



THE LAST SUNSET

Chevron Action Flash

Even after going a break down early in the final, for many, Skogs would still have been the favourite to win. Their power, character and consistency has won many fans. However it was Chevron who were victorious. Will Cornelius describes how it felt to win, "It was indescribable to be honest. After all the hard work put in by the team it was great to win the title on home soil."

He goes on to describe the game, "The semi was definitely key to our success. The way we played meant we were confident and relaxed going in to the final. We basically played how we have tried to play for the past few years - simple offence utilising a quick moving disc and a defence which involves the 7 players on the field and sideline. Getting the break early in the final meant we could run them hard as they play with quite a short line so we tried to make them work for every point!"

Chevy are a really tight knit team who have been playing as a club for about 14 years. We asked them how much of their success is in their talent and how much is team ethos. "All our players our top class and love the shirt and the club. We are also all great mates and have a bond, which means we work hard for each other in both the good and bad times! Without that common goal it doesn't matter how good you are as you'll never be a true team."

So how do they think the European teams will do against the rest of the world in Prague. "We need to remember that the North American teams are good but we shouldn't become obsessed, European teams have a different style and way of playing the game. We



just need the confidence to excel in our own way! I'd love to see a couple of our top Open, Mixed and Women's teams in the top 10 as a minimum."

Asked to give away the secret of a great team, the members of Chevy said, "Skill, similar personalities, desire, commitment to a common goal, hard work and hard work and hard work. One thing not to be under estimated is the stereotypical squad player. The ones who don't always get the glory but put in the hard work and do their job time and time again. Without these players the super-stars wouldn't get to shine.

We look forward to seeing the culmination of that work next year.

Prague here we come

Fresh from finally winning back the European title, we caught up with Aura from Iceni and chatted about the future of the women's game.

"The European title has been a huge bugbear for Iceni the last few seasons - we lost the finals in both 2007 and 2008. Winning xEUCF this year was our major goal, and I'm so pleased we've achieved it. Especially in our hometown!"

What makes Iceni successful?

"Since our inception, Iceni have always strived to make our team better and more and more competitive. This year we took things to a higher level - last month we travelled to Chesapeake, on the East Coast of the USA, to get a better taste of hard competition. It really fired us up and brought us closer together. Playing when everyone backs each other is such a great, motivating team dynamic."



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The Spirit of Mixed

Brighton had an amazing tournament crushing teams in their path. However, it was the silver medal winners Frizzly Bears who won the spirit prize. Members of the team, back home in their "normal lives" in Aachen Germany, answered our questions:

Are you disappointed not to win gold?

We hadn't expect getting into the final - so our win in the semi-final with an awesome performance of the whole team (against Sugar Mix - a team that we couldn't beat before) made us so proud that the disappointment of the final was forgotten very fast.

Our opponents in the final (Brighton) were by far the strongest team in the mixed division. We didn't stand a chance against their very safe offence. they deserve to win the tournament and we are very happy with winning the silver medal

Two German teams won spirit. Do you think that the game is played differently in Germany?

Having played Ultimate in the US and Germany as well as in Europe I believe that teams from all countries display qualities that continue to develop and strengthen the true meaning of SOTG. The love for this game is in all of us. And we all possess the capability to play it with the deep spirit that has developed right along with the growth of this incredible game.

I think the way a player understands the spirit of the game is largely influenced by his or her role models. Many of the leading teams in Germany have been displaying very good spirit along

with excellent ultimate over the years. This is not the case for every European (and also German) top team, with some dominating teams regularly showing poor spirit. Younger players watching them may think that good spirit is not so important if you want to win tournaments, which is surely wrong.



Congratulations to both finalists for their wins!



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Highlights

We asked the winners (and some random guys) for a great memory of xEUCF (other than winning of course). Here's what they had to say:

- Getting on the plane back to Germany, the pilot said "Welcome on board ladies and gentlemen and welcome on board Frizzly Bears". **Hans, Frizzly Bears**
- We were all impressed with the pace of the finals. Actually, some of the show games were equally interesting to watch. **Francois, Frisbeurs**
- In our clubs point of view one highlight was to be able to send teams into three different divisions (Open, Women, Masters). **Mikael, Helsinki**
- Free cups of tea in the Lookfly tent was a total winner in

Iceni cont...

Is the depth of the field in European ultimate increasing? "Yes in places, although in other places it's a bit stagnant. I think the Russians and Czechs (and the UK, although I'm biased) in particular have really come on the last five years in the women's scene."

What's next for Women's ultimate in Europe?

I think the most important thing is to encourage more growth at the grass roots level, which will lead to greater support of the touring club teams. I'd encourage all big cities to start recreational Mixed summer leagues if they haven't yet, which have definitely helped grow women's ultimate in London over the last 10 years. Otherwise, regular, competitive club tournaments will be important to bring the level of competition up.

my book. I mean, you can't get much better than free tea. **Aura, Iceni**

- To be honest it was organisation of the tournament. It was run by players for players. Everything was so simple and you didn't need to worry about anything. It meant our squad could relax, spend time together as mates and watch some competitive ultimate rather than having to stress about factors such as getting to a venue. **Chevron AF**
- Surprisingly nice weather that helped to have a very good atmosphere all around the fields. **Katerina, Hot Beaches**
- The sight of the age old European rivals Clapham and Skogs squaring up in the fading sun and floodlights on Thursday evening, the sidelines thronged, the atmosphere electric, will remain a vivid memory. **Tom Styles, Block-stack TV**

MASTERS

Six masters teams competed at xEUCF with Helsinki winning all of their games, including the final against British team Age against the machine, which turned out not to be that close as Mikael from Helsinki describes:

“To start the game, we invested a lot of effort in defence.

We started with man to man D because we saw that we had more legs & physics than AAM. After 5 points we saw that AAM were quite nervous and made small mistakes. We changed to zone and diamond D to give them even more pressure which resulted in more easy mistakes from AAM. At the same time we scored some easy points with long cut backs and long throws into end zone. Half time 8-2 and the game was practically over.”

Mikael went on to describe how being an established club helped his team to victory. “Helsinki Ultimate team was established in 1980 and is the eldest still-playing club in Finland. We have two equal lines of 7 which played two different ways. "The Firstline" was formed around the older players who played like they used to play in the 80s. "The Stars-line" used more modern 90s offence. We all have been playing a lot together and we know our style and limits.

As the age of players increases, we asked Mikael how we can see the Masters game grow.

“In Finland we have a really short history of masters ultimate. I think just seeing good players switch to the masters division in

stead of hanging in with one leg in the open and not being able to deliver there gives motivation to move into the fun but serious division. In this tournament the timetable was good, having the finals day before others, we felt it was very fun to execute.



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FINAL STANDINGS

OPEN		WOMEN	MIXED
1 Chevron Action Flash	25 Friselis	1 Iceni	1 Brighton
2 Skogs Ultimate	26 EMO	2 Leeds	2 Frizzly Bears
3 Clapham	27 Mooncatchers	3 Hot Beaches	3 Gronical Dizziness
4 Karhukopla	28 Stoly Ultimate	4 Woodchicas	4 Sugar Mix
5 Flying Angels Bern	29 Cambo Cakes	5 Yaka	5 Croccali
6 Viksjofors	30 UFO	6 JinX	6 BAF
7 Ragnarok	31 bigEZ	7 Primavera Olandese	7 Thundering Herd
8 Fusion	32 Stockholm Syndromes	8 Viima	8 UFO
9 Jack'suns	33 Gummis	9 Lotus	9 Fischbees
10 Freespeed	34 Taskas	10 E6	10 Outsiterz
11 Fire of London	35 Team 1935	11 Miss B	11 Au Oh Puc
12 Feldrenner	36 Fully Charged	12 Helsinki Ultimate	12 Discflyers
13 Silence	37 Brighton	13 Copenhagen	13 Corocotta
14 KFUM Orebro	38 Jokers	14 Brilliance	14 Discuits
15 Woodies	Spirit: Wall City	15 Nice Bristols	15 LOL
16 Cota Rica	MASTERS	16 ISO	16 Eintracht
17 Dji Sam Soe	1 Helsinki	Spirit: Hot Beaches	17 Emu
18 Wall City Berlin	2 Age Against the Machine		18 Spirit on Lemon
19 UFO	3 Iznogood		19 Jabba the Huck
20 Flying Bisch	4 Frisbee Family		20 Tallin
21 CUS Bologna	5 Veermaster		Spirit: Frizzly Bears
22 LeedsLeedsLeeds	6 Frisbeurs		
23 Helsinki Ultimate	Spirit: Frisbeurs		
24 Sipoo Odd Stars			

Photos
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