Gámez



our military heritage. Companies, battalions, and regiments have often carried proud names such as *Guards, Rifles, Dragoons, Lancers, Zouaves*, and so on. The American Civil War produced some of the more creative fighting nicknames. Union soldiers sometimes found themselves pitted against such fearsome units as the *Mississippi Yankee Hunters, Mounted Wild Cats, New Garden Fearnoughts, Tyranny Unmasked Artillery, Franklin Fire Eaters, Hell Roaring Horse*, and the *One-Eyed Battallion*.²

Modern team nicknames vary greatly as to the source of each particular team's moniker. Anything from culture, vocation, or avocation can be used to derive a particular team's identity.

Zoology is the vocation which is by far the most represented, with animals from every genus and order. Cat lovers are the most represented of this group with teams called *Lions, Tigers, Tiger-Cats, Bobcats, Border Cats, Catbirds, Channel Cats, Bengals, Ice Cats, Panthers, Cougars, Hellcats, Jaguars, Kats, Lynx, Mountain cats, Nightcats, Sabrecats, Thunder Cats, Wildcats, Wildcatters*, and *Gatos*.

Humanity in all its diversity is also well represented. From occupations such as *Cowboys, Steelers, Oilers,*

Lumberjacks, Minutemen, and Padres. Ethnic groups are also represented such as *Eskimos, Vikings, Canadiens, Canucks, Americans, Hawaiians, Floridians, La Raza, Metros-Croatia* (from Toronto, ON), *Texans, Tejanos, Aztecs, Indians*, and yes, *Soviets*.

Some nicknames were chosen because of the state of race relations of the day. Black athletes were at one time not allowed to compete against white athletes. To circumvent this problem many black baseball teams pretended to be foreign. Thus, were born the *Cubans, Cuban Stars*, and others.

With the controversy surrounding the use of Native American names as team nicknames, *U.S. News and World Report* ran a story pointing out the inappropriateness of such nicknames. It also suggested non-offensive names such as *Fighting Mineral Salts*.

Partially because of this controversy, non-offensive names, such as *A's, Action, Advantage, Beacons, Bicentennials, Blast, Breeze, Breakers, Impact, Liberty, Kicks, Machine, Sounds*, and *Xplosion* may have come into being.

Originally, baseball teams were

Continued on page 6

S O R R Y

The NAVA President and interim editor of *NAVA News* wishes to apologize to the members for the extreme lateness of the *News*. Events beyond the control of the Board have created the situation but we have done everything in our power to correct it. Those wishing to assist in this effort by contributing articles, advice or efforts may kindly contact the NAVA President to make their intentions known. Thank you for your understanding.

V E X I B I T S

The Denver Post. 28 March 1999. In a controversial move, the Japanese government is considering legislation to formally adopt the national flag and anthem. The national flag, known as the Hinomaru and the anthem entitled "Kimigayo" have critics up in arms. Although both flag and song have been used widely since the end of World War II, both are considered to be linked to the atrocities committed by Japanese troops in eastern Asia and the Pacific islands. *(submitted by John R. King, III)*

The Beaumont Enterprise. 13 December 1998. A news photo shows one of several huge U.S. flags that are to be hung from buildings in the Gaza strip along President Clinton's parade route. The President made the trip to help save the the Isreali-Palestinain peace process. *(submitted by David Ott)*

The New York Times. 21 December 1998. By visiting the Palestinian State, President Clinton's popularity in the Middle East reached a new high. By bombing Iraq days later, his popularity plunged. Palestians who had cheered for the U.S. President showed their anger by "...their prefered and time-honored tradition of burning American flags..." *(submitted by Anna K. Weisz)*

The Boston Globe. 31 May 1999. The Smithsonian Institution has begun the task of restoring "The Star Spangled Banner" - the huge U.S. flag that flew during the siege of Fort McHenry during the War of 1812. The project will cost

by John H. Gámez

an estimated \$18 million. Originally the flag cost \$405.90. The project goal is to "stabilize the flag" rather than to attempt to make it look like new. *(submitted by Anna K. Weisz)*

The Mail Tribune (Medford, OR). 30 January 1999. The Oregon state legislature has passed a bill that would require school teachers to conduct the Pledge of Allegiance at least once a week. Apparently, the law has not set a specific time or place for the Pledge. Some feel that the legislature should not be wasting its time on an unenforcable law, while one lawmaker feels that the law does not go far enough. *(submitted by James M. White)*

The Christian Science Monitor. 30 November 1998. Turkish expatriots living in Germany marched through the streets of Berlin waving Turkish national flags. They were demanding the extradition of Kurdish rebel Abdullah Ocalan who is being held in Italy. *(submitted by David Ott)*

Riverine Herald (Victoria, Australia). For Richard and Carolyn Hupfield, home is where the heart is. And although they live in the Australia state of Victoria, they fly the flag of the Northern Territory from their home. Richard expresses his feelings quite clearly, "The Northern territory is Australia as far as I am concerned. *(submitted by Ron Stracham, Darwin, NT, Australia)*

Northern Territory News (Dar-

win, NT, Australia). 31 March 1999. The Australian Football League wants to revamp its global image by changing its logo. Currently the logo is heraldic in nature with a shield and capitol letter "A" formed by the lower hoist canton of the British Union Jack. The league feels that both the shield and Union Jack reference are outdated. *(submitted by Ron Stracham)*

Northern Territory News. 8 April 1999. The pilot of the first F-117 "stealth" fighter to be shot down was comforted by the U.S. flag he had folded inside his flight suit. It was given to him by a female freind. He said of the flag, "For me it was representational of all the people who I knew were praying. It was a piece of everyone and very comforting. It helped me not to let go of hope." *(submitted by Ron Stracham)*

The NSW Freemason. December 1998. This issue relates the story of an Australian flag that was used in American and Australian combined freemason meetings in the southwest Pacific during World War II. After the war the Australian flag was taken back to the states where it remained for many years with freemason Winson H. Linnert. In 1957 the flag was returned to fellow freemason Syd Richardson. The flag was later used at ANZAC commemoration ceromonies. *(submitted by Ron Stracham)*

Greek News (Melbourne, Victoria, Australia) 29 March 1999. Four young Greek climbers scaled Mt. Kilimanjaro, the highest peak in Africa and

planted the Greek flag on top. Their next task, Mt. Everest the highest peak the world. *(submitted by Ron Stracham)*

Beaumont Enterprise. 27 November 1918 (yes, that is the correct date). In a move aimed at Communist and Anarchists, New York city banned the use of red or black flags and flags bearing anti-government slogans at any parades. *(submitted by David Ott)*

The Oregonian. 2 April 1999. Canada's newest territory raised its flag for the first time today. Nunavut celebrated with festivities, fireworks, and a new flag. The flag of the territory depicts the North star and an inuksuk (a guide post made of stones). *(submitted by Donald Klett)*

The New York Times. 9 April 1999. "Two Flags," a work by American artist Jasper Johns is to be auctioned at Christies in New York City. It is expected to draw bids of between \$7 million to \$10 million. Other flag works done by Johns have been sold for up to \$6 million. *(submitted by Anna K. Weisz)*

The New York Times. 27 April 1999. A full page ad by Christie's auction house shows a color reproduction of the the work "Two Flags" by Jasper Johns. *(submitted by Anna K. Weisz)*

The Orlando Sentinel. 31 January 1999. John Edward Reeves of Jacksonville, FL, was arrested for wearing a U.S. flag as a poncho. He was incarcerated for two days. Despite U.S. Supreme Court rulings, Florida's flag desecration laws are still on the books. *(submitted by Bernard Couture, Sr.)*

The Herald (Miami, FL) 27 De-

ember 1998. Dress rehearsals for the flag raising of the world's largest U.S. flag were completed. The flag, which measures 7,410 sq.ft., is larger than a basketball court and can be seen for 30 miles flying from its 225 ft. pole. *(submitted by Bernard Couture, Sr.)*

The Press Journal (Vero Beach, FL). 13 January 1999. Charles Wilhite of Overland Park, KS, was arrested for attempting to sell the flag of the 12th Regiment Corps d'Afrique, U.S. Army. the flag was stolen fom a museum 22 years ago. *(submitted by Bernard Couture, Sr.)*

The Press Journal. 8 January 1999. Paul deParrie, a "Pro-life" advocate protested court proceedings against him and his website by taping an upsidedown U.S. flag across his mouth. His website list hundreds of doctors who perform abortions across the U.S. Names of doctors killed were crossed off, others are depicted in "Wanted poster" form. *(submitted by Bernard Couture, Sr.)*

The Herald. 8 November 1998. The personal flag and standard of Adof Hitler will be on display with a traveling exhibit. the exhibit entitled, "World War II Through Russian Eyes" contain many personal items of Hitler captured by Russian troops and taken to Moscow as trophies of war. *(submitted by Bernard Couture, Sr.)*

Florida Today (Melbourne, FL). 4 December 1998. A black truck driver was enraged when he saw a Confederate flag bug screen on the grill of another truck. He forced the white trucker off the road and threatened to kill him.

The offending trucker was arrested on a variety of charges. The white trucker decided to replace the Confederate bug screen with a U.S. flag bug scen. *(submitted by Bernard Couture, Sr.)*

Florida Today. 26 December 1998. It was announced that Russia and Belarus would merge into one republic. *(submitted by Bernard Couture, Sr.)*

Florida Today. 26 December 1998. Because of low water on the Delaware River, General George Washington, had to walk his flags over to New Jersey. Actually, this was part of the annual reenactment of Washington's crossing of the Delaware. Because of low water conditions, the riverine assault could not be completed. *(submitted by Bernard Couture, Sr.)*

World Wide Web. Celebrating their 100th anniversary, the Veterans of Foreign Wars are offering a centennial version of their flag. The flag is a horizontal tri-color of R/W/B from top to bottom with the VFW centennial logo in the center. You can see it at their website at <http://www.vfw.org/>. *(VexiBits ed.)*

NBC Television. 16 June 1999. Something you don't see that often in San Antonio, Texas, much less the National Basketball Association championship series - the flag of the U.S. Virgin Islands - dozens of them. About 150 Crucians (natives of the island of St. Croix) came to cheer on fellow Crucian and San Antonio Spur, Tim Duncan. Most of them could be seen in their second tier seats waving the flags of the U.S. Virgin Islands. *(VexiBits ed.)*

Towards A More Perfect Union ... Flag

by David B. Martucci

With the changes in the United Kingdom now taking place, one has to wonder what will transpire if and when the

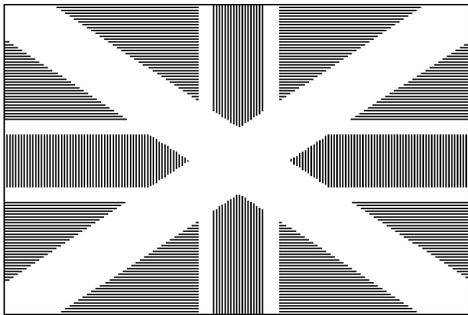


Figure 1 - The "Scotch Union Flag"

country renounces its claims to the "Kingdom" of Northern Ireland. Since the Sovereign now has revived the use of the Scottish version of the Royal Standard (with two "Scottish Quarters" instead of one) and there have been sightings of the "Scotch Union Flag" (Fig. 1), Great Britain seems ripe for further flag changes.

Of course, the "Scotch Union Flag", a "sandwich" of the background of the Scottish Flag and its Saltire Cross separated with the English Cross and its fimbriation in the center, is not in keeping

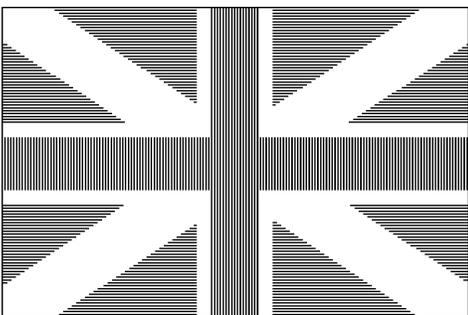


Figure 2 - First Union Flag (1606-1801)

with the design considerations of the first Union Flag (Fig. 2). That flag placed the English Cross and fimbriation on top

of the Scottish Flag. To be correct, the "Scotch Union Flag" ought to place a fimbriated St. Andrew's Cross over the English Flag (Fig. 3) but the design I do not believe would be very popular. "Too much white" would probably be the most common criticism.

Also, Britons, both English and Scottish, seem to have become quite fond of their "red-white-blue" colours, which would explain why we are seeing the "Scotch Union Flag" instead of the plain Scottish Cross. The English, I think, would not feel that com-

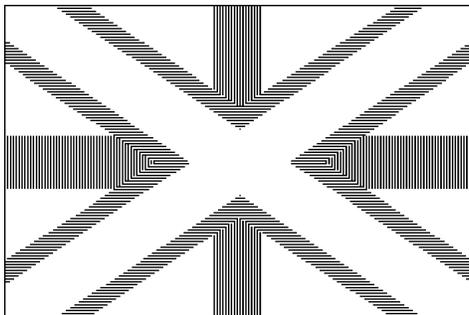


Figure 3 - "Scotch Union Flag" using principles of design of First Union Flag.

fortable reverting to the Cross of St. George with no blue colour in it at all.

Of course, if Ireland as a Kingdom drops out of the UK, then they could always remove the "St. Patrick's Cross" (so-called) from the present Union Flag (Fig. 4) and revert to the original Union Flag (Fig. 2). That would still have the problem of which cross is superimposed over which, a fact that the Scots still seemingly don't like very much. And having two different "Union" Flags would not seem to me to be a good way of promoting the

"Union," although two different Royal Standards seems to be a good thing.

So, from a design stand-

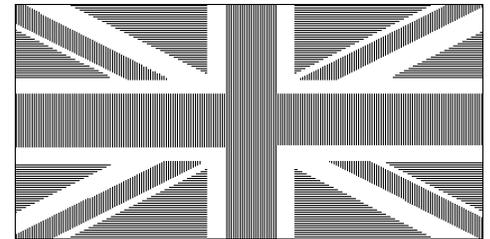


Figure 4 - Union Flag since 1801

point, one has to consider the following guidelines if a redesign of the Union Flag is being considered:

- Must keep the two national crosses of England and Scotland.
- Must present the two emblems as united without one obviously taking precedence over the other.
- Must use the three colours (red-white-blue) in something approximating the present proportions of each colour.

How can this be accomplished? As a designer, I can see only one way. A gyronny of eight, each segment bearing a piece of the two crosses

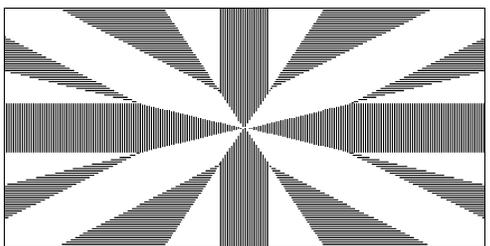


Figure 5 - Proposed Union Flag using the Design Principles stated in this article.

alternately. I am not sure that is the best description but the drawing shows the idea best (Fig. 5) .

**NAVA ANNUAL MEETING
AGENDA
1 AUGUST 1999**

NAVA Budgets for 1999-2000

BUDGET	1 Aug 1999	1 Oct 1999
	30 Sep 1999	30 Sep 2000
=====		
INCOME		
1. Dues	\$ 800	\$10,800
2. Interest	0	600
3. NAVA Shopper	0	600
4. William Driver Award	0	125
5. NAVA 34 Convention	0	6,000
6. From NAVA Reserves	0	2,600
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GRAND TOTAL INCOME	\$ 800	\$20,850
=====		
EXPENSES		
1. PUBLICATIONS		
a. NAVA NEWS		
<i>black-and-white, 500 copies per issue</i>		
i. Layout	\$ 350	\$ 2,100
ii. Printing	250	1,500
iii. Mailing	200	1,200
iv. Reserve	0	200
	-----	-----
TOTAL NAVA NEWS	\$ 800	\$ 5,000
b. RAVEN		
<i>64-90 pages, two-color cover, 500 copies</i>		
i. Formatting	\$ 0	\$ 2,200
ii. Printing	0	2,000
iii. Mailing	0	800
iv. Reserves	0	500
	-----	-----
TOTAL RAVEN	\$ 0	\$ 5,500
c. NAVA WEBSITE		
i. Fees	\$ 0	\$ 250
ii. Maintenance	0	500
	-----	-----
TOTAL NAVA WEBSITE	\$ 0	\$ 750
d. MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY		
<i>16-20 pages, cover, 500 copies</i>		
i. Printing	\$ 0	\$ 500
ii. Mailing	0	250
	-----	-----
TOTAL DIRECTORY	\$ 0	\$ 750
II ADMINISTRATIVE & MEMBERSHIP SVC EXPENSES		
a. PO Box in Trenton	\$ 0	\$ 450
b. Mailings	0	250
c. Secretarial	0	250
d. Supplies	0	150
e. Bank fees	0	150
f. Insurance	0	225
g. Officer telephone	0	750
h. Officer postage & misc	0	250
i. William Driver Award	0	250
j. NAVA 34 Convention	0	6,000
	-----	-----
GRAND TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 800	\$20,850
=====		

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions
3. Minutes of last meeting
4. Reports:
 - a. Elected Officers
 - i. Treasurer
 - ii. Secretary
 - iii. Second Vice President
 - iv. First Vice President
 - v. President
 - b. Appointed Officers
 - i. Auditor
 - ii. Historian
 - iii. Parliamentarian
 - iv. Registered Agent
 - v. Protocol
 - vi. Shopkeeper
 - c. Committees
 - i. Budget
 - ii. Membership
 - iii. Convention
 - iv. Publications
 - v. Vexitech
 - vi. Nominating
5. Old Business
6. New Business
 - a. Bylaws Amendments
 - b. August-September 1999 Budget
 - c. Oct 1999-Sept 2000 Budget
 - d. Other New Business
7. Elections
 - a. Nominating Committee
 - b. Officers
8. Annual Convention
declared closed
9. Adjourn

The NAVA Executive Board will meet on 28 July and again immediately following the Annual Meeting on 1 August.

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Team Continued from Page 1

known by the colors of their uniform stockings. Thus we get, the *White Sox*, *Red Sox*, *Black Socks*, *Red Legs*, etc. If those colors are not to your liking, you can choose the *Blackhawks*, *Blues*, *Blue Ox*, *Blue Wave*, *Browns*, *Gold*, *Maroons*, *Oranges*, *Rainbows*, *Reds*, *Red Army* (no kidding), *Red Devils*, *Red Wings*, *Redskins*, and *Red Roses*. Of course, a colorful nickname is no guarantee of the actual team colors. The primary color of the *Chicago Blackhawks* is red, The *Cleveland Browns* are orange, the *Washington Redskins* use burgandy, and the *Chicago White Sox* have used red or black in various years.

If you are a fan of numbers you can cheer for the '76ers, '49ers, *Colt .45's*, *Six Guns*, '86ers, and *Eighty-Eights*.

Geologists, meteorologists, and oceanographers can root for any number of teams called *Thunder*, *Lightning*, *Cyclones*, *Hurricanes*, *Fog*, *Surf*, *Breakers*, *Earthquakes*, and *Continental*s.

Engineers can revel in the fact that aircraft are a popular source for team nicknames, such as *Bombers* and *Jets*. One team was named after one famous airplane - *The Spirits of St. Louis* are named for Charles Lindburg's famous plane.

Linguists can follow teams in other languages, such as *Canadiens*, *Voyagers*, *Quebécois*, *Olympiques* (all from Montréal), *Nordiques*, *Amigos*, *Gatos*, *Tejanos*, *Toros*, and *Aztecas*. Of course, Canada would have a team with a bilingual nickname - *As de Quebec/Quebec Aces*.

Astronomers are represented by teams such as the *Stars* (one of the most common team names), *Starzz*, *North Stars*, *Planets*, *Comets*, *Komets*, *Galaxy*, and *Suns*.

Musicians can sing the praises of the *Sounds*, *Jazz*, *Rockers*, and *Rockin Rollers*.

Of course, some team names are beyond description. The *Indianapolis ABC's*, the *Cleveland Allmen Transfers*, *West Brooklyn Assumption Triangles*, *Toledo Jim White Chevrolets*, *Clowns* (various cities), *Chicago Duffy Florals*, *Akron Firstone Non-Skids*, *Cincinnati Kelly's Killers*, *Cleveland Molly Maguires*, and the *Minnesota Goofys*.

Some teams may have been named under the influence of mood altering chemicals. The *Kentucky Bourbons* and the *Pennsylvania Stoners* come to mind.

With numerous teams sporting logos that are heraldic or semi-heraldic in design, even *Heralds* have something

to cheer for.

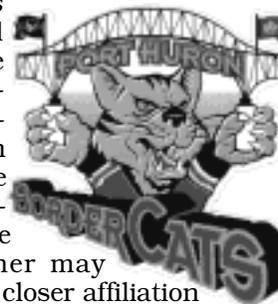
With professional sports names ranging from everything under the sun to beyond the heliostat, the question remains: What about vexillologists? Well, we could have followed the *Port Huron Flags* of the International Hockey League (IHL).



Their name was chosen from a number of entrants in a name-the-team contest. The name was chosen because of the number of U.S. and Canadian flags seen in this city situated on the U.S.-Canadian border.³ Originally, the logo (or crest as it was commonly called) was to have crossed U.S. and Canadian flags. When officials found out that a logo composed of national flags might be illegal, they changed it to two crossed hockey sticks with flags flying from the handles. One flag was blue with an eagle, the other was red with a yellow maple leaf. The logo was completed with the name *The Flags* across the design (Fig. 1).⁴

As vexillologists, we can be proud of *The Flags*. They won the IHL's Turner Cup, which represents the league championship, in 1966 and 1971. They also won the Fred A. Huber, Jr. Trophy for the best overall record in 1965, and the Frank Gallagher Trophy in 1979 for the IHL Eastern Conference Championship in 1980. *The Flags* also hold IHL records in two different categories. One for the longest streak without a shutout, scoring at least one goal per game in 331 consecutive contests. The other for the fastest two goals in one game. *The Flags* scored twice against the *Saginaw Gears* within two seconds of game time!⁵

The Flags commenced play in the 1962-63 season and continued through the end of the 1970-71 campaign. Because the team owner may have wanted a closer affiliation with the nearby *Detroit Red Wings* of the National Hockey League, and possibly to attract more fans from southeastern Michigan, the nickname *The Flags* was dropped and the team became the *Port Huron Red Wings* starting in the 1971-72 season.⁶ They kept that name for three seasons. Then for the 1974-75 season, the name *Flags*



returned. In the 1979-80 season the crossed flags logo was dropped in favor of a caricature of an eagle in hockey gear, sans flags. Only the word *FLAGS* remained in the logo to identify the team nickname (Fig. 2). The new logo lasted only two seasons. *The Flags* folded (no pun intended) after the 1980-81 season due to lack of fan support.⁷

Overall, *The Flags* played in 16 seasons, won two league championships, won one All-Star Game,⁸ played 1,194 games with a record of 535 wins, 518 losses, and 141 ties for and overall winning percentage of 50.7%. The *Flags* scored 4,788 goals and the opposition scored 4,767.

Although gone, *The Flags* are not forgotten. The modern day *Port Huron BorderCats* maintain a bit of the *The Flags* heritage. The *BorderCats* original logo was composed of a vicious feline holding a bridge over his head. Behind the bridge were the crossed hockey sticks and flags from *The Flags* crest.⁹ Later, when the team went from the Colonial Hockey League to the United Hockey League, the logo was altered so that the sticks were removed and the flags placed at each end of the bridge (Fig. 3).¹⁰

Notes

1. Three sources are employed in the compiling of nicknames. John Fulgaro. *Sports Logo Guide*. (San Ramon, CA: The Sports Fanatic, 1997). 3rd ed.; David B. Biesel. *Can You Name That Team?* (Metuchen, NJ: The Scarecrow Press, Inc., 1991); Eric Miller. *Sports Hall of Oblivion*. (p.p., n.d.).
2. Philip Haythornwaite. *Uniforms of the Civil War: In Color*. (New York: Sterling Publishing Co., Inc., 1990), p. 97.
3. Undated and unsigned letter from the offices of the International Hockey League to the author.
4. The Official Web Site of the *Port Huron BorderCats* (<http://www.bordercats.com/>). *History of the Port Huron Flags*. Photos in various sources sometimes show the American flag with a circle of stars around the eagle. The illustrations for *The Flags* logos were found in the *Internet Hockey Database* (<http://www.slater.alabanza.com/ihdb/>) and the *Sports Logo Guide*.
5. *International Hockey League 1997-98 Official Guide and Record Book*. Ed. Tim Bryant. (Peoria, IL: Multi-Ad Services, Inc., 1997).
6. Letter from Jeff Davis, Archivist, Hockey Hall of Fame to the author. 7 July 1997.
7. *Internet Hockey Database* and *Sports Logo Guide*, p. 273.
8. Back then, the defending league champion played an exhibition game against a team of league all-stars.
9. *Sports Logo Guide*. p. 248.
10. *Internet Hockey Database*.

**MEMBERSHIP
DIRECTORY ERRATA**

Grace Rogers Cooper
November through
April Address:
509 68th Street
Holmes Beach FL
34217-1223
Aol: Analysis and
research; histori-
cal flags
We apologize for the
omission.



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

With this issue, NAVA News is almost on schedule. The Board is determined to get it on schedule and to improve the content. Feedback on the January-May double issue (Vol. 32, No. 1-2) has been good and we are considering going to a quarterly, longer format with color. Your opinions and views on this subject are welcome.

We are searching for a new Editor for the News. If you are interested or think you might be, or know someone who may be, please contact me ASAP.

Raven has been released early this year, thanks in large part to Ted Kaye, Editor and the excellent editorial board. Peter Orenski also has contributed much to this effort and we thank him very much for his "un-flagging" efforts.

The NAVA Web site has received a much needed face lift thanks to Dick Gideon, our new webmaster. Much new material has been added and the existing material was updated and revamped. Thanks Dick!

Things are looking good for the 18th International Congress of Vexillology and NAVA's 33rd Convention, being held concurrently in Victoria, BC, Canada, 28 July-2 August. I'm looking forward to seeing as many of you there as I can. For those who can't make it, look for the daily updates and photos on the web site. Special thanks are due to Chantal Webb for her excellent work on the meeting.

Next year's convention will be held in Lansing, Michigan thanks to David Breitenbach's great efforts. Thanks David!

Pro Vexillis!
Dave Martucci, President

Q U E R I E S

The NAVA Web Site now contains a page of Questions sent to the organization and the answers made by our members.

Following are a few of the queries received by the NAVA Webmaster. If you have an answer, please email it to webmaster@nava.org (cc to pres@nava.org) as well as the inquirer or send it via postal mail to NAVA News, c/o D. Martucci, 240 Calderwood Rd, Washington ME 04574-3440 USA.

Please suggest 8 flags to fly at Anaheim, California hotel... please suggest appropriate themes ... i.e. g-7 nations, historic...

JBeckelhei@aol.com

I specialize in studying flags and symbols from inter-war Europe (1919-1939) and from the USSR.

I have been trying to find out information on a particular political symbol used during the inter-war period. It consisted of a stylized representation of a plow, a sword, and a gearwheel. The sword was pointing straight up, with the plow intersecting the sword from the left side at a forty-five degree angle, and half of a gearwheel appearing to the right side.

Does anybody know what this might be? The image appeared (along with a large collection of others) on the jacket of the book "A History of Fascism, 1914-1945" by Professor Stanley Payne. From what country, and from what party, did it originate?

Best,

Jeremy Marsh

JGM5149@aol.com

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NAVA News

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Please send copies or originals of any flag-related newspaper and magazine clippings to the Vexi-Bits editor:

John A. Gámez
5335 NW Loop 410 #513
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Please send all non-NAVA News related correspondence, including change of address or changes in email status to the Association's permanent address:

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1977 N Olden Ave Ext
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NEW EDITOR SOUGHT

NAVA News is looking for a new editor. Duties to include determining editorial content with the advice of the NAVA Publications Committee, arranging for layout and design of each issue in a timely manner, receiving and responding to authors and letters to the editor, determining articles and columns for each issue, arranging for production and mailing of each issue.

Those who may be interested in this volunteer position may contact the NAVA President:

David Martucci
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Washington ME 04574
(207) 845-2857
pres@nava.org

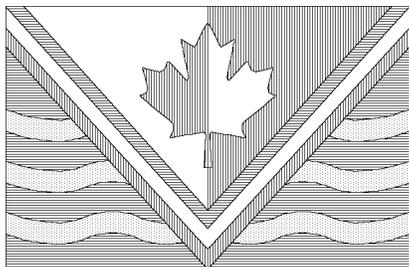
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- VexiBits
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Take Note:

There will be NO
NAVA Meeting in
October. This year's
meeting is being held
concurrently with the
**18th ICV in
Victoria, BC**
28 July-2 August 1999
See you in
VICTORIA!