

**POPS SOS Midwest Meet**

**11-13 Jul 1997**

**Vandalia, IL**

## Iowa Jumper Wins POPS Meet

Bill Jaksich of Iowa won both accuracy events to dominate the POPS Midwestern Championships held in mid July at Archway Skydiving Centre in Vandalia, Ill. POPS is an acronym for Parachutists Over Phorty Society.

Jaksich won the three-round accuracy event with a total of 0.21 meters. The event was run on a three-centimeter accuracy pad.

Judy Hayes of Missouri, one of only three female contestants, placed second with 0.24 meters. Jerry Marklin of Michigan finished third for the second straight year with 0.51 meters.

Jaksich won the hit-n-rock accuracy event for the second consecutive year, tying

his score from last year at 4.47 seconds.

Illinois jumper Tom Lehman finished second at 5.56 seconds. Ted Rose of Oklahoma clocked in at 5.75 seconds and finished third.

Twenty-eight skydivers competed in Vandalia.

Although blue skies prevailed, DZ owner Dave Verner said competitors endured afternoon temperatures in the high 90s.

Dean Bickel received the Sportsmanship Award for "supporting every POPS meet we've had and every other meet we've had for the last 20 years," Verner said.

Bernie Larkin of London, Ontario, traveled the farthest to attend. □

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