



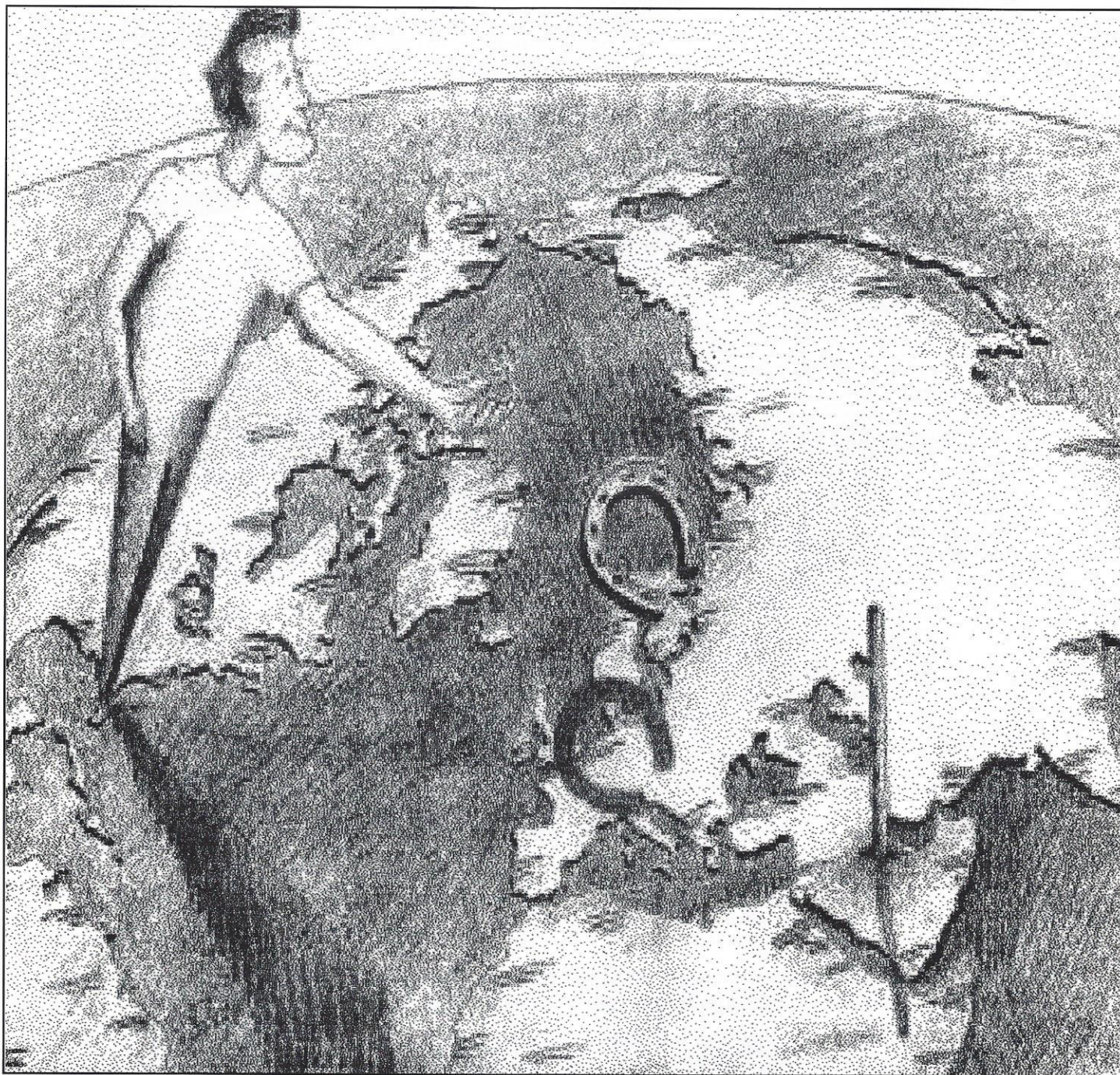
THE NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHERS ASSOCIATION



NEWSLINE

VOL. 13, NO. 4

JULY / AUGUST 2001



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Togo, West Africa, An Update Pages 7-8

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Mighty Minnesota by *Bob Dunn*Page 22, 27

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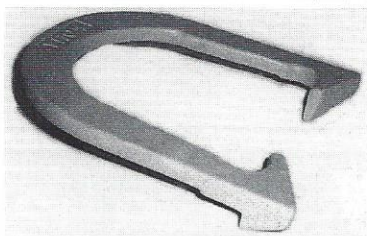
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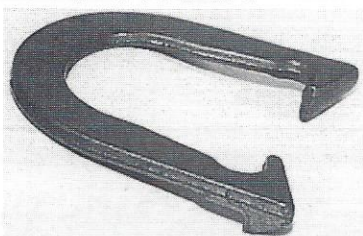
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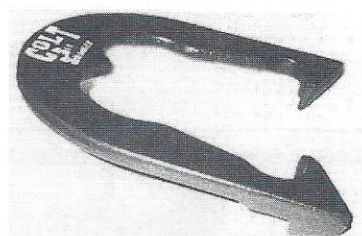
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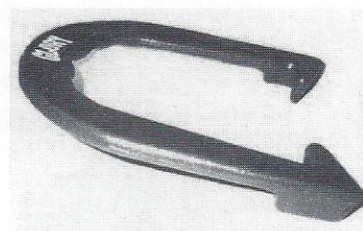
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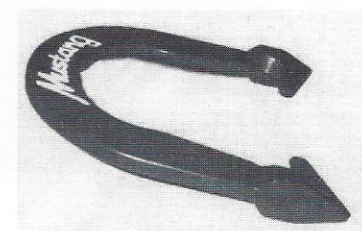
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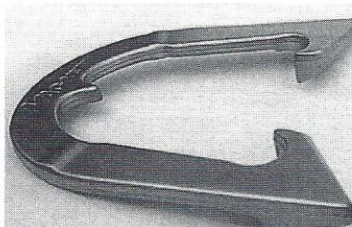
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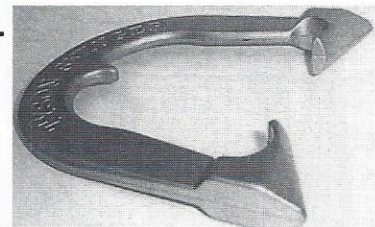


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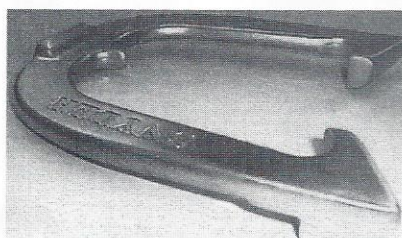
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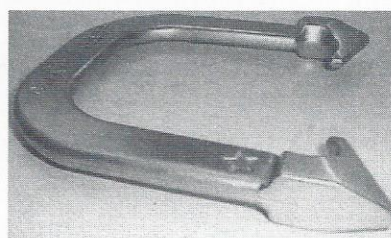


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PUBLISHER / EDITOR: LLOYD KILGORE

STAFF ARTIST: CORY KNOX

CARTOONS: R.E. TAYLOR

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COVER

Artist perception of NHPA ties to Togo, Africa, Courtesy of the Daytona Beach News-Journal.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Dave Loucks

After a four-year Advance Ruling period and a review of the financial reports for those years, the IRS has determined that the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation qualifies as a Public supported charitable organization and shall continue to have exempt status under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code. This means that grantors and contributors to the NHPF may rely on this determination unless the Internal Revenue Service publishes notice to the contrary. Publicly supported Foundations such as the NHPF are described in section 509(a)(1) of the IRS Codes.

The four-color NHPF information pamphlet, which was mailed to all NHPA households at the beginning of the year, resulted in a nice influx of contributions. There has also been increased activity by the county codes

people and building contractors as we near the point of being able to start construction on the long planned NHPA Hall of Fame. While the initial thought 3 years ago was to construct a separate freestanding building of some 4800 square feet, that idea has been scaled down considerably. The NHPF Ad Hoc Committee met with the Foundation Directors last November in Joelton. During this meeting all agreed that member sentiment was lagging for an ambitious building project that included a large RV campground. We also had a four-year history of contributions. Regrettably, this revealed insufficient financial support to sustain a planned program projected to need income of at least \$125,000 annually.

The revised building plan, which is now out to contractors for bid, is indeed a modest one, at least the first phase. The plan is to enclose a 48' x 18'

area already under roof of the outdoor courts to serve as the first NHPA Hall of Fame. Also to be enclosed will be a similar sized area that will contain public restrooms and a storage room. Brick or block construction with hung ceiling, doors, windows, electrical and plumbing is expected to be under \$60,000. To this amount must be added the yet unknown costs of display cases, wall units, air-conditioning, professional signage and of course, annual maintenance. While the new plan is to start small, there is indeed a great deal of room to expand in the future should there be a need and contributions to support it. Remember, like any other charitable concern, be it a foundation, church, medical or social enterprise, the NHPF will need your continued financial support to survive. Look at your donation not only as a gift but an achievement as well.

DAVE'S COURT REPORT

HIBBING NUMBERS

As I prepare the World Tournament pitching schedule, the number of entries is 1045. This number includes 1010 from the States, 34 from Canada and 1 from Norway. Forty-seven States have pitchers coming with the host state Minnesota having the most, 239, followed by Wisconsin with 80 and Ohio with 67. The states of Alaska, Hawaii and New Hampshire have no entries. Of the 1045 total, 540 are Open men, 142 Women (includes 20 senior women), 132 Senior Men, 126 Elders and 105 juniors of which 36 are girls.

These totals are down substantially from expectations and the 1215 number we had last year in Bismarck. It is impossible to pin-point a reason but we have heard the following. Gas prices are too high; motel prices are too high; Hibbing like Ainsworth, is too small and too remote; Newline with the entry form was late in arriving: I'm waiting until next year.

Remember, if you are not going, you can still follow the action and get daily results by logging onto the NHPA website, www.horseshoepitching.com. If you need to contact the World Tournament office for an emergency or to drop out, the number is 218-263-5633.

DELEGATE PACKETS

All have been mailed by the NHPA Secretary to the charters for distribution to the delegates. Charter Presidents are

reminded that they must provide and sign a letter listing the appointed delegates and naming the charter chairperson. This letter of delegate authorization must be presented to the NHPA President no later than 72 hours before the convention. While charter members should discuss and vote on proposals before delegates ever leave home, it is important to understand that amendments can come to floor and delegates should be empowered to make appropriate voting changes in such cases.

WHITE HOUSE CALLS

Former President George H. Bush had a horseshoe court installed at the White House with another at Camp David. They apparently lasted until the start of Bill Clinton's second term when he had them removed. New President George W. Bush is having the courts re-installed. I have had several phone conversations with aides and the executive grounds director who asked for NHPA construction assistance. By the time you read this three courts should be in use, one behind the Oval Office, another on the grounds for staff use and a third at Camp David. Since the White House was looking for a fairly maintenance free clay product that preferably came in bags, I contacted Bob Webb, President of Wessco, Inc., in Ohio. Bob volunteered to donate 2 tons of Klawog for use in the pits. Klawog is a unique pre-moistened clay product

Continued next page

specifically developed for horseshoe courts. It needs very little water and does not have to be turned like regular clay. Klawog is a former Newsline advertiser and can be contacted by phone or fax at 330-745-9322.

WORLD CUP HORSESHOE

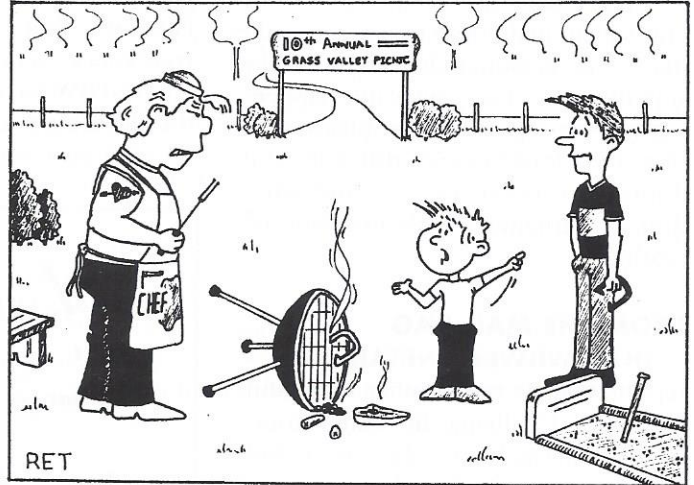
In April, I received an invitation to register for the 3rd Edition of the World Cup of Horseshoe Pitching to be held in La Spezia, Italy over May 19-20. The requested fee was \$100. What intrigued me more was the small pamphlet that came with the invitation. It had a drawing of a horseshoe court similar to ours, some brief scoring instructions and a list of people, saying that they are part of an International Federation of Horseshoe Pitchers. Unfortunately, everything was printed in Italian and I had to get a translation.

The rules translated to say that horseshoes is played in 5 matches of 5 pitches for a total of 25 throws. The game can be played alone, in pairs or as a team. The court is 10 meters long with a 1-meter square pit at just one end. A 35cm peg or stake is in the middle of the pit. A throw area, 2 meters by 3 meters, is centered some 27.5 meters from the stake.

Play begins in the throw area where a player throws 5 shoes, one at a time, trying to ring the peg at the opposite end. If a shoe rings the peg, the thrower has made a "horse" for a value of 20 points. If the shoe hits the peg and falls into the immediate pit area it is 7 points. If the shoe, after hitting the peg, goes outside the 1 square meter pit area but stays

inside the 2m by 2m overall scoring box, the player earns 3 points. If the shoe falls anywhere within the pit or larger area without first hitting the peg, the shoe is considered null and no points are awarded

No information was given on the size or weight of the horseshoe but because they talk about a shoe & peg rather than a ring & hob, it looks not to be a version of Quoits. I've written for more information but nothing has been received as yet.



"I'M SORRY SIR, BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO TAKE IT UP WITH MY POP. HE'S THE ONE THAT TOLD ME TO HIT THE STEAK."



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REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

by Allen Baptist

NOTICE TO REGIONAL DIRECTORS

There are some Charters who are running Sanctioned Tournaments that aren't adhering to the NHPA rules of scoring. There are two methods of scoring in horseshoes, cancellation and count-all. Ringers only and four-dead-one point scoring are not allowed in any sanctioned tournament. I would like for all Regional Directors to make sure this type of scoring is not happening in your region. If it is, please contact the tournament director and inform him/her that you cannot sanction a tournament with this type of scoring.

FROM THE MAIL BAG

DON WEAVER, NEVADA RD - reports that he ran another successful Corporate Challenge horseshoe tournament in Las Vegas. There were 768 pitchers competing for 4 days. Don says that every year he recruits a few people to join the NHPA.

DEBBY MICHAUD, NEW ENGLAND RD - reports that New England Regional Director, George St. Pierre had surgery for an abdominal aortic aneurysm. The operation was a success and George is doing well!

MYRTLE MAY KAMOKU, HAWAII RD - reports that their spring tournaments are off to a strong start. Home court advantage paid off for the Kamoku's at Kauai's Mini singles tournament with Myrtle's husband, Howard, their son Myron and Myrtle winning all three classes. I will have the pleasure of pitching in Kauai over the memorial Day weekend.

ELWYN COOPER, MISSOURI RD - reports that he recently sanctioned three courts, 10 in Liberty, 12 in Caulfield and 8 in Mountain View, Missouri. Elwyn says that construction of the Don Harris Indoor Courts have been recently finished. The arena is complete with 10 courts. The first tournament held at the courts was the Don Harris Area Initiation Celebration Tournament on April 7, 2001.

DON LAWYER, MARYLAND AND DELAWARE RD - reports that the CRE Horseshoe Club in Lusby, MD has

been constructing a new 12 court complex, complete with clay courts, concrete walkways and a covered picnic area and restrooms.

PAT WEMHOFF, NEBRASKA RD - reports that he has appointed long time horseshoe pitcher Doc Roberts to the position of Assistant Regional Director. Pat says that it was suggested at Nebraska's General Meeting to offer any ENHPA member a subscription to the Newline magazine at half price for the first year with ENHPA paying the

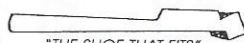
other half. They feel that once a member receives the magazine they will want to keep receiving it.

ED QUIGLEY, NEW JERSEY RD - reports that New Jersey has scheduled 30 sanctioned tournaments for the 2001 summer season.

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

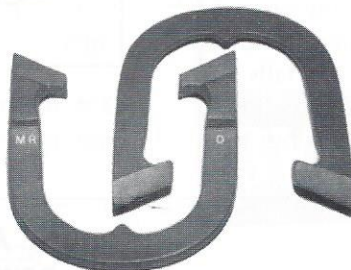
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An ideal flip has the shoe coming to the stake as it has just leveled out. Sometimes our aim is off just enough that the point, or heel, of the shoe will hit the stake as the shoe comes in. The points of the heel of the Mr. D. Shoe are at a slant, 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 than 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.



HORSESHOE PITCHING CELEBRATES THIRD DECADE IN TOGO

**Billie Sue Pennington
and Casey Sluys**

The American game of horseshoe pitching got started in a small way in 1981 in the small West African country of Togo. Officials of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association and retired U.S. ambassador to Niger, Robert J. Ryan, Sr., who sparked the introduction of horseshoes to Togo in the late 1970s, were pleasantly surprised in January 2001 to receive a communication from the Togo Horseshoe Federation informing them that the year 2001 would mark the twentieth anniversary of horseshoe pitching in Togo.

In commemoration of this event the NHPA arranged for a donation of ten sets of horseshoes by a professional horseshoe company, White Distributors, of Erie, Pennsylvania and itself donated NHPA caps, a film and slides, rule books and documents which govern the playing of horseshoes for the creation of a horseshoe library in Togo.

NHPA president, Dave Loucks sent the January 2001 Togo communication to NHPA Vice President Casey Sluys, CA and NHPA Publicity Director, Billie Sue Pennington, FL, for appropriate attention and action. Their review of the NHPA files revealed that retired Ambassador Ryan, of Daytona Beach, Fl. had been instrumental in organizing earlier 1981 and 1991 Togo horseshoe activities of the NHPA, the St. Pierre Horseshoe Company of Worcester, MA, the Department of State and the U.S. Embassy in Togo. With the assistance of Lydia Hinshaw, Sports Editor of the DAYTONA BEACH NEWS JOURNAL, and author of articles regarding horseshoes in Togo, they contacted Ryan who provided additional background information and advice and readily agreed to render appropriate assistance.

Ryan's January and February communications to Ambassador Karl Hoffman in Lome, Togo resulted in the embassy again agreeing to be a participant and supporter of the horseshoe project.

The 2001 donation to the Togo Horseshoe Federation was shipped in March to Ambassador Hoffman in Lome. In late March the embassy's Public Affairs Officer, Clyde J. Jackson, acting for Ambassador Hoffman, presented the donated articles to the President of the Togo Horseshoe Federation, Afantsao A. Agoudavi (Andre). It is Andre, now retired, and serving as Honorary President, who has provided the Togo leadership and enthusiasm to keep the game of horseshoes going in Togo for three decades. His successor as president is Sovin Kadzo. Kadzo is following the actions of Agoudavi to keep horseshoe pitching going in Togo and to make renewed efforts to expand the game to other areas.

In the mid-1980s the government of Togo through its Ministry of Sports and Culture gave official recognition to the game of horseshoes and created the Togo Horseshoe Federation in the

ministry with Agoudavi as its head. Teams and leagues, which were established in the 1980s, continue to hold annual competitions to determine the individual and team champions. Togo newspaper and TV organizations give periodic coverage to the game, especially the championship events. Togo is the only country in Africa (and perhaps in the world?) where horseshoes are played as an organized government sanctioned sport.

Agoudavi (Andre), a citizen of Togo, learned the game of horseshoes when he worked in the residence of the U.S. Ambassador to Niger in the 1964-1968 period... Ambassador Ryan who pitched horseshoes on his father's farm in Massachusetts, brought horseshoes with him to Niger for recreational purposes. He taught Andre and other local employees of the U.S. embassy in Niger to play the

Continued next page

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TOGO CELEBRATION *Continued from page 7*

game. When he left Niger in 1968 Ryan gave several sets of horseshoes to Andre. Andre took these horseshoes with him when he returned to his native Togo in the late 1970s. He taught several of his countrymen to play the game and as interest mounted he organized teams and leagues and got the official sanction of the government of Togo. The need for more equipment to meet replacement and expansion requirements prompted both the 1981 and 1991 requests for assistance to the NHPA.

In a letter to US Ambassador to Togo, Karl Hoffman, Mr. Casey Sluys, NHPA Vice President, express the grateful appreciation and thanks of the NHPA for the "interest, advice and support provided by the embassy." Sluys added that the embassy "played a key role in the successful completion of this people to people undertaking and expressed the hope that this third decade example of horseshoe diplomacy will help in some small way to advance overall United States-Togo relationships".

"It was early 1990 when I had my first contact with retired Ambassador, Robert Ryan. He was interested in gaining NHPA support for the replenishment of horseshoes to the Togo Horseshoe Pitching Federation," wrote NHPA President, Dave Loucks, "It had been some ten years since St. Pierre Manufacturing Corp. had, through Ambassador Ryan's efforts, provided them with the first major donation of equip-

ment. The fact that the game itself was introduced to West Africa in the mid 1960's by Ambassador Ryan and was still flourishing, prompted me to continue support of his efforts. It is now more than three decades later and the Ambassador still maintains a level of involvement to keep the sport of horseshoe pitching alive and well in Togo. I am pleased that Newsline has been able in this and previous issues, to chronicle his promotional efforts, for which Ambassador Ryan will be the recipient of the 2001 NHPA Presidential Award."

The continuing interest and determination of a small group of citizens of Togo with periodic help from a few interested Americans to keep the game of horseshoes alive in Togo for three decades well serves as an example, which could easily be replicated at a small cost in other parts of the world, especially in the so-called Third World. The terms "horseshoe diplomacy" and "horseshoe attaché" which were first coined in Lome, Togo might well become part of our diplomatic language. Could the introduction of horseshoes in other countries become another arm of diplomacy and help to improve U.S. relations with many of the 187 independent sovereign nations who are today members of the United Nations? Is it too far-fetched to consider that as additional countries take up the game of horseshoes that horseshoes might in this century be proposed as an Olympic sport?

REGIONAL DIRECTORS REPORT *Continued from page 6*

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 Shilling from Indiana as the 2001 Regional Director of the Year.

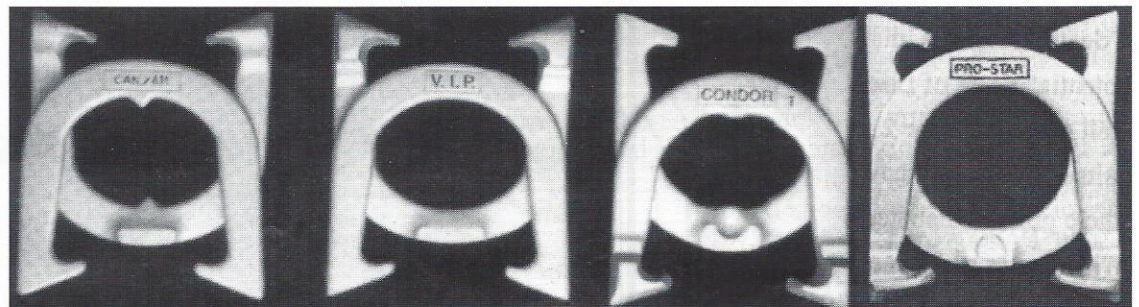
Jim joins a group of distinguished members who have received this award in the past: 1990 Len Lipovsky, MN; 1991 Sue Johnson, AZ; 1992 Marie

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; 2000 Jim Haupt, WI.

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CAN-AM: (CAST) A super shoe for the three-quarter turn, one-and-a-quarter and one-and-three-quarter turn. L-M-H

VIP: (CAST) Designed for the flip and the three-quarter turn. Has a good heavy lug. Thrown by the Canadian Women's Champ 1993 at 80.1%. Thrown by the Junior World Champ 1996 at 82.3%, 1997 at 78.5%. Weight - L-M-H. You'll love them.

CONDOR: (CAST) Designed for the flip. Perfectly balanced. (Thumb indentation.) Can be thrown up or down. Lugs down. Weight L-M-H. Super in flight.

PRO-STAR: Designed for the flip, can be thrown up or down. Weight - L-M-H (New thumb indentation.) Second to none.

PRICE: \$43.00—Shipping & Taxes extra. 1 year guarantee. Order through your NHPA Representative.

SANCTIONED CLUB/LEAGUE NEWS by Lorraine Sternberg

By now most all clubs and leagues should be well into their horseshoe season. So, if you have not sent in your membership report please do so. Also remember to send a copy of the membership report to your charter secretary.

World Tournament is not far off, so please do not e-mail any final stats from July 28th through August 12th. I will be at the World Tournament at this time and unable to send out any patches until I return.

If you recall I mentioned in the May/June issue that I would be featuring articles from the eight charter clubs that remain. In this issue you can read about the Clearwater Horseshoe Club from Florida. I want to thank Norman Gaseau for submitting their history on the Clearwater Club. As you will read in the article they have had a line of pretty impressive pitchers, play horseshoes on their courts.

Hope to see many of you at the World Tournament. If you are at the World Tournament please try to attend the Sanction Club/League meeting.

THE CLEARWATER HORSESHOE CLUB CHARTER CLUB

The Clearwater Horseshoe Club dates back to 1916 and functioned until 1941 when the club ceased activity during the World War II period 1942-1947.

The club resumed activity in 1948 and remained so until 1961, when the club disbanded due in part to the death of several members and a decline in interest by those remaining. The club was reactivated in 1972 by ten horseshoe pitchers, who had recently retired. With this nucleus of players, the club grew and prospered and became affiliated with the Florida State Horseshoe Pitchers Association.

In cooperation with the city of Clearwater Parks & Recreation Department, eight horseshoe courts were constructed for the Clearwater Horseshoe Club. In 1974, the club conducted the first sanctioned horseshoe tournament ever held in Clearwater. The eight newly lighted courts were dedicated at this tournament. City officials participated in the dedication with city commissioner Donald Williams tossing the first horseshoe to start the tournament.

In 1976, the city authorized the building of a clubhouse at the courts. The clubhouse was constructed and paid for by members of the club without cost to the city. In 1977, the club invited then World Men's Champion, Carl Steinfeldt, to participate in a tournament to be held during Clearwater's annual Fun' N Sun Festival. Carl accepted and at the tournament he was presented with a "Key to the City" by Clearwater's mayor. Impressed with his Clearwater reception, Carl later decided to make Clearwater his home town upon retirement. Carl was a great asset to the Clearwater Club and played a great part in promoting club activities.

In 1981 the Clearwater Club conducted the first NHPA Sanctioned Men and Women's World Championship Invitational Tournament. Attending the tournament was NHPA President Wally Shipley as well as NHPA Secretary/Treasurer Donnie Roberts. Prize money total was

\$8,500, which included a \$1,500 donation by the NHPA. The tournament was conducted over a 3-day period. Three local TV stations and cable TV provided coverage.

Competing in the tournament were:

MEN

- * Walter Ray Williams, Jr. - CA
- * Mark Seibold - IN
- Al Zadroga - PA
- Ralph Simon - IA
- * Elmer Hohl - ONT
- * Jim Knisley - OH
- * Dan Kuchcinski - IN
- * Carl Steinfeldt - FL

WOMEN

- Bonnie Seibold - IN
- Helen Roberts - OH
- * Vicki Winston - MO
- * Ruth Hangen - NY
- * Lorraine Thomas - NY
- * Opal Reno - OH
- * Phyllis Negaard - MN
- * Deborah Michaud - MA

* Indicates players holding World Champion status

Mark Seibold emerged Men's Tournament Champion while the Women's Champion title went to Opal Reno. The Clearwater Club was awarded the "Outstanding Achievement Award" by the NHPA for conducting this first-ever event.

In 1982 the Clearwater Club conducted a sanctioned U.S. Open Tournament which was open to all NHPA members nationwide. Prize money for this tournament was \$5,000. Walter Ray Williams, Jr. topped the Men's Champion division, with Elmer Hohl finishing a close second while Carl Steinfeldt placed third in spite of the fact that he pitched a perfect 50-shoe game during the tournament. Glen Portt of GA won the Senior Men's Championship and Fran Carnahan of PA topped the Women's Division.

The Men's Championship Finals and Senior Men's Finals were completely taped by Vision Cable Television with club members Norman Gaseau and Bob Dean handling the commentary. This 4-hour show was televised twice in the Tampa Bay area.

The Clearwater Club has conducted several tournaments at the annual Florida State Fair located in Tampa, FL. At each of these tournaments the club usually arranges a special event to enhance our sport. At the 1986 fair the club arranged match play between World Men's Champions, Seibold (IN) and Steinfeldt (FL) as well as match play between World Lady's Champions, Negaard (MN) and Michaud (MA). The State Fair tournaments are very popular with Florida players. These special events are also held during the annual Clearwater Fun' N Sun Tournaments. At the 1984 tournaments, World Men's Champion, Dale Lipovsky and World Champion Steinfeldt competed in match play. In the 1986 Fun' N Sun Tournament, Lady's World Champion Michaud and World Champion Steinfeldt competed in match play. These events have stimulated interest in our sport and have contributed to the growing membership in the Clearwater Club which now totals 100+ members.

In 1990, the Florida State Horseshoe Pitchers Association authorized the establishment of a Hall of Fame exhibit to be housed in the Clearwater Clubhouse. The State Association granted the club \$3,700 to establish the exhibit. Club member, Norman Gaseau and Hall of Fame Chairman, was

Continued on page 23

Colorado Caught Dancing With Minnesota's Team-World Cup

by Jim Haupt

It was a grand entrance. Each pitcher of the playful Colorado team clutched a leg of the Team-World Cup as they pranced into the Beloit arena Friday morning. It had been theirs for a year and this scene, "the return of the cup," had been orchestrated.

Fifty odd team matches later, found Colorado involved in a final duel with Minnesota. Jan Turnquist, MN, lost it to Rich Pintor, CO, in a close game. Mark Baumann, MN, evened the score winning over Don Wild, CO. Paul LaCrosse, CO, and Bev Nathe, MN, were matching ringers, trading the lead to the end. Nathe at 82.5% counted one less ringer and lost by three to LaCrosse at 85%. Two courts away Dale Lipovsky, MN, was building an insurmountable point lead over Colorado's Dee Powell.

The match was marked at 2-2, a pair of wins apiece. Lipovsky's 82.5% over Powell's 70% netted twenty points, more than enough to swipe the match and get another piece of the Team-World Cup.

Team-World considers a finals team match to be decided by game wins and total team points become part of the team score when games wins are equal.

Minnesota, no stranger to the top of the Team-World heap, led all others entering the finals with 78.5 preliminary game wins dropping just 13.5 contests. This is their eighth Team-World title, although their first since 1997. Thought to be one of their best teams ever, this Gopher gang averaged over 70%.

The finals always begins with a four-way play-off for the fourth spot on the finals ladder. Ontario missed entry to the four-way by one half game settling for eighth place. Wisconsin lost their opening bid to Michigan. Missouri dropped it while playing Ohio. The resulting Michigan - Ohio match was decided with three wins by the former Team-World Champions, Ohio.

On the ladder, Bob Logan of Indiana presented Allan Francis, Ohio, with his first loss of the tournament leading the Indiana team to a three game, match win. Indiana split

the semi-final game with Colorado but the defending champions from the west led the points race. A mere five points put Colorado into the final match-up which Minnesota claimed was theirs winning with a three-one record.

Missouri, with four teams entered, became top contender in the #2 team category edging out the best of Illinois by a half game and just out of the cash.

This year Team-World paid: \$100 for 8th place, increasing in \$100 increments to \$600 for 3rd, \$1100 for 2nd and \$1800 to the Champion team. The traveling Team-World Cup, now engraved seventeen times, becomes the year long property of Minnesota once more.

A few Gopher people, predicted, early on, that the 'Cup' would look nice displayed at the Hibbing World Tournament for 2001.

Team-World is a three day event. Starts out big with half the 24 team field on the courts at the earlybird hour of 8:00 am. Teams play a few

Continued on page 22

TEAM-WORLD 01 - 92 PRE-LIM GAMES

Minnesota #1 TW champs
78.5 pre-lim wins team avg 71.4
Dale Lipovsky73.6
Bev Nathe75.3
Mark Baumann70.6
Jan Turnquist66.1
Colorado 2nd place 75.5
wins pre-lim team avg 67.4
Paul LaCrosse71.9
Dee Powell68.0
Rich Pintor64.2
Don Wild66.3
Indiana #1 3rd place 67
pre-lim wins team avg 64.8
Bob Logan80.7
Curly Seibold65.5
Mark Seibold61.4
Ralph Guffey51.9
Ohio 4th Place 65.5 pre-lim
wins team avg 66.0
Alan Francis80.8
Amy Francis62.5
John Walters62.9
Bob Garber57.9
Michigan 5th Place 57 pre-lim
wins team avg 63.0
Judy Curtiss 72.2
Jim Wiltse67.7*
Larry Kemp56.8
Andy Mathews55.1

Wisconsin #1 6th place 66
pre-lim wins team avg 64.4
Clayton Gage68.2
Randy Rein68.5*
Edie McKinney59.1
Mark Mauthe60.5
Missouri #1 7th place 65.5
pre-lim wins team avg 65.4
Lou Rector70.6
Stan Griggs66.0
Rose Diekamp63.6
Randy Grady61.8
Ontario 8th place 56.5 pre-lim
wins team avg 61.3
Sandy Janssens54.8
Stan Leis60.9
Steve Hohl66.5
Lucille Leis62.9
Missouri #2 9th place 56
pre-lim wins team avg 60.1
Sam Carter61.6
M.O. Turner65.0*
Charles Killgore52.7
Ron Hassler61.1*
Illinois #1 10th place 55.5
pre-lim wins team avg 60.6
Larry Knop68.9
Cliff Baker61.7
Jerry Dumstorff48.2
Charlie Webb63.4

Minnesota #2 11th place 54
pre-lim wins team avg 61.6
Phyllis Negaard ...61.8
Gerald Stangland ...66
Danny Carlson ...52.30
Edi Holland66.3*
Indiana #2 12th place 46
pre-lim wins team avg 55.8
Edward Kowatch 69.9*
Fred Rink Jr.61.4
Joe Graber40.8
R Baker51.2
Minnesota #4 13th place
44 pre-lim wins team avg
54.0
Jerry LaBrosse52.5
Dave Hughes50.9
Rosie Leyk58.5*
Lu Cave54.1
Minnesota #3 14th place
39 pre-lim wins team avg
52.6
Wayne Totten54.1
Dick Dvorak44.6
Ron Craigmile56.2
Sig Armitage55.5
Missouri #3 15th place
A6 team avg 50.0
Darwin Compton .57.1*
Bob Diekamp45.3
Mick Gillete52.9
Jim Howard44.6

Illinois #3 16th place 31.5
pre-lim wins team avg 49.9
Charlotte Renick ...56.3
Mike Knop52.7
Mike McBride49.9
Denny Davis39.0
Michelle Thornton ..47.5
Illinois #4 17th place 31.5
pre-lim wins team avg 47.9
Dennis Reid66.4
Ron Hopman45.7
Dalton Simmons ..28.5
Rick Andrysiak43.5
Tom Reid39.2
Illinois #2 18th place 31
pre-lim wins team avg 51.3
Robert Schaver62
Craig Zuehlke41.6
Ken Shaver57.2
Marv Kramer44.5
Wisconsin #4 19th place 30
pre-lim wins team avg 48.2
Harry Nelson55.0
Tom Endler50.4
Lloyd Johnson47.5
Everett Stewart ...39.7
Wisconsin #2 20th place 28
pre-lim wins team avg 47.8
Don Hostrup50.4
John Koepp III48.1
Gus Schram35.8
Larry Barber47.5
Edi McKinney51.5

Missouri #4 21st place 27.5
pre-lim wins team avg 48.8
Ken Pogue57.6
Joe Lucas47.1
Ed Pashia50.80
Ed Valle39.9
Wisconsin #3 22nd place
25 pre-lim wins team avg
44.1
Tom Costa48.6
Ken Jaeger43.6
Elaine Troullier ...41.1
Cliff Troullier42.7
Illinois #5 23rd place 23.5
pre-lim wins team avg 44.7
Larry Fettes48.3
Roger Schwebke .50.6*
Hiram Chaffin44
Bob Power30.3
Luke Thompson ...40.5
Iowa 24th place 17.5 pre-lim
wins team avg. 41.9
Jim Jackson36.5
Mike Fishnick44.00
Leo Buell49.1
Betty McGregor ...37.8

13TH ANNUAL DANVILLE, IL OPEN HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT JULY 14 & 15, 2001

AWARDS:	Class "B" and below	Designated "A" Sponsorship brings awards to:	
	1 st = \$70.00 <i>and</i> Plaque	1 st = \$350.00 <i>and</i> Plaque	5 th = \$50.00
	2 nd = \$50.00	2 nd = \$250.00	6 th = \$40.00
	3 rd = \$35.00	3 rd = \$150.00	7 th = \$30.00
	4 th = \$20.00	4 th = \$60.00	8 th = \$20.00

High Ringer % Game Award in each class
FREE MONOGRAMMED TOWEL TO ALL ENTRANTS
Separate 30 ft. and 40 ft. "A" classes

COURTS: 20 Court layout with full walkways. Located in Douglas Park just off I-74 at Bowman Ave. Exit.

ENTRY DEADLINE: July 6th. Register online also at: www.Active.com by July 4th.

ENTRY FEE: \$20.00 (includes scorekeeping fees). Make checks payable to: Danville Horseshoe Club. Prepayment preferred. Scorekeepers to be paid \$2.00 per game.

SANCTION: 29-01-001

SEND ENTRIES TO: Leo Bratland	Martin Drummond
41 Country Club Dr.	Box 195
Danville, IL 61832	Perrysville, IN 47974
217-443-5818 (home)	765-793-4075 (home)

PAST DANVILLE CHAMPS:

1989 - 1 st Annual Open	Tari Powell, Rossville, IL	73.5%
1990 - 2 nd Annual Open	Sandy McLachlin, Dresden, Ont., Can.	84.5%
1991 - Spring Open	Tari Powell, Rossville, IL	79.8%
1991 - 3 rd Annual Open	Tari Powell, Rossville, IL	79.6%
1992 - 4 th Annual Open	Don Peters, Chenoa, IL	59.6%
1992 - August Open	Walter Ray Williams, Jr., Stockton, CA	83.0%
1993 - 5 th Annual Open	Larry Knop, Verona, IL	69.0%
1993 - August Open	Tari Powell, Rossville, IL	80.0%
1994 - 6 th Annual Open	Randy Hankins, Prospect, KY	63.8%
1994 - August Open	Cliff Baker, Sheldon, IL	72.3%
1995 - Pepsi Open	Dennis Reid, Bridgeview, IL	60.4%
1995 - 7 th Annual Open (Coca Cola)	Robert Hatten, Neoga, IL	70.7%
1996 - 8 th Annual Open	rained out	---
1997 - 9 th Annual Open	Cliff Baker, Sheldon, IL	74.3%
1998 - 10 th Annual Open	Cliff Baker, Sheldon, IL	40 ft. 70.3%
	Curly Seibold, Huntington, IN	30 ft. 78.9%
1999- 11 th Annual Open	Walter Ray Williams, Jr., Ocala, FL	40 ft. 86.1%
	Amy Francis, Defiance, OH	30 ft. 84.1%
2000 12 th Annual Open	Mark Seibold, Huntington, IN	40 ft. 72.6%
	Robert Logan, Kouts, IN	30 ft. 79.9%



ARKANSAS

In 1981 two men from Hot Springs, Bill Webb and Ira Scott, who loved the game of horseshoes, got together and started the basic foundation of the Arkansas Horseshoe Pitchers Association. Bill and Ira recruited 12 pitchers including themselves and formed a club. They petitioned the NHPA for a charter and organized pitching in Arkansas became a reality. The AHPA has grown in the past 17 years thanks to a lot of hard work from dedicated members like Bill and Ira. We now have around 150 members, seven sanctioned pitching sites, four having at least 20 courts. The AHPA state tournament has become a

great event with clubs bidding in the thousands of dollars to host the event. This year the right to host the tournament went for a record \$1,500 to the AVHA club of Ozark. The AHPA welcomes any person regardless of age, gender, race or ability, to join in the fun of the sport of horseshoe pitching. We'll greet you with open arms and fellowship like seen in no other sport that we know of!..

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

(Bob Wight)-It looks like the San Jose Horseshoe Club will have courts to hold tournaments on next year enabling us to remain a member of the NCHPA Charter. It seems the

California Police & Fire Games Federation is having their summer games in the City of San Jose in August.

Due to the city's refusal to provide funding for cement and labor for any horseshoe courts on our behalf, the city's Police Department has stepped in and solicited help. They have obtained a promise of free cement for approximately 16 courts and are preparing to do the court construction themselves using volunteer help.

The San Jose club will assist in advising them of NHPA regulations concerning court construction to

Continued next page

PASSMORE TO ASSIST WHITE HOUSE STAFF

Maryland's John Passmore, U.S. Air Force communications, has been selected by NHPA President Dave Loucks as unofficial liaison for White House staff members, now that reconstruction of three horseshoe courts is official. This was a request from President George W. Bush, who

wanted the services of a horseshoe pitching expert to assist staffers in learning the game. Passmore, in 1975, averaged 89.5% ringers in winning the Junior Boys Division of the World tournament, a record for all classes.

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.

JUNE-JULY 2001

DANVILLE OPEN, DOUGLAS PARK, DANVILLE, ILLINOIS, JULY 14-15. OVER \$4100 IN PRIZE MONEY based on 120 entries. Separates 30 & 40 ft pitchers, A Class. High R% award in each class. Free monogrammed towel to all entrants. Entry Fee \$20. Deadline July 6. Checks payable to Danville Horseshoe Club. Can register online at WWW.ACTIVE.COM. Send to Leo Bratland, 41 Country Club Dr., Danville, Illinois 61832. Phone 217-442-5818.

CLUB/NHPA 6TH ANNUAL PRE-WORLD SANCTIONED TOURNAMENT, WORTHINGTON PARK, MARION COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA, JULY 14-15. REGISTER BY JULY 4. Adults are to include a \$12 entry fee made payable to AHP-MCPARC. Submit registration and fee to 508 Ohio Ave., Fairmont, West Virginia 26554-4155. NO REFUNDS. Trophies to juniors. Restricted to 8 juniors and 136 adults. 50-50 ticket issued with entry fee for \$1000 from the WV 3-Digit Lottery Number. Adults awarded first place trophies and cash. \$40-30-25. Include current NHPA card # along with division entered (40', 30', Jr).

DICK WETHERBEE OPEN, COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO, JULY 21-22. 10-COURT FACILITY IN MEMORIAL PARK. LOCATED AT UNION & 2 BLOCKS SO OF PIKES PEAK AVE. NO ENTRY LIMIT. DEADLINE JULY 20. Entry Fee \$20. Cash awards only to top 3 finishes per class. All entrants will be mailed

or phoned confirmation of their class, date & time. Checks payable to Colorado Springs Horseshoe Club, %Everett Snead, 1121 Wooten Rd., Colorado Springs, CO 80915.

JULY-AUGUST 2001

WORLD TOURNAMENT, HIBBING, MINNESOTA, JULY 30-AUGUST 11. Refer to March-April and May-June issues for entry form.

SEPTEMBER 2001

3RD ANNUAL MIDWEST SENIOR CLASSIC, IOWA STATE FAIRGROUNDS, DES MOINES, IOWA, AUG. 13. MEN AND WOMEN AGE 60 AND OVER BY AUG. 13. Mixed competition. All 30 and 40 ft. men and women pitchers will be classed together according to NATSTAT average. (men and women will not be classed separately). Over \$1800 in prize money paid in 2000, everyone receives a minimum payback of Entry Fee amount. Deadline to enter is July 28. Send request or phone for State Fair Flyer/Entry Form: LeRoy Law, Superintendent of Horseshoes, 1788 NW 10th St, Clive, Iowa 50325. (515) 223-4274.

SHRIMP & PETROLEUM FESTIVAL MDA HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT, KEMPER WILLIAMS PARK, PATTERSON, LA. SEPTEMBER 1. 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. 30. Camping at the park, 985-395-2298. For Tournament information, contact Al Dodson, 985-385-1909, Kevin Dore, 985-395-7327, or Tim Gilmore, 985-395-5062.

ensure the courts can later be certified by our Regional Director. The courts will be considered public and our club must obtain usage permits from the Parks & Recreation Department in order to hold tournaments. These courts will be used if constructed on time for the Silicon Valley Senior Games in August.

Bob Wight and Leon Moore together with the horseshoe tournament coordinator of the Police & Fire Games, traveled to Pleasanton early in the year to inspect the new courts at the Tri-Valley Club. This was to get an idea of what was entailed in constructing horseshoe courts. It also provided insight to the San Jose Club officers as to what to ask for in the court construction at Watson Park in East San Jose. The Tri-Valley facility is tremendous in our estimation and the entire club should be congratulated for the hard work and effort they put into this venture. We extend our thanks to Glenn Jamieson, Lee Henninger and Bill Brown for spending and sharing their time in showing this great facility to us. Also, do take a look at their great clubhouse!!

Elmer Wilson, who died March 20, will be missed by many, especially by his family and those of us whose lives he touched. As modest as he was, most of us old timers will always remember him as the main cog of the Yolo Horseshoe Pitching Club. He has also been honored during a tournament the following weekend at "His Courts." Donations were and will be accepted in his name for a memorial fund to be used to continue improvements at the courts.

There are no non-pitching days at Seaside, reports Genevieve Lavett! This is because in November the Seaside club (Fred Lavett) mounds their courts. They spade the sides of the pits and place the clay in the center. It looks like cemetery burial plots. When you arrive at the courts you only need to remove excess water from the sides, pull the clay from the center to the edge and you have good clay courts on which to pitch. Sure, it's work but you can pitch every-day because it doesn't rain all day long, usually.

COLORADO

(Bob Champion, Double Ringer)-Mel Yockstick fired three 200 games (203-205-204) and Megan Capps closed with a women's tournament high 665 with handicap as the

"dynamic duo" won the 17th annual Four Dead Bowling Tournament at North Gate Bowl.

The Colorado Record Book covering horseshoes from 1921-2000 has a total of 422 different names. Paul LaCrosse's 17 state titles head the list plus several high average and high game listings, places him in the top with about 60 listings. An addendum to the \$3 publication: Ernie Flageolle won the 1998 Class F state title.

HAWAII

Five clubs dot the islands; Kahaluu, Kailua, Waianea and Waimanalo are on Oahu island; Anahola is on Kauai.

IDAHO

Thirty-six pitchers enjoyed the hospitality at Coeur d'Alene for the Elmer Currie Classic. Jerry Bengtson of Idaho was the A champion with a 6-1 mark, averaging 48.32 with a high game of 57.5. Winners in B thru E inclusively; Darrell Beckwith, Montana; Larry Getts, Idaho; Harold Lewis and Gloria Hooper, both of Idaho.

Highest game of the day was pitched by Washington's Jack Johnson, 65.6.

Second place finishers: William Rust, Ike Bews, Chris Worth (Wa), Lee Luchsinger (Wa) and Woody Collons. Third place: Vicki McEnany, Otto Brennecke, Hans Rasmussen (Wa) and Myron Buchert.

MICHIGAN

The substance of this letter was addressed to the Southeastern Michigan Horseshoe Club: "Dear Mr. Woods, We are excited to let you know how happy you have made our daughter, Carly. She is so excited to have her own bike...This is the first independent, outdoor play she has been able to enjoy...What a great organization you have. As you wrote, When people care, great things can be accomplished. I hope you understand what a wonderful thing you have done for our daughter..." Signed by Tammy and Gary Verbeke, Jr., of Smiths Creek.

"Pitching For Charity" is the motto of the SE Michigan HC.

NEW JERSEY

(Contributed by Dr. Sol Berman)-John Rosselet died during WWII and was the second vice president of the NHPA. He joined the NJSA in 1937 and served as executive board member,

secretary-treasurer, 1940. Believed the only NHPA officer to die in service. An annual tournament was held in his honor, called the John Rosselet Memorial, N.J.

In about 1942 or 1943 Sol Berman read an article in the Elizabeth Daily Journal that the Union County yearly horseshoe pitching championship was being held on Sunday, the day before Labor Day in Warinaneo Park. George Cron, a high school classmate, was in charge and Sol borrowed a pair of horseshoes and threw a few at the stake. John was watching (defending county champion) and gave him a few suggestions, then invited the newcomer to play in the tournament. Berman finished 6th. John won.

Rosselet invited Berman to attend the state championship qualifying round to be held the next day in Branch (Newark) Brook Park. He picked Sol up the next morning. Sol qualified 9th. Past state champion was 10th.

Berman reported for active duty a few weeks later. He took with him pairs of shoes and stakes. When the war was over Berman informed the Union County Parks that John was killed in action. They agreed to hold a yearly tournament in his honor.

The tournament was held each year for about ten years. Star pitchers from Rochester, N.Y., Baltimore, New York City and Pennsylvania attended the annual event.

NEW YORK

(Dave Harnden)-Under the able leadership of League Director Lance Hinman and a faithful nucleus of class directors, the Syracuse Pioneer Horseshoe Club completed another highly successful season, its 17th. Wearing many hats, Lance has been league director since 1988 and is current Open Director. He has been instrumental in helping to establish a much-needed Junior's Class!

Sportsperson of the Year award went to veteran pitcher, Peg "Marge" Wilkinson. Margaret is a fine competitor, and lady Pioneer, and is well-deserving this award! A special tip of the Pioneer cap is in order for the banquet committee headed by Stan Banner and Harry Dunbar. Special recognition goes to Banner, again, for his outstanding effort in getting sponsors, and making signs! In conclu-

Continued on page 19

Sixty-five years of Horseshoes in Erie, Pennsylvania

Continued from the previous issue of Newslines

Sam White was elected President of the newly formed club the following year-- 1937. He held that position for a number of years. It was his mission, as president, to unite the local leagues. Working with his son, Francis, who had become the District Commissioner of the Pennsylvania Horseshoe Pitcher's Association, together, the two had quite a bit of success. An industrial and a social circuit were formed. The industrial circuit was comprised of teams that were sponsored by local industrial manufacturers and job shops. The social circuit was comprised of teams that were sponsored by many local social clubs. The two circuits merged at the end of each season for a singles and doubles event that determined the city champions.

By 1939, this format that they had established had become so popular that the city had to install lighting at the courts to accommodate extra shifts of pitchers after dark. This was a strong foundation for horseshoes in Erie. Over the years, the club reorganized a couple of times and is now known today as "The Erie Horseshoe Club, Inc." The foundation laid down for us by the efforts of Sam White and other prominent club members led to many years of successfully hosting local tournaments, State Championships, Eastern National Championships and even the World Championships. The Erie Horseshoe Club, over the years, has had a very profound and positive effect on the NHPA's presence in this area. Not many clubs can boast such significant accomplishments. This was all made possible by Sam White, more than any other single person.

Francis White's accomplishments as a player are quite well known, especially in Erie and Western Pennsylvania. He was many times county and later city champion in Erie, including a six consecutive year run atop the county between the years of 1935 and 1940. Over the years, he had many appearances in the state championship class. Of course, most significantly, at age 71, he was the 1988 World Champion in the 40 Foot Elder's Division. He is eighty-four years old today and has, thus far, pitched in probably hundreds of NHPA sanctioned tournaments for nearly seventy of those years. For his pitching accomplishments, Francis was inducted into the Western Pennsylvania Horseshoe Pitchers' Hall of Fame in 1989.

What most don't know about Francis is that he was a strong promoter and organizer of horseshoes all throughout this time. As a young man, he held club officer positions such as club secretary and such. He organized leagues and ran some tournaments. As previously mentioned, he also became involved at the state level.

Sam White was not alone in organizing his promotional events and horseshoe exhibitions-- Francis was there, at his side, every step of the way and in many instances, was as much a part of their success as was Sam. Remember, not only did he help organize the pitching showdowns, but he had to play in many of them as well-- the most memorable being a three game match against World Champ Ted Allen in mid August of 1940 at the Erie Stadium-- a close second, was

the match against the trick shot artist Carrol Jackson, White taking Jackson for two out of three and averaging over seventy percent ringers in the victories.

World War II preoccupied the whole nation and horseshoes suffered a lot in Erie as a result. Francis' grocery business began to thrive at that point and he was forced to focus on it for most of the 40's, up through the mid 50's, leaving little room for horseshoes. Sam White's health began to fail him and he faded out of horseshoes at the same time. The club barely hung on during those years-- A large number of people were either overseas at war or were working extra jobs or overtime to keep up with wartime needs-- Very few were out having fun pitching shoes. It wasn't a time for that. Everything was focused on the war and that was it.

Francis got back into pitching in the late 50's and couldn't help but get involved in the operation of the club once again. There were a lot of new faces in the club--some were very formidable competitors. With guys like Joe Peters, Jack Potter, Frank Bohun, Wes Kuchcinski and Glen Sebring all at the top of their game, averaging better than 70%, he was no longer the top dog in Erie-- It was more competitive than ever. To this day, we have not seen a group of players in our club that could equal the abilities of those guys.

Francis was elected President in 1958 and held that position for a couple of years. During that time, the nucleus of players/organizers that eventually hosted the 1969 World Championships was formed. In the early sixties, the addition of Paul Beers as president and Joe Abbott as tournament director really solidified the club's ability to handle a large scale tournament. When the big event came to Erie in 1969, Francis, although not an officer in the club, was a big supporter of the event and served on the steering committee for the tournament. It was a huge success and quite profitable for the club.

In the late 70's, after nearly fifty years in the sport, Francis got motivated again to promote horseshoes. He became the club's publicity director and held that position through most of the 1980's. He re-established the club's relationship with the Erie Times News and opened in roads with all the local TV stations. Horseshoes was getting press coverage again in Erie. This was a major feat considering the fact that it had become overshadowed by the success of golf, bowling and other sports in the area.

Both Francis and Sam also supported the game by selling horseshoes and game related items. As we all know, even today, it's not easy to find a good reliable source for pro-style horseshoes. It was even harder in their day, making these services, in that regard, very valuable and noteworthy. They both supported the game in any way they could throughout most of their lives, this stemming from a truly genuine love of the game.

From the mid 1950's to this day, the club has been very fortunate to have the support of another great family in horseshoes--the Kuchcinski family. Today, when you think of Erie, PA in relation to horseshoes, it is their name that

Continued next page

PRO-AM TOURNAMENT..CORVALLIS OREGON

Nets \$512 for NHPF and 3 new state members acquired

By Jim Postell

On June 3, 2001, the Oregon Horseshoe Pitchers Association (OHPA) hosted its third annual Pro-Am Horseshoe Tournament at Avery Park in Corvallis, the innovation three years ago of Judy and John Perry of Corvallis. Amidst Oregon's Spring showers and sunshine, 40 patient, yet enthusiastic souls, dueled it out on 10 of the 12 courts.

Twenty OHPA members teamed with 20 non-members (the amateurs) to form 20 teams, which in turn were divided into four classes. Both the Pro and Am winners of each class received a beautiful 6x9" juniper wood wall plaque mounted with a real horseshoe painted in gold.

We deeply thank Bill Graham Jr. and Pat Gee for these handsome 8 plaques.

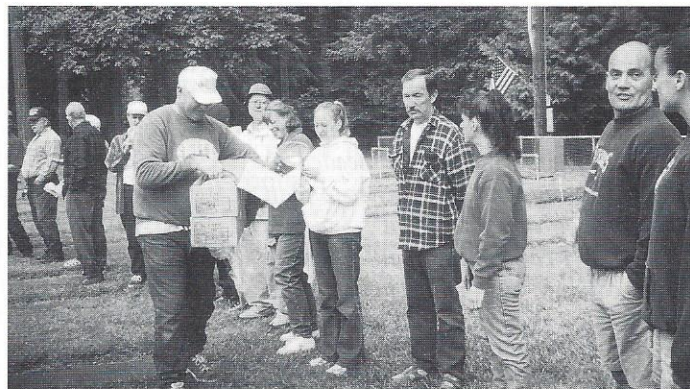
We also owe a great big thanks to the following contributors:

(1) Ed Domey, national NHPA merchandise buyer and seller: 1 pair of Deadeye Clydesdales (won by Floyd Gray) and 2 very nice blue cloth horseshoe carrying cases with a pocket for accessories.

(2) Bob White, White Distributors: 1 pair of Sue Snyder E-Z grip flip shoes (won by Allen Reeder).

(3) Lee Stevenson, Colorado: 1 pair of Ted Allen shoes (won by Harold Jensen).

(4) Elmer Otnes, Oregon: 1 handsome walnut finished horseshoe box (won by 12-year old Mitch Tagen), 2 wind



chimes, and some other nice prizes.

(5) Pat Gee, Oregon: 3 beautiful tiled stepping stones.

From this tournament, the OHPA signed up 3 new members and aroused the interest of several others. Also, all entry money (\$200) and all proceeds from the raffle (\$312), totaling \$512, was donated to the NHPF.

Thanks bunches for all of you who participated, near and afar, and also to those who generously contributed to the raffle, both as donors and as ticketed buyers.

Just to let readers know we are following up on the Am's while their enthusiasm is aglow, not unlike the enthusiasm which hooked me into this special sport!

ERIE LEGACY *Continued from page 14*

comes to mind first, not the Whites like in the '20's, '30's, '40's and '50's. Of course, this is largely due to the accomplishments of Dan Kuchcinski, three time Men's World Champ and long time promoter of the game. But before Dan, there was Wes, Joe and Ed. These three brothers formed a strong backbone for our club and taught the game to their children (Dan, Rich, Ron, Steve, Don, Jim and Rob to name just a few of them). They have all been very reliable and hard working members of our club, especially during the times the club struggled in the early '70's and so on. They are much of the reason why this club still exists today. You can't write anything about the Erie Horseshoe Club without mentioning the Kuchcinski family. It wouldn't be fair to do so. However, their story is large enough for another whole article in this magazine. So, this will have to do for now.

Horseshoe pitching is going strong in Erie today. Our club has over a hundred members, comprised of men, women and juniors. We have three indoor courts and those same twenty outdoor courts, which are being relocated and expanded into a brand new twenty-four court facility this summer. This year's Eastern National Horseshoe Tournament, in June of 2001, will be its 50th anniversary. We are quite proud to be a part of this and want thank all those, past and present, who have made it possible. Many members have made some very significant contributions to our club over the years and we are grateful to all of them for their efforts-- especially those in the early days like Sam and Francis White.

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I am constantly amazed at the ease of communication via the Internet and email. Below is a "chain letter" that I hope you'll find interesting. In just a few days, a young man in Fremont, CA, had all the information he needed to hold a meeting with his teacher to plan a "horseshoe club at school". Space is limited, so I can't include all of it here in this column, but the whole thing will be posted on the Publicity web page.

Hi Paul

Recently Bob White Jr., White Distributors, had an email request from a young man who wants to start a horseshoe club. His communication with "Marc" served to inspire Bob to think about our need to promote juniors and adults alike.

When Bob shared his communication with me, as well as his ideas, I, too, was inspired. I think you'll enjoy. I know I did.

Billie Sue

Marc left this message

White Distributor's web page:

Fremont, CA

Hi my name is Marc, I am a student at Washington High in Fremont, CA. My good friend and I are attempting to start a horseshoe-pitching club at school. Currently we are trying to obtain all the information and sources we can so that we can get anything we need to make the club a success. I would greatly appreciate it if you could send me 3 of your catalogs so I can keep one for myself, give one to my friend, and give one to the administrator of all clubs at our school. Hopefully your catalog will help us to get the club up and running as soon as possible.

—Thank you, Marc

From Bob White Jr.

Marc,

The catalogs will be sent out immediately. It's great to hear of an interest in this sport at your level. We do everything we can to promote youth participation in this sport and will be very excited to help in any way that we can in your challenging goal of building a

horseshoe club. Not knowing you, I don't know how much you currently know about the sport's organization – the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association. I am well acquainted with their National Publicity director, Billie Sue Pennington, (who is formerly from California – now residing in Florida) and I know that if she were aware of your efforts, she would do everything she could to help, as well. If you are not familiar with the NHPA, I would be glad to give you info on how to set up the right contacts in your area and would also be glad to contact the publicity people, on your behalf. You will find a strong support for junior participation within the organization, which you can definitely take advantage of. In the meantime, good luck in getting started and feel free to contact me any time for any info you might need about the sport of horseshoe pitching.

Sincerely, Bob White,
White Distributors

From Marc

I myself am very new to this sport; I know barely anything of the rules, and organizations out there. About a week ago, my friend and I were walking down my street when we saw the old horseshoe pit down at the park. We decided it would be fun to go back to my house, get my set of shoes, and go play. We have little or no technique whatsoever, but it was still fun. Now that we are looking into the rules and techniques of the sport, we are finding out that it is a game we could see ourselves playing a lot of in the future. It never occurred to us exactly how much mental concentration is involved in horseshoe pitching. Once we read up on some of the information about horseshoe pitching, we were hooked. I will try to keep you updated on how the club is coming along, sadly, being it is so late in the year, we might have to wait until next year to start the club. (Our school year will be over for summer in a little over a month.) Even if this is so, it will give us a good amount of time to build pits on the school campus.

Thanks again, Marc

Hi Marc,

My name is Billie Sue Pennington. I used to live in San Jose, CA, but now I live in Florida. I've been pitching horseshoes since 1983. I used to be pretty good at it, but now I don't practice as much as I did a few years ago.

My husband, Tom, is a retired fireman. Do you know that a lot of firemen pitch horseshoes at the firehouse, and a lot of times, neighborhood kids stop by to pitch with them?

Bob White told me about your plans to try to start a horseshoe club at your school. That's great news! I'm sending Bob a copy of this letter.

You know, in school, a lot of kids play basketball, baseball, football and a whole lot of "team" sports. But not everybody likes team sports and sometimes students are not tall enough, rich enough or whatever to do those sports. Horseshoe pitching is different. Once you have a place to pitch and a pair of horseshoes you can play and practice anytime you want to! You can play alone or with somebody. A really nice thing, too, is that it doesn't cost anything to practice, and even if you decide to play in a tournament it's not expensive at all.

I wish I still lived in CA, I'd help you everyday until you built the best Junior Club in the whole USA! But it's impossible for me to be there. (I might visit your club some day though!) Would you mind if I introduced you to some of my friends who can help you start your club? Their names are Casey and Gail Sluys. They have a grandson, Daniel, (I think he's 10-years old) who will probably pitch in his first World Tournament this year! He's not a "champion", in fact he's really just learning the game. That's the neat part about horseshoe pitching; everybody can play!

Also, I'm going to send your information to Heidi Sternberg. She used to pitch in the Junior Girls division, and now she is in charge of NHPA Jr. Promotions. She has some great ideas, and some material that she can send you!

Continued next page

NHPA INTERNET WEBSITE

Continued from page 16

And Marc, I will personally help you get anything you need for your club. All you have to do is ask, and I'll do whatever I can. And all I want in return is for you and your friends to love the game of horseshoes!

Your new friend, Billy Sue

I hope you'll write back to me! Having new horseshoe friends is fun!

Dear Mrs. Pennington

Wow, this is really cool!

When my friend Jake and I first started practicing and thinking of creating a club (about a month ago), I thought it was going to be really hard to find people to help, I was very wrong. I think this club is actually going to work. Aside from getting the school to let us build pits on campus, getting the club started should be really easy. I cannot thank you enough for your help.

Like you said, you don't have to be athletic to play horseshoes. That is exactly the reason why we want to start this club. It has the ability to become something big.

My friend Jake and I are having a small meeting with a teacher at school this Thursday to talk about the club, so I will keep you posted on the clubs growth.

Your new friend, Marc Woods

Please read all of this chain of communications on the Publicity page of the NHPA Website. I think you'll enjoy.

In this chain of communications are: Marc, Fremont, CA, Bob White, Jr., White Distributors, Heidi Sternberg, the National Junior Promoter Director, Robert J. Ryan, Sr. U.S. Ambassador (Ret.) and NHPA National Publicity Director, Billie Sue Pennington.

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TIPS FROM THE CHAMPIONS

Third of a 3-part series by Sylvianne Moisan, 2000 Womens WC

After going through the environment and the training, the final part will now partially cover the aptitudes and the coaching, along with some tips about the physical and mental parts of the game.

Despite the fact I've been surrounded by good horseshoe pitchers and students of the game, who gave me a few pointers, I could say that I developed my style through a combination of observation, self-coaching, and natural ability. Here's what worked for me:

- I take an average of 8 seconds to throw my two shoes.
- I aim at the top of the peg
- My speed is always the same
- I watch the shoe in the air (when it gets dark I realize I have more trouble, I need to see my shoe to correct mistakes - shoe overturning, etc)
- My backswing seems to go far behind my back (the furthest I can) and therefore usually stays the same.
- My left foot on the release leaves ends about 6 inches short of the foul line. It gives me "space" if I have to move closer because I'm throwing at raised courts.

Though being filmed in actions is a good thing - in order to look afterwards and detect what you have to change in your delivery - I never liked to be filmed or look at myself. I never tried to imitate others, I just developed a natural style. It may sound funny, but in fact I often felt I had no style.

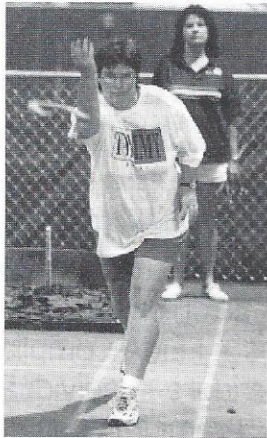
I'm probably naturally gifted but as horseshoe pitching is a game of hand-eye coordination, the physical part of the game can be helped a bit. First: vision accuracy is a must. I recently realized that the first tournament in which I averaged over 80% - at the 1988 Canadian championships - came the same year I renewed (improved) my contact lens and glasses. Before that year I also never bothered to wear glasses even if I needed them. An aspect I try not to neglect anymore.

MENTAL ASPECT OF THE GAME

Concentration, self-control, motivation are words that come to my mind (not when I play). In order to perform well here are a few tips that worked for me: Patience is an important key. To have fun and to be a good sport will not only make you and your entourage happy, but will also help you maintain a better concentration.

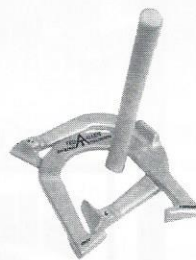
Our family and friends wish we'll do well in a competition and sometimes it's hard not to play "for them", or to "try to please them". Sometimes I have to say to myself "play for yourself". This is the tip I received from a member of my family before I played the great deciding game against Sue Snyder in 1995: "play for yourself and have fun".

To set goals is important but I avoid to put unnecessary pressure on myself. I try to set goals that won't make me too disappointed if they're not achieved. Instead of saying I'm going to win or "I have to win", the goal is usually "try to play well". Finally, I try not to think about anything when I



play. Yes, throwing at a fast pace reduced the opportunities to think too much. Yet, between innings all kinds of ideas fly through my mind. Here's a funny one that happened at the last World Tournament: When we left home I knew we would have to change our old car when we'd be back. We didn't have too much money and I thought that winning first prize would help buy our new car. So during the tournament, whenever a shoe bounced off or when I was trailing in a game, I'd see in my mind pieces of the car be removed from it, like one of the wheels, then the steering, etc...

To be in good physical shape and get plenty of rest is also important. However, sometimes our health gets out of control. Health is very precious. I have been diagnosed with Crohn's Disease in 1991. Since then it's been punctuated with stays at the hospital, medication, complications, but I have been lucky enough to be able to play without too much damage. *Other athletes have been diagnosed with that disease and are still able to perform well.* New York Rangers hockey star Theoren Fleury is one. By the way, Theoren, whose uncle Butch was Manitoba horseshoe champion, played as a junior in a horseshoe tournament in 1980. However, some people are affected by bigger health problems that leave them unable to play and even take advantage of the great social part of the game. So I hope to be able to play and to perform well again for a long time in order to see the numerous friends I've made over the years... I also wish you the same chance. Oh, I was about to forget: when we'll meet on the courts try not to apply too many of those tips against me!



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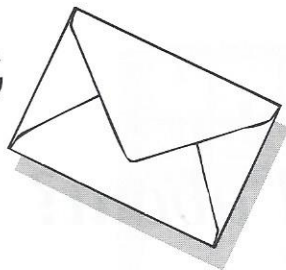
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MAILBAG



Lloyd,

Due to an internal screwup on my company's behalf, the March/April Newslite was delayed greatly. Your persistence and diligence on this project finally made us find the problem and correct this. I certainly hope your organization realizes you are on top of this project from the beginning and the delay was totally our fault.

Thanks to yours and Dick Hansen's passion to make this project work better in the future with the barcoding of future magazines. I can promise your magazine will reach subscribers within a week of you bringing it to the office.

Because of our messing up this last issue (March-April) we will do the May-June issue entirely free; we will pay all postage costs and absorb all labor costs. We want your magazine to be a success and we will do everything possible to help you do so.

Lloyd, again, I apologize and hope your organization realizes what a great asset you are to them. Look forward to seeing you soon.

John Ludwig
President, Automated Mailing
Corvallis, Oregon

Lloyd,

We received both of our issues of Newslite today, May 21. All work ceased and we each grabbed an issue and headed for our recliners to read. Thanks for 2 very informative and interesting issues. Keep up the great job!

Thanks,
Virg and Ruth Rife
Weston, Ohio

Dear Lloyd,

Just read the March-April issue of NEWSLINE. It was a good one even though it took a little longer to reach households in the U.S. Your use of newsletter editors in Shoe Bits was excellent.

I remember when I had Charter Chatter in NEWSLINE, I used something from every newsletter received.

I still have misgivings about the use of a fictitious name--"Maynard"--for Shoe Bits. What's the advantage? No name would be better, if you do not wish to use your name...I vote for your name!

Sorry to hear about the problems with the mail service. Hope things are better in the future.

Best regards,
Bob Champion
Boulder, Colorado

Editor's Note: Bob raises a good and legitimate question; I have put Maynard on trial in this issue. Please see THIS ISSUE...

SHOE BITS *Continued from page 13*

sion, "Big John" Ruston and his wife, Ellie, have relocated to Brooksville, Florida. During the 60's thru the 80's John tangled with Tony Sauro, George LaRose and Frank Ritzback, all City and County champs at one time. Many will remember his battles with Fennechia, Natalie, Pike, Stockholm and Steinfeldt on the state and Eastern National levels. A NYHPA Hall of Famer, John still holds the Pioneer record of 43 ringers in 50 shoes, (86%), set in 1983!

Have a good season, everyone! .

OREGON

(Ringer Review by Pat Gee)-President Bob Hummell of Stanfield reports that Oregon's charter is looking for a volunteer who would like to make contact with our members in need of a lift. A "Sunshine Person" who would contact people who may be under the weather, lonesome, or just need to be recognized. Interested? Let Bob know.

The sanctioned Corvallis Joyner Memorial was followed up on Sunday by the third annual Pro-Am doubles. The 12 courts were full for this special event and tourney director Jim Postell had many horseshoes stockpiled, among other prizes, thanks to the gen-

erosity of our horseshoe suppliers. Many new faces, some trying the sport for the first time, were noted. Again, a success in giving newcomers a chance to pitch with the "regulars" and thoroughly enjoy their day. Thanks to Jim and Paulette Postell for a job well done.

ONE FOR THE AGES:

NHPA Hall of Famer Bob West won the 1970 state mens title at Avery Park in Corvallis with a 9-0 record. He averaged 84.66 per cent ringers (359-424), a state tourney mark still standing. His top eight games that day were 97.5, 97, 85.8, 82.4, 82, 81.4 and 80, also the TOP 8 in the entire 10-man A class! The ninth best game was 77.6 by Lowell Davis. Truly a noteworthy world-class performance by Bob.

A feather in Oregon's cap: Washington state champ Russ Phillips entered the Irene Wiedrich Memorial in Oregon City having won 10 straight titles dating back to last season. Oregon's 4-time state womens champ, Laverne Ewing, met Russ in a playoff after the two finished round robin play 6-1. Closing with five doubles in a row, Laverne won the title, scoring 24 unanswered points on Russ.

WASHINGTON

(Jim Link, Shoes News)-Washington's 1st State Doubles tournament is Aug. 19 at Bellingham's Cornwall Park. It will be walking doubles and a maximum combined percentage must not exceed 110.

At Kennewick the first shoe was thrown by a long time horseshoe pitcher, Harvey Snyder. Vic Magnusen has started what is hoped will be a new tradition there for the Tri-Cities open in honoring those from the past who are no longer competing and who have made a difference in our sport. Harvey, 93, was one of the founders of the Columbia Basin Horseshoe Club. He had prepared some notes which were read by Vey Allen, relating interesting accounts of horseshoe pitching and well known competitors in the Mid Columbia area in the past. One statement that Harvey stresses over and over is "you've got to learn to pitch an open shoe."

At the Snipes Mountain Open in Sunnyside, winning their respective classes were Russ Phillips, Marge Owens (Or), Larry Getts, Gene Wertman and Don Meyers.



Maynard, what is he all about?

I have been watching ESPN for at least a decade. I have never seen a highlight of any kind about our sport of horseshoe pitching. Other sports are readily available. Besides the big 3, baseball, basketball and football, there is auto racing, horse racing, golf, bowling, tennis, ice hockey and gymnastics. No argument as to their merit - within reason.

Technological enhancement of these sports, however, lower the actual value to the professional media. Golfers who traditionally drive balls 270 yards are now teeing 330. Juiced up balls and hi-tech clubs. Bowlers who should be averaging 150, are soaring to 220. Balls react like bombs. This not to lighten the achievements of the top performers in those sports. But it says something about us. We are a bit more primitive in an artisan-like way, with only modest enhancements. It should make us more unique but that uniqueness has not presented itself in the vast area of sports marketing - yet. In a fair evaluation where horseshoe pitching receives the smart angles of the camera and, statistical analogy, it becomes more apparent that we are definitely in the ballpark with other sports.

We need an agent to get us to that fairly-leveled playing field, the marketplace. Omnipresent, Maynard wears many hats (like most horseshoe pitchers) that represent player, court-tender, publicity director, tournament formater and roving reporter. In addition he specializes as a charming, cunning and creative achiever.

In short, a horseshoe pitcher is a complete franchise of one. Maynard is our ESPN.

Many years have passed since sports columnists in local newspapers would invent fictitious names to apply when they were predicting football games. The fella I worked for, the summarily venerable and late Dick Strite of the Eugene Register-Guard, used the name "Amos Hoople." Amos was depicted as a cartoon character. Naturally, this was tongue-in-cheek,

and not meant to disguise anyone's identity.

We need this light-hearted approach to delight and enlighten our readers. A comic character, Judy says frankly, "is a figment of our imagination." And our daughter's artistic creation, based on the representation I

have lent her. She takes it from the editor's idea, vaguely presented.

Cori is a professional. Equally important, as a favor to her old dad, she works free. That's in our favor. I really believe any description should include humor and the reader's own imagination.

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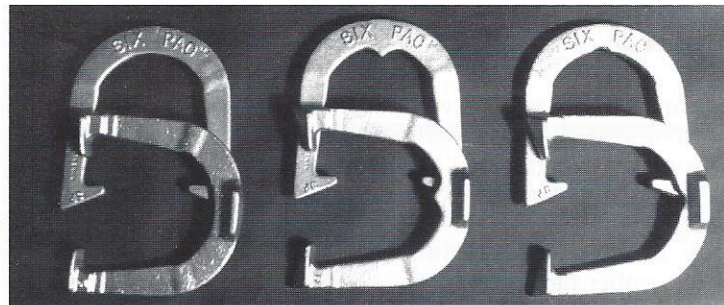


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Colonial Shootout at Meadville

By Lloyd Killgore...
an apprentice hired by Ben Franklin

MEADVILLE, PA. - With eye glasses he describes as "bifocals" Ben Franklin, now 70, conceded the Golden Cup to the 23-year old woman known as Molly "Pitcher" Ludwig, a native of Carlisle, Pennsylvania. Franklin had special shoes drop-forged by a Connecticut blacksmith named Angler Longfellow. Mrs. Pitcher was a last-second entry and had no shoes so a local silversmith named Paul Revere hastily shaped a pair of discarded metal feet off of a horse named Peg, for the young woman to use. This new game invented by the American colonists calls for the horseshoe, tossed from a distance of 45 feet, to encircle the iron post, staked into the ground. Not to be confused with the British game of quoits, wherein the object pitched is a totally enclosed metal ring.

The great Seneca chief, Cornplanter, gave both Ben and Molly sterling battles before losing the matches. The ten contestants played a pirate's round robin, at the suggestion of a young French soldier, Marquis de Lafayette, meaning each contestant played a total of nine games. It was held at the Declaration Park site near the Allegheny River where Cornplanter has held many tribal councils.

Lifting his newest invention to the sky, a musical instrument known as an "armonica", Franklin peeled off a verse of Patriot's Song while the tear-struck crowd of pioneer folk, their wives and Seneca braves removed their hats in honor of the occasion.

Noting the differences between quoits and horseshoes, George Washington, new commander of the Colonial Forces, said the clay was really wet. He confessed, "I knew this Ben guy would get out of bed early to fix the courts to his own liking."

Lord Cornwallis was invited to represent England. Now the adversary of the Colonies, he noted, "Washington likes riding the horses. I never thought he would hurl their shoes. I will sleep well knowing he has only these farmer-types and horseshoe tossers to make up his ragtag army."

Thomas Jefferson, author of the recent Declaration of Independence, finished fourth on a somber note. He bemoaned Franklin making up his own rules "It's a poor baker that goes hungry for bread," he shrugged.

Victorious Pitcher was denied any practice time because of the delay and lost out on a short interval of instruction by Franklin, who demonstrated gripping the shoe on the side for what he termed, "an open shoe." So Mrs. Pitcher used an eye-catching high-arching tumble style, meaning the shoe turned several times end-for-end before arriving at the target.

True to the spirit and resourcefulness of the colonial woman, Pitcher also aided the scoring judges by quickly devising a nifty system of recording numerical results of the entire event, was captured briefly below by the Pennsylvania Gazette reporter. Franklin looked at her precise scoring scheme and marvelled, "the woman is amazing."

Two other competitions were held: The great Tuscarora

brave, Mononga, was champion with the bow, his arrows striking the target bull ten straight times. In the firearms display, the winner was a crack rifleman from South Carolina, Matthew Bristow, known for his great accuracy with the flintlock. He matched Mononga's ten straight bullseyes. Judges had constructed a thickened paper target to a mound of straw bales for these competitions.

Much applause was given to the ladies auxiliary of Meadville, who for a throng of several hundred citizens and braves, prepared venison, rice and apple cobbler to go with casks of fresh spring water and some mild ales.

THE RESULTS: 1-Molly Ludwig (Pitcher), Carlisle, 9-0; 2-Ben Franklin, Philadelphia, 8-1; 3-Cornplanter, Warren, 7-2; 4-Tom Jefferson, Monticello, 5-4; 5-Charles Killgore, Nickelsville, Virginia, 5-4; 6-George Washington, Mount Vernon, Virginia, 5-4; 7-J. Fennimore Cooper, New York, 2-7; 8-Lord Cornwallis, England, 2-7; 9-John Adams, Massachusetts, 1-8; 10-John Hancock, Massachusetts, 1-8.

NHPA Income & Expenditures for April/May, 2001

INCOME

NEWSLINE SUBSCRIPTIONS	3966.67
NEWSLINE ADS	679.00
WT 2001 ENTRIES	97728.00
SANCTION CL/LG PATCHES	14.50
MEMBERSHIP DUES	37309.00
FIRSTAR BANK INTEREST MONEY MKT	2427.82
FIRSTAR BANK INTEREST CHECKING	574.26
HORSESHOE SANCTION FEES	800.00
TRANSFERRED FROM JR TRUST ACCTS	13698.68
TOTALS	157197.93

EXPENDITURES

PROFESSIONAL FEES, ACCTG & LEGAL	4025.00
NEWSLINE PRINTING, SUPPLIES & MAILING ...	4442.27
WT ADMIN COSTS, PRNTG, OFFICE SUPPLIES ...	500.00
REGIONAL DIRECTOR, POSTAGE, TELEPHONE ...	13.46
EQUIPMENT PURCHASES, RENTALS & REPAIR ...	387.85
PRINTING, PAPER & OFFICE SUPPLIES	194.95
POSTAGE	133.99
INTERNET ACCESS & WEB SITE	485.14
OFFICERS TELEPHONE	224.26
SECRETARY-TREASURERS ALLOWANCE	3040.00
PRESIDENTS ALLOWANCE	912.00
DIRECT & INDIRECT NHPF DONATIONS	2626.32
MISC. FEES, BONDS, BANK CHARGES	75.00
NATSTATS ADMIN	8409.87
NEWSLINE PUBLICATION, EDITING & MISC ...	608.00
JR SCHOLARSHIP TRUSTS	269.04
WT TRAVEL EXPENSE	422.95
WT REFUNDS, FEES, DUES & OVERPAYMENTS ...	400.00
TOTALS	27170.10

THE HORSESHOE TRADER

History of the Game in Minnesota

by Bob Dunn

Shortly before June 1st, 1919, there appeared in the daily papers of Minneapolis accounts of the summer plans for the Park Board Playgrounds. In these newspapers, casual mention was made of an attempt to revive the old game of Horseshoe. This notice brought many inquiries and so much interest was shown that soon plans were under way to organize a city Horseshoe Club under the auspices of the Minneapolis Board of Park Commissioners. Horseshoe enthusiasts held several meetings and interest seemed to spread like wildfire to all parts of the city. The game began to be played on all the Park Playgrounds and on vacant lots, back yards and alleys everywhere.

A summary of the Horseshoe activities of the first season shows the interest that was taken in the game:

Two city tournaments were held with more than 1,100 entries. Sixty medals and one hundred eighty ribbons were awarded. Fifty-one of these medals were presented by the Minneapolis Daily News and nine by the Board of Park Commissioners.

Minneapolis players won the Hennepin County Horseshoe Tournament in singles and doubles at Hopkins.

Two representatives, Murray Johnson and E.O. Nordstrom, went to Kansas City and took part in the National Horseshoe Tournament held there. It is estimated that at least 2,000 men pitched Horseshoe during the season in Minneapolis.

In St. Paul, the game of Horseshoe was revived and interest grew in like manner. Two tournaments were held, one under the St. Paul Horseshoe Club, and the other under the auspices of the St. Paul Daily News. In October, a state section meet was held at Dunning Field, St. Paul, with fourteen four-men teams entered from the Twin Cities and ten suburbs. Hopkins won the Singles and Doubles Championship and Minneapolis won the Team Championship.

The Hopkins Horseshoe Club conducted a tournament at the Hennepin County Fair, which was a great success. Other towns nearby organized clubs and conducted tournaments. Among these were Stillwater, Norwood, St. Louis Park, Lake Marion, Hutchinson and Hopkins.

Interest in the game had developed so strongly by fall that at a meeting held in Minneapolis a State Horseshoe Club was organized. The following officers were elected:

President, E.L. Finney, St. Paul
Vice President, A.L. Feudner, Hopkins
Secretary, B.G. Leighton, Minneapolis
Treasurer, E.O. Nordstrom, Minneapolis
Directors, J.R. Batchelor, Duluth; I.C. Christlieb, Hutchinson

This new State Association immediately began to plan for the 1920 season - a brief summary of which follows:

In Minneapolis, St. Paul and suburbs:

17 Thousands of men were organized into Horseshoe Clubs.

27 The Park Boards, Business Houses, and groups of men

installed official Horseshoe courts in the parks, playgrounds, vacant lots, backyards and alleys in all parts of the Twin Cities. Approximately 300 official courts were installed.

37 Horseshoe teams of four men each were organized into leagues the same as baseball leagues. About 75 such teams were organized in Minneapolis alone representing Industrial and Commercial houses, Parks, Communities, Clubs etc.

47 Numerous tournaments are being planned for communities and on a city-wide basis.

In the State, Through the Minnesota State Horseshoe Pitchers' Association.

1. Issuance of Official Hand Book.
2. The organization of Horseshoe Clubs in all parts of the state.
3. In cooperation with the State Fair Board at the Minnesota State Fair:

A Twin City Tournament

A State Tournament

4. Besides developing interest in the game of Horseshoe in all parts of the State of Minnesota and conducting city and state tournaments, it is planned to send representatives to the National Horseshoe Tournament to be held the week of August 8th at Akron, Ohio. At this time it is hoped to recognize the National Horseshoe Association, as well as the rules, for the purpose of standardizing the game in all parts of the country.

TEAM WORLD CUP *Continued from page 10*

games, take a break and hit the courts once more for two shifts each of the first two days.

Some teams come with managers. Others use player-managers. The managers are usually found on coin flip line. (TW uses a formal coin flip before every game with the winning captain or manager gaining the choice of player matchups.) Despite a profusion of running scoreboards, managers are apt to keep their own.

It all adds to the background associated with the event. Visiting, trading barbs, and pleasantries, among friends from far flung places seems to be the favorite off court diversion - as important as the tournament itself. What used to be a quiet Friday night staff dinner has evolved into a fish fry reservation for thirty-two.

Surveying the event for the first time this year was NHPA 5th VP, Paul Stewart who paid tribute to the Beloit Horseshoe Club vowing to return and maybe with a team.

Stewart's friend, and ours, Gene Burlingame of Iowa dropped in for a day. He brought his bags! Burly is known for his nutty organization, "The Stewlies." It developed from

Continued on page 27

PROMOTION JOTTINGS

By Bob Dunn

With the 2001 World Tournament being hosted in Hibbing, Minnesota, it would only be fitting to take a look back to the history of horseshoe pitching in Minnesota. A few years back, an extraordinary booklet was found, entitled "Official Horseshoe Handbook of the Minnesota State Horseshoe Pitchers' Association." There is only one copy of this booklet known to exist now and it serves as the 'birth certificate' of the sport in Minnesota. The booklet was produced in 1920 by then state association secretary, Ben Leighton. Leighton went on to be the first elected president of the NHPA in 1921, as three national organizations merged to form the present-day NHPA. He also served two terms as NHPA secretary, is known as the creator of the round-robin format of tournament play, and was inducted to the NHPA Hall of Fame in 1981. Minnesota was heavily involved and a leading state in the start of organized horseshoe pitching. Three early-day world tournaments were hosted in Minnesota; in St. Paul (1921), Minneapolis (1924) and Duluth (1927). Minnesota even produced the first woman officer of the NHPA - Anne Heenan, vice president 1924.

The booklet tells about forming leagues, hosting tournaments and tells a great story about the birth of horseshoe pitching in Minnesota in 1919...

Read Horseshoe Trader on page 22

SANCTIONED CLUB/ LEAGUE NEWS *Continued from page 9*

chosen to head the project. With the help of dedicated club members, the exhibit was dedicated in February of 1991. Clearwater mayor, Rita Garvey, and city council members participated in the dedication ceremony as well as all living Hall of Fame members and surviving spouses of Fame members. In the March/April issue of Newsline magazine, the exhibit was referred to as follows: "The Florida Hall of Fame facility is one of the best in the NHPA". The exhibit is open to the public during all events held at the club.

Marge Spray is one of the club's distinguished women pitchers. In 1990 and 1992 she won the Women's State Championship title. In 1990 she won the World Tournament Senior Women's Division and again won this World title in 1991 and 1992.

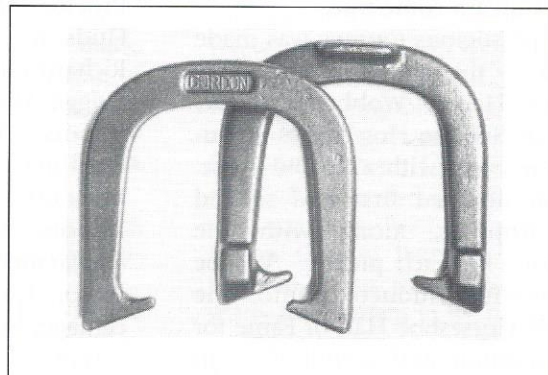
The club conducts NHPA sanctioned league play twice weekly from September through March. This league program dates back to 1978, when it was one of the thirteen clubs who enrolled initially in the Sanctioned League Program established by the NHPA.



Ann Heenan



Ben Leighton



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8TH ANNUAL SIX PAC INVITATIONAL NEW MELLE, MISSOURI, COURTS

AND THE SHOE GOES ON...AND ON...AND ON!

By Jeanette Claas

Mother nature, unusually kind to us this particular time of the year, showered us only with plenty of warmth and sunshine for a perfect weekend--for almost "perfect" horseshoe pitchers who would be attending the 8th annual Six Pac Tournament held in beautiful downtown New Melle on April 21-22. "This is Paradise", Paul LaCrosse of Colorado would exclaim many times over the weekend; the facility, the competition, hospitality--was a horseshoe pitcher's dream come true.

This prestigious tourney was made possible by the generosity of NMHC member, Harvey Wobbe. Wobbe, owner of Six Pac Horseshoes, sponsored the event with a \$4,500 purse. He also donated first and second place trophies, along with the medalions for each pitcher. Wobbe was recently inducted into the Missouri Horseshoe Hall of Fame for his promotion and contribution to the game of horseshoes.

The format for the two-day tournament was a 16 man round robin for 40-footers only. Eight games to be held on Saturday and 7 games pitched on Sunday. An additional tournament for 30-footers would be played Saturday on Courts 9-12 with 8 pitchers participating in a similar round robin format.

Arriving early for a warm-up session, the sound of horseshoes filled the air, as you were about to eye witness the talent and skill of many state and world champions. Entering the Six Pac tournament this year were: Alan Francis, Ohio, 84.98%; Dale Lipovsky, Minnesota, 81.22; Walter Ray Williams, Jr., Florida, 78.78; Mark Siebold, Indiana, 76.98; Matt Guy, Kentucky, 76.02; Paul LaCrosse, Colorado, 75.64; Art Tyson, New York, 75.37; John Kapnis, Massachusetts, 75.17; Mandell Proctor, Maryland, 75.10; Terry Hudson, North Carolina, 74.19; Richard Pinto, Colorado, 73.60; Stan Griggs, Missouri, 72.33; Larry Knop, Illinois, 71.52; N.A. Moore, North Carolina, 70.91; Randy Grady, Missouri, 69.46 and Jerry Dumstorff, Illinois, 69.30. Making his first appearance in the Six Pac was Rich Pintor, Colorado. With ringer percentages such as these, you knew it was professionals putting on a tournament to remember.

Announcer Bob Diekamp introduced the 24 horseshoe players, listing their highest achievements, presenting a medalion for each one as a souvenir of the event by Tournament Committee members Joe Faron, Tim Henderson, Harvey Wobbe and Bob Diekamp.

Martin Orf, NMHC member, glori-

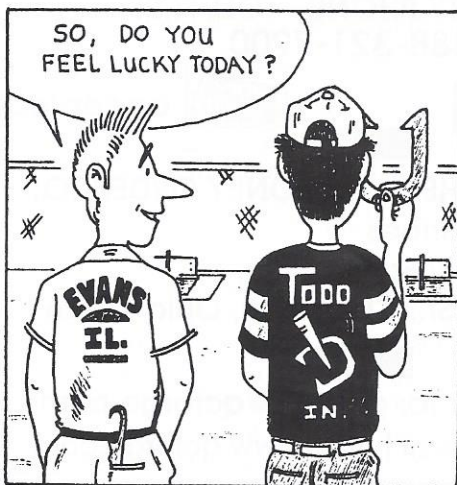
ously sang the National Anthem, acappella, on both mornings--singing in German on Saturday.

On with the Shoe!...After five hours of competition, the exciting 30 foot competition was completed. Participating was: Sue Snyder, Kentucky, 14-time Indiana state champion and 3-time Womens World Champion; Bob Logan, Indiana, 2-time state champion and current 2-time 30 foot Mens World Champion; Joan Elmore, Tennessee, state champion; Amy Francis, Ohio, 5-time state winner and 2000 runnerup for Womens World Champion; Lou Rector, Missouri, 2-time Mens 30 foot state champion; Rose Diekamp, Missouri, 3-time and current state champion; Jan Kreienkamp, Missouri, 2000 runnerup, Womens State championship and Oden Sullivan of Missouri. The competition was grueling and strenuous...After seven games Logan had 6 wins and one loss, tied with Diekamp. Logan, in a playoff, earned the championship title, 40-26, completing his first appearance in the Six Pac with a ringer average of 81.45%. Logan also had high game, 87.5.

At the conclusion of Saturday's competition for the 40 footers, three pitchers remained undefeated: Alan Francis, Walter Ray Williams and Mark Siebold. Lipovsky and LaCrosse suffered only one loss, both coming from Maryland's Proctor.

On Saturday evening the Joe Farons were joined by John and Ruth Kapnis, Alan, Amy and Joyce Francis, Jack and Loree Meier, Mr. and Mrs. Pintor, Tyson, Siebold and Williams for a dinner at Stefanino's Restaurant in Wentzville. Before the evening was over, an autographed picture of Walter Ray was hung on the wall (with the promise of a pledge for the next Six Pac Tournament).

On Sunday morning the spectators gathered to watch the final competi-



Continued next page

NEW MELLE

Continued from page 24

tion and plenty of action ensued. Francis earned the high game of 91.17 against Dumstorff. Francis, 31-34, won 40-1. Following close behind was Williams with high games of 90.47 and 90.

After 15 games, Francis was 14-1, losing only to LaCrosse 43-34. Siebold was beaten by Guy and LaCrosse. Williams was beaten by Lipovsky and Francis. After a five-minute rest period the 14-1 Francis and LaCrosse played off for the championship. It took an hour and 100 shoes were pitched. Francis prevailed 42-38. It was Alan's 4th Six Pac title and he averaged 81.25.

"It was the most exciting horseshoe game I ever witnessed," said tourney director Faron. After the trophies and prize money were presented to the top eight finalists, John Kapnis surprised Lipovsky by singing a rousing rendition of "Happy Birthday" along with the spectators. During the two-day tourney, 24 pitchers pitched 16,752 shoes, of which 11,420 were ringers! This average is a phenomenal 68.17. All of the pitchers agree, the Six Pac Invitational is one of the finest classics held for competition in the USA. Next year's event will be April 13-14, 2002.

Behind the scenes a lot of dedicated New Melle Horseshoe Club members worked very hard to make this tournament successful. A special thank you to: the clean-up crew, Dave and Bea Feidewerth, Cal & Julia Jaeger, Bob Reininger, Ray Nadler and John Simms; Stats man on the computer Rick Altis; all scorekeepers under the direction of Cal and Julia; Poster Boy, Larry Volo; Tournament Committee members, Faron, Henderson, Wobbe and Diekamp. Warren Green, President of the NMHC, computed the new program at the courts for the first time; to all the participants who traveled far and wide to attend--How could you possibly be a loser with averages like what was witnessed.

Six Pac Invitational @ New Melle

April 21-22, 2001

OFFICIAL COMBINED RESULTS — CHAMPIONSHIP 40 FOOT

Place & Name	Won	Lost	Score	Ringers	Shoes	Percent
1 Alan Francis OH	15	1	657	663	816	81.25%
2 Paul LaCrosse CO	14	2	647	755	1,020	74.01%
3 Walter Ray Wms Jr FL	12	3	589	638	818	77.99%
4 Dale Lipovsky MN	12	3	591	628	838	74.94%
5 Mark Seibold IN	10	5	539	636	904	70.35%
6 Stan Griggs MO	9	6	505	593	872	68.00%
7 Mandell Proctor MD	9	6	529	573	854	67.09%
8 John Kapnis MA	6	9	467	528	814	64.86%
9 Terry Hudson SC	6	9	425	529	820	64.51%
10 Randall Grady MO	6	9	451	498	784	63.52%
11 Art Tyson NY	6	9	447	487	776	62.75%
12 Jerry Dumstorff IL	5	10	401	482	788	61.16%
13 Matt Guy KY	4	11	471	640	958	66.80%
14 Larry Knop IL	3	12	456	568	866	65.58%
15 Richard Pintor CO	2	13	357	474	778	60.92%
16 N.A. Moore NC	2	13	368	464	778	59.64%

OFFICIAL COMBINED RESULTS — CHAMPIONSHIP 30 FOOT

Place & Name	Won	Lost	HiGame	Ringers	Shoes	Percent
1 Bob Logan IN	7	1	87.50%	391	480	81.45%
2 Rose Diekamp MO	6	2	76.78%	370	516	71.70%
3 Joan Elmore TN	5	2	82.43%	307	412	74.51%
4 Sue Snyder KY	4	3	79.72%	252	372	67.74%
5 Amy Francis OH	3	4	80.00%	305	432	70.60%
6 Jan Kreienkamp MO	2	5	77.50%	235	362	64.91%
7 William Lou Rector MO	2	5	75.00%	238	376	63.29%
8 Oden Sullivan MO	0	7	61.53%	166	318	52.20%

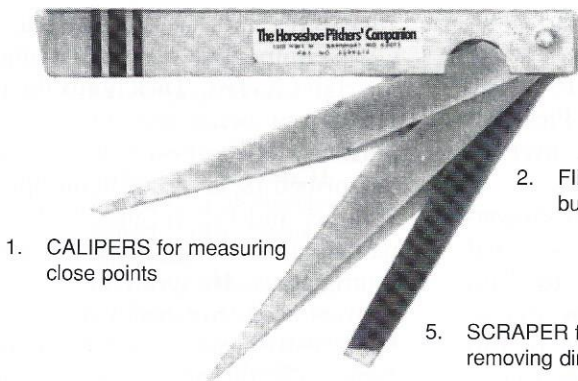
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THE TOLL OF TIME

PAUL FOCHT

Paul Focht, 1962 World Champion and an NHPA member 50 years in which he became one of the sport's greatest promoters, died July 3, 2000, in Dayton, Ohio. He was 89. Paul started pitching shoes in the early 20's and progressed to the pinnacle in 62. That year, competing against the greatest players in the world, he won the title with a 32-3 record, averaging 81.8% ringers.

He is a member of both the NHPA and Ohio Halls of Fame.

Paul is survived by his wife Emma.

Paul pitched a 1 3/4 turn, winning dozens of Ohio State championships in prestigious tournaments such as the Montgomery County (11 times), Southwest Ohio District (6), Lakeside Open (7), Greenville Spring Open, Ohio State Fair, Norwood Invitational, Greenville Ringer Classic, Piqua Open, Wilmington, Pennsylvania, Corn Belt, Kentucky Capitol and Avon National Open. Also, in capturing the 1968 Eastern National, averaging 85%. He averaged over 80% in some 50 Class A tournaments. He hit a 95.4% game in the 1965 WT. He set a world record with Floyd Toole, for longest game in the 1961 WT and another record with Marvin Craig for highest combined average for two players, 1965.

Overall Paul won 385 and lost 161 in 16 World tournaments in the championship division. He was Recipient of the Governor's Award in 1960; Sportsmanship Award, 1960, 1965, 1966; Carlings Sports Award, 1963; Special NHPA Award, 1969. He served as President or Vice President of Buckeye Association for over 20 years.

In Erie, Pa., this year's 50th anniversary of the Eastern National Tournament is dedicated to Paul Focht. He was personally involved in the running and promotion of this event for many years, starting back in the early 50's.

Paul Focht could well be christened The Quiet Champion. He accomplished much with little fanfare. Even

in death Paul still helps his fellow pitchers. He left us this advice: "Pitch every shoe in practice just as you would in a tournament, as if the title depended on throwing a ringer."

MARY E. (SYNDER) HIENDELMAYR

Mary E. (Synder) Hiendlmayr, 90, of Westlake, Ohio, died Jan. 27 in Westlake. Mary used to make horseshoe shaped cakes and brought them to local tournaments. Even while confined to a wheelchair, the cakes kept coming with the help of son Frank.

She was born Oct. 17, 1910 in Uniontown, Pa. Survivors are her husband, Francis A.; sons Frank, Paul and James; and grandchildren, Irene and Mary Elizabeth.

CAROL LOWITZ

Carol Lowitz, Washington's "Sunshine Lady", passed away in May 2001. Survivors include her husband and pitcher, Larry. She was a grand contributor to our sport and will be greatly missed by those close to her, including the entire Washington horseshoe organization.

DICK SPOSATO

It's with extreme sadness that the Syracuse, N.Y. Pioneer Horseshoe Club reports the passing of veteran pitcher, Dick Sposato, April 17. Dick died after a long four-month battle with cancer. He was 66.

In 1990 he retired as a foreman after 38 years at New Process Gear. He was a competitive player, pitching in the club's A class. Dick holds the distinction of being the only Pioneer pitcher to "Three-peat!" One season, he finished 1st in A class in the Spring, Summer and Fall Leagues!! He also participated in many state and world tournaments. He sported a fine 1 1/4 delivery and averaged between 50-55%. He was active as a club spokesman on many occasions and was instrumental in the early efforts to attract sponsors. Dick will be sorely missed. Our condolences go to the Sposato family.

SHIRLE A. STALEY

Shirle Aileen Staley of Vancouver, Wa. died Monday, May 7 in Vancouver. A dental receptionist for 25 years Shirle was a member of Vancouver Horseshoe club. Her surviving husband, Gerald, is a tournament officer and pitcher in the Washington Association and a former major league baseball pitcher.

Mrs. Staley enjoyed making quilts, sewing, playing Video poker and traveling. She was born August 26, 1924 in Everett, Wa. and lived in Clark County the past 53 years. Survivors include husband Gerald; one daughter, Kathleen Owen of Kirkland; one son, Brian of Vancouver; one grandson Jeffrey, and two great grandchildren.

GLADYS WENDLING

Gladys L. Wendling, a key organizer and statistician for the Lebanon, Oregon horseshoe club, died May 30 at home. She was 78. Mrs. Wendling was born and grew up in Westhope, N.D., the daughter of Casper and Thora (Sorensen) Jensen.

She moved to Albany, Oregon in 1948 and married Charles Wendling on Oct. 28, 1964, in Albany. They farmed in the Crabtree area from 1964 until 1993, when they moved to Lebanon.

Charles pitched in the 1981 World Tourney at Genola, Minnesota and won a trophy, being among the top 20 pitchers in Oregon.

Mrs. Wendling had worked more than 27 years in the Linn County Assessor's Office.

Gladys was the glue of the Lebanon club, being the statistician and record-keeper at the popular annual Strawberry Fair horseshoe tourney for some 30 years. Surviving are husband Charles; sons Gary DeMars of Salem, Ala. and Erwin DeMars of Portland, Ore.; daughters Vera Shoberg of John Day and Marilyn Beverly of Milpitas, Ca.; brothers Harold Jensen of Albany and Harvey Jensen of Mesa, Az.; sister Irene Henry of Minot, N.D.; 10 grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren.



Proposal to stop talking and do something!

Let's reach out and follow through! The time is now! We want to direct and encourage local and national media attention toward horseshoe pitching at least once a year to better publicize the sport and to promote more public participation at both recreational and competitive levels.

To do this, we propose to organize local and state horseshoe club tournaments on the same day of the year, in which all prize money from contestant entry fees and sponsors will be donated to nationally recognized charities. As long as the charity is a worthy cause, our primary focus will be toward media recognition and public awareness of the great game of horseshoe pitching. Collectively, our financial donations will affect better media recognition than they will as separate efforts. In any event, they will provide the opportunity for local and national media attention.

This idea will be presented at the 2001 Convention. With support from the delegates attempts will be made to choose a date (either July 4th or Labor Day weekend). We've noticed

that both of these dates media attention picks up, as both are times when families get together and pitch horseshoes!

OBJECTIVE: Provide a fun, relaxing and friendly experience for all participants. Project the image that horseshoe pitching is fun and healthy recreation for everyone and horseshoe pitchers are caring and sharing people who believe their sport can enrich the lives of everyone.

A FEW SUGGESTIONS FOR GROUPS:

- MDA - Jerry's Kids
- Breast Cancer - "Ringers for a Cure"
- Heart Association
- Boys and Girls Clubs
- Big Brothers, Big Sisters
- America's Promise - The Alliance for Youth (General Colin Powell)
- www.americaspromise.org
- National Mentoring Partnership
- Special needs group e.g. Special Olympians

MEASURES OF SUCCESS:

- Media exposure
- New members recruited
- Contact information of participants via signup for ringer contest and raffle, which can be used to communicate with them later.
- Most importantly create a positive image of horseshoe pitching and horseshoe pitchers. In this regard all NHPA members should wear clothing they would wear while competing in the World Tournament.

TEAM WORLD CUP *Continued from page 22*

a stunt at the World T. He showed up there in the grandstand watching Stewart pitch. As a spectator, Burly thought it appropriate to wear a bag over his head in honor of Stewart's brand of horseshoe playing. At Team-World, Burly, the "Bag Prez," had some of his cohorts pose for a picture, all bagged! (Are you some kind of nut too? Write to Burly7@aol.com; say "yes.")

Among the many dropping by to see some horseshoe friends were, Ward Lutz, RD for Minnesota, Ray and Delores Billen of Kenosha, WI, Joe Dolter, Iowa, Grandma and Grandpa (Ken), Walters of Ohio, and everlasting sponsor, Harvey Wobbe, the Six-Pac man from Missouri.

This old Team-World began at the Pitchin' Palace in Sturtevant, WI under the short lived name of "Can-Am" in 1985. The name changed and the tournament moved to Beloit twelve years ago.

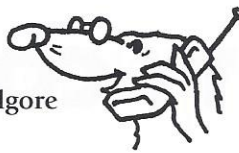
1985 Minnesota	1993 Minnesota
1986 Iowa	1994 Minnesota
1987 Minnesota	1995 Kentucky
1988 Illinois	1996 Minnesota
1989 IN-DY	1997 Minnesota
1990 Indiana	1998 Ohio
1991 Missouri	1999 Ohio
1992 Minnesota	2000 Colorado
	2001 Minnesota

Although Minnesota does not have a lock on the Team-World Cup, they

have consistently put more former and current World Champions on the TW courts than competing states. Dale Lipovsky, one of those champions, has pitched for the Minnesota team every year and can be said to be the enduring force leading to their eight Team-World titles.

Wrapping up this Team-World event is easy. It was one of the best. Next year there will again be a 24 or 20 team field. The committee is committed to hold to either of those 'even' numbers. "It's hard to be humble etc., etc.," but the staff will accept criticism.

Hope you too, can get your team in gear for next year.



In July, 1776, Molly Pitcher was known as Mary Ludwig. Two years later, in the Battle of Monmouth she would distinguish herself as a Revolutionary War heroine. As was the custom of wives, she was part of the military support group for the Patriots. Her job was carrying water to the troops from a nearby spring. When her husband collapsed of heat stroke, she took over as cannoneer and continued firing until the battle was over--acquiring the nickname Molly Pitcher. By today's standards she would no doubt qualify for the Medal of Honor. Benjamin Franklin was preparing to set sail for France, where he would spend part of a decade as minister. Cornplanter, Seneca chief, still had unresolved differences with the colonies, his tribe a part of the Six Nations of the Iroquois, a pattern for the design of the United States' colonial federation. Thomas Jefferson had just written the Declaration of Independence and would become our third president. Charles Killgore of Virginia, would join the militiamen that later crushed British forces at Kings Mountain, under the command of Col. Isaac Shelby. Gen. George Washington,

Father of Our Country, would command the "ragtag" colonial forces into the biggest upset of all five years later. James Fennimore Cooper was just a young lad, curious about everything including what to do with a pair of horseshoes in hand. He would author such classics as "Last of the Mohicans."

Lord Cornwallis would lay his sword at the feet of Washington at Yorktown, Va. as a frontier people's quest for freedom came to fruition. John Adams would become the second U.S. president. John Hancock had just become the first signer of the Declaration. Among other noteables Mononga, the Tuscarora bowman, is short for the Monongahela River, a 128-mile long waterway formed near Fairmont, West Virginia and continuing into Pennsylvania. Hence we now have the Head-of-the-Mon horseshoe tournament at Fairmont. (See Special Events Calendar). Monongahela means "river with sliding banks", Native American translation.

Meadville is the actual sight of horseshoe pitching's formal beginnings in the late 19th century. It is a natural setting for this hypothetical tournament.

Under the Julian Calendar, Jan. 6, 1706, is Ben Franklin's birthday. Our most notable founder was a horseshoe pitcher, University of Pennsylvania scholars believe. We do know that the British were well aware of the favorite pastime of American militiamen, horseshoe pitching. Later on the Duke of Wellington acknowledged, "the war of liberation was fought and won on the village greens by pitchers of horse hardware."

Ted Allen's pinnacles of achievement include 10 world titles and 72 consecutive ringers (twice); the first time in the World Tournament in Milwaukee it was spread out over two games (1948) and the second time finishing up a game with Oregon's Clete Chapelle (1955). In a 1982 interview with an Oregon Ringer Review reporter, Allen(1908-1993) said, when asked about the next game, "they looked that up. I missed the first shoe in the next game...had I been more aware of the significance of consecutive ringers, I might have tried a little harder." Regarding the 72-consecutive ringers' achievement Allen,

Continued next page

Local horseshoe pitcher among nation's top 10

ST. JOE - When Lawrence Lantz got a hot hand pitching horseshoes last winter, he burned his name into the national record books.

Lantz threw 19 ringers out of 30 shoes during a match in January 2000 at the Classic City Horseshoe Club near St. Joe.

That was 36.9 percentage points better than his average for ringers - and it ranked among the nation's top 10 games in that category.

Lantz received his National Horseshoe Pitchers Association Top Ten 2000 award Monday at the indoor courts where he threw his winning game.

Computer rankings measured Lantz's achievement against performances by some 3,000 member of the NHPA.

Lantz, of Garrett, has been pitching with the Classic City Horseshoe Club since it began in Auburn 16 years ago. The club now competes in a barn outside St. Joe owned and operated by Jim Shilling, an NHPA regional director.

Shilling presented Lantz with a Top Ten plaque, patch and certificate during Lantz's regular Monday night league match.

More than 100 participants pitch shoes in organized leagues four nights a week at the Classic City Horseshoe Club, during an indoor season that runs from September to early March.



PROUD PITCHER - Lawrence Lantz of Garrett (right) accepts his National Horseshoe Pitchers Association Top Ten 2000 award Monday from Jim Shilling of St. Joe, an NHPA region director

WHAT'S A RINGER?

by Barry Chapelle

This letter is in response to the letter by Michael Kalb in the last NEWSLINE concerning his proposed rule change of Rule 6, Sec. 8, Paragraph 1. His proposed change would change the existing interpretation of a ringer to include the three-point-touch (where a straightedge touches both heel calks and the stake) as a ringer.

This proposal has appeared before the rules committee and convention delegates a couple of times in recent years and has been defeated each time. There was confusion after one convention and, for a short period of time, some members felt that the proposed change had passed. Once the word got out, everyone quickly reverted to the previous (and still existing) interpretation which we still have today--the straightedge must clear (not touch) the stake.

Except for the brief period of confusion mentioned in the previous paragraph, the interpretation of a ringer has been the same as long as I have pitched horseshoes, and I pitched in my first World Tournament in 1954. Mr. Kalb went to great length to talk about "encircling the stake" and what it means. I do not want to quibble with the definition--his argument is reasonable, logical and probably correct. I am more interested in interpretation and with preserving what we now have, and it seems to me a simple rewording that eliminates the word "encircling" would change whatever problem or confusion exists.

My main reasons for not wanting to change the rule are twofold. First of all, a ringer is the main object in playing our sport. The current rule has served us for as long as we can remember and if there is confusion about what "encircling" means then that word can easily be changed. To change a rule because of one word does not make sense. Secondly, a rule change would play total havoc with our record books. All of our records (consecutive ringers, perfect games, etc.) are based on our current rule. I saw a perfect game lost because a shoe that possibly could have been called a three-point touch (but where the measuring device

definitely did not clear the stake). Do we go back and reinstate it as a perfect game if the rule changes? In recent years we have made many changes to improve our sport. Implementation of various shoe and point length games and short distance pitching has given us more choices in how we can play our game. More specific definitions of court design and structure, lean and height of the peg, foul shoes, etc., have helped standardize our courts and made conditions better and more uniform. But I fail to see that we would make progress by changing the definition of the fundamental goal of our game (a ringer) just because of a word that could easily be changed.

In his article, Mr. Kalb mentioned Leo McGrath and the method he used for judging for ringers. I do not want to demean Mr. McGrath, or his technique, because Leo was a grand gentleman who contributed greatly to our sport. But the fact is that Leo's technique was both inaccurate and incorrect. I would much rather reference our recently retired NHPA VP Earl Winston, who judged at the World Tournament in five decades, our current VP and head judge Casey Sluys, our previous VP and head judge (myself), and the countless gentlemen (and ladies) who have followed the directions (and the rules) given to them and measured shoes correctly.

We have made changes to improve our sport down through the years. Mr. Kalb has pointed out that there is a problem with the definition of a ringer because of the word "encircling". If that's the case, let's change the wording to eliminate the problem. But let's not change the interpretation of what a ringer is--the straightedge has to clear (not touch) the stake. That interpretation has served us for many, many years and all of our records have been based on it. I don't see a good enough reason to change it and I urge a "No" vote on it at the convention at Hibbing.

Sincerely,

Barry Chapelle

MEMBER NHPA RULES COMMITTEE

THE USED KEY *Continued from page 28*

who won the Oregon state title in 1932, added, "Glad I did it twice. Shows it was no fluke."

Remembering that in bowling it only takes 12 strikes in a row, a constant. Perhaps we need to look at our records differently. Perfect games, for instance, are surpassed by a category known as consecutive ringers, regardless of whether or not the game was completed.

Like the history of calendars, the history of our scoring rules have overbearing variables. The shortest game on the 60-year listing of perfect games is 14 and the maximum, 56. That confuses sports readers such as base-

ball fans who know that with few exceptions a perfect no-hitter is nine innings, 27 batters out..always. Occasionally a game goes into extra innings such as the 1959 epic wherein Harvey Haddix pitched 12 perfect innings, only to lose the game in the 13th. That particular game is nevertheless, worthy to be an induction in the Hall of Fame.

So why bring up these other events? It is to bring a rationalization to the idea of record-keeping. For many years our games were 50 points. Then in 1984 we went to 40 points. We see greater variation. Brian Simmons' perfect game on Jan.6 was

35 points. And what about games that are shoe limits? Such as those we have in the world tournaments. The practice is to utilize 40-shoe games to accommodate the tight schedule, save for A Class. I can foresee the day when a lower-class pitcher will accomplish a perfect game under normal circumstances, say less than 20 shoes. But this cannot happen where shoe limits are concerned. You are required to pitch the entire 40 shoes. Suppose you have 18 straight and have scored 51 points. You still must finish the game, risking its perfection.

As Sherlock Holmes says to Dr. Watson, these are the facts of the case.

SHOES FROM MINNESOTA

By Bob Dunn

How could you not guess that this issue would be about shoes manufactured in Minnesota! Diamond Tool and Horseshoe Company highlights Minnesota's contribution to the manufacturing of pitching shoes, and was a world leader in the industry from 1925 to 1985. It is hard to believe, but it has already been 15 years since a Diamond shoe was produced in Duluth. Diamond was at one time the world's largest pitching shoe manufacturer, and held that distinction for several decades. The Diamond company was profiled back in the March-April, 1998 issue, so you might want to go back and re-read that article.

Diamond is a major name to collectors. Many different models were made, beginning back in 1925 with the Diamond Official. In the 1930's the hookless models of Blue Diamond, Double Ringer and the rare Black Diamond were on the market. Not every Diamond shoe of the 1930's was of the hookless variety as Diamond introduced the Eagle Ringer in 1932. It is the first hooked shoe that featured a full sized hook and earned a patent for its design. That Eagle Ringer continued to be produced into the late 1960's, with a couple of variations to the shoe. The Diamond Super Ringer was introduced in 1940 and continued production until the Duluth factory ended its reign in 1985. The Super Ringer also has an original model and a revised modern day version.

Diamond also had junior models and the hookless version of the Diamond Junior shoe is heavily sought after and hard to come by. The hooked Junior Diamond shoe from

the 1950's through the 1970's is more commonly found. There is also a one-pound Diamond Midget or Little Diamond that is also extremely difficult to find, but certainly are a premium to any horseshoe collection.

Many collections are greatly expanded by the unusual models of Diamond shoes. There are a few brass Eagle Ringer showing up now and one report of a brass pair of Super Ringers. Most Officials have straight toe calks, but rarely an Official with a curved toe calk has been found. This may sound trite, but until you try to claim an example of every shoe ever made, you can understand the uniqueness of this minor difference. Of the hundreds of hookless Diamond Official shoes in collection, only two curved calk models are in collection.

However, Diamond was not the first pitching shoe produced in Minnesota. Actually the first Minnesota shoe was the Hay shoe, made by A.F. Hay, a foundry worker in Minneapolis. The Hay shoe was no doubt the first shoe made to the official dimensions of the modern day standards. Hay's son Fred, used a pair of the Hay shoes to win the 1921 state championship, while at the age of 14. There have been only two state championships won by pitchers so young. Ira Allen is the other. We know the shoe was produced as early as 1919 and 1920 but never made much of a dent in the market, especially once the commercial manufacturers got involved. The only pair known to exist, is in possession of the Hay family and strongly protected by a grandson.

Possibly the Wards shoes of the 1930's and 1940's were manufactured

in Minnesota. The hooked model of the Wards shoes is a strong duplication of the Diamond Eagle Ringer. Because the Eagle Ringer model was patented, it is hard to imagine any other manufacturer other Diamond Tool and Horseshoe Company producing the shoe on a national market. Even the Wards hookless shoe had the same green and orange colors as the Diamond Double Ringer models. There are just too many similarities to not question this, but there just hasn't been any documentation found to this point to prove the theory either way. Research is ongoing to try and solve this mystery.

There are also a couple of novelty shoes that add well to a shoe collection. In the 1960's, the Sears catalog offered night-time horseshoe pitching sets. The shoes were painted fluorescent colors so there was a bit of a glow to them. Those shoes were made by two different companies of Minneapolis. The Lumi-Shu was made by Caskel Forging and the Umi-Shoe was made by Casco Engineering Company. Little else is known about these quaint shoes. The two shoes are true picnic models and are identical in shape and size except for the brand names and logos. The questions to collectors are which shoe came first, and did one company buy out the other and then rename the shoe? The shoes last appeared in the 1968 Sears catalog and the shoes now found occasionally are good additions to anyone's collection.

Twin City Foundry is an interesting name in horseshoe collecting. It is believed that Twin City Foundry of

Continued next page



Where Did You Come From?

by Bob Dunn

We haven't heard from the "Old Professor" for a while so it seemed time to look him up again. No doubt he could be found at his favorite breakfast café. Sure enough, there he was.

So as I was ready to start the conversation, he abruptly stopped me and said this time he was asking the question - and he did. The question was "Where did you come from?"

Not understanding the question, I just stared back with one of those blank expressions. Finally I offered that I was born and raised right here in Minnesota. He laughed, clarified his question and then it made all the sense in the world. The question is, "How did you come to be involved in horseshoes? Where were you? How were you introduced to the sport?" Why should we answer these questions? As the Professor pointed out, there may be a whole lot of people back at the same spot, the same situation, waiting to be invited to join in. If this question is asked to fifty members, we are probably will get fifty different answers. There may be many avenues of recruiting that are being overlooked.

We all should think back to when we first pitched in an organized league, or tournament and how did we become aware that the NHPA existed. Believe it or, the greater majority of our membership pitched horseshoes as a recreation, long before they became members of the NHPA. So it was in my own case. I pitched horseshoes in my back yard for ten years before I became aware that there were horseshoe leagues or even state and world championships.

Many of our members were aware of the NHPA early-on,

FROM MINNESOTA *Continued from page 30*

Minnesota was the manufacturer of the picnic shoes bearing the Sears brand during the mid-1960's. No documentation has ever been found to confirm this, other than a former employee has made this claim. The company has been out of business for several years so research is difficult. There is a single shoe in collection that clearly bears the name of Twin City Foundry. It is a rare shoe by all standards, therefore is probably a shoe that was not on the retail market, but rather a shoe made as a test model, or made for some ceremonial event or maybe an employee picnic. The shoe is an old hookless model and unique that it is the only hookless found with lengthwise heel calks. The Twin City Foundry name on the topside, also states the Stillwater, Minnesota plant. On the underside, the shoe is called The Rice Shoe. There is no idea of what is meant by that name. There is proof then that Twin City Foundry was involved in making pitching shoes, we just don't know for sure to what extent.

If Twin City Foundry did manufacture the Sears shoes of the 1960's, then no doubt they also manufactured the Health Guardian shoe. The Health Guardian shoe has some logo similarities that usually are full-proof indicators of the makers of shoes. Specifically, the word 'OFFICIAL' is spelled out exactly in the same unique oval shape on both shoes. This is not seen in any other horseshoes. So someday, with successful research, the list of shoes made in Minnesota will officially be expanded.

because they were part of a horseshoe pitching family. That is not the general rule however. Few of us pitched in organized horseshoes as a youth. The majority of current players that did pitch as a Junior member, were part of a family of horseshoe pitchers.

When I did become aware of the NHPA, it was more or less by accident, resulting from some research at the library. And then, I only found out there was a state organization but that started the process and led me to know about a nearby league which, thank goodness was a national sanctioned league. Many times I have wished I had become aware of the NHPA years sooner.

Each and every member should think back to where you came from. There may be many other potential members there just waiting to become aware of the NHPA and waiting to be invited to join.

As the Old Professor went on to point out, donations to the NHPF will give a direct assist for our sport to be publicized and enable more Americans to become aware of the NHPA sooner in life.

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COLUMBIA CUP OREGON VS. WASHINGTON

HISTORY OF THE COLUMBIA CUP

In 1999 the Hermiston and the Columbia Basin Horseshoe Clubs met one August evening in Hermiston. They played a fun tournament and games won scored points for the pitchers respective state. Washington tallied the most wins.

Russ Phillips of Grandview donated a trophy that was reworked from basketball to horseshoes and this became the Columbia Cup Traveling Trophy. The trophy is designed with a side for each state to mount year plates when they win the trophy.

The first full year of sanction tournament participation was 2000. The tournaments competing in the Columbia Cup and their results were:

COLUMBIA CUP STANDINGS FINAL - 2000

<u>Tournament</u>	<u>Washington</u>	<u>Oregon</u>
Columbia Basin Open	45	36
Sagebrush Open	41 1/2	35 1/2
Snipes Mountain Open19	10	
Oregon Open	49	58
Tri Cities Open	16	24
Pacific NW Warm-up	23	12
Pacific NW Championships	69	53
Total	262 1/2	228 1/2

Starting in 2001, a record will be maintained of the pitcher accumulating the most points for their state. The traveling trophy will be awarded (for one year) to the top point scoring pitcher from the winning state.

COLUMBIA CUP STANDINGS 05-19-2001

<u>Tournament</u>	<u>Oregon</u>	<u>Washington</u>
Sagebrush Open	36	47
Columbia Basin Open	26.5	31.5
Snipes Mountain Open	13	10
Wally Rehard Memorial	4	5
Oregon Open		
Kettle River Open		
Tri Cities Open		
Spokane Open		
Don Foreman Memorial		
Bellingham International		
Pacific NW Warm-up		
Pacific NW Championships		
Total	79.5	93.5

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BY DON TITCOMB

COLUMBIA CUP POINTS MAY 12, 2001 AFTER SNIPES MOUNTAIN OPEN

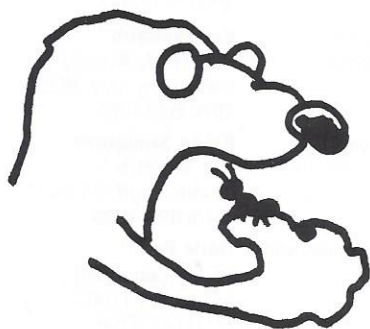
<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Points</u>
Marjorie	Owens	OR	9
Cletis	Hull	OR	7
Charles	Owens	OR	6.5
Bonnie	Schuster	OR	6
Rob	Hettinga	OR	5
Bob	Rebman	OR	5
Mel	Reeser	OR	5
George	Schuster	OR	5
Sue	Sudman	OR	5
Willis	Terry	OR	5
Steve	Young	OR	5
Lee	Wallace	OR	4
Bob	Hummell	OR	2
Rick	Rebman	OR	2
Allen	Reeder	OR	2
Bill	Graham Jr.	OR	1
Ben	Guidarelli	OR	1
Total			75.5

Continued next page

LATEBREAKERS

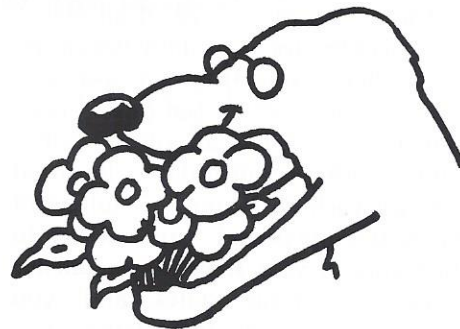
Missing in this issue is our regular column, Junior Window by Heidi Sternberg. Heidi will resume her column in the next available edition. Seems wedding bells are ringing for Miss Sternberg. Join me and wish her all the happiness and may the good luck of the horseshoe follow her into a new and exciting life!

ON A PERSONAL NOTE: The editor and wife (Judy) have become grandparents a 10th time. Kevin and Cindy Kilgore of North Olmsted, Ohio, have a new baby girl, Kaitlyn



Elizabeth, born June 14. June 14 is also her sister Amanda's birthday. It is also Flag Day. David was born Memorial Day weekend (May 28), Matthew on Feb. 22, Washington's traditional birthday and Joseph Jan. 19, birthdate also of Southern general Robert E. Lee, a date that is a notable holiday in the Southern states. A real patriotic clan.

SPECIAL EVENT: 35TH annual Raymond Frye Memorial Open Horseshoe Tournament Sept 8-9, Winchester, Va. at the Raymond Frye Horseshoe Courts, Jim Barnett Park. 24 lighted courts. \$2000 Cash and trophies or plaques. 16-man championship class; B & C depends on entries. Entry includes scorekeeping fees. Entry Fee Adults \$15, Juniors \$8. Extra pitching fee Men A \$15/Men, 50%&above, \$7; Womens A \$10. All other classes 1st, 2nd, 3rd place trophies or plaques. Pre-Register by Aug. 24. Send entry fee to Winchester Horseshoe Club, PO Box 2141, Winchester, Va. 22604. Tournament



director Debbie Bourbour 1-704-528-5081.

POLICY NOTES: Some style guide thoughts. For contributors second time use of a name in any article requires only the last name. You need not repeat both names. When you use "and" in a sentence it is unnecessary to add a comma. Do not use addresses in articles, only name of hometown. For letters to the editor, they must be the sole authorship of the writer. No duplicate letters of a corroborative nature will be published.

COLUMBIA CUP *Continued from page 32*

First Name	Last Name	State	Points	First Name	Last Name	State	Points
Kathy	Wertman	WA	6	Dixon	Finley	WA	2
Larry	Getts	WA	5.5	Sid	Gire	WA	2
Bob	Jennerjohn	WA	5	Jim	Link	WA	2
Lee	Luchsinger	WA	5	Vic	Magnus	WA	2
Russ	Phillips	WA	5	Skip	Schilperoort	WA	2
Lyle	Calkins	WA	4	Bob	Dennis	WA	1
Lester	Myers	WA	4	Jim	Hackett	WA	1
George	Stiman	WA	4	Jack	Johnson	WA	1
Ernest	Austin	WA	3	Wayne	Koletzky	WA	1
Harold	Boyer	WA	3	Hollis	Morris	WA	1
Earl	Hickey	WA	3	Jim	Quist	WA	1
Bob	Jewett	WA	3	Phyllis	Quist	WA	1
Gene	Kuiken	WA	3	Dick	Sather	WA	1
Babette	Sparks	WA	3	David	Sparks	WA	1
Art	Sperber	WA	3	Carol	Sperber	WA	1
Gene	Wertman	WA	3	Evelyn	Underwood	WA	1
Carol	Dammerall	WA	2	Dean	Zorn	WA	1
Millard	Edwards	WA	2	Total			88.5

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 16. S. 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
3. Northern California	Gail Sluys 1721 San Ramon Way Santa Rosa, CA 95409 (707) 538-3128	17. Nebraska	Pat Wemhoff 255 6th Ave., S. Columbus, NE 68601 (402) 564-7323	34. Georgia	Jerome Kennedy Rt. 2, Box 1315 Hawkinsville, GA 31036 (478) 892-3885
4. Southern California	Fred Briand P.O. Box 1137 No. Edwards, CA 93523 (760) 769-4347	18. Kansas	Bernie VanLerberg 12419 142nd St. Bonner Springs, KS 66012 (913) 422-7095	35. Florida	Ron Deckard 7302 Brookview Circle Tampa, FL 33634 (813) 884-2932
6. Hawaii	Myrtle May L. Kamoku P.O. Box 273 Anahola, Hawaii 96703 (808) 821-0602	19. Missouri	Elwyn Cooper 6920 N.W. 78th Street Kansas City, MO 64152 (816) 741-0043	36. Ohio	Dan Sanders 6687 Merwin Rd. Columbus, OH 43235 (614) 761-3357
7. Nevada	Don Weaver 2206 Sunnyslope Ave. Las Vegas, NV 89119 (702) 736-7348	20. Oklahoma	Ronnie Frederick 1015 19th Street Woodward, OK 73801 (580) 256-2759	37. West Virginia	Ken Wilhelm 405 Stealy Avenue Clarksburg, WV 26301 (304) 622-1265
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