



THE NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHERS ASSOCIATION



NEWSLINE

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JULY/AUGUST 2000

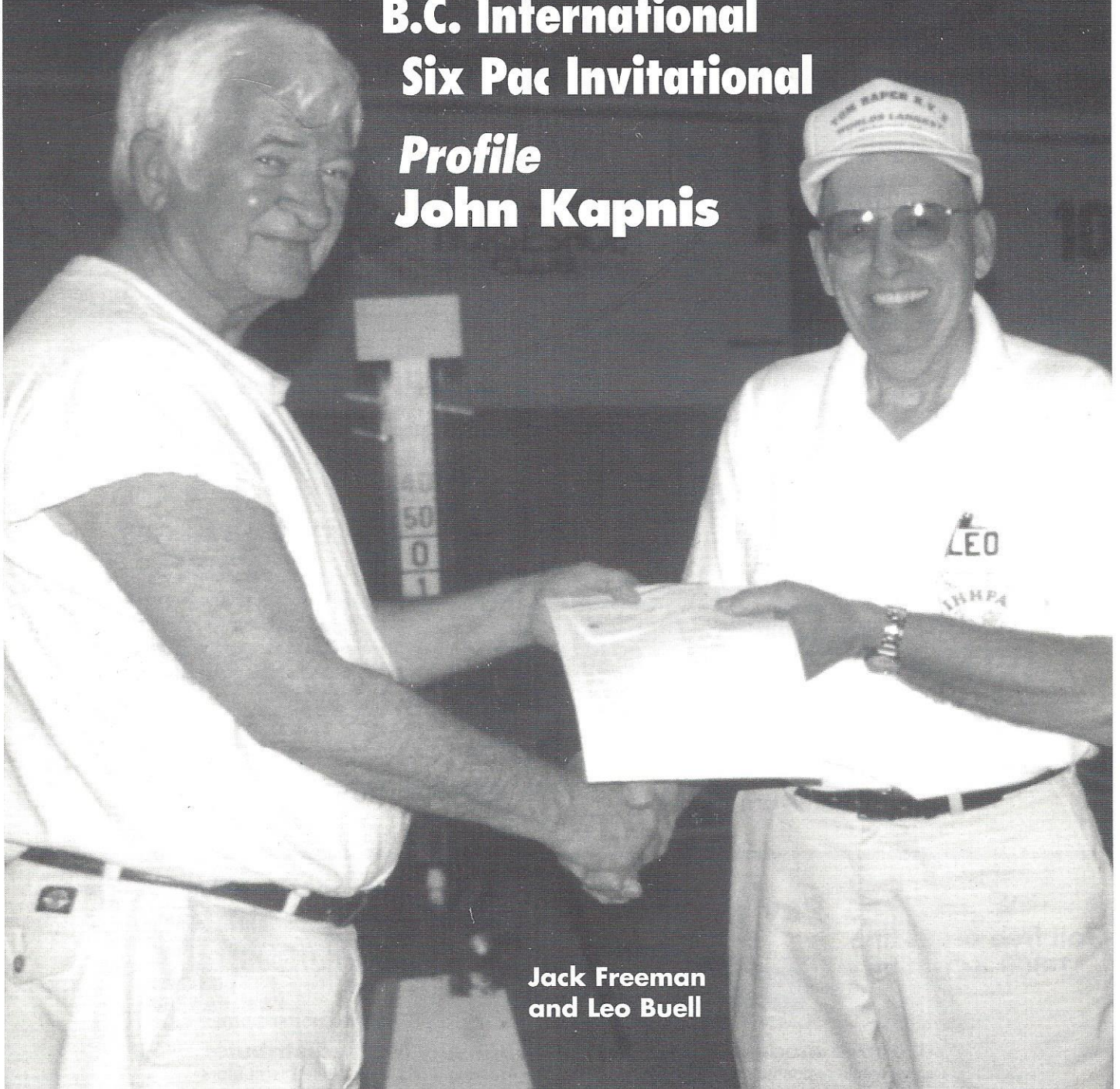
Team World 2000

B.C. International

Six Pac Invitational

Profile

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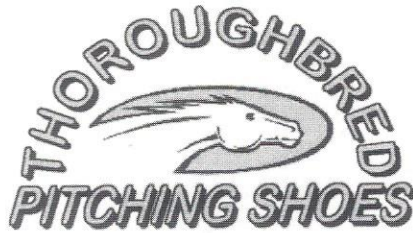


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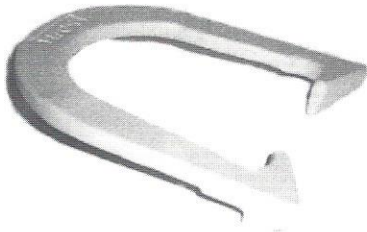
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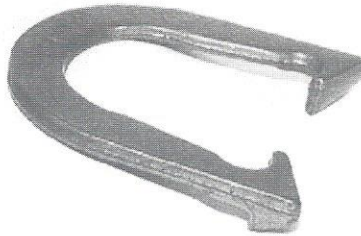
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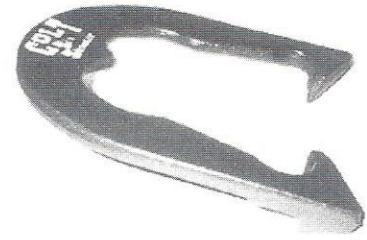
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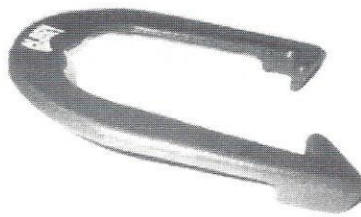
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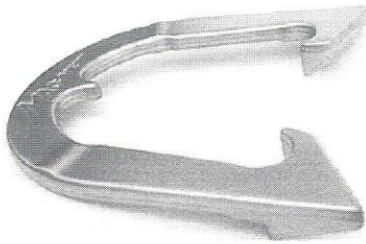
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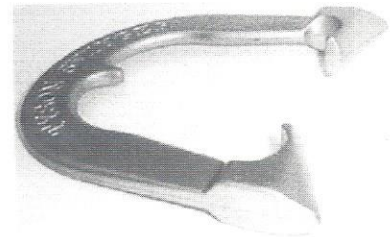


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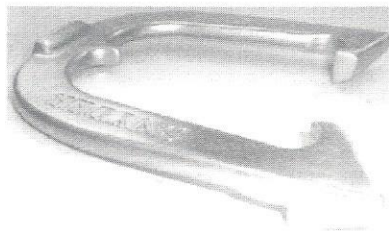
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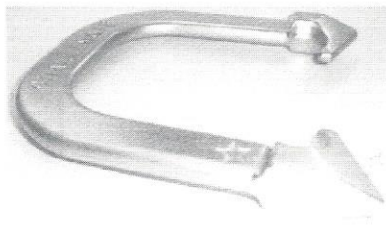


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ON OUR COVER

Leo Buell (*right*) presents Jack Freeman with a \$500 check for the NHPF (*see story page 18*).

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It was slow going until the last few days when a spurt of mail shot the Bismarck World entry total to 1,215. There are 611 men, 182 women including senior women, 156 senior men, 168 elders and 98 juniors. Pitching schedules were mailed to all on June 9th but within 48 hours we were notified of a missing page. While the printer's proof was correct, some unknown quantity was collated with a duplicate of page 6 where page 9 should have been. This error affected no more than 118 entries, all women, whose classes E-L were on page 9. All 118 women were mailed a corrected page on June 13.

With 48 courts for play, the pitching schedule will include only four shifts a day over the first week. This means players and spectators for that last shift should be able to be out of the building by 10 p.m. This will make the event much more enjoyable for many, especially the office workers who generally have to put in 10-14 hours a day. As usual, we do expect some last minute dropouts but we do have a short list of late entries. These late entries will have first call on filling open positions if their

percentage fits. If it does not, pacers will be used.

For those of you who cannot attend the World Tournament, you will be able to once again follow the action on the NHPA website: www.horseshoepitching.com. Paul Stewart, website director, is arranging for some live coverage though it will be limited. Results will be posted only after the computer printouts are deemed correct and the time is found to do the task. Remember, Paul as NHPA 5th VP has other World Tournament responsibilities and cannot spend all day, every day, online.

I hope that many of you who will be in Bismarck will support and attend the Awards Banquet. It is a fund raising dinner for the NHPF and will be held at the Radisson Inn on Sunday evening August 6. As we must commit to the number of dinners by Friday noon, it would be appreciated if you purchase your ticket upon arrival. Tickets will be available at the NHPA office. If you won't arrive until the 5th or 6th, please phone in your ticket request prior so we have your name on the list. While the menu has not yet been selected, I can assure it will be a very good sit down dinner. Ticket prices will probably be about \$20.

DAVE'S COURT REPORT

■ **Gillette withdraws 2002 World Tournament Bid!** Unfortunately, the Cam-Plex facility in Gillette was unable to schedule dates in 2002 that fit the normal recognized and accepted window for the tournament. Their only opening around other events already under contract was August 12-24. Word quickly got back from several charters that these dates were too much of a conflict for families with children returning to school or starting college. Realizing that they already had one strike against them, Cam-Plex officials decided that it would be best for all concerned to withdraw. They did so with the comment, "we really want the NHPA World Tournament back in Gillette and will bid again for a year when we can schedule dates suitable to the entire membership."

■ **The World Tournament Office Phone number is 701-255-9001.** If you are an entrant who has to drop out and haven't notified secretary Dick Hansen by July 25, it will be appreciated if you phone the Bismarck number on the 28th or later to let us know. Please do not use this number for casual inquiries or just to say hello. If you have a family or medical emergency, that is different. Keep in mind that the office staff is generally quite busy and often on the run. There may be times when no one is available to answer.

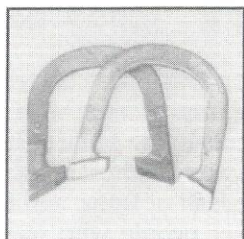
■ **Delegate packets mailed to charters.** There are a number of bylaw change proposals to be voted on this year. A couple are controversial. It is the responsibility of the charter presidents to distribute delegate packets to their appointed representatives. Hopefully, all clubs within a charter have been given the opportunity to discuss and vote on each issue so the delegate chairman will be voting the majority wishes of the members not just what officer(s) want. All delegates must be appointed by the charter president and identified in a letter written by him/her to the NHPA President. Such letter of delegate authorization must be presented no later than 72 hours before the convention.

■ **Are you considering a change to a short distance pitcher?** If you are a man age 70 or older, you are entitled to pitch from a

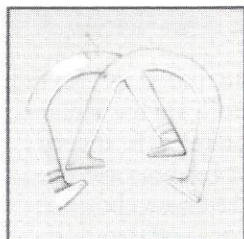
distance less than the full 40 feet. To do so, you must declare to your charter secretary your intention and throw 100 shoes, scored in writing and witnessed, to be used as your first entering percentage as a short distance pitcher. It is important to remember that once you move to the short distance, you must remain a short distance pitcher for the entire membership year. Likewise, if you are already pitching short distance and want to move back to the full distance, you'll have to qualify and remain full distance for the membership year.

■ **Do you have a handicap, injury or medical problem that prevents you from pitching full distance?** If you are under age 70 and feel compelled to move up for one of these reasons, you must first apply to your charter officers. Your request must be accompanied by a doctor's statement that your handicap, injury or medical problem is permanent enough that you may never be able to physically pitch from 40 feet without further aggravation. The charter officers make the decision to whether you can move up. If granted, they are obliged to notify NatStats and all their clubs where you might pitch. Members granted permission to move up for injury or medical problems are required to give charter officers an updated doctor's report every two years so they may determine if you are still qualified to remain a short distance pitcher.

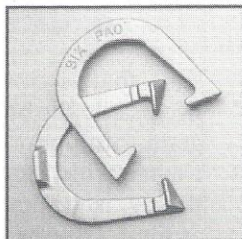
■ **When measuring for a ringer, what do you call a 3-point touch?** It is not a ringer! Rule 6, section B-1 says, "a ringer is a shoe which comes to rest encircling the stake. A straightedge touching both points of any part of the heel calks must clear (not touch) the stake." The wording of this rule is quite clear and understandable. It is surprising, however, the number of players who believe the rule was changed and will argue that a 3-point touch is a ringer. While several years ago there was a proposal to change this rule, it was voted down. Tournament directors would do themselves a favor to keep a copy of the latest NHPA rules handy to resolve such challenges and others that invariably come up during tournaments.



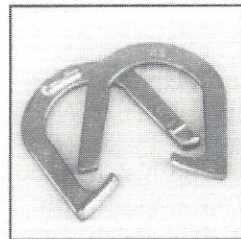
Mr. D.



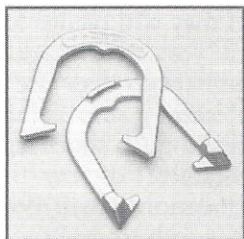
Allen



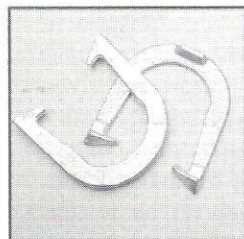
Six Pac



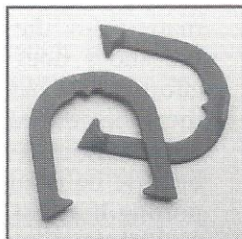
Ringle Single



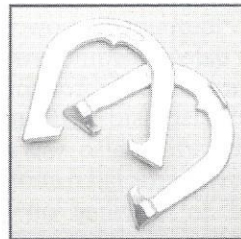
**Diamond
Tournament**



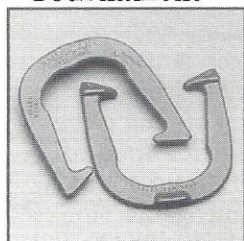
Deadeye E-Z Grip



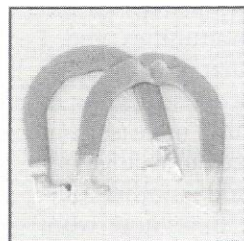
**Lee Jacobs
"Lattore"**



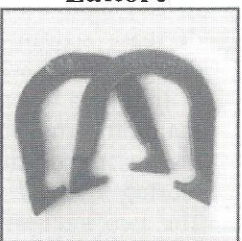
Elmer Hohl



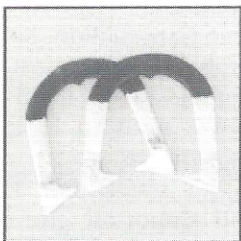
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READERFORUM

True Cancellation Rebuttal

In the May/June issue of *Newsline*, there was an article by Sol Berman about adopting another method of scoring called True Cancellation. This scoring subject had been brought before the Rules Committee several times and was finally put on the agenda to be talked about at the convention. It never happened, however, because not one delegate would second the motion so it could be brought to the floor for discussion. Printed response to Sol's article also was not favorable. Now, two years later, another article appeared in *Newsline* on the same topic by the same author. It is more condensed than the first article, but basically says the same thing. In it, Sol listed ten points to support his argument for True Cancellation. Some of them are probably true, most of them are opinion and two of them are definitely false. We need to look at those two false statements.

First of all, Sol states that True Cancellation and Count-All give the same comparative score for each frame. In horseshoes, there are 21 different possible scoring situations and in 6 of those 21, you do not get the same comparative score from the two systems. To illustrate, consider the situation where pitcher A has a ringer and a shoe in count and pitcher B has two shoes in count. In True Cancellation, pitcher A would score 3 points (no score for pitcher B) while in Count-All, pitcher A would score 4 points and pitcher B would score 2 points. That is not the same comparative score.

Secondly, Sol states that True Cancellation would increase the low percentage pitchers' chances of scoring points. That statement is false—True Cancellation decreases the amount of single points scored (no matter what caliber a pitcher is) because more points would be cancelled out. My rebuttal to Sol's 1998 article appeared in the July/August 1998 issue and argued this point in more detail. I will not repeat it here.

Sol maintains that we should reward the best effort and the shoe that comes closest to being a ringer and that the

shoe that is closest to the stake isn't necessarily the best effort. He has a diagram to support his premise. In theory I agree with him, but in this case the theory isn't practical. Shoes bounce around (ringers bounce off) and in some substances they slide and get moved around extensively. Therefore, I cannot agree with him, because in many cases, the final resting place of the shoes does not reflect the best effort. So, we have to judge (and score) the shoes on how they end up. Also, Sol's reasoning doesn't make sense because he is arguing in favor of supporting the best effort, yet he is supporting a system that will equate a shoe that is marginally not a ringer with one that is almost six inches from the stake. In any case, True Cancellation would decrease scoring opportunities and I don't think we want that to happen.

In an era where we are struggling to maintain (and hopefully increase) our identity, we do not need to change our scoring systems or add another one. The two systems we have now work fine. We need to spend our time and efforts in publicizing our sport and recruiting new members, in ironing out details so that we have harmony for all NHPA pitchers regardless of age, sex or pitching distance, and in developing the Freeman facility and the NHPF. The success and future of our sport lies in these areas and not in True Cancellation. It is time to put True Cancellation to rest.

Barry Chapelle, NHPA Rules Committee

NHPF Good—Dues Increase Bad

I feel that the NHPF and the Hall of Fame are good things, because I believe all sports should have a place to recognize the ones who have been instrumental, or have excelled in the sport, to make it what it is today.

However, I feel that the membership should be polled, to see how many are in favor and how many aren't interested. Horseshoes is an inexpensive sport, but if the NHPA increases the fees just to help support the foundation, it is going to get expensive, and we

are going to lose horseshoe members. I feel, myself, even with my accomplishments in the game of horseshoes, I will never reach the level of recognition into the Hall of Fame, and there are a lot of other people who feel the same way. Forcing members to pay up or drop out is not the answer to a healthy membership. Those who want to donate, will, and they will pledge a certain amount each year to the Foundation. If the membership fees are increased they will simply stop being members, but will still pitch shoes regardless.

Because of my interest in the Foundation, I will donate one dollar per month toward the expenses of the Foundation, and if we could get 75% of the membership to do the same, the NHPF would collect over \$100,000 dollars each year, along with other larger donations that others want to make. Remember, we are all here to promote the game of horseshoes, not make it a sport for only the ones who can afford it. Today, I would like to challenge all Horseshoe pitchers who believe in the Foundation program, to donate \$12 a year, \$1 a month or 3¢ a day.

Respectfully yours,

Bob Hayes, NY State Champion, 1999

Against Dues and Tournament Entry Increases

Dear Dave,

The executive board of the Minnesota Gopher State Horseshoe Pitchers Association, on behalf of the membership, wishes to express its *strong opposition* to the proposed Bylaws changes dealing with a dues increase and the number of NHPA sanctioned events required for adult entrants to the World Tournament. It is our considered opinion that implementation of these bylaws changes would be particularly harmful to our Charter for the following reasons:

While in general our Charter has consistently ranked in the top ten in contributions to the NHPF, we believe a dues increase for any purpose would adversely affect our ability to expand or even maintain our membership roles.

READERFORUM

With the recent (2000) implementation of the "one-card" system by the Minnesota Charter, a dues increase would make the task of recruiting persons who were "state only" members prior to initiation of this system especially difficult.

We could envision a dues increase affecting the Minnesota Charter's membership in such a way that a lower annual contribution to the NHPE, than has been the case heretofore, would result.

As with the proposed dues increase, the NHPA sanctioned events required for World Tournament entry would also be particularly harmful to our Charter given the World Tournament in Hibbing, Minnesota in 2001 would be the first held under this revision. It is our opinion that increasing the event requirements to ten events would significantly reduce adult entries, especially from those charters in northern climates and the Provinces of Canada.

For the reasons stated above, we, the executive board of the Minnesota Charter urge that the proposed Bylaws changes dealing with a dues increase and an increase in the events required for adult entrants to the World Tournament *not* be adopted.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry LaBrosse
President, MGSHPA

Want Spectator Interest? Change the scoring.

Awhile back, I was talking with Don Maine at the Central Connecticut Horseshoe Club in East Hartford. He told me about a conversation he had with Doug Kienia regarding creating spectator interest in our sport. Don said Doug's idea was that something must happen to the score after each pitch (score change) if we are to create spectator interest. Tossing this idea around, an idea came out to possibly not use four deads and ringer each no scores (Championship games). Give

instead, one point for each cancelled ringer. For instance, four dead two points each player, Ringer each no score = one point each player.

Thinking about this and having a copy of a 35 point game played at CCHC between Art Tyson and Walter Ray Williams which went 120 shoes, game ending 37-34 WRW, I thought, "What if the above suggestion was implemented and it was a 40 point game?" This game would have been over after 42 shoes with the score being Williams 43, Tyson 46. The above suggestion used to calculate the actual game would come out Williams 126, Tyson 123. In either case, spectators are seeing the score change after every pitch. In the actual game, there was no change of the score in 62 of the 120 shoes.

Put this idea on Don Beck's computerized scorekeeping at CCHC where you can watch a number of games at once and you will have spectators looking from the pitching to the monitors. Check the pitch, check the score. Create interest. Something is happening.

We hear that the game of horse-shoes can't get sponsors because we don't have spectators. Not enough interest. Well, here is Don Beck with 100% accurate computerized scorekeeping and Don Maine and Doug Kienia thinking of ways to make the game move.

What we have now, watching tournaments is family and friends watching family and friends. What we need is spectators and our chances would be much better if they were able to sit in the stands and watch the games, see the scores change and be able to follow a few games at once, without asking their neighbor, what happened!?

Spectator interest and with enough spectator interest—sponsors.

Jim Farrey, Voluntown, CT

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Here is my monthly donation to the NHPE. An idea that might bring money to the NHPE fund: Many of us save pop/beer cans. Once a year or so we take them in for recycling and come home with \$30-40. What an easy check to give to the NHPE. Nothing out of our pocket. Be sure to save the tabs for the Ronald McDonald House.

Art Moran, Minnesota

NHPE,

Enclosed is a check for \$75 which represents 50% of my cash awards. For tournaments at H.O.P.E., PA State Indoor 1st place, at Franklin, PA. High one game average, Western PA points challenge 5th place, and 3rd place at Head of the Mon Tournament at Fairmont, WV. I wish to donate this amount to the NHPE.

Jack Wagner, Prospect, PA

Mr. Loucks,

Please find enclosed a check for \$210. The positive write-ups in *Newsline* are making me feel better about the NHPE. The way I see it, things will only get better. Sure, there will be bumps, but as long as contributions keep coming in, most people's hopes and dreams will come true.

Sincerely,

Donald Wendler, Granite Shls., TX

To Hall of Fame Directors (Horseshoes),

Please accept this donation in honor of my older brother who is now throwing double ringers in heaven. To my older brother Edward L. Keyes of Crossville, Tennessee: "When we meet in heaven, you will be proud that all the time you gave to me to improve my game has made me a better pitcher."

Your Brother,

Ollie Keyes, Wolverine State HPA, MI

The Professor's View of Our Junior Program

by Bob Dunn

The Old Professor is about to take a summer trip but while he is still available, there's one more question we should ask.

Q. Professor, There are always inquiries and questions on how to start Junior Leagues and what can be

done to recruit youth into our sport. Can you address this issue?

Youth participation in any organization as yours is critically important. I can address that standpoint. As far as how to manage leagues and events, that advice needs to be presented by

one of your own, one of your members familiar with league operations.

Over recent years, youth participation has been rather strong in comparison to the pattern of adult membership. Over the past ten years, there has been a 23% increase in Junior membership. If looking back over the past twenty years, there has been a 118% increase, more than double.

In comparison to the potential for youth participation across the country, there is a whole lot of potential yet to be met. When considering the total population of citizens, based on the 1998 national population estimates, there are 34,864,000 youngsters between the ages of 10 to 18. If we look at recruiting 1 out of every 1,000 youngsters in this age group, that's means you could have 34,864 Junior members. That is only 1/10th of one percent. Even if you recruited 1 youth player out of 10,000, you would have 3,486 Junior members, or over 3 times what you have now. To think about having 10,000 to 20,000 Junior members—it is not that unrealistic.

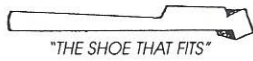
For each state to have at least one Junior League, should not be a strenuous goal, but at the moment, I believe I read where only ten states have a Junior League and one-fourth of all states have basically no Junior members at all. An organization that can recruit youth and has a uniform and growing youth program—is a healthy organization.

What is no doubt the major issue at present, is the number of adult members making themselves available to conduct the Junior Leagues. If a Junior League is established, there are countless ways to recruit, but if there is no league and no league director, recruiting is impossible.

Probably this may sound strange, but if all were well, there would be more Junior horseshoe pitchers than adult members. Look at baseball little leagues or soccer or hockey for example. Do those sports have bright futures based on youth participation?

Somehow find a way to get more members willing to volunteer and to provide Junior Leagues—the young will come.

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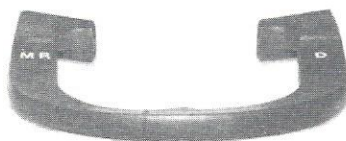
The edges of the Mr. D. Shoe are not round like they are on other shoes. The extra, extra heavy heels tend to keep the heels down as the shoe rings the stake, giving the square edges, and the calks on the bottom of the heels a better chance to grab the pit surface, or the other shoes on the stake, to prevent the shoe from turning around. This will lessen the chance of it being knocked off the stake.

An ideal flip has the shoe coming to the stake as it has just leveled out. Sometimes our aim is off just enough that the point, or heel, of the shoe will hit the stake as the shoe comes in. The points of the heel of the Mr. D. Shoe are at a slant, so that the first part of the shoe to hit the stake is on a plane with the bottom of the shoe. This forces the point of the shoe down, therefore; the extra, extra heavy heels on the Mr. D. Shoe will force the calks on the bottom of the shoe into the pit. The "dead soft" rating then entices the shoe to drop next to the stake for a point.

Because the heel of the Mr. D. Shoe is so heavy, sometimes the heel that doesn't hit the stake will jerk around the rear of the stake. This causes the other heel, that is now holding onto the pit surface, to hook the stake for a ringer as the shoe turns around the stake.

Shoes with hardened points, that hit the stake in this manner when flipped, have a tendency to jump away from the stake and spin to the rear, out of scoring range.

Shoes with blunt points, or shoes flipped with the slope of the heels going up, makes the top plane of the shoe to be the first part of the heel to hit the stake. This, more apt that not, will cause the shoe to flip over backwards and come to rest several inches from the stake - a lot of times out of scoring range.



PROMOTION JOTTINGS

The question still comes up, asking why this series has the bit of history in each issue, although answered previously, and there are multiple reasons. Our sport has a vast and rich history. If no one knows some about our history, it is like having no history. One purpose for these interesting bits of history—the more known of our early years, and the more mutual interest in our history, the more likely our Hall of Fame will become a reality. This month's look back is at the beginning years of the sport in Illinois, as described 60 years ago.

ILLINOIS

Organized horseshoe pitching in Illinois found its inception at a big open tournament held at Fairbury on Labor Day 1925. This tournament was won by Frank Jackson, with Walter Torbert second, and Gaylord Peterson third. A meeting at this tournament resulted in the formation of the State Horseshoe Association of Illinois Inc.

Every year since then, Illinois has held a yearly sanctioned state tournament. Walter Torbert, of Clinton, was the first state champion, winning the title in 1926 from a field of 130. This meet was also held at Fairbury. In 1927, the meet was held at the State Fair in Springfield, and again Walter Torbert came through against a field of 150. In

both tournaments Torbert did not lose a game.

The promising career of this young pitcher was ended in the spring of 1928 by the Grim Reaper, and this great loss was mourned by horseshoe fans everywhere.

Gaylord Peterson came through to win the 1928 tournament which was again held at Fairbury. In 1929, the tournament was brought back to Springfield to become a permanent fixture of the fair, and a grand old player, C.R. Thompson, of Chicago, became the champion. Milton Tate, of Knoxville, began a reign as champion with the 1930 tournament, and he retained his title until the 1933 meet when he was dethroned by Joe Bennett, of Congerville.

Gaylord Peterson again took the title in 1934, and Ellis Griggs, of Plainville, won out in 1935. Another grand old player ascended the throne in 1936 when Howard Collier, of Canton, won out. This year instituted the first junior tournament for boys under 18, and the winner was Herbert Patrick, of Fairbury. The year of 1937 saw Milton Tate come back to the top, and also saw Patrick retain his crown. William Moore, of Danville, won out in 1938, with Patrick again winning the junior meet. Aden Swinehamer, of Aurora, won the State crown in 1939.

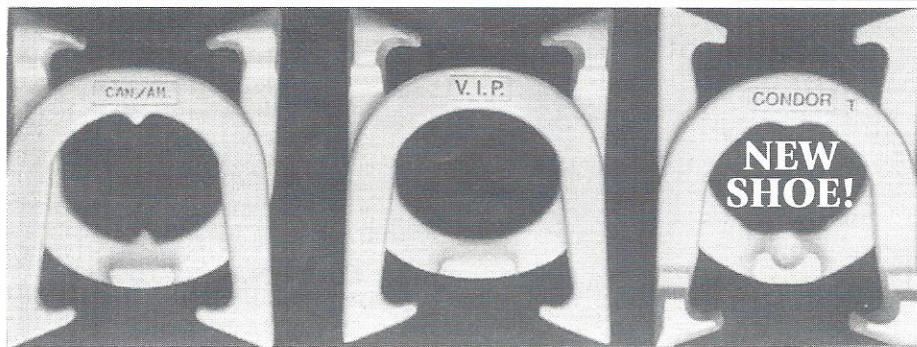
The Illinois Association has had a fine tournament every year since its formation. Each year the meet is pitched under a huge tent to prevent rain from halting the proceedings, and also to protect players from sun glare.

The success attending the Illinois efforts are due in no small way to the magnificent work done by President L.E. Tanner, of Anchor. Mr. Tanner really needs no introduction to any horseshoe fan, for everyone knows of his unselfish and unstinting labors during the trying years of 1938-39 when he was National President. He has been the head of the Illinois Association ever since it was organized, and the efforts of one great horseshoe patriot in the organization of a state can be clearly seen in Illinois.

The only sad mark upon the Illinois slate is found in Chicago. Here, most of the players have hooked up with the AAU. How these professional players have succeeded in joining an amateur association is not known, but even if they have slipped by as amateurs, their very conscience should tell them that they are defeating the purpose for which amateur pitching was organized. It is hoped that these players will see their way to coming back with the organization to which the rightfully and morally belong.

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THE JUNIOR WINDOW

Promoting Juniors

by Heidi Sternberg

Now that the transition has been made, I would like to take this opportunity to share with you my goals as the new Junior Promotions Director. First off, I sincerely wish my mom, Lorraine Sternberg, good luck in her new office. She has been a great role model in promoting horseshoes among Juniors.

How many times have we heard that the game of horseshoes will die if we do not get more Juniors involved in the game? Probably more times than you can remember! Well, the truth is, they are probably right. Today there are so many extracurricular activities for kids to join which doesn't leave much free time for other things. So, what can we do to get more kids involved?

I asked that question to the Junior

Charter Directors in a questionnaire I sent out a couple months ago. I have received a great response but I am wondering what happened to the rest of you who didn't return them? If you haven't received your copy please contact me. I know I have a few wrong addresses. This questionnaire will help us determine what methods work and what we can do to further promote Junior pitching in each charter. If your charter does not have a Junior Promotions Director, APPOINT ONE. We, the NHPA members, need to promote this game together. .

Did you know that there were only 9 Junior leagues last year? Why so low? Is it the parents not having time to bring their kids to league? Or are the kids too involved with other activities? I asked

the Junior League Directors what they did to get a Junior league started. I'll be using the information received from them to distribute to any person(s) wanting information on how to get a Junior league started. I hope we see more Junior leagues this year.

There are many benefits to pitching in a Junior league. For starters, it is a great way to meet new friends. I pitched horseshoes as a Junior and I have more lasting friendships through horseshoes than I do through my school years! And I am proud of that. We share a common interest and that is the missing link in most school friendships.

Another benefit to pitching a Junior sanctioned league is the National Top Ten awards. Every Junior in a sanctioned league has a chance to earn a National Top Ten award. Their names are printed in the *Newsline* magazine and they receive a certificate. Last, but not least, Junior Scholar Awards are presented to Junior sanction league members who achieve high standards in academics. A scholar trust fund is awarded to selected Junior Scholars. *The Red Book* explains all these awards in more detail and I would be happy to send anyone a copy of it.

I would like to see the charters elect a Junior Charter Director. I can't stress enough how important this is. There should be more volunteers to help organize Junior leagues. If you don't have the time to do it then please help find someone who might be willing to try. I hope everyone starts realizing the important effects our youth can have on this sport. Together lets make a difference in our own charter and this will greatly impact the sport of horseshoe pitching in the future!

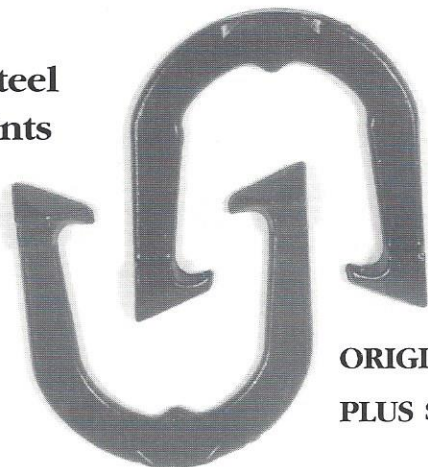
If anyone has an exceptional Junior pitcher in his or her area please contact me with the name and phone number/e-mail address of the Junior. I will be writing more articles focusing on Junior Pitchers in the NHPA.

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REGIONAL DIRECTORS **REPORT**

by Allen Baptist

I would like all Regional Directors and Assistant Directors who are attending the W.T. this year to attend the RD meeting. It should be held toward the end of the first week of the tournament. I'll have a few topics to discuss with all of you. If any of the RDs or ARDs have anything to discuss, the meeting will be a great opportunity for that.

New Regional Directors

I'd like to welcome two new RDs. Vey Allen is the first state resident to serve as RD for the State of Washington. Vey is taking over for Rick Rebman who is still Regional Director for Oregon and Idaho. My hat's off to Rick for doing such a great job being RD for three states for so many years. Fred Briand is the new RD for Southern California, replacing Dave Garbani who did a super job. I know these two fine people will do a great job and I am looking forward to working with them.

Regional Director of the Year

The Gene and Mary Van Sant Memorial Award is given each year to the Regional Director whose attitude and initiative best fulfills his or her responsibilities to uphold and enhance the image of the NHPA.

Each year, the Regional Director Chairman chooses the recipient of this award. With so many top-notch Regional Directors, it's not an easy job to pick just one Regional Director of the Year. This year I have chosen Jim Haupt from Wisconsin as the 2000 Regional Director of the Year. Jim is a member of the WHPA Hall of Fame. He is Tournament Director for numerous tournaments, while competing in many tournaments including many World Tournaments in which he has been a Delegate. Jim does a great job every year promoting the Senior Games in Wisconsin. He is also the editor for the WHPA Newsletter.

Jim joins a group of distinguished members who have received this award in the past: 1990 Len Lipovsky, MN; 1991 Sue Johnson, AZ; 1992 Marie Wetzel, PA; 1993 John Decker, MI; 1994 Paul Stewart, NC; 1995 Rick Rebman, OR; 1996 Elwyn Cooper, MO; 1997 Allen Baptist, CO; 1998 George St. Pierre, MA; 1999 Lance Twyman, NY.

From the Mail Bag

Don Weaver, Nevada RD reports he was approached by the Eureka Casino in Mesquite about hosting a horseshoe tournament there. In May, Don and members of the Las Vegas club ran the Corporate Challenge Horseshoe tournament, which had over 800 competitors. Don recruited 20 new members from the Corporate Challenge who will be pitching in league this summer. Don reports that the "Best of the West" Horseshoe Tournament in Beatty was a success, with a \$2000 added purse.

Lance Twyman, New York RD reports New York State had 59 junior NHPA members in 1999. Way to go, New York!!!

Ed Quigley, New Jersey RD reports New Jersey's tournament schedule lists 29 tournaments for 2000. Included are two big money events; The "BOB 2000" hosted by Anne Marie MacIntyre to celebrate Robert Goulet in Y2K. There will be total prize money of \$2000, with free food and giveaways. Any Bob or Bobette entering will get a 25% reduction in the entry fee; The Joe McCrink Sr. Memorial that will be run by NJ State Champ Joe McCrink's uncles who donate \$1000 to the prize fund.

Randy Collins, Texas RD reports the Texas tournament season started off

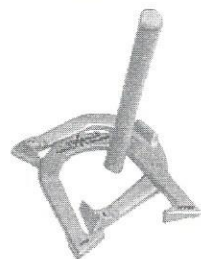
with a bang—166 pitchers competing on opening day.

Pat Wemhoff, Nebraska RD reports Nebraska held its 2nd annual Millennium Hall of Fame tournament indoors at the Madison indoor arena. Afterward, the Hall of Fame museum was opened for all to tour. New items were presented to the Hall of Fame.

Ronnie Frederick, Oklahoma RD reports Tom Wilkinson of Broken Bow is in contact with the Choctaw Indians to build 12 courts on tribal land. These courts would bring pitchers from OK, TX, LA and AK. In Ardmore, construction of 12 clay courts is underway, with four sand courts to follow.

C. Leo Buell, Iowa RD reports Iowa held a fund raising tournament to benefit the Iowa Lions Club. By hosting a Lions Club benefit, they received newspaper and radio coverage and are hoping to gain a few NHPA members. The IHPA also receives publicity from the "Iowa Lion" which is a monthly publication put out by the Lions Club.

Jim Shilling, Indiana RD reports IHPA member Earnie Meagher has been pitching for 75 years. He also has been pitching the same pair of horseshoes for the last 50 years. Earnie started pitching shoes when he was 12 years; he turned 87 last November!



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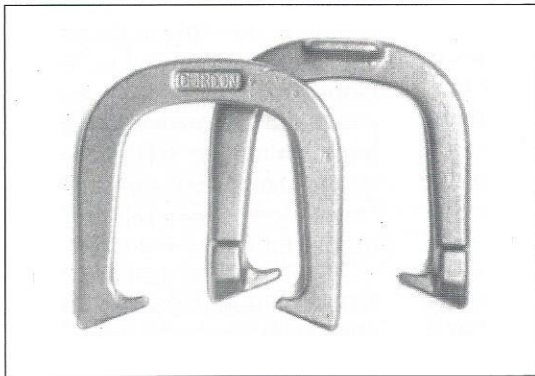
Looks like Minnesota is keying up for the World Tournament in 2001 at Hibbing, Minnesota. This past year they went from the two-card system to one, thus creating a huge increase in NHPA sanctioned leagues and clubs. As of May 25, I have sanctioned twelve new clubs and leagues for Minnesota alone. This gives Minnesota a total of twenty-five sanctioned leagues and clubs plus two all Junior leagues so far. They now hold more sanctioned leagues and clubs than

any other charter.

Missouri has fifteen with one new club and Ohio has fourteen with two new clubs for 2000. Other charters with new clubs for this year are, Virginia, Oklahoma, Florida and Texas bringing Texas up to fourteen. There has been a total of nineteen new clubs and leagues for the year 2000 as of May 25.

By now all sanctioned league directors should have received the letter I sent out. Some of you received it sooner than others. Please remember not to e-mail any forms from July 28 through August 14. I will be at the World Tournament during that time and unable to process them. One other thing I failed to mention was when doing the Top Ten form, please do not round out percentages, carry them out. It does make a difference as at times it gets that close.

Look forward to seeing lots of you at Bismarck. Good Luck to everyone.



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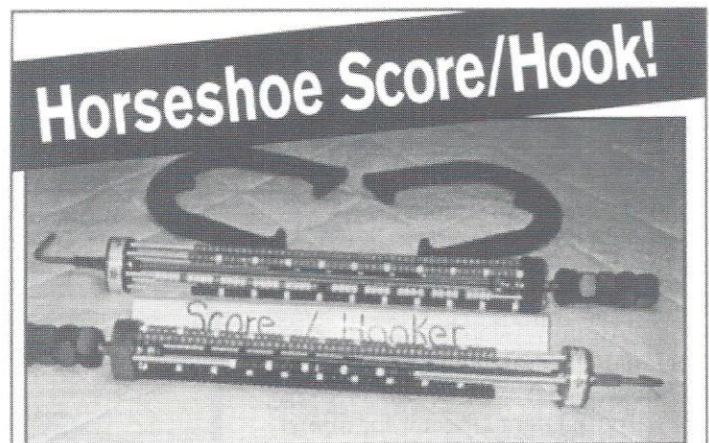
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NEWS RELEASES

THE BAYOU HORSESHOE PITCHERS ASSOCIATION

by Tim Gilmore

The Bayou Horseshoe Pitchers Association home based at Kemper Williams Park, Patterson. LA. has 41 adults and 8 juniors (largest junior program in the state). The BHPA was originally organized on December 9, 1997. Two organizations, La 70 Ringers and Atchafalaya Horseshoe Pitchers Association united as one, giving the area a collective body which represents all horseshoe enthusiasts in the area. In 1999, the BHPA added 4 new pits to the existing 10 and then hosted the Louisiana State Singles Championships and broke a record for participation.

In June, the BHPA will host the 2000 State Doubles with the expectations of also setting a new attendance record. Plans are being made to add two new pits. With the expansion, Bayou Vista and Patterson Knights of Columbus are going to attempt to secure their State Tournament on an annual basis. The enthusiasm of BHPA members is such that they believe they can become one of the largest associations in the state.

Tracy Pearce was the 1999 Junior Player of the year. Steward Scully received the 1999 BHPA Junior City Champion.

The BHPA officers for 2000 are, Al Dodson, President, David Shilling, 1st Vice President, Tim Gilmore, 2nd Vice President, Bob Scully, 3rd Vice President, Linda Dodson, Secretary and Lester Waguespack, Treasurer.

SYRACUSE PIONEER CLUB

by Dave Harnden

The Syracuse Pioneer Horseshoe Club finished another successful season of horseshoe pitching. 1999 marked their sixteenth campaign that they've been in existence at the New York State Fairgrounds! They will usher in the New Millennium with their annual Pioneer Open, June 3 and

4. League Director Lance Hinman will again be doing double duty as Open Director.

The results of the 1999 season are as follows:

In the Spring League, veteran tosser Lance Hinman finished 1st in A Class. Harry "Deadeye" Dunbar captured 2nd. Dunbar was also 1st in Scratch. Rising star Rick Whitney took B Class. Battling Lloyd Barbur finished 2nd. Whitney also took Scratch. "Old Pro" Lou Valentino won Class C, and "Jolly Charlie" Ridall placed 2nd. Jennie Hill was 1st in Scratch.

Newcomer Jim Crilley, captured 1st in D Class. Jo Ann Gould finished 2nd. Crilley rounded out a fine Spring by also taking 1st in Scratch. Bob Schaeffler won E Class, and Bob Vinette finished 2nd. Stan "The Man" Benner was 1st in Scratch. John Ritter won F Class, and Bill Pendergast came in 2nd. Ritter was also 1st. High Point Average went to veteran pitcher Dick Sposato with 99.81. High Game Over Average was tossed by the "Philippine Flash" Dick Corni, at +28. High Ringer Game at 74% also went to "The Flash!" Most Improved was awarded to Whitney at +10. Rick has been under the close tutelage of pitching tutor par excellence, Ken Fraser.

In the Summer League, League Secretary Katie Frazee came through with a fantastic effort by placing 1st in A Class. Dave Claver finished strong in 2nd spot. Lance Hinman was 1st in Scratch wins. John "Lefty" Luckhurst captured B Class. Jennie Hill won 2nd place. John also took 1st in Scratch wins. Consistent pitching helped Paul Canavan win Class C.

The club's expert sign maker, Stan Banner, finished 2nd. Cool Mr. Canavan captured 1st in Scratch wins. High Point Average went to Lance Hinman with 96.62. High Game Over Average was taken by Jim Robertson with +29.17! High Ringer Game belonged to Rick Whitney with 66%. Most improved was captured by Paul Canavan with +11.69.

In her finest hour, Pat Broadwell

won the Fall's A Class. Following close behind was that man Whitney, finishing second. Whitney was 1st in Scratch wins for A Class. Completing a fine season, the Fall's B Class fell to Paul Canavan. Len Wells finished in 2nd place. Paul also took 1st in Scratch wins. Solid Dave Claver won C Class. Harry McIntyre captured 2nd place in C Class. Class D marked the "Return of the Cosserman" Don Cossar, who finished 1st. Fred House captured 2nd. House also took Scratch win honors. Young Dave Hinman placed 1st in E Class. Bill Pendergast was 2nd. Sally Drago and Gordon LaLonde tied Scratch wins. High Point Average went to Rick Whitney with 102.06! Ringer Game was pitched by Lance Hinman with 70%. Most Improved went to Shelly MacConagh with +8.43.

Bob Volles won Class A in the Pioneer Memorial Tournament. John Luckhurst was 2nd. The High Low Doubles Tournament was captured by the "dynamic duo" of Peg Wilkinson and Paul Canavan.

Shelly MacConagh was awarded Rookie of the Year honors. Sports Person of the Year went to jovial Jennie Hill. A well-deserving recipient, Jennie has been with the Club since 1989. A surprise award, initiated mainly by Katie Frazee, was presented to Lance Hinman. He was honored as "League Director of the Century!" One of the Pioneer Club's Founding Fathers, Lance continues to be a pillar! He will be starting his 12th campaign as League Director this Spring.

The Syracuse Pioneer Horseshoe Club wishes that everyone has a healthy and fun-filled pitching season.

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Last year was my first World Tournament as Publicity Director. I'll have to admit, it was interesting to view "us" from a different perspective as I traveled the grounds with newspaper, television and radio reporters. Suddenly I saw and heard things of which I was completely unaware while attending and participating in the past. Presenting these thoughts in the constructive way they are intended is somewhat difficult. It's my hope that bringing some of these things out will serve to better our image and maybe, help horseshoe pitching grow. As it has been said, "first impressions are so important".

you will, pictures of sparsely used seating during the tournament. We are the spectators!

Are you wondering "why" I was compelled to write these seemingly elementary things? Last year, one reporter wrote that while attending the World Tournament he saw a bunch of big bellies peering out as pitchers attempted to "throw" the shoe around a stake 50-ft. away! Most of us don't have time to get rid of our bellies before going to Bismarck, but we can cover them up! Practice pitching with your shirttail tucked inside. This is a very simple way we can make a good first impression.

In a few short weeks, our sport will receive its yearly dose of unsolicited media attention as our premiere event, the 2000 World Tournament, commences. Reporters, who, like people in our own hometown, have never heard of organized horseshoe pitching, will be creating stories and angles for publication. Spectators, participants, NHPA officials, and the sport will be under close scrutiny as they travel the grounds in search of the knowledge needed to complete their assignments. Most of them will have a basic understanding of the fact that we "throw" a horseshoe at a stake attempting to make a ringer, but that's about as far as it goes. Your actions, what you say, how you say it, what you wear, how you win or lose, and least of all, how well you pitch will have a great bearing upon the image of our sport and association.

Press coverage is strongest on opening day and during the first week of the tournament. This puts many beginning pitchers, attending their first World Tournament into the limelight. Charter officials are encouraged to provide some coaching before departing for the tournament site.

Choose neatly pressed, color-coordinated clothing. In other words, leave your favorite faded shirt, shorts, pants at home. What you wear on the courts and around the tournament site is who we are.

Be aware of surrounding visitors while engaging in conversations with friends. Something you say could be taken out of context and bring the sport the wrong kind of publicity.

Take every opportunity to speak with those who may be witnessing a horseshoe tournament for the first time. Local residents who come out to the tournament could be future members. Or, who knows, they might be potential sponsors!

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A PROFILE

JOHN KAPNIS

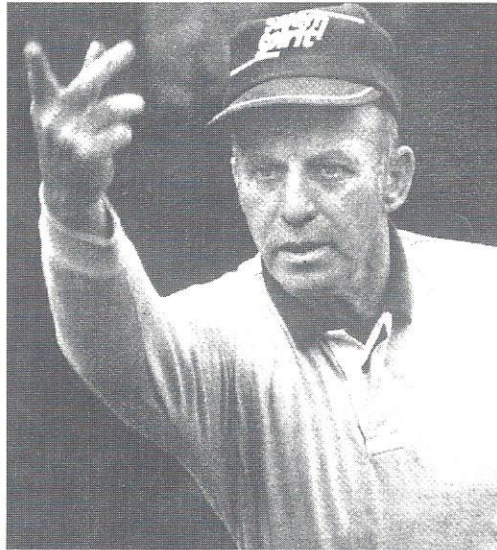
by Debby Michaud

When John Kapnis was first seen, he was winning his final game in the 1983 State tournament against defending champion Charlie Bonani. Most of the spectators didn't know who he was, but that State tournament was held in South Hamilton, MA, his own club, and THEY knew all about him. They assured everyone that this win and his good percentage were not flukes. You see, John had pitched horseshoes in his teens but had stopped for 30 years to raise a family (he and his wife Ruth have 11 children). As a dad and a lieutenant in the Salem, MA Fire Dept., John didn't have much extra time. But, when the children became independent, John answered an ad in the Salem newspaper for interested horseshoe pitchers and joined the South Hamilton Horseshoe League. Starting out at 45% ringers, he worked his way up the ladder. After he won that first State Championship, he was on his way!

John started to travel to other NHPA tournaments and found the good competition he couldn't have found in the backyard. He soon became known in all of New England and first ventured into the World Tournament scene at Eau Claire, WI in 1987. He was seeded in Class C. He pitched well enough to be placed in the qualifying groups for Championship Class and on the way won the Class A championship.

That was the year that, due to the format, anytime we walked into the building, we were assured that John Kapnis was pitching *somewhere*. He pitched 60 games on his way to earning 7th place in the Championship Division in his first World Tournament. He had discovered a whole new world of competition and travel.

In 1988, he and his wife Ruth, flew out to Pleasanton, CA for the World Tournament, and then to the Ohio State Fair competition in Columbus where he met, pitched with, and posed for pictures with George Bush, the presidential candidate. Soon-to-be President Bush was there with his wife Barbara, along with Dan and Marilyn



Quayle. John's favorite photo is of him sandwiched between Barbara Bush and Marilyn Quayle. That tournament remains one of his best memories in horseshoes.

Since then, he has competed in most of the annual NHPA World Horseshoe Pitching Championships. In all of his World Tournament appearances, John has averaged below 70% only once and has failed to place in the top 10 only four times. His overall average is 73% ringers against the top players in the world.

It is the same in New England where he is known as one of the best, while pitching against the likes of Brian Simmons, Doug Kienia, Jim Pagliarulo, Gale Greene, Kevin Hollister, Debby Alexander, and Barbara Hanson, on a regular basis. He is also one of the most consistent performers in the annual New England championships where he has won once and most often places in the top three.

His best tournament percentage, he thinks, is 81%, but John is not one to dwell on his successes and he doesn't really remember how he pitched, only that he pitched and had a good time. He does remember the 100% game he pitched against Walter Ray Williams, but also remembers Walter Ray's encouraging words as clearly.

When asked about his heroes, he

talks about Teddy Angelakis, a friend from Salem who has beaten cancer with "great courage and mental stamina." John calls Teddy his "mental horseshoe coach." He also credits his high school basketball coach Glenn O'Brien, with teaching him to be the best he could be at all times. And Ruth Kapnis is always at his side, his favorite fan and a favorite among other pitchers and fans.

With all of his successes, he is best known as the "Gentleman of the Courts." His demeanor never changes, win or lose, and his smile and handshake await every opponent, no matter what the outcome. In the 1999 New England tournament, an Elder (Jim Pagliarulo from CT) won (the first time an Elder won the Men's class). Jim pitched an outstanding 85% for the tournament and, typically, John was the first one out on the courts to shake his hand. It is a treat to watch him with youngsters as he performs during an exhibition, which he is always glad to do. Some of the conditions at exhibitions leave much to be desired—no matter—John is always there encouraging and cajoling the kids and the adults, then goes out and pitches his heart out in a "game."

John has said often, that he is so lucky to be able to compete in something that he loves "at my age." When he was younger, he participated in several sports, including baseball, tennis, football, and his favorite, basketball. He gave up basketball in his 60s! John is now over 70 years old and shows no signs of letting up on his opponents. But, more than anything, he and Ruth value most, the friendships they have made and the places they have visited in the course of his competitions. From the league in South Hamilton where he pitches with approximately 40 pitchers weekly, to the tournaments and exhibitions which he likes to participate in every other week or so during the summer, John is always warm, friendly, and competitive. In between visiting their children in places as far away as Texas and Florida, John and Ruth plan to continue "cruising the tournament scene" as long as possible.

SHOEBITS

by Maynard

ARIZONA

Make your plans now to attend the Valley of the Sun Tournament in Mesa in 2001. This year everyone got a free T-shirt donated by Casino Arizona who also donated \$540 in vouchers which were added to the prize fund in each class. Bill Courtwright donated two pairs of horseshoes and Myrna Kissick donated a ring. These items were raffled off and brought in \$350, which was added to the prize fund. Additional donations added to prize fund were \$60 from the Kitsap Horseshoe Club of Washington and \$100 from Wally Shipley.

The new President of the Phoenix/Mesa Club is Pete Nicastro.

Lorena Swan reported that plans were still in the works to get new courts built at Prospector Park in Apache Junction.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

After 25 years in the same location the Tri-Valley HSC has lost their courts at the Fairgrounds (these were the practice courts for the 1988 World Tournament). Hopefully they will have new courts built in time for the 2001 season.

George Greeott (originator of the "Greeott Grabber") celebrated his 90th birthday at a tournament in his honor with over 100 of his horseshoe pitching friends, cake and a 1st place in his class at the Sonoma County Club courts.

Millie and Joe Schultz, who have been the backbone (Secretary/Treasurer and President) of the Stockton HSC for over 25 years, and hosted the CA State Tournament from 1973 through 1985 (when it was in No. CA), have turned the reins over to George Davis, President, and Mary Figueira Secretary/Treasurer. They will be sorely missed.

The Yolo HSC hosted 104 pitchers at the tournament for the dedication of the new Hall of Fame building on April 29. The building was dedicated for the purpose of honoring the NCHPA Hall of Fame members, displaying horseshoe pitching artifacts and housing the Don Titcomb/NCHPA Library for the

enjoyment of all horseshoe pitchers, past, present and future

Dave and Cathie Loucks journeyed to Victoria, B.C. in May for the B.C. International Tournament in which Dave took 3rd place. They received a warm reception and were very impressed with the great facility the club has built over the years.

COLORADO

Congratulations to the team of Paul LaCrosse, Rich Pintor, Dee Powell and Don Wild who again competed in the Team World event in Beloit, WI and came home with the title.

Of seven special awards presented each year the Denver Metro Club took five. Vicki Lisco for the Ted Allen Memorial, Bob Snyder for the Arch Wood Sportsmanship, Hal Sheppard, Decade of Service Award, Dean Lauer and Marilyn Person for Tournament Director and Don Wild for the Triple Crown Challenge. Bob Champion of Boulder received the President's Achievement Award. The Thompson Jr. Scholarship award was not presented this year.

FLORIDA

John Peplinski is the new Secretary/Treasurer replacing Marvin Grubb, who stepped down after many years of service, but will keep his hand in by serving as 4th VP.

Congratulations to the state champions who were crowned at the State tournament in April. Ron Deckard, 66%—Men; Carrie Carpenter, 58%—Women; James Adcox, 64%—Elder; Brady Sunday, 24%—Junior.

HAWAII

Four classes (A, B, C & E) at the Waimanalo Singles tournament in April finished regular play with playoffs needed to determine the winners. Congratulations to: Jesse Colone, Class A, 58%; Herbert Olivera, Class B, 45%; Wally Amaral, Class C, 34%; Phyllis Onizuka, Class D, 48%; Ken Silva, Class E, 21%; Molly Helsel, Class F,

18%. High game of the tournament was pitched by Elder Uncle Sam Kelihoomalua, a very impressive 90%.

ILLINOIS

Bob Olson designed a logo, which was selected by the members to be the official logo for the 2000 State tournament.

Terry Hlavac who designed and maintains the web page has accepted the position of Publicity Director.

Rick Smith thinks horseshoe pitching is too expensive and that's why pitchers are quitting and new ones aren't joining. He thinks perhaps costs should be lowered to encourage folks.

IOWA

Twenty-four IHHPA members and two Iowa City Evening Lions Club members pitched shoes in a fundraiser in May to raise \$2,800 for the Iowa Lions Foundation "Coming to Your Senses" program and the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation for their endowment fund.

"Double your pleasure, double your fun." President Bob Walters says one sure way to do this is by bringing someone new to the courts to share the enjoyment of our sport. Don Wilson thinks we can show the general public that our sport is fun and challenging by using handicaps and 50 shoe count-all games for the lower percentage pitchers. Also find a way to shorten the pitching day. Young family members no longer have the time to give a whole day to one game with so many other activities in family lives.

MICHIGAN

Dean Schmitz, publicity chairman, has a whole list of ideas to promote our sport. Here are some of them that perhaps you can utilize.

Be informed—subscribe to *Newsline*, or if you already do, give it as a gift to someone else.

Take a friend or relative to your local club. Have your club give a one year honorary membership.

Don't forget birthdays, Christmas and other gift-giving occasions to gift a membership, a subscription, horseshoes or horseshoe paraphernalia (videos, books, clothing).

Have an open house for your club with the involvement of the local Recreation Department to help with PR. Set up trophy displays and have information available for taking. Give horseshoe related door prizes.

Support the NHPF so that branch of our organization can undertake its funding and educational duties nationally.

Publish a local club officer's phone number in the book under Horseshoe Pitching Club (club pays).

MINNESOTA

Rick Wright believes scorekeepers are as important to our sport as the pitchers themselves and will be overseeing a new program that has been implemented for scorekeepers. Every scorekeeper will sign his or her name to the scoresheet. The tournament director will send the names and number of games a person scored. These names will be put into a drawing, once for each game scored, to be held during the State tournament. The winner will receive a very nice prize. Additionally, the person who scored the most games will be awarded a "Scorekeeper of the Year" award, which will include a nice gift and their name on a trophy that will be displayed in the Hall of Fame trailer. (Maynard thinks this is a great idea! Perhaps other charters will pick up on this or something similar.)

The Hall of Fame committee has voted to induct Dick Dvorak into the Hall of Fame as a promoter.

A formal announcement and presentation will be made at the annual awards banquet at State tournament time.

The position of State Statistician has been eliminated. With the coming of age of "NatStats" there is no need for someone to duplicate the work being done. Tournament directors must

report their results in a timely manner for this to be effective. NatStats are updated every week with results received.

NEW YORK

The Southern Tier HSC was forced to vacate the building they have been using for several years and had hoped to purchase. They had hoped to raise enough money for the purchase but were unable to do so. The Tri-County HSC of Groton has offered them the use of their new building, at no charge, for any tournaments they want to hold. All pitchers who had the opportunity to pitch at the "pits" offer their utmost thanks to Ed Barrett for his generosity in making the facility available for the past 10 years

Lance Twyman is ready to step down as editor of the newsletter after 7 years but will continue to keep busy with his duties as charter secretary/treasurer.

NORTH CAROLINA

President, Jake Hoff has signed up 17 of the 30 new members for the charter so far this year.

Walter Ray Williams, Jr. (FL) and Shannon Foster (TN) met in a playoff at the "Dogwood" in which Shannon pulled away for a convincing win to take 1st place in the championship class averaging 73.68%. Rain again plagued the tournament, but several pitchers including NHPA's 2nd VP Casey Sluys and 5th VP Paul Stewart were on hand to vacuum the water out of the pits.

B.J. Thomas, considered the most successful pitcher in the history of the state did not start tournament pitching until he was 65 years old. Over the past 18 years he has been a workhorse in promoting the sport and at 83, he is still a tough competitor.

OREGON

The Oregon Open (Hermiston) traditionally held on Father's Day weekend was held a week early this year. In the 24-year history of this tournament

there have only been a handful of tournament champions including NHPA pres. Dave Loucks. Ben Wiedrich, defending champion (40") has won the \$\$\$ more times than any other. This year, his first for this tournament, Russ Phillips of WA walked away with top honors. Marvin Tatchio took the honors and the \$\$\$ in the 30' championship class.

The Eugene Emerald HSC is again hosting a benefit tournament for the NHPF and has every intention of topping the \$650.00 they raised last year.

Trying to get more women interested in the sport, Eugene will also host a non-sanctioned tournament for Women only in July with no entry fee. The hosts are looking to the men to help out.

In May, President Bill Graham, Jr. met with a group of thirty boys and girls from Bend High School to explain the game and give some lessons. The school's athletic program includes horseshoe pitching and the Bend Club's courts at Juniper Park are used several times a week for practice.

Eugene pitcher, 89 year-old Warner Kirlin, still pitching from 40', was the winner of a 106 shoe marathon game against John Withrow during a May tournament.

TENNESSEE

The Women's Indoor State Championship, held for the 1st time in 1993, was won for the 5th time by Maxine Griffith with a 79.5%. In her 1st win in 1993 she averaged 46.67%. Maxine is the top seed for the women in this year's World Tournament posting an impressive 85.55% entering average.

Although State membership is not as high as other charters 6 pitchers are listed in the NHPA top 100. Shannon Foster (76.28%), Elmo Cox (67.9%) and Jack Conner (66.57%) are listed in the Men's Top 100. Maxine Griffith (84.4%), Joan Elmore (81.38%) and Marlene Ray (78.37%) are listed in the Women's Top 100.

Jack Freeman says it would be a

shame to lose a single NHPA member because of increased membership dues. The 2003 World Tournament scheduled in Joelton can be pitched on the existing courts and some RVers can be accommodated on site with dry camping.

WASHINGTON

The new award for Pitcher of the Year is intended to be an incentive for the pitcher(s) that consistently enter tournaments and to increase participation by enticing those who only enter a few. A traveling trophy and money will be awarded to the overall winner and money will be also awarded to the top man and woman (other than the overall winner).

Russ Phillips is fast becoming a pitcher to be reckoned with. He has already taken top honors in 3 WA tournaments and surprised the championship group at the Oregon Money Open with his win there.

Art Sperber won the BC International in Victoria with Barry Chapelle (OR)2nd and Dave Loucks (CA) 3rd. Carol Sperber won the Women's B class. Art and Carol both went undefeated in their respective classes at an April tournament in Oregon.

WISCONSIN

Sid Anderson, 3-time Elder State Champion will be inducted into the Hall of Fame for the year 2000.

A bylaw that states "trophies only" for awards at the State Tournament was upheld at a recent meeting. One member points out that it would be a shame to have to turn down cash offered by a sponsor and wonders why this "definite" limit remains.

Eau Claire has submitted a bid for the 2002 W.T. and will be in competition with Red Deer, Alberta, Canada. NHPA members in this part of the country are trying to make sure they don't have to travel across country to pitch in a World Tournament.

WYOMING

Where have all the pitchers gone? A World Tournament right next door and only four members are planning on participating in the Bismarck event.

Iowa Fund Raiser Benefits NHPF

The Iowa City Evening Lions Club and the Iowa Hawkeye Horseshoe Pitchers Association teamed up for a fundraiser on Saturday, May 13 at the Iowa City Park. The Lions Club program called "Coming to Your Senses" was to raise funds to be used for the early detection of vision and hearing impairments in children between the ages of 6 months and 4 years.

A joint project of the University of Iowa departments of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery and Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences along with the Lions Club, looked for ways to involve other groups in this project. The Evening Lions Club contacted the Iowa Hawkeye Horseshoe Pitchers Association for assistance.

C. Leo Buell, NHPA Regional Director for Iowa set up a horseshoe tournament whereby contestants were asked to obtain sponsors who would pay a flat fee or so much for each ringer thrown. An entry fee of \$12.50 was established for the six-person round robin format that paid each class \$25 for 1st, \$20 for 2nd, \$10 for 3rd and \$5 for 4th. 24 IHHPA members and 2 Lion members pitched in the event which raised more than \$2800. Of the total amount raised, 80% was pledged to the "Coming to Your Senses" project and 20% to the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation.

Iowa members turned out from many areas of the state for this worthy cause. It would have been easy to not

show up on tournament day because the temperature was about 40 degrees with a 30 mile per hour wind. Free coffee and rolls were served to warm the insides of the pitchers and the Lions members who kept score.

While this was a successful event covered by all segments of the media across the state, Leo Buell offered the comment, "just think if all the IHHPA members got behind a worth while project what would happen." There is power in numbers especially if they are united. A similar fund raising project or two in every charter could raise thousands of dollars for the NHPF. Couple it with a charitable need at the local level and all sorts of sponsors will chip in and you'll see media coverage you don't normally get for just a regular horseshoe tournament.

Leo Buell traveled to Joelton, TN, where during the Music City Team Tournament over Memorial Day Weekend, he presented a \$500 check to NHPF Director, Jack Freeman. (See cover photo.) There is still more to come as not all pledge money has yet been collected, said Leo.

The NHPF extends thanks to Leo and the IHHPA members who made this event possible. We also extend the challenge to others to develop joint fund raising projects in their area. What a wonderful way to contribute support to a local or Regional need and jointly provide needed funds to the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation.



NHPF NEWS & CONTRIBUTION UPDATE by Dave Loucks

On May 13, the NHPF directors, Dick Hansen, Paul Stewart, Earl Winston, Jack Freeman and Dave Loucks met in Nashville for the annual meeting required by Foundation bylaws. We discussed many items in a meeting that lasted over seven hours. Primary topics were contribution activity, logo design review, information pamphlet development, land maintenance & development, Hall of Fame Building plans, comments and feedback from NHPA members, Board of Director size and election of officers.

Among the comments from members was concern that NHPA officers controlled the board. It is true that Council members fill 3 director positions. After discussion, we voted to increase the Board to 7 directors and add two people from the general membership so council members would be

a minority. The NHPA Board ratified this action. A five-point list of criteria was developed to screen potential candidates and seven people felt to be highly qualified were put on the list, five men and two women. There could have been more but we felt the new positions could be filled out of the seven candidates. Our first contact, a highly respected female member of the NHPA regrettably felt she could not devote the necessary time to be a director. Our next two contacts, Ward Lutz, Regional Director for Minnesota and Joe Faron, Missouri Charter President, accepted.

All seven of the NHPF directors will be in Bismarck for a second meeting. Primary there will be the election of officers, which was tabled at the Nashville meeting until the two new director positions were filled. There is still some unfinished business to discuss and the appointment of an ad hoc

committee if it is not done before the World Tournament. The NHPF directors are very interested in what concerns the membership because to reach the goals of the Foundation, a greater level of support is needed.

During the months of April and May, 56 contributions totaling \$4,496 were received and deposited to the NHPF account. Two states, Hawaii and Vermont, came in with their first donations. All contributors received a letter of thanks but we wish to say again how much your donations are appreciated. As we go to print with this issue, total revenue deposited to date is \$96,560. With your continued support, we hope to announce in the next issue that donations have exceeded the \$100,000 mark. You can help this become a reality by sending your tax-deductible contribution to the NHPF, 140 Sierra Blanca Ct., Grass Valley, CA 95945. Thank you.

Contributions received in May and June

Donating \$10-40

Rouge River H.C., OR
Vern & Donna Schroeder, IL
Anonymous, SD
John Wilson, LA
Larry Woods, MI
Ralph Funk, KS
Bob Hayes, NY
Rich & Rose Leyk, MN
Sodbusters H.C., VT
Francis Asher, OH
Boyd Hageman, NE
Enid HPA, OK
Art Moran, MN
Edwin Ehemann, OH
Dave Loucks, CA
John Passmore, MD
Ronn & Phyllis Negaard, MN
Robert Yamnicky, CT
Raymond Welsh, OH

Donating \$50-90

Joe & Millie Schultz, CA
Romulus H.C., MI
Bloomington H.C., MN
Don & Bev Swegel, KS
Kitsap County H.C., WA
Paul Wishon, MI
Tri-Counties H.C., MN
Oklahoma, HPA
Boyd Stonerock, MI
Thurman Bailey, OH
Ward Lutz, MN
OK H.C., OH
OK H.C., KY

John & Margaret Byfield, WA

Donating \$100-150

Reginald Gomes, HI
Illinois State HPA
James & Bev Campbell, MI
Randy Joines, NC
Gerald Ramey, NC
John Wagner, PA
Piedmont Pepper Pods, NC
Paul & Pat Stewart, NC
Ron & Gert Wilczek, WI
Elwyn Cooper, MO
Jim & Phyllis Quist, WA
Park Barner, PA
Oliver Keyes, MI
Steve Barnes, CA
Dick & Paulette Hansen, WI
Washington State HPA

Donating \$200-250

Independence H.C., MO
Wisconsin HPA
Dogwood Misc cash
Heart of America H.C., MO
Donald Wendler, TX

Donating \$500

Iowa City Evening Lions Club, IA

736 contributions plus court fees, banquet revenue and miscellaneous cash total \$96,560 in donations deposited through 6/5/00

How your state ranks in number and dollars contributed

1. Tennessee, 25 for \$18,215	16. Washington, 20 for \$1,575	32. Idaho, 4 for \$185
2. California, 76 for \$9,039	17. Kansas, 17 for \$1,517	33. Wyoming, 3 for \$182
3. Georgia, 7 for \$5,460	18. Kentucky, 16 for \$1,400	34. Oklahoma, 5 for \$175
4. Massachusetts, 5 for \$3,965	19. Pennsylvania, 21 for \$1,079	35. Louisiana, 3 for \$150
5. Wisconsin, 38 for \$3,175	20. Illinois, 29 for \$1,035	36. Arkansas, 4 for \$135
6. Minnesota, 73 for \$3,034	21. Indiana, 11 for \$985	37. Alaska, 1 for \$120
7. Missouri, 33 for \$2,970	22. Nebraska, 14 for \$964	38. Alabama, 2 for \$120
8. No. Carolina, 42 for \$2,755	23. Nevada, 6 for \$840	39. New Hampshire 2 for \$105
9. Oregon, 26 for \$2,732	24. New Jersey, 10 for \$715	40. Hawaii, 1 for \$100
10. Colorado, 22 for \$2,496	25. New York, 9 for \$372	41. New Mexico 1 for \$100
11. Michigan, 45 for \$2,421	26. So. Carolina, 8 for \$335	42. Arizona, 3 for \$89
12. Florida, 30 for \$2,043	27. West Virginia, 9 for \$280	43. Utah, 2 for \$80
13. Ohio, 49 for \$1,931	28. Montana, 3 for \$250	44. Virginia, 4 for \$73
14. Texas, 14 for \$1,855	29. South Dakota, 8 for \$227	45. Maryland, 3 for \$70
15. Iowa, 16 for \$1,746	30. Connecticut, 11 for \$226	46. Vermont, 1 for \$25
	31. North Dakota, 3 for \$205	47. Delaware, 1 for \$7

TEAM WORLD 2000

by Jim Haupt

COLORADO

Team Colorado came from second place on the ladder finals. First overcoming the challenge of the oft-time winner, Minnesota in a close match, they moved on to cut up Ohio winning three in the final four game match.

Just four pitchers went the route for Colorado; Paul LaCrosse, Dee Powell, Rich Pintor, and Don Wild. Step ladder finals at Team-World match pitchers head to head, high average pitches high average. Pintor was low man for Colorado and literally ambushed the opposition pitching two fine final games. His margin of victory saved the Minnesota match and secured the win over Ohio even before LaCrosse won his game over World Champion, Alan Francis. Surprisingly Francis' last two shoes missed the mark. LaCrosse took advantage winning by two points and giving Francis his only loss of the weekend.

Top pitcher for Minnesota, Phyllis Negaard, lost only once in the prelims but once more in the finals. Same record for Amy Francis of the Ohio team. Judy Curtiss, top gun of Michigan, survived the finals with just one tournament loss and Lou Rector, main man of Missouri, did not make the finals but won 18 of his 19 pre-lim games.

A scramble for the four spot on the ladder finish developed between Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, and Indiana. Michigan, first time in the finals, lost one but won in consolation over Wisconsin. Indiana started by winning but lost to Illinois—four guys proud to be an all 40 foot team and have all individually owned the champ title of their state.

It was then that announcer Dick Hansen began the introductions preceding the four team stepladder finals. Minnesota slipped past Illinois, then passed the winners' baton to Colorado, who ran with it for the 3-1 win over the defending champions, Ohio. Colorado now owns the Team-World trophy at least for this year, along with an award of \$1,700. The



rest of the split was \$700 to Ohio, \$500 to Minnesota, \$350 to Illinois, \$300 to Indiana, \$250 for Michigan, and Wisconsin received \$200.

Missing from the Team-World lineup were the Canadian teams, Ontario, Quebec, and Saskatchewan, and former champions, Kentucky. Eight of nine states entered came with top teams capable of taking the trophy. Missouri, missing the cut, was hindered first by a last minute player switch and secondly by emergency drop outs. After playing two days, Bob Diekamp of the Missouri-2 team suddenly had to undergo a serious hernia operation. Consequently, Rose Diekamp, his top pitcher-wife, playing for the number one Missouri team was also forced to drop. (Her record was 12-2 at that point) Available Missouri pitcher-people, always on the sidelines, filled the voids but could bring in no additional wins.

The word from Joe Faron of Missouri on Bob Diekamp is that he is home resting after surgery in Beloit, stomach staples and all. Rose was forced to withdraw while pitching here last year. This year, Bob's turn but he says, they'll be back next year, just to see what happens.

Most teams pitch this tournament without a prayer of winning. Successful accomplishment is derived in how they hold up under a barrage of ringers. It's their only opportunity to play some high caliber pitchers. Second state teams often do well in spite of their #2 rating. Minnesota #2, for example, is always a solid runner-up. This year top honors for a supporting role team go to the third team

from Minnesota. or MN-3.

Team-World was forced to solicit the last entry this year to fill the twenty team schedule. Dick Dvorak answered the call and recruited fellow "Gophers" Wayne Totten, Sig Armitage, and Ron Craigmile. As Minnesota-3 they took home a respectable 11th place.

Less important, depending on whose point of view, was the incidence of bird bombs. Mike McBride,

Illinois, did not like it when he was hit. On the other hand, Tom Reid, of an opposing Illinois team, considered the decoration justified as he had recently suffered a ringer attack from McBride. There were other chosen recipients decorated but no official statistics are available. It has, however, been suggested to T-W Chairman, Earl Paulson, that the official Team-World cap show some form of simulated bird drops to be the genuine article.

The Beloit Club hosts are often overlooked in the execution of Team-World. Hopefully they are rewarded seeing some of the same faces and a few new ones every year. The kitchen guys kept the clubroom a welcome place to visit.

As for next year, this tournament is looking forward to a few more "good" teams, as usual, and the continued cooperation of the present "contributing" teams to make it fly for another year. The apparent lack of participation of former contestants has the committee concerned. The directors say the event will be definitely limited to either 20 or 24 team roster to retain matched scheduling. They are willing to listen to any constructive criticism which may lead to a better offering.

And that's story from Telfer Park, Beloit, Wisconsin.

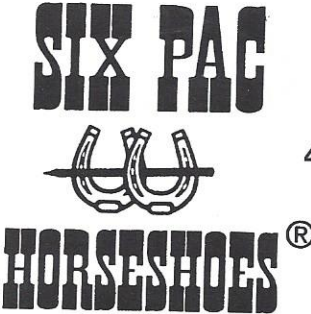
The Results

1 Colorado	70.80
Paul LaCrosse	76.31
Dee Powell	71.70
Rich Pintor	62.56
Don Wild	69.42
2 Ohio	70.50
Alan Francis	80.39
Amy Francis	76.82

Tina Tonnous	67.89
John Walters	62.32
Robert Garber	54.17
3 Minnesota	67.60
Dale Lipovsky	68.21
Bev Nathe	70.60
Phyllis Negaard	73.45
Gerald Stangland	57.98
4 Illinois	65.70
Charley Webb	65.80
Larry Knop	70.00
Jerry Dumstorff	64.82
Cliff Baker	62.16
5 Indiana	67.70
Curley Seibold	70.60
Warren Woolsey	73.45
Mark Seibold	66.55
Ralph Guffey	60.12
6 Michigan	65.80
Judy Curtiss	75.60
Larry Kemp	61.43
Jim Wiltse	71.07
Jim Norville	55.12
7 Wisconsin	68.60
Randy Rein	70.50
Clayton Gage	72.38
Lorraine Sternberg	70.95
Mark Mauthe	61.25
Don Kangas	47.50
8 Missouri	62.07
Lou Rector	78.95
Rose Diekamp	70.00
Charles Killgore	53.55
Carol Howard	35.50
Ron Hassler	54.74
9 Minnesota-2	52.90
Eddie Holland	62.76
Eric Sandquist	52.24
Lu Cave	43.82
Danny Carlson	52.63
10 Wisconsin-2	54.20
Eddie McKinney	60.66
John Koepf III	54.47
Gus Schram	51.45
Larry Barber	50.26
11 Minnesota-3	55.10
Ron Craigmile	55.13
Wayne Totten	56.84
Dick Dvorak	51.05
Sig Armitage	57.50
12 Illinois-3	50.30
Charlotte Renick	54.47
Dennis Davis	46.71
Mike Knop	51.05
Mike McBride	48.95
13 Missouri-4	48.60
Ken Pogue	57.63
Joe Lucas	49.47
Bob Outt	46.71
Bob Thompson	40.66
14 Iowa	49.90
Marv Woolums	53.42
Larry Purcell	60.13
Bob McKee	41.73
LeRoy Law	42.31
Mike Fishnick	45.00
15 Missouri	48.60
Andy Foulds	37.00

Ron Craven	50.92
Jan Kreinkamp	58.03
M.O. Turner	61.71
Bob Diekamp	56.96
16 Wisconsin-3	49.40
Mer Sorensen	48.03
John Crook	46.32
Harry Nelson	52.37
Lloyd Johnson	49.82
Tom Endler	54.00
17 Illinois-4	46.20
Craige Zuehlke	60.66
Bob Power	39.34
Hi Chaffin	46.18
Luke Thompson	38.55

18 Wisconsin-4	46.70
Kent Anderson	50.79
Elaine Troullier	45.26
Steve Wiegert	47.50
Cliff Troullier	43.29
19 Missouri-3	48.60
Darwin Compton	52.24
Mick Gillette	51.97
Jim Howard	47.76
Audra Craven	42.24
20 Illinois-3	39.90
Larry Fettes	52.63
Lambert Hallie	56.88
Tom Reid	37.19
Bob Pluckebaum	19.53
Rich Andrysiak	39.12




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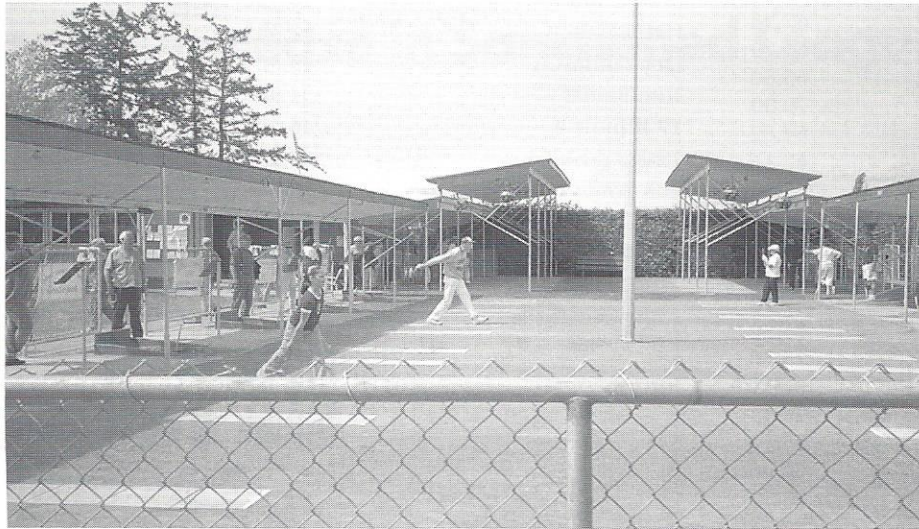
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The B.C. International

by Dave Loucks



The Canadian province of British Columbia each year plays host to one of the country's largest horseshoe tournaments. Known as the B.C. International, this tournament moves around the province from year to year. This year the host was the Victoria Horseshoe Club in Victoria B.C.

If you've never been to Victoria, you've missed one of the most beautiful areas in the World. Accessible from the mainland only by ferry, Victoria is the largest city on Vancouver Island, which is some 12,000 square miles in size. Vancouver Island is the largest island on the Pacific West Coast and home to some 600,000 people.

Never too hot, never too cold, Victoria sets on the southern most end of the island. On most days, the high rising snowcap mountains of Washington State are in view as the surrounding waters are busy with ferries and pleasure boats shuttling back and forth between Vancouver and several ports in Washington.

The Victoria Horseshoe Club commands a good portion of a small city park. Their 28 covered and lighted courts are home to

some 140 members (adults and juniors) who meet for league play a couple of nights per week and on most Saturdays.

A wonderful large clubhouse sets between two banks of courts to the rear of a large lawn area. Several park-like benches are spaced at intervals across the lawn for relaxation or viewing the courts. The clubhouse contains a fully equipped kitchen capable of preparing breakfast, lunch and dinners (which members do for events like the B.C. International), commercial type coolers where beer, soda and bottled water is stored and sold, tables & seating area for 40-50 people, a full size computerized office and two large tiled bathrooms complete with showers.

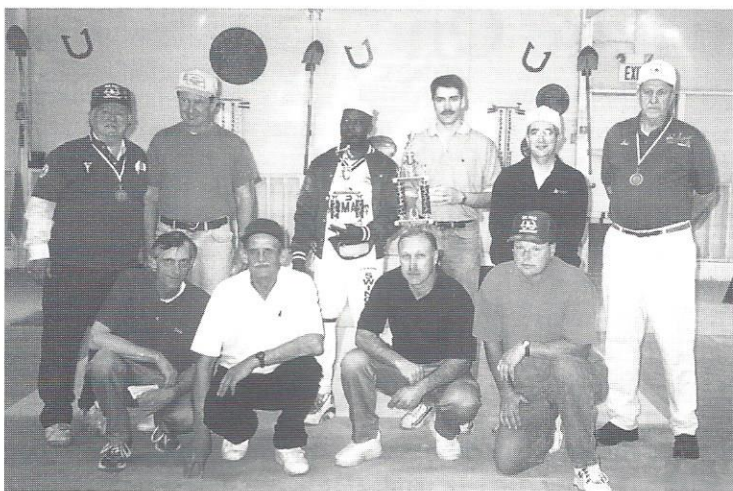
Their facility is certainly one of the finest I've had the opportunity to visit and the pristine condition is a reflection of the pride club members take in making it so.

The B.C. International tournament itself attracted about 125 pitchers from across the province and about one-half dozen from the States. Played on Saturday and Sunday, May 20-21, the weather was a bit sunny, a bit cloudy and a bit of rain. The rain never affected the pitching however as the covered courts protected all except the short distance pitchers whose pads were uncovered. I heard not a single complaint however. When it was all over, defending champ Gordon Butts had relinquished his title to Art Sperber of Washington who ended with an 11-3 record and 61.27%. The women's title went to Bernice Busch of Nanaimo, Canada, who finished with 11-1 and 69.96%. Wilf Gregory, also of Nanaimo, who finished with 8-0 and 56.18%, won the top Elder group. The Junior title was won by Ryan McHale of Victoria who had an 8-0 record and 36.5% .



Six Pac Invitational

by Jeanette Claas



A mixture of Missouri sunshine and the scent of lilacs (what do you mean, you didn't smell any) greeted the "sweet sixteen" horseshoe pitchers as they arrived on the weekend of April 15-16 for some world class competition. The New Melle Horseshoe Club was host to the 7th Annual Six Pac Tournament with a purse of \$4,300 generously sponsored by Harvey Wobbe, manufacturer of Six Pac Horseshoes. The format consisted of a two day tournament, 16 man round robin, with fifteen 30 point games.

After an introduction of the horseshoe pitchers, Tournament Directors Joe Faron and Tim Henderson, along with Harvey Wobbe presented each pitcher with a medallion as a souvenir of their participation in the event. Martin Orf, NMHC, gloriously sang the National Anthem, and the sound of horseshoes soon filled the air.

On Courts 9-12, a tournament for the 30-footers was in action. Nine pitchers participated in the one-day mixed tournament. Tournament Director Bob Diekamp reports five of the pitchers were State Champions—Amy Francis, Joan Elmore, Rose Diekamp, Lou Rector and Loree Meier. Others participating were: Jan Kreienkamp, Oden Sullivan, Darwin Compton and William Weindell. These pitchers entered the tournament with averages ranging from 52.69% to 82.63%. At the completion of their tournament there was a tie between Amy Francis of OH and Joan Elmore of TN with 7 wins and 1 loss. After a play-off game, Joan Elmore was the Cham-

pion, winning \$350. with a tournament average of 75.70%. Amy Francis placed 2nd, winning \$150. with an average of 72.74%. Missouri's Rose Diekamp took 3rd place, winning \$100. with an average of 70.70%. Lou Rector placed 4th, winning \$50. with an average of 65.07%. Rose Diekamp pitched the high game of the tournament with a whopping 90%, her first game of the day. Jan Kreienkamp shot an average of 64.85%, her best tournament ever.

It was an amazing sight to watch the men as ringer after ringer was being tossed as these pitchers skillfully displayed their talents. At the end of the first day of pitching, two pitchers remained undefeated. Alan Francis and Art Tyson each with eight wins. After a long, tiring day, the pitchers left for some well earned rest, (well some of them did) returning the next morning for the remaining seven games.

The Six Pac Invitational would not be complete without a few raindrops falling on the metal roof. During tournament action, a tornado was spotted on Hwy. D, located only several miles from the courts, too close for comfort. The hard rain fell, followed by large hail, causing some anticipation and excitement in the building. Do we run for cover or what? This all took place during the match between Francis and Tyson with the TV blasting keeping us updated on the weather conditions. The tornado finally blew away and the games were completed late Sunday afternoon. The results are shown right:

1ST PLACE & CHAMPION

Alan Francis of Defiance, OH with a record of 15 straight wins, tournament avg. 82.71%. Alan received a first place trophy, a championship tournament patch and \$1,500.

2ND PLACE

Art Tyson of Mount Vernon, NY with a record of 13 wins, 2 losses, tournament avg. 76.08%. Art received a second place trophy and \$1,000.

3RD PLACE

Paul LaCrosse of Englewood, CO with 11 wins, 4 losses, tournament avg. 74.13%. Our 1999 defending champion placed third winning \$650.

4TH PLACE

Tom Westbrook of Edgemoor, SC also with 11 wins, 4 losses, tournament avg. 71.36%. Tom received \$400 for his winnings.

5TH PLACE

Dale Lipovsky of Apple Valley, MN with 9 wins, 6 losses, tournament avg. 74.89%. Dale received \$300 for 5th place.

6TH PLACE

Larry Knop of Verona, IL also with a record of 9 wins, 6 losses, tournament avg. 69.63%. Larry received \$200 for his performance.

7TH PLACE

Mark Siebold of Huntington, IN with a record of 8 wins, 7 losses, tournament avg. 73.83%. He took home \$150 for his efforts.

8TH PLACE

Terry Hudson of Mill Spring, NC with a record 7 wins, 8 losses, tournament avg. 71.04%. Terry has been pitching for only 4 years and made his presence known at the Six-Pac for the first time and received \$100 for 8th place.

THE HORSESHOE TRADER

The Rare One

by Bob Dunn

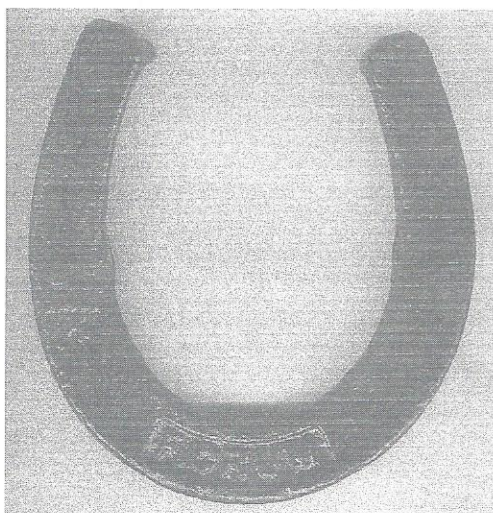
During the series of the "Rare Ones," several dozens of shoes were reviewed and described. No single shoe received the spotlight and assumed a whole article—that is until now.

In researching and documenting the earliest pitching shoes, 1921 is the year noted for the beginning of manufactured shoes, bearing brand names. There is evidence that pitching shoes were sold in 1920 and even in 1919, but we have not proven if those shoes had brand names or other identifying markings. One patent for pitching shoes did exist prior to 1921, that by William Martin of Cleveland, Ohio, but none or very few may have been produced, for none have been found bearing the cited dimensions. There are some Martin shoes in collection, but only models manufactured during 1924 and later.

The official or standard dimensions for pitching shoes that exists today were drafted in 1919 but not adopted until 1921. Shoes produced prior to 1919 seem to be a bit more round in shape and somewhat smaller in size, at least a 1/2 inch shorter in length. This is determined by some brandless shoes that have been found that consistently bear the difference in shape and all have a weight of 2 lb. 4 oz. or less. On all these pre-1919 shoes, the calks are all deeper than the calks prescribed in the 1919 draft of dimensions.

This all leads up to what is declared to be the first find of a pitching shoe that pre-dates 1919 and bears a brand. While passing through a flea market last August, I came across four old hookless horseshoes all taped together as a set. As I was picking them up, it was quickly obvious that this wasn't a matched set. Two shoes were the com-

monly found Diamond Officials, but the other two had much deeper calks and the toe calk looked to be 4 inches across. As I maneuvered the shoes around looking to see if there was a brand name on the strange pair, I read something that sent a shock of excitement through my body. A bold "F. Crum" appeared across the toe and certainly was the hint of a major historic find.



The Grand League of American Horseshoe Pitchers' Association formed on May 6, 1914 in Kansas City, Kansas. One of its members was Frank Crumm, who is listed in our World Tournament program as the first elected president in 1914. His name appears in other journals as the official referee of the 1915 World Tournament held in Independence, Missouri. That reference also mentioned the organization published the *Horseshoe Guide* in 1916. While it can be assumed that the organization's scoring and playing rules were part of the document, there was no doubt

some guidelines for standards of shoes used in competition. Boy, would a copy of that publication be a great find! Somewhere in some library or historical center somewhere in Kansas or Missouri, there has to be a copy waiting for a NHPA member to come by and claim a photocopy of it. The "Horseshoe Guide" would not only be interesting reading, but might answer many questions as to the shoes pitched in competition, prior to 1921.

Although the name on the shoe has only one M in the Crum, there is too much coincidence to not accept this shoe as part of the sport as set up by the early-day Kansas City organization. The shoes have the heavier and deeper calks. The shoe measures a 1/2 inch less in width and a full inch less in length than the dimension drafted in 1919.

In many regards, this is a "missing link" to the fact that there were official pitching shoes prior to the NHPA. And what a marvel that this pair of shoes has made it through all these decades to be found today by a horseshoe collector.

For those who are curious, the price for the shoes—\$5.00 for the pair.

TRADER JOTTINGS

When you are at the World Tournament 2000 in Bismarck, stop by the Horseshoe Trader display to see the F. Crum shoe. There will be over 150 antique shoes on display. Shoe identification will be part of the program from August 2-5, so bring your old mystery wonders along and we see if we can figure out what they are. Shoes being donated for the NHPA Hall of Fame collection will also be accepted.

Tools, Pitchers, and the Judge

by Casey Sluys

The early pitching season prompted a number of rained out tournaments. Many that were not rained out, as the early season progressed, were sparsely attended. So few in fact, that at times the tournament was conducted without a judge. You are probably wondering what the point is here, as no doubt you've experienced this at your local events too?

The tournaments without a judge actually operated quite smoothly as neighboring courts would judge each others shoes when needed. When there were enough participants to have a judge things also operated smoothly. My question though is this, does the presence of a judge prompt more calls? It certainly seems that way with what I've witnessed in the first half of the 2000 pitching season.

Simply "having to dig" a shoe out to determine a point or a ringer does not warrant a judging call. If players are unable to decide whether the shoe is a ringer or who has the closest point then perhaps a judge needs to be

called, but not simply to dig it out for the pitchers.

We have heard numerous excuses for not carrying a measuring device, no place to carry it, don't like carrying it, lost it, can't find one, etc. All NHPA distributors sell these measuring tools and I would like to encourage each of you to carry one with you to tournaments. If each pitcher had one, you could have one on each end of the court, then the carrying problem would be solved. Of course it won't work if players won't purchase them. Please check out the variety of tools available from your local distributor the next time he/she sets up at one of your tournaments.

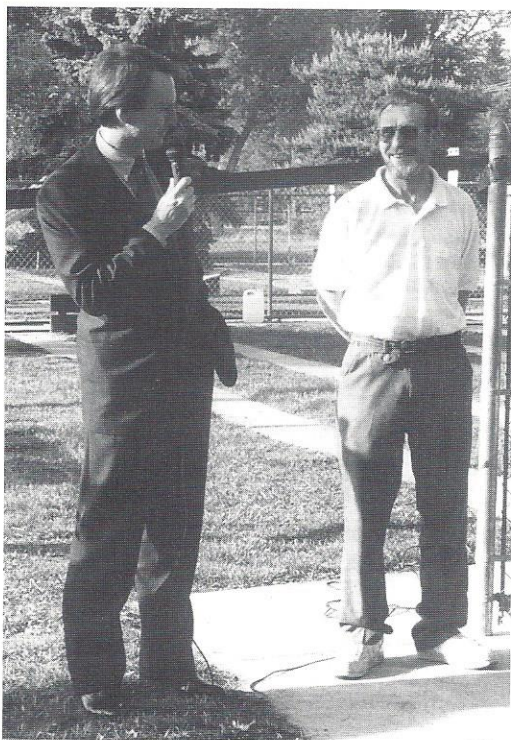
Time and again we hear about the three point touch being called a ringer. When the measuring straightedge touches both points of the shoe AND the stake, it is NOT a ringer.

Rule 6, Section B, Value of the shoe; number 1, ringer "A ringer is a shoe which comes to rest encircling the stake...." When something has

been encircled it is completely around it, isn't it? Touching the points and the stake would not be completely around it.

There will be times when your local judge may make this mistake, please be kind enough to correct them on it.

What happens if you accidentally move a shoe that you are trying to measure? If both contestants can come to an agreement then so be it. Now, if you cannot reach an agreement do you know what to do? (No, no fighting and arguing) Simply call over the judge or Tournament Director, explain the situation to them. They will either make a decision for you or they may have to resort to asking the pitchers to void that inning and pitch it again. That is allowed by our rules and for the sake of expediency I would like to suggest that when this situation occurs, you consider this as a method of staving off an argument or perhaps unduly delaying the game. It can help to stem disagreements if both pitchers agree to pitch the inning over.™



The Lincoln Horseshoe Club

by Boyd Hageman, President, Lincoln NE Horseshoe Club, Lincoln, NE

The Lincoln Horseshoe Club started off the year 2000 season with some new things to help promote the sport of Horseshoes. Opening night they invited Mayor Don Wesely, and a city council member to help start the season. Mayor Don Wesely made a speech about sports activities and thanked the club for doing a nice job of maintaining the facilities. He then cut a ribbon to the courts and pitched the first shoes of 2000.

City council member Colleen Seng thanked the club for what they had done for the Parks and Recreation Department. The Lincoln Horseshoe Club built 24 courts in 1992 and then add something new each

year. This year, two new park benches were added, donated by two of their pitchers, one being the founder of the club and the second donated by their senior pitcher of 86 years young.

A group of members purchased key rings and each member was given some to give away as a promotion. They key rings were designed by the officers with a picture of a horseshoe around the Nebraska state capital.

Fifty members and many family members attended the kick-off event of horseshoes for the year 2000. Every club should try something each year to promote the great game of Horseshoes.

The website has added two new NatStats files. These two new files are located in the NatStats links bar at the top of the page. Click on the heading that says Reported Events, this will open a drop down window with two links.

The first link is the Reported Events. This file shows all the 2000 sanctioned events reported and posted in NatStats as of the date listed at top of the file. This file was added to the page as a result of a request by NatStats Director, Glenn Jamieson. If you need to check to see if the events you have pitched in this year are posted in NatStats, this is the place to do so. If you have pitched in events that have had ample time to be reported to NatStats and are not there, you need to contact your Charter Statistician.

The second link is a complete listing of the NatStats file. This file will take a little time to download because of its

size. We added this file due to a request from several charters that have more than the normal amount of out-of-state pitchers participating in tournaments in their state. This file allows you to look up pitchers from as many charters as you like without having to open a separate file for each charter.

How often will these files be updated? All of the NatStats files on the web site are updated weekly, including these two new files.

The Hall of Fame link is listed in the first group of the links in the blue section at left side of the page, 12th link down. Click on this link to go to Hall of Fame Committee, History and Members. We have been adding pictures to each Hall of Fame member that we can find a picture for. I am surprised as to how many pictures we have found and posted. Thanks to several people that have sent me missing pictures, we now have over 85% of the members

pictures linked to their name.

If you have a picture of any of the ones we still need or a better quality picture of some one we already have, I will appreciate you sending me one. I will scan the picture and return mail it to you the next day. If you are coming to the World Tournament in Bismarck, you can drop it off at the Website booth. Here are the names we need pictures for: Leland Mortenson, IA. Ben Leighton, MN. Emma Focht, OH. Ray Miller, OH. Byron Jaskulek, NY. Winnie Winetrou, WA. James (Pop) Johnson, OH. Joe Dubie, GA. Marion Lange, IA. Lucky D. Long, KS. Mayme Francisco, OH. Mildred Brouillette, MN. Jack Claves, MO. Paul Rose, UT. Lucille Hopkins, IA. Anna Lindquist, WV. Roy Smith, CA. Dr. E.C. Beach, NY. Thanks in advance for your help on these missing pictures for the Hall of Fame Members.

See you all at the World.



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What is an Altered Horseshoe?

by Casey Sluys

On the Internet and the NHPA homepage in the Message Post there has been a discussion on whether or not machining .100 off the flat portion of the shoe constitutes an altered horseshoe. Where is the horseshoe flat? Most brands have an indent with the manufacturer's name or logo in it. Some of the indents would be machined off by taking this much off the shoe. If one were to machine only the blades or body and not machine the logo, then there would be two distinct separate thicknesses. This is not what the manufacturer intended the shoe to look like.

Altered shoes have been defined as shoes deviating from the "manufacturers intent." Had the manufacturer wanted a shoe .100 thinner they would have produced such a shoe. If the manufacturer wanted a more prominent toe calk, or a wider opening, or sharper hooks, they would have added that to their design.

Having been in the machining trade for upward of 30 years and thus intimately familiar with .100 of an inch, it is a significant amount. Most brands of horseshoes range in thickness from .500 of an inch to .375 of an inch. If one decided to mill as an example, the Greeott Grabber, which is only .375 thick and took .100 of an inch off the shoe, one would notice the difference simply by feel. At only .275 of an inch thick I don't believe you could complete a game much less a tournament without the shoe breaking.

This discussion began because someone wanted a lighter shoe and liked the "feel" of what he was pitching. The .100 of an inch he wanted to remove would change the weight by approxi-

mately 2 ounces. Wouldn't it also change the "feel" of the shoe? I would think that a thinner holding area would dramatically change the "feel." This being the case it was suggested that the person buy a lighter shoe that is already in production. Not content with that, a discussion ensued. An analogy was drawn that filing a burr off is similar to machining .100 of an inch off the shoe. Not really. A person could file for a month and wear out 8 files before they could take .100 of an inch off a horseshoe. Simply filing a burr off the edge does not alter the design.

The NHPA Council was polled and a majority agreed that the shoe would, in fact, be altered from the "manufacturers intent." On a local level not many Tournament Directors or Judges check shoes and therefore, one is liable to see some strange looking shoes. Perhaps the hooks are bent in so far that the opening seems to be 5 inches wide, maybe they were welded without a clamping fixture thereby making them too wide. Local judges and TDs would do well to know which shoes are sanctioned. Perhaps they could keep a shoe-checking device on hand to verify the specifications of a horseshoe as listed in the Official Rules of Horseshoe Pitching?

It would be nice if the mfg could cater to all the little intricacies each of us would like to see. Of course from a manufacturing viewpoint this would become cost prohibitive.

Once again if the horseshoe deviates from the manufacturer's intent it will be considered an altered shoe.

East Coast Championship

Frederick, MD, June 3, 2000

Sanction #42-00-004

		W-L.	%
Class A	Mandel Proctor	7/0	73.0
	Tamara Burke (w)	6/1	65.0
	Dale Dean	5/2	70.2
	Elbert Shifflett	4/3	68.2
	Phil Fleshman	3/4	71.0
	John Passmore	1/6	55.74
	Jerry Dean	1/6	54.72
Wayne Ploughman	1/6	51.3	
Class B	Chan Herrell	5/0	56.9
	Charles Bullock	4/1	45.6
	James Stewart	3/2	41.2
	Hazel Fleshman (w)	2/3	42.1
	Eric Zimmerman	1/4	44.5
	Bob Mallonee	0/5	33.0
Class C	Julian Caldwell	7/1	47.2
	Ed Clobus (30)	7/1	49.4
	Ed Laughlin	4/4	45.1
	Richard Albright	4/4	39.6
	Jane Barthlow(w)	4/4	37.1
	Bob Cook	3/5	39.4
	Walter Fogle, Jr	3/5	35.8
	Zack Watters	3/5	33.7
Dale Ferguson	1/7	35.4	
Class D	Charles Wainwright	6/2	39.3
	Bud Freeman	5/3	37.2
	Don Wiley	5/3	36.9
	Doug Slevin	4/4	33.9
	Cotton Thomas	4/4	33.2
	Robert Dalton	4/4	31.8
	Barbara Thomas (w)	4/4	31.8
	Michael Newton	3/5	38.1
	Gerri Rawls (W)	1/7	33.4
	Class E	Charlie Beachley	6/1
Debbie Myers (W)	6/1	33.7	
Melvin Webb	4/3	32.2	
Will Mabry Sr	4/3	30.9	
Joe Skelton	3-4	25.2	
Don Lawyer	2/5	26.5	
Brian Lucas	2/5	22.4	
John Johnson	1/6	24.5	
Class F	Ralph Condon	5/0	28.0
	Terry Rogers	3/2	27.7
	Terry Hitzelberger	3/2	25.8
	Wayne Mowdy	2/3	23.6
	Robert Marzullo	2/3	19.2
	Bill Carr	0/5	11.2
Class G	Beverly Beachley (w)	5/1	16.8
	Jim Newton	5/1	16.4
	Marvin Harder	3/3	14.0
	Larry Bunn	3/3	13.4
	Rodger Barthlow (30)	3/3	9.7
	John Heil	2/4	6.5
	Jay Mallonee	0/6	6.4

Submitted by Diana Ratliff
Secretary, Frederick, MD HPA
301/46-3483 FHPA Voice Mailbox

SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

Promote your special event here. If your tournament is set apart from the usual, to benefit charity, raise funds or has in excess of \$1,000 prize money, mail details to the Newsline Editor at least 90 days in advance.

JULY 2000

14-16 Governor's WV Celebration 2000—Worthington Park, Marion County, WV. Purse \$3500 based on 136 Adult entries. Entry fee \$15, pre-register by July 3. Fees payable to AHP-MCPARC, mail to 508 Ohio Ave., Fairmont, WV 26554. Contact Charles M. Bunner, 403-366-7986.

15-16 Danville Open—Douglas Park, Danville, IL. Good prize money, free towel to all entrants. Separate 30' and 40' "A" classes. Entry fee \$16, deadline July 7th, Checks payable Danville H.C. send to Leo Bratland, 41 Country Club Dr., Danville, IL 61832. 217-443-5818

AUGUST 2000

July 31-Aug 12 NHPA World Tournament—Bismarck, ND. Entry fee \$100 adults, \$25 Juniors. Entry deadline May 18th. Must be on pre-printed form from this magazine or available from Charter secretary.

14 Midwest Senior Classic—Iowa State Fair, Des Moines, IA. Mixed play open to men and women age 60 and over by August 14th. \$1500+ prize money with everyone receiving at least minimum payback of entry fee. Send for flyer/entry form to LeRoy Law, 1788 NW 104th St., Clive, IA 50325. Phone 515-223-4274

NHPA Income & Expenditures April/May, 2000

INCOME

Membership Dues	\$38,855
Newsline Subscriptions	4,264
Newsline Ads	1,165
Horseshoe Sanction Fees	300
2000 World Tournament Entry Fees.	115,663
2002 World Tournament Bids	15,000
NHPF Donations	110
Misc Patch Sales and Income	145
Bank Checking & Money Market Interest	2,777
Total Income	\$178,279

EXPENDITURES

Newsline Editor Allowance	616
Sanctioned League Office & Phone	188
World Tournament Postage & Supplies	500
World Tournament Entry Refunds	800
Regional Directors Postage, Phone, Supplies.	62
Equipment Purchases, Rental, Repair	516
NHPA Office Printing and Supplies	363
NHPA Postage.	665
NHPA Officers Phone.	334
NHPA Officers Travel	201
Secretary/Treasurer Allowance	3,080
President's Allowance	924
Publicity & Promotion	164
Direct & Indirect NHPF Donations	140
Professional Accounting Fees	850
NatStats Administration	924
Misc. Fees, Bonds & Bank Charges	429
Internet Website	286
Total Expenses	\$11,042

SEPTEMBER 2000

2 Shrimp & Petroleum Festival Tournament—Kemper Williams Park, Patterson, LA. This is a charity fund raising event for MDA. Entry fee \$20 Adults, \$5 Juniors. Payout to top 3 adult finishers in each bracket. Pre-register by Aug. 31. Camping at the park. Contact Tim Gilmore, 504-395-5062, Al Dodson 504-385-1909 or Dave Shilling, 504-395-5645.

22-24 Wild Rose Tournament—Calgary, Alberta, Canada. \$15,000 CDN purse distributed among 10 classes, 6 positions in each class. Payout is on a graduated system so that each class gets slightly more than the class below it. 1st place in "A" to receive \$940 CDN, 6th place in "J" receives \$78. Prize money based on 120 entries. PRE-REGISTER by August 31st. This is a mixed event. Entry fee \$50 CDN payable to Calgary Horseshoe Club. Mail to Ross Stevenson 13, 3650 19 Street NE, Calgary, AB, Canada T2E 6V2. For further information, phone Ross at work, 403-250-1609; home, 403-289-6587 or fax 403-250-9873.

NOVEMBER 2000

4-5 Music City Team Tournament—Joelton, TN and the Jack Freeman indoor courts. Three pitchers per team, maximum 24 teams, mixed play, no juniors. NatStat averages will be used and shall not exceed 215 per team. Entry fee of \$105/team must be received by September 15th. Send entry and fees to Mary Bastian, 3730 Old Charlotte Pike, Franklin, TN 37069-4791. 615-794-5620, fax 615-591-0833, email: mcbastian@mindspring.com

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THE TOLL OF TIME

ANNE DOMEY

Anne Domey, wife of Ed Domey and co-proprietor of the very successful indoor pitching facility, Heritage Recreation Center, in Sutton, MA, passed away on May 12 after a long illness. Anne and Ed were always involved in horseshoe pitching and were inducted together into the Massachusetts HPA Hall of Fame in 1979 for their work and promotion in the sport. Heritage Recreation Center housing 14 courts was open from 1973-1984.

The three Domey children were very active in running the center while Anne helped and pitched in leagues and tournaments there. She once won the State Doubles competition with John Belsito. Until her illness forced a stop to travel, she was very visible, always at Ed's side, often accompanying him to the World Tournament where as national Buyer, he is responsible for the NHPA Game related Sales Program. The entire NHPA sends sincere condolences to Ed and his children, Paul, Barbara and Janice.

LAVERN D. EDGE

Sept. 8, 1928-May 13, 2000

LaVern Edge of rural Platteville, Wisconsin, died at his home May 13. He was 71 years of age. He farmed his entire life near Platteville. An avid horseshoe pitcher, he enjoyed fishing, bear hunting and bowling. It was a fateful Saturday morning when Norm Mauthe knocked on the door of the Edge farmhouse and was met with no response. Norm thought this was funny because Vern's truck was there and his shed door was open. Returning home, Mauthe tried phoning then called a neighbor offering his concern. Vern Edge, it was discovered, had apparently suffered a sudden and fatal heart attack. Three days later he was laid to rest following words of consolation at the Lutheran Church of Peace in Platteville where Vern was a devout member.

The Platteville Horseshoe Club in the person of Bob Bennett delivered the eulogy. LaVern Edge was described as a strong and gentle man who was very well liked with many friends. Indeed, his casket bearers and hon-

orary bearers read like the horseshoe club members list. Yet, there were neighbors included, some with tall black hats, as he was also a treasured friend of the Mennonite community.

His wife Phyllis who died in 1986 preceded LaVern in death. One son, one daughter and two grandchildren survive him.

PETE MOSBRUCKER

April 17, 1926-June 8, 2000

Pete Mosbrucker of Bowman, North Dakota, died in the hospital June 8 at the age of 74. A native of Bowman, Pete had come to a tournament in Scranton the weekend of June 3-4. While on the courts, he suffered a massive heart attack. He was given CPR by a couple of members and quickly moved to the hospital where he succumbed on June 8.

Pete loved horseshoe pitching and had attended 8 World Tournaments. Bismarck would have been his 9th. He and his wife used to have tournaments and then invite everybody out to the home for a big feed after the event. Many times Pete traveled down to the Black Hills for tournaments in South Dakota where he easily made more friends. Horseshoe pitchers throughout the Dakota's knew Pete and will miss him a lot.

STEWART SNYDER

1907-April 23, 2000

Stewart M. Snyder of Cloverdale, California, died Easter Sunday in a Healdsburg convalescent hospital at the age of 92. A 58-year resident of Sonoma County, Stewart had been in declining health for a few years.

He was born in Cedar Falls, Iowa, and raised on the family farm. After attending Iowa State College, he began his working career as secretary and foreign traveling companion to a New York writer. After three years of travel, he returned to the States and went to UC Berkeley where he studied forestry and economics. After graduation in 1939, he became a dedicated conservationist devoted to sustainable forestry practices. He was one of the first forest managers to use the tree-farm concept, which uses selective cutting rather than clear-cutting to har-

vest timber.

Stewart worked for several timber companies including Joy Woods, Kelly Lumber and Weyerhaeuser Forest Products. He had a forestry consulting business and could name enterprises up and down the West Coast as clients. After retirement, Snyder kept busy as an amateur photographer, horseshoe pitching, writing and travel with his wife Elizabeth who died in 1997. Stewart wrote many articles of his travels and meeting with horseshoe people during those times. Many of his articles have been printed in *Newsline*, the NCHPA newsletter and the Colorado Double Ringer. A son, a daughter and one grandson survive him.

RUSSELL SWEENEY

Massachusetts member Russell Sweeney recently passed away at age 80. He will be remembered as one of the most influential members of the 1960s and 70s. It was during this time frame that he unselfishly gave so much of his time to a group of junior pitchers that he coached at the St. Moritz Horseshoe Club in Quincy. It was a highlight when several of those juniors participated in the 1974 World Tournament. The legacy of Russ Sweeney also lies in the organizational work he did to revamp the Massachusetts HPA. He served as both secretary and president of the organization. For his contributions, he was named to both the New England and MA HPA Halls of Fame. Marjorie, his wife of 54 years, survives him.

VIRGIL WARREN

New Mexico reports the death of member Virgil Warren who passed away October 17, 1999 at the age of 75. Virgil was very active in the NHPA and Senior Olympics. His wife of 50 years, Rose Warren, often attended and pitched with Virgil in many tournaments throughout the state of New Mexico. *Newsline* remembers Virgil as one who occasionally submitted letters to the editor expressing his opinion on various horseshoe subjects. He always showed respect for his fellow pitcher as he thoughtfully presented his views.

TOURNAMENT TRAVEL CONTACTS

The following is a list of all NHPA Regional Directors and the states or territory they cover. Those of you who travel and want to get out-of-area tournament information, are encouraged to contact the appropriate Regional Director. Each RD maintains a full list of all NHPA sanctioned tournaments in their area. If your travel plans call for stops in several states and you need multiple state information, you might want to write the NHPA 1st Vice President who is in charge of all RDs. He should have copies of all the state schedules. The address for the 1st VP can be found on page 3 of this publication.

REGION REGIONAL DIRECTOR

1. Washington	Vey Allen Box 493 Benton City, WA 99320 (509) 588-3351	14. New Mexico	Charles Knotts P.O. Box 361 Logan, NM 88426 (505) 487-2248	32. Kentucky	Monty Roberts Box 637 Warsaw, KY 41095 (606) 567-8511
2. Oregon	Rick Rebman 80037 Rosa Lane Hermiston, OR 97838 (541) 567-8560	15. N. Dakota	Clint Bryson 901 Custer St. Belle Fourche, SD 57717 (605) 892-2195	33. Tennessee	Dexter Stallings 731 Reed Drive Powell, TN 37849 (865) 947-7865
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12. Wyoming	Pat Bacus 440 W. 3rd Lovell, WY 82431 (307) 548-6593	23. Minnesota	C. Leo Buell 1809 Lakeside Dr. Iowa City, IA 52240 (319) 338-8256	41. S. Carolina	Ron Taylor 116 Knox Street Clover, SC 29710 (803) 222-3990
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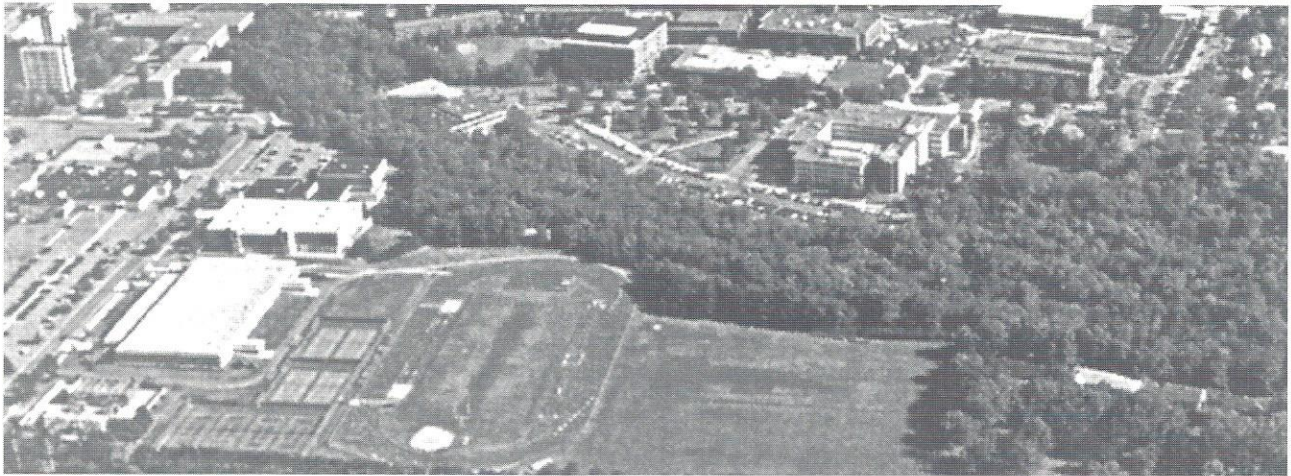
Eau Claire



Wisconsin

On behalf of the Chippewa Valley Convention & Visitors Bureau, and the entire Chippewa Valley, we would like to extend this warm invitation to you to host 2002 World Horseshoe Tournament in Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

The Chippewa Valley is an area with big city amenities, but with a small town feel, which will ensure that your event is top priority here. Horseshoe pitching enthusiasts abound in the Chippewa Valley area. Along with hosting the NHPA World Tournament in 1987, the local Eau Claire Horseshoe Club has hosted many state & local tournaments over the years. The McPhee Physical Education Center, on the campus of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, is a wonderful facility that has hosted many sporting events. The staff at UWEC will do an outstanding job in hosting your World Tournament.



*McPhee Physical Education Center-University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire
Proposed site for 2002 World Horseshoe Tournament*

The Chippewa Valley has approximately 2,200 lodging rooms, ranging from economy motels to full-service suites, at very reasonable rates. The Chippewa Valley is easily accessible by plane or highway, and has an exciting selection of retail stores, restaurants, and family attractions. Combine those qualities with our proven history of hosting great events, our beautiful natural surroundings, and the great enthusiasm for horseshoes in Wisconsin & the Chippewa Valley, and the result is a ringer!

NHPA members, we invite you to
"Come Play In Our Backyard"
in 2002



For more information on the Chippewa Valley: 1-888-523-3866 • www.chippewavalley.net

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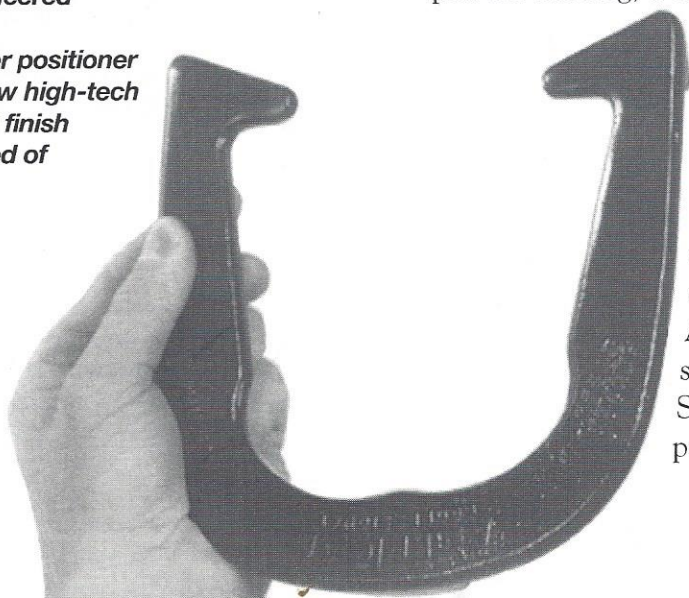
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