

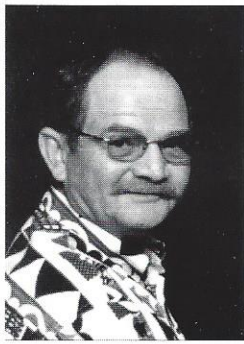


Horseshoe Pitching NEWSLINE

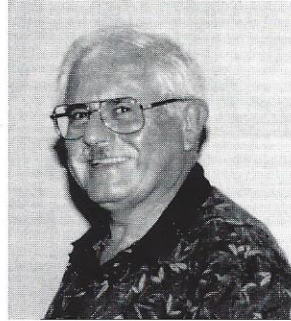
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VOL. 15, NO. 4

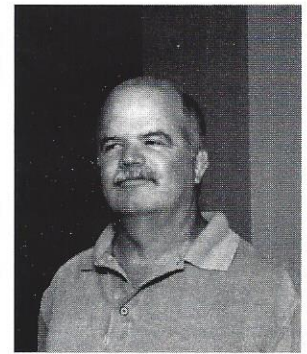
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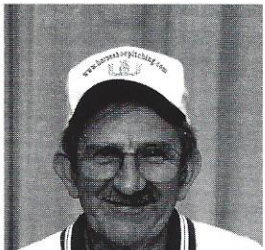
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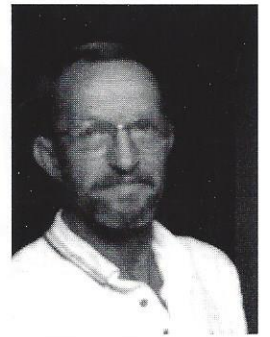


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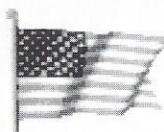


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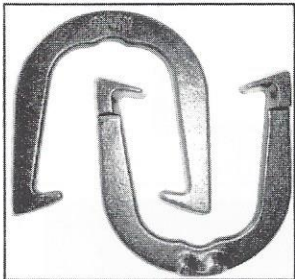


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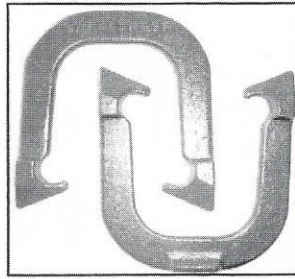


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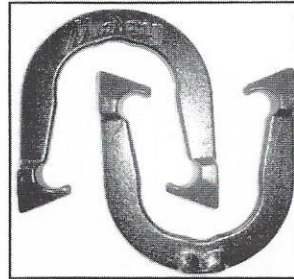
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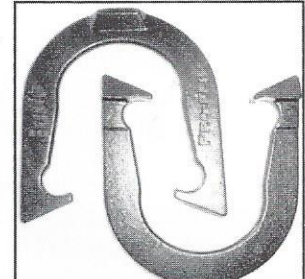
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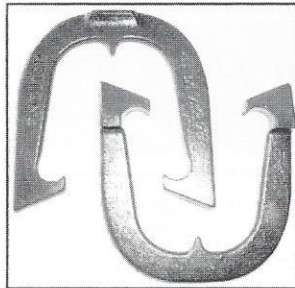
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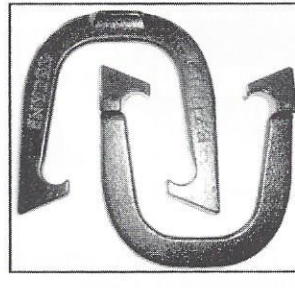
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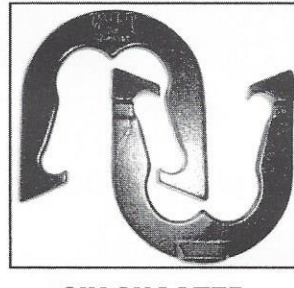
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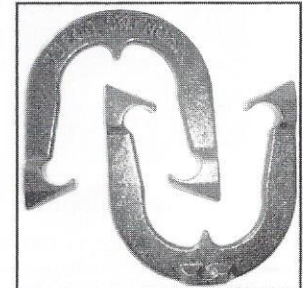
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 Stock #33-596



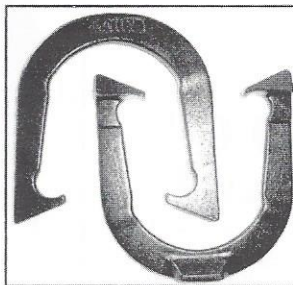
SNYDER E-Z FLIP II
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 Stock #33-535



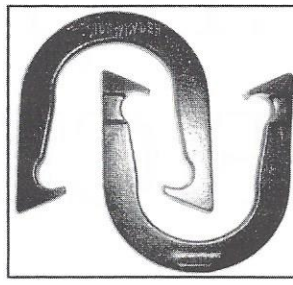
SIX SHOOTER
 \$54 per pair
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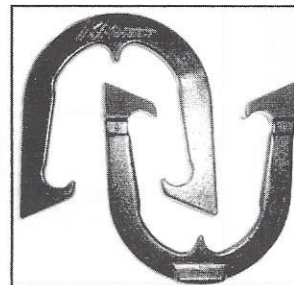
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2ND VICE PRESIDENT: CASEY SLUYS, 1721 San Ramon Way, Santa Rosa, CA 95409 (707) 538-3128, email: kcslus@worldnet.att.net

3RD VICE PRESIDENT: LORRAINE STERNBERG, W206 N13520 Woodside Ln., Richfield, WI 53076 (262) 677-3300
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4TH VICE PRESIDENT: BONNIE SEIBOLD, 1043 Grayston Ave., Huntington, IN 46750 (260) 356-3489, email: wseibold@fwi.com

5TH VICE PRESIDENT: PAUL STEWART, 1043 Old Mountain Rd., Statesville, NC 28677 (704) 528-5081
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SECRETARY/TREASURER: DICK HANSEN, 3085 76th St., Franksville, WI 53126 (262) 835-9108
email: nhpa.sec.treas@worldnet.att.net

PROGRAM & COMMITTEE DIRECTORS

GAME RELATED SALES: ED DOMEY, P.O. Box 298, Sutton, MA 01590 (508) 865-9477

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Horseshoe Pitching NEWSLINE

Official Publication of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association

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Our NHPA Officers

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Dave Loucks

With what seems like a degree of regularity, someone is putting forth on the website, in charter newsletters, at convention or this magazine, one of two questions. "Why isn't horseshoe pitching in the Olympics or why don't we have national sponsors and more money in the sport?" Well, the answer may well lie in the fact that the average member doesn't appear to care about the sport much beyond the personal satisfaction they obtain from pitching. They'll take what the sport offers but are loath to give anything back. That's a biting statement, I know, but think about it. Are you or many of your fellow pitchers among the majority of members who are apathetic about the state of the sport, your club, charter or even the national association? Far too many members shun involvement with the administration of their club or charter. Ask a dozen members if they've held office, read a copy of the rules or bylaws in the past year and 10 will tell you no. Do they get Newline, do they attempt to interest others in the sport or lend financial support if they are unable or unwilling to give time and energy for the betterment of the game? To these questions the answer is almost always No!

The types of member I've just described are generally nice friendly sorts. Our friends who we pitch against at tournaments and often socialize with afterward. But sadly, these people are doing nothing to help the well being of the sport. Consider the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation as an example. Formed as a charitable entity to accept an extraordinary gift of land and pitching facilities in Joelton, TN, the NHPF was chartered to construct and maintain a horseshoe pitching Hall of Fame; to promote the game as a recreational sport; to provide instruction and training aids and then foster competitions for amateur players; to issue grants for court construction on public land and to engage in any other related activity that might lend itself to advancing the sport. To meet these goals, the NHPF, has to solicit and receive a steady flow of gifts, bequests and donations

of monies, securities, real estate and personal property, the net income of which is to be used exclusively in the furtherance of its charitable and educational goals.

Eight years ago in convention, the delegates overwhelming approved by vote, the pursuit of forming a charitable entity so the Joelton gift could be accepted and a Hall of Fame built. Later, within the framework of a survey, a questionnaire was put out to NHPA members explaining that the NHPF would need their financial support. Seventy-two percent said the Foundation could count on them. Unfortunately, that has not happened. The unprecedented opportunity that the Joelton facility and a not yet opened Hall of Fame offer to showcase horseshoe pitching and improve its image is feeling the pinch of an apathetic membership. To date, seven years after the NHPF was finally granted charitable status, 93.5% of the membership has yet to send in their first donation. Because annual income is well below estimated operating costs, virtually all the goals and projects of the NHPF have been delayed, downscaled or tabled. There have been other factors as well. We have been unable to find an insurance company that will write coverage for the Hall of Fame and it's contents. We cannot yet afford a full-time, on-site, caretaker and his associated expenses. We cannot yet pursue parking improvements for RV's or personal comfort improvements so major events could be scheduled there during the summer. However, we have started issuing grants for court construction, sending out free instructional videos and are maintaining the outdoor facility and grounds with limited funds. Within the year, the indoor courts will be the final phase 3 donation to the NHPF by Dr. Jack Freeman. With it will come added maintenance, insurance and property tax expense. I hope that as well, we will see an increase in the number of people who understand the importance of making a financial donation to the NHPF. Let's all do our best to increase support for this worthy cause. Remember, any contribution is tax deductible.

DAVE'S COURT REPORT

by Dave Loucks

The final count of Eau Claire entries as I prepare the pitching schedule is 1324. There will be some dropouts and possibly a few additions of late entries if their average fits the group. Open Men accounted for 664 entries followed by Elders 218, Open Women 159, Senior Men 137, Boys 71, Senior Women 36, Girls 33, and under age 10 juniors 6.

Boys and girls will be mixed for class play. We did no direct seeding to the Championship with the juniors. For

the Men and Women, the top 16 entering percentages for each received a seeding straight to the Championship Finals. Eight positions remain open in each for move-up of the best percentages after class play. In the Elders and Senior Men, the top 8 entering percentages were seeded straight to the championship bracket. There are 4 remaining positions in each to be filled by the best class percentages. Senior Women, again with a marginally low

continued on page 5

DAVE'S COURT REPORT *continued from page 4*

entry, caused us some debate. Percentage spreads were greater than we like to see in 16 person groups. To mix them in with the open women for class play meant that the Sr. Women would dominate the upper end of Class A percentages and probably class prize winnings which would not set well with some of the women pitchers. In the end, we decided to seed the top 4 entering Sr. Women direct to the championship group and leave just 2 positions for move-ups. The remaining 32 Sr. Women will be in four classes of 8 playing a double round robin as will the championship six. The six juniors age 9 and

under that signed up will all play together in one group, a double round robin.

The entry list this year is missing some very well known names. Current Men's champion Brian Simmons will be unable to defend his title due to some scheduled surgery. Elders champ Bob Logan is also not coming. We've heard unconfirmed reports that Bob has given up tournament pitching. We wish both Brian and Bob the best and will miss them. The 2002 Champions in the other five divisions will all be in Eau Claire to defend their titles.

SANCTIONED CLUB/LEAGUE REPORT *by Lorraine Sternberg*

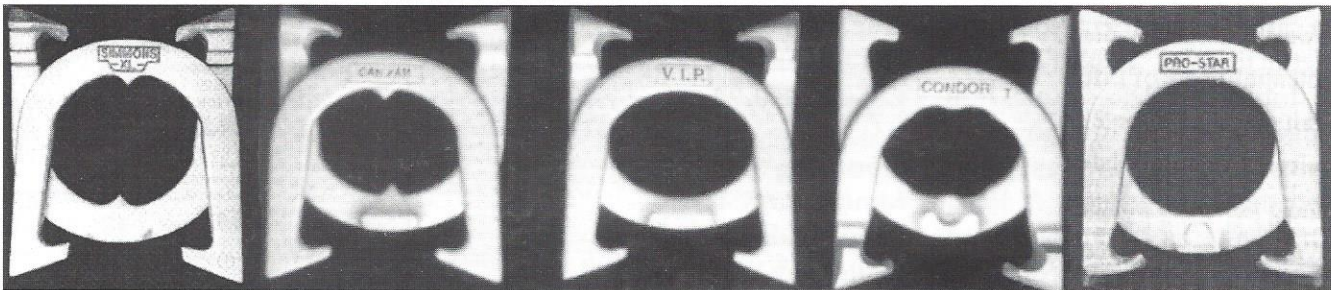
By the time this issue reaches you it will almost be World Tournament time. Try to attend the sanctioned league meeting that I will be holding at the World Tournament. This meeting will either be on the first Friday or Saturday of the tournament. It is important to have as many league directors there as possible. Your input is needed. If you are unable to attend the meeting and have some suggestions or comments you may e-mail or write me those. I will be glad to bring them up at the meeting.

The entry form for the National Sanctioned Club/League Tournament is in this issue. The format for the tournament was in the last issue. This will be a count-all handicap tournament. If your club uses the cancellation format of pitching for your leagues, you will have to run a short season of count-all in order to obtain a count-all point average. It would have to be a minimum of 400 shoes. This is a new tournament and we are running it different

than a normal tournament. I think all of you who enter a team from your club will enjoy the change. My thanks go out to Homer Caine and Debby Michaud for coming up with the idea for this tournament and for working out the format. I feel it's going to be a fun tournament and I am looking forward to a good turn out.

I am expecting there to be more juniors age nine or under this year that will be observing the new rule of a 20-foot foul line. If you have any of these juniors pitching on your leagues, please make a note of this on your membership report along with marking it on the final stats report and the top ten report.

For those of you that are going to the World Tournament this year, good luck to all of you. May you all have a safe trip.



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NHPFNEWS & CONTRIBUTION UPDATE by Dave Loucks

Contributions continue at a slower than desired pace. Those that were received since our last report basically came from the same people who have been donating all along. Paul Stewart, director of the Dogwood Tournament, is a strong supporter of the NHPF. Each year, his work and material donations by a few others result in the Dogwood having some great raffles. This year, those raffles brought in \$1200 for the NHPF, slightly less than half of the donations received this period. Thank you Paul and thanks to all who bought raffle tickets knowing the funds would go to the NHPF.

Why so many fail to make a personal tax-deductible contribution to the sport they claim to enjoy so much is disheartening. Just take a close look at the State Rankings list. There have been only 815 different contributors in nearly seven years. In all that time, there are still 13 states that haven't yet had even five different contributors and another ten states that haven't reached ten contributors. If you are from one of those states and have not yet sent in your first contribution, why not do it now! You'll be assisting the only charitable cause related to horseshoe pitching and remember, your gift is tax-deductible. If you've already made a donation, please don't stop but pledge to send semi-annual or monthly contributions. Your support is needed and appreciated. A letter will acknowledge any contribution of \$10.00 or more. Your tax-deductible contribution to the "NHPF" can be mailed to either 6233 Woodman Dr., Oroville, CA 95966 or PO Box 159027, Nashville, TN 37215.

Three more names have reached the combined level of \$500 or more in contributions. Each will have an engraved plate with their name, city and state added to a plaque of

major benefactors. They are, C. Leo Buell of Iowa City, IA, James Andrews of Bostic, NC and the Dogwood Tournament, Statesville, NC. These three bring the NHPF major benefactor total to 75. Contributions received since our last report are:

Donating \$10-40

Art Moran, MN
 Bev Nathe, MN
 Jack Conner, TN
 Bill Fox, TN
 Doug Carr, TN
 Georgia HPA
 Randy Joines, NC
 Randy Rein, WI
 Ben Yost, CA
 Patrick Buehrle, MO
 Lee Crabtree, MO

Donating \$50-60

Cal Cordes, AZ
 Tim Woodden, OR
 James Tyrie, MA
 Boyd Stonerock, MI

Donating \$100-150

Dave & Cathie Loucks, CA
 George Greott, CA
 Pat Murtha, CA
 Ralph & Debbie Carter, CA
 Earl Smith, CA
 Jane Jordan, SC
 Het Birchfield, TN
 C. Leo Buell, IA

Donating \$200-250

Minnesota GSHPA
 James Andrews, NC
 Walter Ray Williams Jr., FL
 White Distributors, PA
 Paul Stewart, NC

Donating \$500

Dogwood Tournament, NC

NHPA MMA Interest \$306

Total contributions deposited this reporting period, \$3176

Total NHPF deposits to date, \$231,646

How your state ranks in number and dollars contributed

Contributors Donations			
1. TN	27	50	\$20,127
2. CA	79	155	\$15,414
3. MN	39	158	\$9,236
4. NC	25	85	\$8,573
5. OR	20	54	\$7,310
6. MO	42	72	\$6,391
7. GA	15	18	\$6,170
8. MI	41	83	\$6,140
9. WI	28	78	\$5,747
10. CO	22	46	\$5,048
11. FL	40	59	\$4,688
12. MA	9	10	\$4,185
13. TX	22	32	\$3,585
14. OH	51	73	\$3,511
15. WA	26	44	\$3,506
16. PA	27	44	\$3,384
17. NJ	20	31	\$2,809
18. IA	17	28	\$2,606
19. IL	32	55	\$2,465
20. KY	16	31	\$2,305
21. KS	16	26	\$2,152
22. NE	13	22	\$1,968
23. NY	29	32	\$1,806
24. IN	18	21	\$1,603
25. LA	7	11	\$1,217
26. NV	8	10	\$1,015
27. MD	19	26	\$1,015
28. SC	9	16	\$970
29. ND	5	7	\$920
30. CT	13	19	\$772
31. MT	4	7	\$520
32. SD	10	13	\$472
33. ID	5	11	\$470
34. AL	4	4	\$470
35. OK	9	12	\$458
36. VA	10	12	\$368
37. WV	8	11	\$320
38. AZ	8	8	\$314
39. NM	2	4	\$235
40. AR	5	5	\$185
41. WY	3	3	\$182
42. HI	3	3	\$150
43. UT	2	4	\$130
44. AK	1	1	\$120
45. NH	2	2	\$105
46. VT	1	3	\$75
47. ME	1	1	\$25
48. DE	1	1	\$7
49. MS	1	1	\$5

PUBLICITY PROMOTION by Casey Sluys

CO-OP

A few months ago the NHPA implemented a program known as the "Co-op Ad Program". As of June 1, 2003 there have been only three charters inquiring about it and only one of those actually submitted the necessary papers/receipts to receive their allotted reimbursement. What a shame that this program, offered to ALL charters, is simply ignored. It's truly tough for me to comprehend, and rather disheartening. Are we destined to remain a small organization? It certainly is beginning to look that way to me. Personally, if I were a charter officer, I would have jumped at the opportunity to have the NHPA do something for me. All too often we hear 'what does the NHPA do for me?' This was, and still can be, an ideal opportunity for charters and clubs to increase their membership. Please folks, don't let this opportunity get away from you, it may not be offered again? Ask your charter president about the NHPA Co-op Ad Program now.

INTERNATIONALLY

On our website guestbook we received an entry from Allen Hahn, of Huntsville, TX. He happens to be stationed in South

Korea near the DMZ zone. He wants to put in a horseshoe-pitching pit and found our website. It certainly is good to know that people from all over the world are able to get familiar with this great sport. Unfortunately when I attempted to respond to him the reply was bounced back. Perhaps he's in a classified area so we may not be able to contact him. It is certainly reassuring to know that all our information is structured, and accurate and people can rely on getting the fact when they view/read our information.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Included in the Publicity/Promotion column for this issue is an article written by Dean Schmitz. (Page 9) It essentially explains in detail what YOU can do for the promotion of this sport. Feel free to make copies of this and distribute them freely. Perhaps someone will see something they would like to do.

PROMOTION AT IT'S FINEST!

Idaho had such a promotion campaign you won't believe what they accomplished. In a matter of a couple of months they recruited 135 new NHPA members! Yes, 135, more than doubling the charter membership! They even recruited the local NBC sports anchorman as a member. Now they have a unique opportunity with publicity, this anchorman will create stories on a semi-weekly basis leading up to their World Tournament in 2004. This is precisely what is needed in this sport. Thank you all those who were involved with this recruiting campaign, a magnificent job, and certainly an exemplary example of what can be accomplished when one puts their persuasive powers to work.

NHPA Income And Expenditures April / May 2003

Income

Charter Dues	\$10.00
Firststar Bank Interest Money Mkt	\$603.73
Firststar Bank Interest Checking	\$190.79
Horseshoe Sanction Fees	\$200.00
Membership Dues	\$41,727.00
Newsline Ads	\$799.00
Newsline Subscriptions	\$4,962.00
NHPF	\$100.00
W.T. 2003 Entries	\$124,345.00
Sanction Club/League Patches	\$25.00
US Bank Correction	\$100.00
Total	\$173,062.52

Expenditures

Newsline Printing, Supplies & Mailing.	\$4,418.38
Sanctioned League Office, Supplies & Telephone	\$75.22
W.T. Refunds, Fees, Dues & Overpayments	\$300.00
Regional Director Postage, Telephone, Supplies & Printing	\$30.00
Equipment Purchases, Rentals & Repairs	\$2,102.39
Printing, Paper & Office Supplies	\$402.34
Postage	\$445.45
Officers Telephone	\$437.00
Officers Travel	\$239.75
Secretary-Treasurer Allowance	\$3,040.00
Presidents Allowance	\$912.00
Publicity, Promotions & Ads	\$1,718.85
Direct & Indirect NHPF Donations & Support	\$703.23
Professional Fees, Accounting & Legal	\$4,225.00
Insurance	\$58.00
Misc. Fees, Bonds, Bank Charges Etc.	\$360.65
Refunds	\$133.00
Internet Access & Web Site	\$237.45
Total	\$19,838.71

From The Books Of NHPA Secretary/Treasurer Dick Hansen

NOTICE

September/October 2003
World Tournament Issue

The next issue of Newsline will be arriving later than expected due to the World Tournament being held in August.

You may not receive your next issue until the later part of September.

It will be packed full of results and information from Eau Claire, so please be patient and enjoy!

Thank you,
Paula Summerlin
Editor

REGIONAL DIRECTORS REPORT by Allen Baptist

The World Tournament is coming up fast. Since I am unable to attend and Ward Lutz will be in charge of the shoe checks, I would like all of the Regional Directors going to Eau Claire to contact Ward and offer any assistance that you can.

I am happy to announce that Gary Ward has taken over for Bud Schardine as Regional Director for Utah.

The Gene and Mary Van Sant Memorial Award is given each year to the Regional Director whose attitude and initiative best fulfills his or her responsibilities to uphold and enhance the image of the NHPA. Each year, the Regional Director Chairman chooses the recipient of the award. There are so many hard working and dedicated Regional Directors that the choice is always very difficult. This year, I have chosen Kevin Snelgrove, from Virginia as the 2003 Regional Director of the Year. Kevin has been working hard to increase Virginia's membership and also puts in many miles traveling the State visiting all of the sanctioned courts and re-sanctioning them. Kevin is also the State Web Master for Virginia.

Kevin 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; 2001- Jim Shilling, IN; and 2002 – Dan Sanders, OH.

From the Mail Bag

Don Weaver, Nevada Regional Director – reports that the “Best of the West” horseshoe tournament in Beatty attracted 106 pitchers, which, with added money from the Burro Inn's John Bass and Shirley and JJ Steffen the tournament had a total pay out of \$4,950.00.

Ernie Swann, Arizona Regional Director – reports that he has sanctioned eight clay courts in the town of Apache Junction. In December, Ernie was contacted by Nickelodeon Games and Sports requesting any videos and/or pictures to advertise the Main Event Tournament in Quartzite, AZ. During the first day of the tournament the Special was aired every hour all day. They, in turn sent Ernie a clip of the Special, which he has been showing to as many pitchers as possible. Arizona has 34 sanctioned tournaments this year and should have 40 for next year with the addition of the new courts in Apache Junction. Ernie has been working with Tony Sherrard who is with the City of Surprise to build new courts. Ernie is also working with Lake Havasu City to build courts there in the future.

Randy Collins, Texas Regional Director – reports that he has sanctioned 24 courts in Kilgore Texas, and ARD Johnny Davenport has sanctioned nine courts in Amarillo.

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RULES by Bonnie Seibold

There are eight rule proposals to be voted on at the 2003 NHPA Convention in Eau Claire. They have been published in the May/June 2003 Newsline issue and have been put on the Internet at www.horseshoepitching.com. Please read these carefully.

If you are selected to be a delegate to the Convention, you should be prepared to vote intelligently. It is your duty as a delegate to talk to your Charter members and get their opinion also. When you vote as a Charter Delegate, you are representing your Charter members.

Looking forward to seeing all of you in Eau Claire.

SELF-PROMOTION of Horseshoe Pitching at Little or No Cost

"Ask not what horseshoe pitching can do for you, but what you can do for horseshoe pitching."

- (Paraphrasing JFK's famous speech.)

If you've been pitching horseshoes for more than a couple of years, you may have a wealth of promotional material stuck away in your closet or basement. The public will be amazed when you put it on display. Jerry Shene did just that!

Shene joined the Wolverine State Horseshoe Pitchers Association/NHPA in the 1980's. With permission from the Sterling Heights Library in Sterling Heights, Michigan, where Jerry lives, he put up a display. He had enough material to fill at least 2 or 3 more display cabinets. The librarians and the public were astonished in looking at his display. Many comments came back to him saying people didn't know horseshoe pitching was such an organized sport and had all the equipment, shoes, newsletters and even a national magazine.

What did it cost to put up this display? Nothing! About an hour of work with the help of a friend.

The NHPA is such a small organization that we cannot afford a public relations company to promote and publicize our sport. Therefore, we have to do it ourselves.

Why are we keeping horseshoe pitching such a big secret? According to information on the NHPA web site there's an estimated 15 million people who pitch horseshoes every year.



Jerry Shene standing proudly with his horseshoe pitching display at the Sterling Heights Public Library. A flyer box is attached to the side of the display case. The public helped themselves to local, state and NHPA material. The box had to be filled many times.

In my experience with horseshoe pitching, I have learned there are three different groups of pitchers.

1. **Back-Yarders.** Those who play in the back yard and at family gatherings. They make up their own rules as they go along with no organization at all.
2. **Bar-Leaguers.** Doubles pitchers basically, with their own set of rules and a 12-inning game. They don't like to walk after their shoes after working all day. Their charity tournaments are usually double elimination knockout, 21 points.
3. **Sanctioned-Pitchers.** There's only a little over 12,000 of this type of pitcher in the whole world. Usually they are members of a sanctioned league or some league similar in tournament pitching format where they can practice during the week in preparation for the next tournament.

If there are only 12,000 card-carrying members in the NHPA, than there's nearly 15 million potential members out there. I have been either told or criticized that there isn't any publicity about horseshoe pitching in the newspapers, TV, radio, or any other medium.

Horseshoe pitching is a grass roots game and the work has to be done, first of all locally, all the way down to the clay. The individual pitcher can do more than one thing to promote our great game.

Here's what you, the individual pitcher, can do to promote horseshoe pitching.

1. **Subscribe to Horseshoe Pitching Newslines**, the NHPA magazine. This is the only publication in the world dedicated to horseshoe pitching. Only \$12 per year.

continued on page 10

SIX PAC



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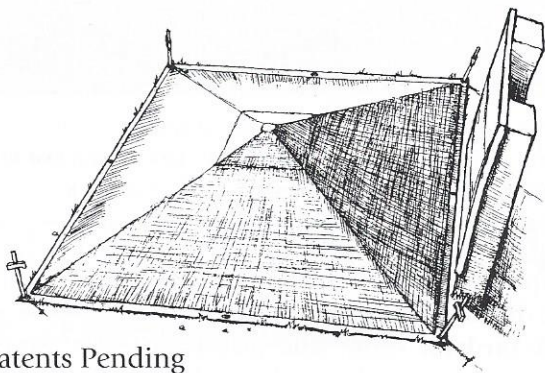
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SELF-PROMOTION *continued from page 9*

2. **Take a friend or relative to your local horseshoe club** and introduce him/her to the game. Have the club give out some honorary memberships for the year.
3. **Gifts.** Everyone gives and receives items for birthdays and Christmas. How about a membership to your local club or state charter? A new pair of horseshoes? How about some other horseshoe pitching paraphernalia that is sold by an NHPA distributor? (Videos, books, clothing and other goodies.)
4. **Subscription Gifts.** Give Horseshoe Pitching NEWSLINE to yourself or someone else. Don't forget your public library or local school. What better way to get the word out about our game than to have our magazine available to the public and to the school children? Your librarian will remember you.
5. **Donate to the NHPF.** This foundation funds the Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame, Museum, and Library in Joelton, Tennessee. Individual donations fund the Center. Dr. Jack Freeman (Nashville) has donated land and facilities that house 38 courts. We need to show our appreciation to him and to our great game by sending in any monetary amount, all tax deductible. The NHPF address is in your Charter's newsletter and the NHPA magazine.
6. **Visit the State Charter Web Site.** The current tournament results are always up to date for your state charter. Visit the NHPA web site at www.horseshoepitching.com. You can make contacts with horseshoe clubs in all 50 states and Canada. If you don't have a computer, go to the library with your kids or grandkids and have them log on for you. It's a lot of fun. Maybe the youngsters will get interested in pitching. Teach them to keep score and input the material into the computer. They can be a built-in statistician for your club.
7. **Carry a Horseshoe Club Business Card.** If asked about horseshoe pitching, you have information handy to give them. If they are serious about horseshoe pitching they will give you their name, address, and phone number. You can call them later to remind them of league and tournament events. Every member will feel important when they have their own personal card.
8. **Wear a Tournament Shirt to all Horseshoe Events.** The shirt is the uniform of our sport. People will ask you about horseshoe pitching. Be prepared to hand them your Horseshoe Club's business card.
9. **Wear a Horseshoe Jacket.** Not too many people own a jacket advertising our sport. When you do, you are promoting the game. Don't be surprised if people ask you about horseshoe pitching while you are wearing your jacket. Be prepared to talk horseshoes with them and hand them your Horseshoe Club's business card.
10. **Wear a Horseshoe Cap.** It could be the state charter cap, WT cap, club cap or a cap with a horseshoe-pitching graphic. People always look at a cap that is different.
11. **Recruit a Pitcher to join your local Club and the NHPA.** Just think, if everyone in the NHPA recruited just one new member every year, in 10 years, horseshoe pitching would be the national past time.
12. **Be an Active Member.** Being a club officer or tournament director is certainly being active. But, the most important thing, as a member, is being there to help out with the physical labor involved. Taking care of the courts, tools, equipment, and keeping the club shed orderly go a long way to making a solid club.
13. **NHPA Profiles.** Check out the Profile Section on NHPA's web site publicity page. If you haven't added your profile to your state, do so. It's fun reading about other pitchers.
14. **Promote Horseshoe Pitching with a Presentation.** Outlines of horseshoe presentations are on the NHPA web site. Revise the presentation outline to fit your personal experiences. Share with those by contacting a service club, church group, scouts, etc.



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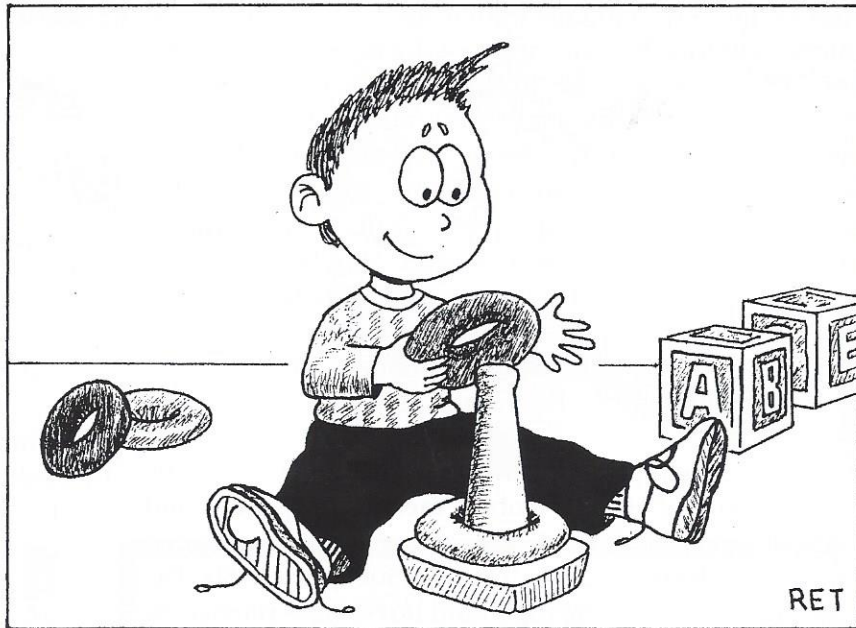
SELF-PROMOTION *continued from page 10*

15. **Put up a Horseshoe Pitching Display.** Your recreation center, library, community center, etc. are always happy to have different displays for people to view. Your display could include trophies, horseshoes, pictures, NHPA handouts, patches, and other interesting horseshoe pitching paraphernalia.
16. **Send E-mail.** If you own a computer and have access to the Internet, find your local newspaper and cable TV bulletin board e-mail addresses. Write a blurb about your club: where, dates, times, membership and tournament costs, contact phone number, etc. E-mail them every week with information.
17. **Be a Leader.** Etiquette, sportsmanship, and courtesy need leadership. Leadership doesn't come from players just because they have been pitching longer than a beginner has. Who do you remember at your last tournament? The tournament champ or the name of the person who befriended you? Be a leader!
18. **Make and Distribute Flyers.** This is a natural if you own a computer. Make up a flyer for your club. Post them on hardware, supermarket, barbershop, bar, library, recreation center bulletin boards and other places.
19. **Pitch.** Try to improve your game with every pitch. Get in as many tournaments as you possibly can. Pitch in your state tournament and

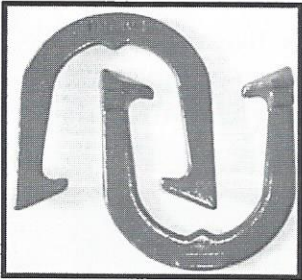
in the granddaddy of them all... the World Tournament!

20. **Add to this list.** What other things can an individual do to promote horseshoe pitching?

*Submitted by Dean Schmitz
Publicity Chair, Wolverine State Horseshoe Pitchers Association*




HORSESHOE PITCHER IN TRAINING



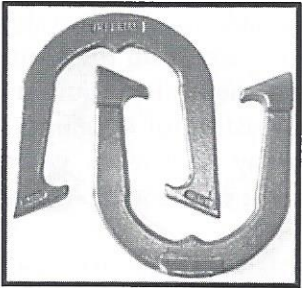
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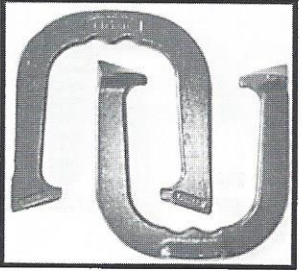
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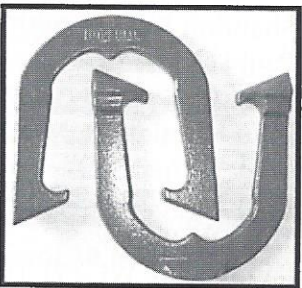
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10TH ANNUAL SIX PAC INVITATIONAL *by Jeanette Claas*

Blue skies and plenty of sunshine set the atmosphere for another exciting Six Pac Tournament at the New Melle Horseshoe Club. The Six Pac Invitational Tournament began ten years ago when Tournament Director and MOHPA President Joe Faron first brought the idea to the New Melle Horseshoe Club. Joe received a phone call from Walter Ray Williams asking him if he could get a tournament together with some of the top pitchers in the area. Five years later the 30' Tournament was an added attraction when Amy Francis approached Joe about having a tournament for the 30 footers. Since she was making the trip every year with hubby, Alan, she might as well pitch. The Tournament Committee includes Joe Faron, Tim Henderson, Harvey Wobbe and Bob Diekamp. Together they have worked successfully for the past ten years to bring the top "sweet sixteen" pitchers together. This prestigious tournament has become another tradition set by Joe Faron at NMHC.

The Six Pac Invitational Tournament is made possible by the generosity of Harvey Wobbe, member of NMHC and distributor of the Six Pac Horseshoes, who sponsored the Six Pac Tournament with a \$4,500 purse. Six Pac Horseshoes is one of the top brand horseshoes pitched by the pros. These professional horseshoes are sanctioned by the National Horseshoe Pitching Association. Harvey also donated 1st and 2nd place trophies for the 30' and 40' winners.

This is a sanctioned horseshoe tournament for the top sixteen pitchers from the United States and Canada. The format for the Six Pac Tournament is a sixteen man round robin consisting of 40 games. Eight games were played on Saturday and seven games concluded the tournament on Sunday. This year's tournament drew great pitchers such as:

1. Alan Francis, OH – 84.19%
2. Walter Ray Williams, Jr., FL – 80.90%
3. Jim Walters, OH – 79.34%
4. Mandell Proctor, MD – 77.35%
5. Shannon Foster, TN – 76.44%
6. Paul LaCrosse, CO – 75.63%
7. Robert E. Jones, NY – 75.08%
8. John Kapnis, MA – 74.89%
9. M.O. Turner, MO – 73.32%
10. Larry Knop, IL – 73.17%
11. Tom Westbrook, SC – 71.28%
12. Randy Rein, WI – 71.11%
13. Tony Hankins, KY – 70.83%
14. Mark Seibold, IN – 68.70%
15. Matt Guy, KY – 68.03%
16. Jerry Dumstorff, IL – 67.21%



The Six Pac 30 Foot Invitational Tournament was played in conjunction with the Six Pac 40' Tournament. Bob Diekamp is the Tournament Director. Participating in this event were:

1. Amy Francis, OH – 86.17%
2. Bob Logan, IN – 86.02%
3. Joan Elmore, TN – 84.93%
4. Rose Diekamp, MO – 71.42%
5. Melvin Bray, KS – 70.97%
6. Loree Meier, MO – 67.88%
7. Don Enke, MO – 64.53%
8. Don Mercier, MO – 61.83%

With tournament averages like these, you knew these 'professionals' would put on an exciting tournament to be remembered. After a welcome by NMHC President Martin

continued on page 13



10TH ANNUAL SIX PAC INVITATIONAL *continued from page 12*

Orf and a salute to our troops, Bob Diekamp introduced all the horseshoe participants. Harvey Wobbe presented each pitcher with a medallion as a souvenir of the event. Larry Volo, of L.C. Realty, donated \$50 to the pitcher who pitched the highest over game average.

After five hours of competition and pitching 3,044 horseshoes, the talented 30 footers completed their exciting tournament. A pitch off between Bob Logan and Joan Elmore would break the tie for championship. With seven wins, one loss, and a tournament average

average of 68.43%. Rose collected \$50 from Larry Volo as she pitched a high game of 89.28%, pitching 17.86% over her average. Sixth place was won by Don Enke 60.06%; 7th place – Don Mercier 57.76% and 8th place – Loree Meier with 56.54%

To a dedicated horseshoe pitcher, there is little that compares with attending a tournament and being able to watch the best pitchers in the country pitch. One knows that consistently putting ringers on top of ringers is a talent that can only be acquired from years of dedication

and practice. Seeing this in front of our eyes at NMHC was an awesome sight as we watched the skill of these 40' pitchers as they pounded away for two days in grueling competition.

Pitching for the first time in the Six-Pac Invitational was Jim Walters of Ohio, Shannon Foster of Tennessee, Tony Hankins of Kentucky, Duke Enke and Don Mercier of Missouri.

Claiming his 6th title as the Six-Pac Champion was 34 year old Alan Francis of Ohio with 15 wins and no losses. Twice he ran into a little

trouble and twice he pulled himself out of it. I heard his aunt exclaim, "I think Alan's in trouble now!" And then I heard his mother's voice saying, "Oh, I've seen him get down like this before, and he usually comes back." Only a mother knows her son. Alan pitched a tournament average of 84.60% with a high game of 93.18%. He took

continued on page 14



of 82.37%, defending champion, Bob Logan, would claim his 3rd championship title. Bob is a three times World Champion and three time Indiana Senior State Champion. Bob was presented the 1st place trophy with a check for \$400. Bob threw the high game of 90%. Close behind Bob, and winning 2nd place with a trophy and prize money of \$275 was Joan Elmore of Tennessee. Joan's tournament average was 80.71% with six wins and two losses, with a high game of 88.23%. She has been TN Women's State Champion seven times and holds the 4th highest average in the 'world'. Amy Francis of Ohio, with five wins and two losses, a tournament average of 75.12%, high game of 82%, won 3rd place and \$150. Amy is six-times Women's Ohio State Champion and has the 2nd highest average in the 'world'. Fourth place was won by Melvin Bray of Kansas with five wins, two losses and an average of 72.01%. Rose Diekamp of MO won 5th place, tournament

Place	Name	Won	Loss	High Game	Ringers	Shoes	Percent
1 st	Alan Francis	15	0	93.18%	709	838	84.60%
2 nd	Walter Ray Williams, Jr.	13	2	85.71%	676	860	78.60%
3 rd	Paul LaCrosse	12	3	88.23%	748	972	76.95%
4 th	Mandell Proctor	10	5	82.35%	650	872	74.54%
5 th	Mark Seibold	10	5	92.30%	565	794	71.15%
6 th	Matt Guy	9	6	78.57%	631	892	70.73%
7 th	Larry Knop	9	6	78.33%	632	906	69.75%
8 th	Robert E. Jones	8	7	78.88%	613	890	68.87%
9 th	Randy Rein	8	7	82.69%	525	798	65.78%
10 th	Jerry Dumstorff	6	9	75.55%	526	812	64.77%
11 th	Tom Westbrook	5	10	82.14%	570	828	68.84%
12 th	Jim Walters	4	11	78.57%	634	916	69.21%
13 th	Shannon Foster	4	11	77.08%	544	810	67.16%
14 th	M.O. Turner	4	11	74.19%	456	758	60.15%
15 th	Tony Hankins	2	13	70.00%	369	682	54.10%
16 th	John Kapnis	1	14	72.22%	480	804	59.70%

10TH ANNUAL SIX PAC INVITATIONAL *continued from page 13*

home the first place trophy and \$1,500 prize money.

In 2nd place with 13 wins and two losses, Walter Ray Williams, Jr., of Florida had a tournament average of 78.60% and high game of 85.71%. Walter Ray was presented with the 2nd place trophy and \$1,000 prize money. Walter Ray is six times Men's World Champion, three times Junior World Champion and also one of the top bowlers in the U.S. Pro Bowling Tour. Walter Ray is a two-time Six Pac Champion.

Dressed in his usual 'good luck' plaid shorts and taking 3rd place with 12 wins and 3 losses was Paul LaCrosse of Colorado. Paul is an 18-times Colorado State Champion and former 1999 Six Pac Champion. Paul's tournament average was 76.95% with a high game of 88.23% and threw the most shoes in the tournament - 972.

Mark Siebold collected his well earned \$50 from Larry Volo with a high game over average of 92.30% WOW!!!

Saturday evening some of the pitchers relaxed at Stefanina's Restaurant by enjoying a delicious dinner, sharing lots of conversation and companionship. Randy Rein

of Wisconsin knows how to unwind after a hard day of competition on the courts. A strawberry daqari, the size of an aquarium, would suit his need and all those sitting at the table. Later, it was back to the motel for some rest and preparing for another day of competition.

Behind the scenes a lot of dedicated NMHC members had worked hard preparing for the event. On the clean-up crew and with paint brushes in hand were: Bob Reininger, Dave and Bea Feldewerth, Jim and Carol Howard, Darryl and Pam Gettinger, Rob and Rose Diekamp, Joe Faron, and Rich Altis. Larry Volo was the poster boy and Rich Altis was the computer statsman. With Cal Jaeger unable

to participate due to illness, Julia rose to the occasion and had all scorekeepers lined up in a row.

Of course, no Six Pac Horseshoe Tournament is complete without rain, and Mother Nature didn't let us down. Sunday, she provided us with more rain than we ever wanted! New Melle Horseshoe Club wishes to thank each of the participants that traveled near and far to attend the tournament. Win or lose, your contribution to this great game that we love helped to make and complete another exciting tournament.



Junior Scholarship Winner, **RYAN HOVERSON**

*Submitted by Jerald Hagen, President of the Sheyenne Valley Horseshoe League
Cooperstown, North Dakota*

Ryan Hoverson having shown proficiency in the sport of horseshoe pitching while still maintaining the highest standard of scholastic ability received the 2001-2002 sanctioned league junior scholar horseshoe pitcher award. He received a \$200 trust fund and a plaque for his achievement of 3.69 GPA. He also earned a membership in the NHPA (National Horseshoe Pitchers Association) student honor society.

Ryan, son of Randy and Loree Hoverson, is a freshman at Griggs County Central High School in Cooperstown, ND. In high school he participates in cross-country, basketball, track, and band. He is also involved in confirmation, Junior League horseshoe, and Junior League bowling. The state horseshoe tournament brought him a second place finish in Class B. Ryan's bowling team won the league, and Ryan was the Class A State Bowling Champion in the state of North Dakota.



Ryan Hoverson pictured with Jerald Hagen

THE CHIPPEWA VALLEY WELCOMES THE WORLD HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT



AUGUST 4-16, 2003 • EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN

Lodging

Call the Chippewa Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau at 1-888-523-3866 to make your reservations today! Below is a list of the hotel properties near the site:

** Please use same grid as the May/June issue*

HOTELS	RATES	ROOMS	REST. & BAR	POOL
Days Inn West 6319 Truax Lane • Eau Claire, WI 54703	\$70.00	71	Yes	Yes
Hampton Inn 2622 Craig Road • Eau Claire, WI 54701	\$74.00	106	No	Yes
Heartland Inn 4075 Commonwealth Avenue • Eau Claire, WI 54701	\$74.99	87	No	Yes
Holiday Inn Campus Area Hotel 2703 Craig Road • Eau Claire, WI 54701	\$99.95	137	Yes	Yes
Holiday Inn Convention Center 205 South Barstow Street • Eau Claire, WI 54701	\$75.00	122	Yes	Yes
Park Inn 1009 W. Park Avenue • Chippewa Falls, WI 54729	\$78.00	67	Yes	Yes
Park Inn & Suites *Host Hotel* 3340 Mondovi Road • Eau Claire, WI 54701	\$75.00	85	Yes	Yes
Plaza Hotel & Suites (formerly Ramada) 1202 West Clairemont Avenue • Eau Claire, WI 54703	\$79 single \$89 double	233	Yes	Yes

If camping is more your style, **Whispering Pines Campground** is located conveniently 5 miles from the pitching venue and charges only \$20 per evening.

Amenities Include:

- * 150 sites with electrical hook ups
- * FREE Hot Showers
- * Water service available
- * Fishing Pond

The final Tournament numbers are in!!

1,322 horseshoe pitchers will be competing in the 2003 World Horseshoe Tournament.

Junior Party News

Junior Pitchers- Plan on having a blast at the Indoor Sports Center with great food and fun activities planned for the evening of August 10th! The Indoor Sports Center provides activities for all ages such as soccer, flag football, kickball, volleyball, basketball, in-line skating and wiffle-ball to name a few. Dinner will be served followed by fun activities and games for the Junior Pitchers to get involved in! (*Donations to Friends of Horseshoe are greatly appreciated to help fund the Junior Party! See details below.*)

Friends of Horseshoes

Donations to Friends of Horseshoe are greatly appreciated and go towards funding the tournament and the Junior Party. Participating in our Printer Cartridge fundraiser is a great way to get involved as well. Your assistance would be appreciated in helping us with the 2003 World Horseshoe Tournament. Please save all used printer cartridges and contact Maria at the number below for more information on how to help fundraise!

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HALL OF FAME by Earl and Vicki Winston

The balloting was completed in the latter part of May and we are pleased to announce that a candidate has been elected in the Player category. On the evening of August 10, 2003, Brian Simmons will be inducted into the NHPA Hall of Fame during the annual Hall of Fame and Awards Banquet to be held in Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

Brian first began pitching in World Tournaments as a junior in 1974 and won the Boys Class C with 67.2%. By 1976, he was in the Boys Championship Division and averaged 79.0%, but came in 4th. However, he was the only one who defeated Jeff Williams, who won the boys championship that year. Brian's last appearance in World Tournament Boys competition was in 1978, when he placed 6th. At the close of his Championship

Boys World Tournament appearances, his combined average for the three years was about 75.4%. His appearances in the World Tournament in the Championship Men's Class began in 1992. Up to that time, his adult competition was mostly in the New England area. Brian placed 12th in the 1992 Men's World Championship. He came back in 1994 and placed 4th. He has not been lower than 4th place since that time, missing World Tournament competition only in 1998. He won his first world title in 2000, stopping the winning streak of Alan Francis at five consecutive. He was second in 2001, while averaging 87.56%. In 2002, Brian won the Men's Championship for a second time, winning his last two games while missing only 12 ringers out of 176 shoes pitched and outscoring the 2nd and 3rd place finishers in the tournament 85 to 24. Brian wasn't about to

let that 2002 title get away. His win-loss record in the Men's Championship Class has been 14-1 for the past 3 years. We are told that Brian has pitched 160 games in world tournament championship play, winning 119 and losing 41. Of those 160 games, there were 86 over 80%, 40 over 85% and 17 over 90%, with the highest being 94.7%. We understand that Brian will not be able to defend his title at the 2003 World Tournament, due to health problems, but we know that he is a true competitor and will be back in some future year showing his opponents how a champion pitches shoes. Congratulations, Brian, on the honor you are receiving.

And now on with the quiz. Again, we are indebted to the people who have done so much research on the history of our sport. We are now providing a few extra clues to make the answers a bit easier and also in the hopes you will be able to learn just a small portion of information about each individual that you might never read anywhere else.

HALL OF FAME QUIZ

1. She was a non-pitcher and devoted most of her life to statistical and organizational work at tournaments all the way from local to the world. We believe she is responsible for the pocket percentage book, which was a timesaver at all tournaments for many years and is still available through NHPA game related items.
2. A former NHPA 1st vice-president, he participated in and promoted horseshoe pitching for many years and often served as a world tournament judge. The traveling trophy in the Men's Championship division was donated by and is named after him.
3. Many times Iowa State Champion and a co-holder of the record for the longest game pitched in a world tournament, he and his wife entertained many horseshoe pitchers with their music.

continued on page 17

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HALL OF FAME *continued from page 16*

4. At one time this person was chairman of the NHPA promotion committee, was presented a NHPA Recognition and Achievement award and was often seen doing a lot of filming during world tournaments, especially of legends.
 5. A five-time World Champ and part of a Hall of Fame sister act, she can embroider up a storm and once created horseshoe jackets for George and Barbara Bush, which were presented to them during the 1989 NHPA delegation visit to the White House.
 6. World Champ in 1926 and 1927, she was still ranked 14th on the all time victory list in 1998.
 7. NHPA President for 6 years, he was at the helm when the NHPA Hall of Fame was founded.
 8. A tough competitor in world tournaments for many years, but never a world champion, this pitcher is known for his high arching shoe, his sometimes colorful attire and his ability to entertain, especially with the recitation of his original poetry.
 9. A Girls Champion who once received nationwide publicity for pitching barefooted, this young lady went on to win several state championships and two Women's World Championships during her pitching career.
 10. A very proficient one-armed pitcher, he was Kansas State Champion 9 times and runner up 12 times. He competed in the world tournament in the Men's Championship Class many times and in 1998 was still 39th on the all time victory list, although his pitching career ended in 1961.
 11. A four time Senior Men's World Champ, he also played 13 years in the Men's Championship Class. He won the first Sportsmanship Award given at a world tournament and was the designer of the Ohio pitching shoe.
 12. A charter member of the Hall of Fame, he was the first recognized World Champion in 1909. He went on to win additional world titles, the last being in 1926. In 1998 he was still in sixth spot on the all time victory list.
- Answers can be found on page 21

A CHAMPION In Many Ways

Submitted by Debby Michaud

Have you watched a child pitch horseshoes? Have you noticed how they walk forward, swinging that horseshoe for all its worth just to get it to the far end of the court? Well, Becky (King) Glenn started out just that way. Her Dad and Mom are Glenn and Ardith King, parents of a true horseshoe family in Oklahoma.

Glenn had a regulation horseshoe court in the front yard of their home as he (literally) did not want to have anything to do with "backyard pitching". Everything was done according to NHPA rules and that is the way Becky and her two older sisters, Crystal and Rachael, were introduced to the sport of horseshoe pitching.

Becky was eight years old when she started pitching and her first World Tournament was at the 1993 World Horseshoe Tournament in Spearfish, South Dakota where she just had "lots of fun" and pitched 6.25%! She and her sisters pitched in tournaments in Oklahoma - in one of them Becky averaged 0.4% ringers! Why do I mention that? Because this Rebecca King stayed with it, practiced hard, and learned to concentrate to the extent that she became the 1997 Junior Girls' World Champion. With her flip turn, she went from the 6.25% in Spearfish, to 20% in 1994, then up to 26.25 in 1995, and then a big jump up at the 1996 World Tournament where she finished second in the Championship Class with 49.58% ringers. This set her up for her winning performance in Kitchener, Ontario where she captured Class C and then pitched 61.36% ringers to win the 1997 Junior Girls' World Championship. As she tells it, her competition in Class C was a highlight. The Junior Girls and Boys are mixed in preliminary competition - she was playing Levi Wood from Washington State and he started the game with nine out of ten ringers. Becky was worried



and looked to her father for guidance. He simply pointed to his head as if to say, "Focus". And she did! She ended up winning that game and then won Class C in a playoff - it may have been a pivotal game in her horseshoe career. Her ability to focus is something she has worked hard to achieve. She is very quiet and serious, even un-smiling during her games as she tries hard to concentrate - something she feels is difficult to do in horseshoes. Her Dad has helped her achieve that focus - he tells about one game in which she came to him at the fence lamenting, "I can't hit anything!" His solution? He gently slapped her in the face! Surprised, she responded with an 80% game!

He also impressed his children with the idea that you NEVER quit, a lesson Becky seems to have learned well. Becky's method of focusing is to aim at a spot on the stake and to think about her rhythm, trying not to pitch too fast or too slow. And she has shown that she does not quit. Not in horseshoes and not in life. That ability to concentrate and stay focused helped her win her World Title when she was "shaking so bad" in the final game against fellow OK pitcher Michelle Jarrett that she thought for sure she would "mess it up".

Instead she put on the double she needed to win. It was one of the most exciting moments in her career, with family and friends yelling and crying! Just as an exclamation point, Becky beat Michelle in the OK State Tournament later that year by winning three games out of four. Little did she know, however, that her toughest test was yet to come. All of her experience in the sports of basketball, softball, cheerleading and in horseshoes may have helped her get through the next several months.

continued on page 18

A CHAMPION In Many Ways *continued from page 17*

She began getting hives in September, then experienced flu-like symptoms in October - symptoms that didn't go away. After months of tests, she was diagnosed with Lupus, or SLE. Lupus is an autoimmune disease (autoimmune means that the body attacks itself) which is incurable but which can be controlled. Becky was very weak and tired all the time, unable to even finish a practice session in horseshoes when the horseshoe season began the next spring. Slowly she regained some strength, enough to stage a valiant effort to enter the 1998 World Horseshoe Tournament and finish second to her OK rival, Michelle Jarrett, the 1998 World Champion. As she shook Michelle's hand, her thoughts must have been on how far she had come in one year, that finishing and coming in second was just like a victory this time.

Her illness had subsided in May of that year - an unusual occurrence that she attributes to her faith and to the thoughts and prayers of friends and family. She is not on any medications, an amazing fact. She is attending college where she met her husband Chris Glenn (on the basketball court) and her horseshoe career has rebounded - she won the State Championship of Oklahoma in the Women's Division in 2002.

Rebecca (King) Glenn is a special person who has shown resilience and focus in her life.

She hopes to enter the business world after graduating from college. She and her husband have already begun working in the insurance business with her dad and mom. She brings much to the sport of horseshoe pitching.

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www.horseshoepitching.com
by Paul Stewart

It's World Tournament time again and I hope everyone is looking forward to going back to Eau Claire, Wisconsin for the 2003 World Tournament. I know I am. Eau Claire, 1987, was my first World Tournament as a participant. Who would have ever dreamed that sixteen years later I would be going back to Eau Claire, as a participant, also to help run this World Tournament and help keep the world updated on how the tournament is going via the Internet. Yes we have "come a long way baby" since the tournament was there in 1987. I can remember back then it took weeks to find out who won and how the tournament went. Now you can find out how things are going almost as fast as people in attendance can. Sometimes we have the results on the Website before they are printed and posted on the results board at the tournament.

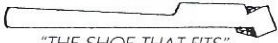
We are planning to keep all of you at home and around the world updated on all the happenings at the tournament as they happen. Tournament results will be posted soon after the classes in each shift has finished each day. Class pictures, news articles, and picture slide shows will be posted as time permits. Please remember that we still have to do our daily tournament work while we are trying to keep you updated on the Website. We will be posting a Game of the Day as we did last year. On the Championship rounds we will try to have several Games of the Day postings. We will also keep you posted on how the convention goes, which rules

proposal changes pass and which fail. Also who gets the World Tournament bid for 2005? You can check the NHPA Website the day the tournament starts on August 4, 2003 to find our email address for the World Tournament.

Sorry, we won't be able to do live video clips from the tournament this year. Quality video files are huge files and if you don't have a big computer loaded with lots of memory and ram, and using DSL or Cable for your Internet service it just isn't worth the download time it takes using a dial up modem to get the video to your computer. I am sure video technology will change enough in the next few years that will allow us to do video clips from the tournament.

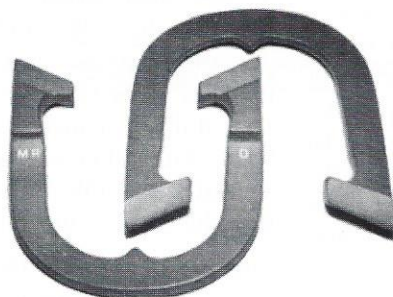


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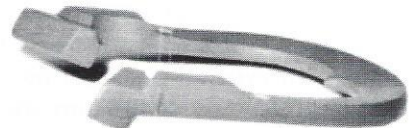
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18 NEWSLINE

THE HORSESHOE TRADER

More Old Shoe Trivia

by Bob Dunn

There was more trivia stuff than could fit in the last article, so this is an extension to the trivia quiz. Again the answers are provided.

What brands made both hookless (plain) and hooked models?

This is a unique bunch of shoe manufacturers, as they had to be in business for some longevity and in two distinct periods of our pitching shoe history. Again the short version: Ohio, Indiana, Craftsman, Diamond, Giant Grip, Octigan, Good Luck and Montgomery Wards. Sears also had plain and hooked models, but by different manufacturers. The same applies for Star shoes. In fact there are three unrelated Star shoes by three different manufacturers. A hookless Star was produced by St. Pierre in the 1930's, a Star picnic shoe was produced by the Star Heel Plate Co., Newark, NJ in the 1950's and the most recent Star stainless steel tournament shoe, again by a different manufacturer.

What shoe has a 'B' on one point and an 'A' on the other point, and what is the purpose of that?

Ohio shoes throughout the late 1930's and into the 1940's had this minor phenomenon. Not all Ohio shoes, but many had this dual lettering. It is common for shoes to have a number or lettering designation. One pair of shoes would be A's and the other pair would then be B's. Or one pair would be 1's and the other 2's. Ohio is the only shoe with the A and B on the same shoe. The big question is why? There is no documentation found that explains the purpose. Supposedly, it has something to do with flipping to determine who starts a game. If you know for sure, please get in touch.

In a similar oddity, Montgomery Wards shoes were G's and O's, which is rather different. The reason however makes some sense. The initials actually represent executive officers of the company - George and Oscar.

What older shoes had the word Ringer in the model name?

The very first was the Lucky Ringer, manufactured in St. Louis MO. The shoe advertised in the 1922 Horseshoe World magazine, one of only three brands that were advertised that year. The shoe was novel in that the brand name was forged in heavy lettering around the entire topside of the shoe. This may or not have been a great grip for pitchers. This is the only shoe with that distinctive brand logo. No Lucky Ringer shoes have been reported in collection, making the shoe either rare or unfortunately extinct.

There is also a Luck-E Official that was found by David Baker. Being a hookless shoe, it might lead some to think that they have found a Lucky Ringer, but not the case. The Luck-E Official is in it's own right is a rare find as only one pair has ever been found.

Another ten years went by before the next 'Ringer' shoe came out - the Eagle Ringer in 1931. This is one of the longest

running shoe ever. The Diamond Tool and Horseshoe Company manufactured the Eagle Ringer through 1969. Eagle Ringers introduced several new aspects to the evolution of the pitching shoe. The Eagle Ringer was the first shoe to have a ringer breaker (although slight), the first shoe to have full sized hooks and the first to have length-wise heel calks. The shoe also received a patent approval.

Diamond Double Ringers is probably the largest selling horseshoe model of all time and most are familiar with the shoe's existence from 1945 through the early 1990's. There might even be current production of Double Ringers but that is by a foreign manufacturer. Few realize that there was a hookless version of the Double Ringer in about 1935. Those original hookless models had the same orange and green colors that we saw in the later models. Apparently, Diamond wanted to monopolize the use of the word ringer as in 1940 they began producing the Super Ringer. That shoe has continued production ever since, however current production is also overseas.

Sometime during the late 1930's, the Professional Sure Ringer appeared on the market. We do not know for sure who the manufacturer was, but there is some logic to the thought that the company was a forerunner to the Durbin-Durko Company of St. Louis, MO, who produced the Sure Ringer in the 1950's and 60's. The older Professional Sure Ringer were hooked shoes, but a heavily formed shoes that in its day had to be termed a picnic shoe. The name was stamped on the toe with no other clues as to whom made them or where they came from. They are commonly found yet today, so at one time they did have some success.

The Durbin-Durko shoes sport well defined brand logos. Some Durbin-Durko shoes have been reported with the name Professional Sure Ringer, but the great majority simply state Sure Ringer. There are a few Red-D-Ringer by Durbin-Durko also in collection. All three shoes are the exact same picnic shoe model but with a different name forged on the logo. There is no resemblance to the 1930's Professional Sure Ringer, but the name thing does hint to the fact that there probably is some relationship between the manufacturers.

During the 1960's, the Buck Brothers, Milbury, MA., produced the Ringer model. Today, most collectors classify the shoe as a picnic shoe, but the shoe was sanctioned by the NHPA and advertised in the News Digest. There had to be some sales success as the shoes are readily found on the flea market circuit.

Trader Jottings

While attending the World Tournament, do stop by the Horseshoe Trader display. If you have a pair of old shoes that you need identified, bring them in, we will get the job done. If you have shoes to donate to the NHPA Hall of Fame collection, bring them in, the particulars will be noted and we will pass the shoes on for you.

JUNIOR PROMOTION Youth Sports Participation *by Heidi Poppe*

For this issue of Newsline, I decided to do some research regarding our youth and their participation in sports. It was interesting reading the different viewpoints others had on this topic.

It has been estimated that 25 million children are involved in some form of organized sports outside of school (Frankl, 1998). This is a great way for parents and adults to become more involved in helping our youth develop a healthy lifestyle. For youths participating in sports, they can develop a positive self-image. A child's self esteem is usually based on the combination of their own definition of their abilities and the observation of reactions from other individuals. It is important that parents present a positive image both verbally and nonverbally to help their child feel good about their involvement.

I read an article by Dr. Richard Stratton, who teaches for the Health and Physical Education Program at Virginia Tech who challenged one of his undergraduate sport psychology classes to identify and rank the significant problems and also the benefits of youth sports participation. Here is what they came up with:

Problems

- Overemphasis on winning typically sacrificing fun
- Parental pressure on athletes
- Lack of qualified coaches
- Developmentally inappropriate coaching style
- Poor sportsmanship
- Lack of parental support for athletes

- Coaches playing favorites
- Burnout

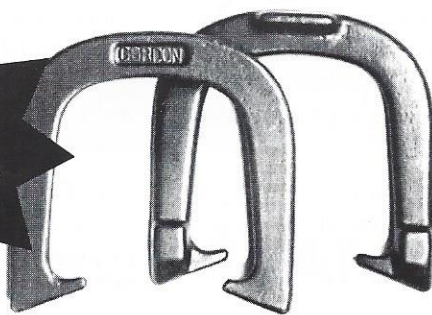
Their Solutions to the Problems

- Coaches hold meeting to discuss objectives
- Emphasize focusing on individual accomplishments
- Increase availability of individual sports
- Assure that all athletes get adequate playing time
- More towards less rigid competition, less structured leagues
- Increase availability of quality coaching education programs
- Keep the parents better informed by meetings, newsletters, etc.

Benefits

- Exercise
- Development of social skill
- Learn teamwork and cooperation
- Fun
- Sportsmanship
- Learn about commitment

When I read the solutions to the problems the undergraduates defined, I found it interesting and rewarding to see that horseshoes can offer our youth the solution to solve so many of the known problems! So I encourage everyone to get involved and be a part of a child's horseshoe learning experience!



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LASER BEAM Used to Improve Delivery by Sandra S. Koonce

It's a little bit of Buck Rogers wrapped around a medieval piece of iron. At least that's one thought that comes to mind when watching George Loring demonstrate his "Perfect Line" invention. Using laser technology, a laser in a special mount is attached to a player's horseshoe. With the laser turned on, a pitcher can project a spot from the laser onto a target, then practice throwing the horseshoe (without letting it go) until the arm is trained in proper follow-through.

Soon, the pitcher has directed a "Perfect Line" to the stake.

The device will be demonstrated every day during the Florida State Horseshoe Tournament.

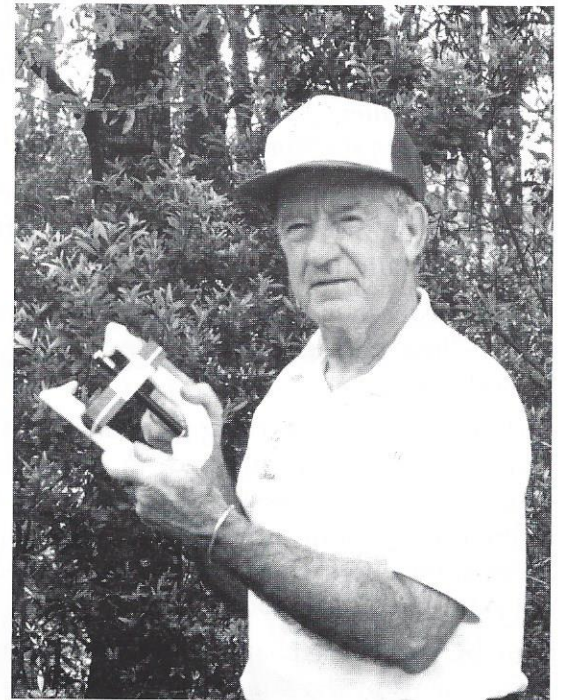
Inventor George Loring, a member of the Beverly Hills Horseshoe Club who has several inventions under his belt, was frustrated by his own near misses at the stake.

Some went left; some went right. The misses kept his average ringer percentage in the low 40 percent range. Since he has been practicing with his invention, his ringer percentage has gone to 56% and is still climbing.

He's also invented a unique putter for golfers that has improved his own poor putting. The putter, in fact, is swung by using the same type of motion used in pitching horseshoes and bowling---with a pendulum swing.

A professional photographer by trade, Loring also invented the luminade, a lighting process that improved studio portrait photography.

(Editor's note: This article was ran in a local paper during the Florida State Championships)



Sara Besaw, a junior from the Wolf River HSC in Wisconsin, receives her top-ten award. A newspaper reporter came out to do a write-up on Sara.

HALL OF FAME QUIZ

ANSWERS

1. Emma Focht
2. Leo McGrath
3. Glen "Red" Henton
4. Sol Berman
5. Phyllis Negaard
6. Mildred Brouillette
7. Harold Craig
8. Art Tyson
9. Tari (Carpenter) Powell
10. Roland Kraft
11. Stanley Manker
12. Frank Jackson



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SOL BERMAN, 90

Horseshoes Champ Who Promoted the Game

(Published in The New York Sun, May 12, 2003)

By *Stephen Miller*

Staff Reporter of the Sun

Sol Berman's obsession with horseshoes began when he was serving in the Army Medical Corps during World War II and was stationed in New Guinea.

"There wasn't much to do there," his widow Rita Berman said. "Just raising tomatoes and dogs, and pitching horseshoes."

Such a hold over the young physician did the sport have that when they were married, in 1950, the newlyweds added a stop at a horseshoe tournament in Salt Lake City to their honeymoon itinerary. "It was fun, going out to Yellowstone and everything," Ms. Berman said. "And the tournament was fun, too."

Berman, who died at age 90, was the winner of tournaments at the county, state, and national level, as well as a member of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association Hall of Fame. He also served as president of the New Jersey branch of the organization.

Ms. Berman, a psychiatrist, tolerated her husband's obsession with a kind of bemused neglect. "If he enjoyed it," she sighed, "it was fine with me." Eventually she did, however, "beg him not to bring home a trophy" when he went to tournaments. This was not unreasonable, given that his den was clogged with something like 200 of them.

Berman was the New Jersey state champion eight times, the first in 1955 and the last in 1981. He was the champion of Union County for 30 years--an awfully long time to be champion of anything, although longevity records for such things seem not to be compiled by anyone. His final title was also the one that was the sweetest: Elders Champion in the World Tournament, in 1983. In this championship, he scored 59% ringers, the basic statistic that all tournament records include. This is a fairly mediocre figure in a sport where ringer percentages for champions are more usually in the mid-80s. But Berman did hold one interesting record in this regard: he pitched the highest losing game average by a New Jersey player, 82% in 1957.

Berman was what they call in horseshoe circles a 1-3/4-turn shoe pitcher, meaning the horseshoe spun around 1-3/4 times before winding up on the stake. An all-around sportsman, he once bowled a 300 game, and won many ribbons in track and field in his student days.

"He was a wonderful athlete--he had great coordination,"

Ms. Berman said. "If something was going to drop off the table, he would always catch it."

Berman also won several national Amateur Athletic Union championships in horseshoes doubles play. His status as an AAU champion allowed him to get into the hospitality tent at the 1972 Munich Olympics, his wife recalled. Under his leadership, the AAU tournament was played in Elizabeth in 1964 and in Middlesex in 1968.

Horseshoes was also the ticket that led the couple to tour South Africa, where they were introduced to the traditional Boer sport of juskei, which involved heaving a rolling-pin-size piece of wood at a stake. Ms. Berman has vivid memories of the 1980s-era apartheid accommodations, as well as of meeting the South African elite pitchers.

When he wasn't actually pitching at home or in some exotic locale overseas, Berman was tinkering with the game, coming up with rules changes such as a system he called "true cancellation," which involved a wholesale overhaul of the rules to give points for the quality of the toss, not just the proximity of the shoe to the stake. He often held demonstrations of his rules at tournaments.

"Although a fervent advocate of this system, he could never convince the delegation, nor the rest of the NHPA, to adopt this method of play," wrote Casey Sluys, the NHPA promotion and publicity director. Mr. Sluys recalled that "at least once a month," Berman would send him letters in support of his proposed rule changes. "It was kind of an obsession with him," Mr. Sluys said in an interview.

Berman even accumulated a large library of videotapes of championship players, and provided them to other players at cost so they could study their own technique. It was primarily for his video chronicling of national tournaments that he was inducted into the NHPA hall of fame, in 1982, Mr. Sluys said.

Ms. Berman herself did not much fancy the sport. "I did it once," she said, describing a seemingly misdirected throw that rolled around and somehow ended up on-target. "I got a ringer and quit. I wasn't interested."

Sol Berman

Born September 21, 1912, in Newark; died April 28 in West Palm Beach, Fla., of heart failure; survived by his wife, Rita Berman, his daughter, Leslie, and a grandchild.

CHARTER CHATTER *by Debby Michaud*

Arizona

News sent by Mary Wilburn. The 12th Annual Quartzsite Main Event Horseshoe Tournament was a big success with 187 pitchers. Tournament director Gary Chalberg and his wife Virginia, along with a great crew, made the 2003 event the best one yet. There were 96 pitchers in the Warm-up and 76 in the Cool Downs. There was also a potluck dinner for all to enjoy.

British Columbia, Canada

In Victoria, lots of winter activities keep their players connected and busy. They play cards one night, cribbage another night, and darts a third night. They also get together for some Pay Per View sporting events and have parties for their members at holiday times. With these activities, they keep the interest up and they raise some money for the REAL competition - horseshoes in the summer! Victoria will host the 2003 Canadian Championships so all these functions help out.

Massachusetts

The Loon Pond Horseshoe Club reports they have picked up 32 new members this year alone. A campaign of advertising on cable TV (free) and a couple of articles in the local newspapers (also free) along with word of mouth (very free) are listed as the reasons for the growth. This will offset the loss of five teams from another MA club's doubles league. Also at Loon Pond, congratulations to Rich Pelley - as a rookie, he garnered the top award in the National Sanctioned League Program in the "High Game over Average" category.

Minnesota

The Make-A-Wish program continues in Minnesota with all clubs in the Minnesota charter raising money in their own way each year, to help a child who is very ill. This year they have "adopted" a child, a four-year-old girl named Randella who wants to go to Disney World. Throughout the year, clubs will raise money for the fund, helping Randella achieve a dream while increasing participation and publicity for horseshoes in the process. Junior Promotion Director Jackie Hughes and president Jerry LaBrosse are helping to organize this project.

New Hampshire

The Keene, NH Horseshoe Club celebrated its 45th anniversary in July of 2002 with a dinner and a ceremony attended by pitchers from all over New England. It was held on the evening of the 2002 Keene Open, an annual tournament held on the 24 courts in Keene, NH. Keene is the site of three World Tournaments and is one of the finest facilities in the East. The New England tournament, the second largest sanctioned tournament in the NHPA, is held in Keene on Labor Day weekend annually. At the dinner, the history of the Keene club, as written by reporter

Tom Blake, was read. Tom was a part of the Keene club for most of the years they existed until his death. He kept the news of all the club functions and tournaments in the local newspaper, complete with photos.

New Jersey

In 2003 New Jersey is planning a "Newcomers Only" tournament which was held during another tournament. They report almost 30 new members as of April for this year alone and have 31 tournaments on the 2003 schedule

North Carolina

President Jake Hoff announces that 2002 was the BEST year that North Carolina ever experienced in horseshoes. He reports a record membership and record attendance at their tournaments last year. (What is your secret?) Since their largest source of income is from Tournament Sanction Fees, their treasury is also in good shape because of the increase in participation AND they have voted to award \$1,000.00 in prize money during the 2003 State Tournament. Good for them!

Northern California

In Sonoma County, their pitching can be traced back to the times when the chicken farmers pitched against the dairy farmers. They became official in 1928 when they signed up 45 members. In 1936, the first Sonoma County Championship was staged among the three Sonoma County clubs at the time. The three County clubs merged in 1971 and the Sonoma County Championship continues to the present. The names of all the winners of this championship are now on a perpetual plaque. Since there are 66 names on it already, George Greet has built another plaque, ready for the next 66 years! The club now has 16 courts, updated and improved with grass in place of the asphalt in 1998. (Thanks to Yvonne Mauzey, Casey Sluys and Ray Parnay for this.)

Oklahoma

From the Ada Evening News newspaper comes an article about a class on horseshoe pitching given at the East Central University. Physical Education educator Brad Coyle of Ada and retired high school teacher Gerald Brown of Enid conducted a series of classes for the students. These six hourly classes occurred in April - each student was given a set of NHPA pitching rules and they watched the Dave Loucks video on pitching horseshoes. The newspaper had a photo of one of the students, a softball player, pitching a horseshoe with a look of total concentration on her face. Gerald Brown also conducted the only Junior League in OK in which he helped almost 20 beginners from the Enid area. Good work!!!

continued on page 24

Southern Utah

In Southern Utah, word comes from Dennis Ohms that they awarded two pitchers with the New Players of the Year Award for 2002. The awards went to Jerry and Lori Harper who just started pitching in 2002. They finished 8th (Lori) and 9th (Jerry) on the "Most Wins" list, good stuff for new players. Congratulations! The New Player award is named after Dan Haycock to honor him. He was a pitcher who truly enjoyed pitching for the fun and enjoyment of it before he passed away. Another award there is the "I Tried" Award that is given to the person with the most losses added to the least wins. Dennis Ohms was the "lucky" recipient of that award. He also graciously sent us this info!

Washington State

Vey Allen and Sig Gire have collaborated on a new document that is a valuable tool for anyone running a club or tournament. It outlines step by step the tasks that have to be performed, listing them by what must be done

chronologically during the year. We must ask them if it will be available to all NHPA members/clubs.

New reporter Debby Michaud thanks Bob Champion for graciously agreeing that his original name for this column, "Charter Chatter", could be used again. And thank you to Cathy Loucks for her hard work and for suggesting that we use Bob's original idea for the title. I'd like to ask a question in each column for people to answer. In that way, we might compare notes from around the NHPA on how things are done and what has worked best so that we might have an informal, VERY un-scientific survey to review.

TODAY'S QUESTION: How do you accrue money for your state HPA fund?

I can be reached at my e-mail address: loonpond@tmlp.com -or- at 379 Hodges St. in Taunton, MA 02780-2057 and I would LOVE to hear from you. Debby

SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

July 2003

4th - 6th

Ringer Classic - Greenville, OH Entry fee: \$25 for adults with additional fee for Championship Class Men and Women. \$15 for Class B, Men and Women. \$10 for Class C Men. No charge for junior pitchers. Fees payable to Darke County Horseshoe Club and mail to: Mary Fleenor, 8494 Baker Road, Versailles, OH 45380. Entry deadline: June 16th

12th - 13th

15th Annual Open Horseshoe Tournament, Danville, Illinois. Douglas Park just off I-74 at Bowman Avenue Exit. Increased prize money from Designated A Sponsorship. Entry Deadline: June 27th. Register online also at: www.active.com by June 24th. Entry Fee: \$20.00 (Includes scorekeeping fees) Make checks payable to: Danville Horseshoe Club and mail to: Leo Bratland, 41 Country Club Drive, Danville, IL 61832 Phone: (217)443-5818 or email: bratlnd@aol.com

August 2003

4th - 16th

World Tournament

11th

2003 Iowa State Fair Midwest Seniors Classic, Iowa State Fairgrounds, Des Moines, IA NHPA Sanctioned. Must be 60 years of age by August 11th. Over \$1,800 in prize money paid in 2002. Entry deadline: July 26th (No late entries accepted). Registration Fee: 6-Person Classes: \$15 Championship Class Fee: \$20. (Will be notified when you play) Send Entry

fee of \$15 to: Dave Sidles, 1506 Wilson Avenue, Ames, IA 50010 Phone: (515) 233-1394 Email: dsidles@msn.com Tournament Director: Danny Sease, Phone: (515) 285-0131 or email: ddsease@msn.com Include with fee: Name, complete mailing address, phone number, gender, NHPA card number and pitching distance.

22nd - 24th

8th Annual SummerFun Tournament. Newberry, South Carolina - Marion-Davis Park. \$4,500 in Cash, Prizes and Trophies. 12-player, two-day championship classes, 40' and 30' divisions. Entry Fee: \$20 (Additional \$5 for championship classes). Limited to 140 players, deadline for entries is August 4th. Doubles tournament Thursday. Entry form available at www.geocities.com/sc_hpa or www.horseshoepitching.com (coming events) or contact tournament director: Ron Taylor at (803) 684-1453. Make checks payable to: SummerFun Horseshoe Tournament and mail to: Ron Taylor, 1915 Molly Circle, York, SC 29745

30th

Louisiana Shrimp & Petroleum Festival MDA Horseshoe Tournament Fundraiser. Kemper Williams Park, Patterson, LA This is a charity fund raising event for MDA. Entry fee \$20.00, Adults, \$5.00 Juniors. Payout to top 3 adult finishers in each class. Pre-register by August 27. 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

ENTRY FORM

NHPA SANCTIONED CLUB/LEAGUE TOURNAMENT

November 15th/16th and 22nd/23rd 2003
Joelton, Tennessee

MAIL THE ATTACHED FORM WITH REGISTRATION FEES (PAYABLE TO NHPA)

TO: **Lorraine Sternberg, NHPA 3rd Vice-President**
W206 N13520 Woodside Lane, Richfield, WI 53076
Phone: (262) 677-3300

The schedule will be mailed only to the captain of each team. It will be the captain's responsibility to inform his or her teammates of the schedule.

League averages will be used for this tournament from this years' league season (2003). Your club's final stats must be submitted by October 1st.

Limit 48 teams. 24 for each weekend. Preference of weekend will be based on a first come system. If your club would like to enter more than one team, please indicate your #1 team. After the deadline, if there are not 48 different clubs/leagues entered, your #2 team would then qualify to enter. In the event that less than 24 teams enter, the tournament will then be consolidated to one weekend. (The weekend most requested.)

This tournament is limited to adults only.

.....mail bottom portion.....

Registration fees: \$105.00 per team
Entry fee includes Joelton court use fees

Name of Club and State _____ Sanction number _____

Circle the weekend you would prefer (1st) (2nd)

1. Name (Captain) _____ NHPA# _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Telephone Home# _____

League Point Average _____ Ringer Average _____

2. Name _____ NHPA# _____

League Point Average _____ Ringer Average _____

3. Name _____ NHPA# _____

League Point Average _____ Ringer Average _____

(Alternate person) Name _____ NHPA# _____

League Point Average _____ Ringer Average _____

Glen "RED" Henton - Iowa submitted by Bart Sargent

Glen was very talented playing the electric guitar. Many times he provided enjoyable music entertainment at banquet time and also at Jim Knisley's tournament in 1992. "Glen won the longest game in history at Keene, New Hampshire in 1965 vs. Ray Martin."

Glen's qualifying points were as follows:

1962	503
1963	479
1964	538
1965	501
1967	484
1968	500
1970	491
1972	536
1973	540
1974	530
1975	530
1976	529
1977	541
1978	505
1979	524

Red lost play-off games in

1977 to Elmer Hohl and 1989 to Ray Hill

Year	CL	Pos.	W	L	Ringers	Shoes	Pct.
1962	CH'P	8	23	12	2047	2642	77.5
1963	CH'P	15	21	14	2000	2740	75.5
1964	CH'P	3	29	6	2481	2956	83.9
1965	CH'P	13	21	14	2636	3260	80.9
1967	CH'P	18	18	17	2147	2904	73.9
1968	CH'P	19	16	19	2570	3244	79.2
1970	CH'P	7	26	9	2034	2660	76.5
1972	CH'P	6	28	7	2605	3116	83.6
1973	CH'P	7	24	11	2405	3046	79.0
1974	CH'P	6	26	9	2447	3092	79.1
1975	CH'P	7	25	10	2309	2922	79.0
1976	CH'P	5	29	6	2577	3130	82.3
1977	CH'P	2	23	3	1918	2302	83.3
	Play-offs		0	2	174	218	79.8
1978	CH'P	5	29	6	1986	2606	76.2
1979	CH'P	26	10	21	1828	2464	74.2
1981	Pre.	1	9	2	423	550	76.9
	CH'P	11	11	12	1114	1502	74.2
1982	Pre.	1	7	0	262	350	74.9
	CH'P	11	11	12	1114	1502	74.2
1983	Pre.	1	6	1	216	292	74.0
	CH'P	14	10	13	990	1382	71.6
1984	Pre.	1	6	1			68.2
	B-4	1	7	0			75.8
	B-Finals	4	4	3			71.3
1985	INT-Pre	1	6	1	243	350	69.4
	CH'P	1	10	1	406	568	71.5
1986	INT-Pre	1	7	0	241	350	68.9
	CH'P	1	10	1	388	546	71.1
1987	Sr. Prelim	2	5	2	244	350	69.7
	Sr. Finals	2	8	3	438	632	69.3
1989	Sr. Prelim	2	10	1	359	542	66.2
	Play-off		0	1	62	82	75.6
1992	Sr. Prelim	6	5.5	1.5	223	350	63.7
	Sr. Finals	3	7	4	424	626	67.7



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THE TOLL OF TIME

Leo Gendreau

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Leo Gendreau, our 2001 Rookie of the Year. Leo was just 61 and passed away after a five-month battle with pulmonary fibrosis. He leaves his wife, who attended every tournament with him, and four children. One of his daughters, Joanne Martin, was the champion in Class D at the 2002 World Tournament. We are very sad to hear of his untimely death.

Submitted by Debby Michaud

Jim Croft

Lynn Johnson

Idaho

Idaho recently lost two of our longtime horseshoe-pitching friends, Jim Croft of Pocatello and Lynn Johnson of Salmon, Idaho. Both of these men were instrumental in the local horseshoe scene and will surely be missed by all who know and have pitched with them.

Sol Berman

9/21/12 - 4/28/03

Sol was a medical doctor who relieved the stresses of that profession by pitching horseshoes during his lunchtime. He became very good at the game, pitching a 1 3/4 turn shoe. He was the New Jersey State Champion in eight different years. He had been actively involved with organized horseshoe pitching for 60 years. Sol won the 1976 AAU doubles tournament; besides being on the NJ state doubles team for 12 years. In 1976 he received the NHPA Achievement Award for his work in the area of promotion for the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association. He became a member of the NJ Hall of Fame and held numerous offices in the NJ state association, among them secretary/treasurer. He was inducted into the National Hall of Fame in 1986 primarily for his video chronicling of the Championship groups at previous World Tournaments. His video library is the most extensive documenting horseshoe pitching and their champions. The most prestigious award the NHPA has to offer (The Stokes Award) was bestowed on Sol in 1982. He was indeed a fine promoter of the sport of horseshoe pitching. During his later years he became the advocate for a system called "true cancellation". Although a fervent advocate of this system he could never convince the delegation, nor the rest of the NHPA, to adopt this method of play.

John Bogardus

New York

It is with a very sad heart that I report the passing of a true horseshoe warrior, John "Bulldog" Bogardus. John died in late May after a long battle with cancer. He was 79. A memorial was held May 30th at Fort Edward by members of his local horseshoe club, plus horseshoe players and friends from throughout the state.

During his horseshoe career, John was a hard-nosed competitor on the courts and a gracious gentleman when not playing. Because of this great tenacity, five or six years ago, I nicknamed John, "The Bulldog"! He like the name and so did most of his pitching friends and competitors. The name stuck and from then on he was "The Bulldog"!

Local WIXT-TV, Channel 9 Sports Director, Doug Logan, often would comment about John when he learned that "The Bulldog" was returning to pitch in our annual Syracuse Pioneer Open.

John reached his pinnacle of pitching prowess when he finished 5th in the World in the Men's A Class at Columbus, Ohio in 1992. He averaged close to 79%, with his high-arching 1 1/4 turn, and also upset six-time World Champ, Walter Ray Williams, Jr.! Many pitchers felt the "bite" of "The Bulldog" during those days in Columbus! His shoe was working to perfection and his confidence was soaring. In a tremendous groove, he tossed on double after double, as another fine opponent would bite the dust! What a spectacle John displayed of a player definitely at the top of his game. This was "The Bulldog's" time "in the sun"!

He was always a tough customer in New York State Tournament play, and pitched in countless local tournaments throughout the state. John enjoyed playing in weekend tournaments and relished the head-to-head competition that these contests offered. Kind of like being on a golfing tour, "The Bulldog" reveled in all of the great friendships that he made playing horseshoes.

"The Bulldog" will be sorely missed by all who knew him, but his great competitive spirit and love of horseshoes will live after him.

Submitted by Dave Harnden
Syracuse Pioneer Horseshoe Club

Isaac (Ike) Davis

Minnesota

Ike Davis, age 90 of St. James, Minnesota, passed away on June 9, 2003 at Pleasant View Good Samaritan Center in St. James. Ike is survived by his wife Eleanora.

Ike was a veteran of the USA Signal Corp in Iceland. He was honorably discharged on November 19, 1945. Ike started and worked at his own machine shop from 1949 to 1976 when he sold the shop.

Ike Davis invented the "Davis Tool", the first known measuring tool with a straight edge, calipers and file, in the early 70's. Ike made the "Davis Tool" in his garage with his wife's help and marketed the tools wholesale to horseshoe supply distributors. In 1998 he sold his supplies to a Horseshoe supply distributor from Michigan where it is still made and sold. It has become one of the most popular measure tools in use today. During several World Tournaments, Ike would have to make special deliveries to meet the demands. Ike also patterned several Bow sites which remain in limit circulation.

Ike played for St. James in the Southern Minnesota Horseshoe league starting in the 60's or early 70's, later pitching for the Madelia Horseshoe club in the East league. Ike seldom missed a match, if only to keep score.

Submitted by Mark J. Baumann

WHO'S GONNA FILL THEIR SHOES? by Bob Graham

I have always liked country music, particularly the early greats like Roy Acuff, Hank Williams, Don Gibson, Hank Snow and recent ones like Merle, Waylon, Willie, Johnny Cash and the all-time numero uno George Jones.

A few days ago I tuned into a country station and heard George Jones singing "Who's Gonna Fill Their Shoes?" It tells about many of the late, great country artists whose unique styling captured the imagination of millions of fans and laments the fact that their footprints were so large that their shoes would be mighty difficult to fill.

When one thinks of great horseshoe pitchers we tend to think of Allen, Isais, Reno, Day, Titcomb, Kutchinski, Williams, Francis and Simmons. All World Champions and superb athletes but this is not about them. This is about a group of men that I did compete against. I can still remember their friendship, unique style and character that made them so great. Many have passed on and are no longer with us, yet a few remain and are still pitching. I am so pleased that our paths crossed long ago and I find myself asking "Who's Gonna Fill Their Shoes?"

Who could ever fill the shoes of Wilber Kabel, Al Zadroga and John Rademacher? They were all fierce competitors, and great pitchers. What an impression they made on me.

Al once started a game with me with 16 straight doubles, then after only 21 of 26 finished with 19 straight doubles. I was in awe, but today I think most about what great friends they were. Wilber was a dear gentleman who over 30 years ago helped me switch to a 1 ¼ turn as did another wonderful man Harold Wolfe, who seemed to know more about horseshoes than anyone I ever met. Who could replace Rademacher who was the big brother I never had? His soft, high 1 ¼ with a little hop was close to perfection.

Another two guys who would make my all-time list of greats are Ralph Maddox and John Walker. Ralph was as tough as they come with a 1 ¼ delivery so smooth they called him "Old Rocking Chair". Because of an ill-advised NHPA ruling on cut-out sleeves we lost Ralph several years before his time thus depriving us of one of the games most gallant warriors. John Walker, a monster in his prime, once opined "The stake is fatter on the left." What a competitor. Years ago John injured his pitching shoulder and was so determined to pitch in the World Tournament, he practices for weeks left-handed and qualified for Class C at Eureka. You can look it up. It's in the book. Then, later I saw him and an opponent throw ten (10) 4-dead, something I haven't seen since.

Ralph and John are still around but no longer compete. Horseshoes was a little better game because of them.

Together with Walker, California bred an array of great pitchers and stylists. Schneider, Weeks and Frasier are three I didn't compete against but I saw Jerry pitch several times and it looked like to me he invented the 1 ¼. A couple I did pitch against were Ron Simmons and Jesse Gonzales. Jesse's high flip was so smooth and unique that fellow pitchers would stop and watch him, but the thing I remember most about him was his kindness and sportsmanship. I read that he's still pitching. Heck, I hope he pitches until he's 95.

Now, Simmons was a real "toughie" who didn't put much stock in high elevation. He reasoned the best shoe was low and direct to the stake much in the manner of my friend Merlin Potts. I was told by a friend that in his younger days Ron would just as soon whip you off the court as on the court. It didn't matter to him, but man could he handle the ¾. Over 20 years ago Ron left me a pair of dead-eyes that were broken. I told him I would get them welded and send them to him. Well, they are still hanging out on

an old fence, all rusted up. One day I aim to get these shoes back to Ron. I miss my old friend.

Finally, in closing, I would be remiss if I didn't recall two great pitchers and characters from Ohio---Ansil Copeland and Glen Riffel. Ansil was a tall, lanky guy with a looping 1 ¾ delivery. He took his games and practice mighty serious and didn't take too kindly to a shoe that jumped off the stake. He told me once that "he never lost a ringer he didn't need." That statement almost moved me to tears, it was so humorous.

One could write a book on Glen Riffel, the zany 1 ¾ whiz who felt the fine art of horseshoes was greatly enhance with the addition of a few cool ones. He proved it to me once long ago. In 1973 I was so pleased with my 1 ¾ I asked him what he thought of my turn. His reply was short and sweet---"That shoe won't make you any money." It deflated me, but he was so right.

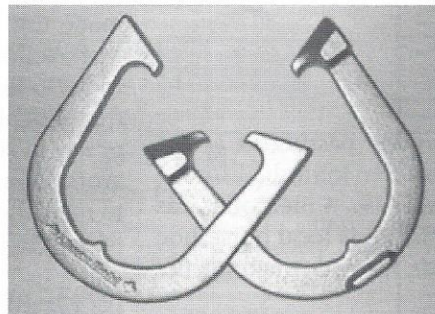
Before I get off the subject of Ohio pitchers, I recall Stan Manker and his traveling buddy Harold Wolfe. In early days they both threw the 1 ¼, but Stan, who allowed he threw the wrong turn for 40 years, switched to the 1 ¾ and like Moses coming out of the wilderness achieved a great measure of success in his later years. "Who's Gonna Fill Their Shoes?"

Who could ever fill the shoes of Red Henton and Art Tyson? Not only were they superlative pitchers but were perhaps the wittiest NHPA duo of all time. Everything they said was humorous. The both made it look so nice and easy it was ridiculous. In Greenville in '77, Red forced a play-off with Elmer. This was one of the toughest fields ever--it took over 500 points to qualify for the top 36. It's in the book. You can look it up. Tyson was just unbelievable. He went from 70% to 80% as fast as anyone I ever saw. The man has real class and is credited with the most profound and enigmatic observation ever made about horseshoe pitching; "It's so easy, it's hard." How very true.

Wherever the game is played, these names together with Clarence Bellman, Harold Anthony, Floyd Toole, Marines Tamboer, Ralph Simon, Dale Dixon, Merlin Potts and a host of others will be fondly remembered.

Today, with the likes of Francis, Williams, Simmons, Walters and LaCrosse, our game is in good hands. But as I look back over the years past and of all the great pitchers and wonderful friends, I also ask as did the song "Who's Gonna Fill Their Shoes?"

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TEAM-WORLD by Jim Haupt

There'll be a bash in Boulder, maybe dancing in Denver. The guys from Colorado did it again.

Colorado interrupted the Minnesota stranglehold on the Team-World title with a three to one victory over Ohio. Paul Lacrosse eliminated the threat of Alan Francis who dominated the event previously winning all games including a perfect 40-ringer game. Amy Francis was the only Ohio finals winner. Rich Pintor, Colorado, continued his streak of never losing a Team-World playoff game.

Minnesota had to settle for third over fourth place Wisconsin.

Every team plays every other team on the 24-team schedule, 23 games not including the finals for a player doing full duty. Dee Powell, a short distance pitcher from Colorado ran the gamut showing just one tie game. Alan Francis was the only pitcher to go unscathed in the prelims. Amy Francis won 23 of her 24 games. Paul LaCrosse dropped only two games in total. Judy Curtiss, Michigan lost once the first day and only once more in the finals.

Teams put their wins together trying to appear in the stepladder finals. Three top teams go on the ladder, Colorado, Ohio, and Minnesota this time. Four more teams pitch-off for the fourth spot- Michigan, Wisconsin, Missouri, and Ontario. Wisconsin took the honors but lost their fist ladder game to arch rival Minnesota.

As an added feature the published results this year show, in addition to individual percentages and team percentages, high games by individuals and the number of games exceeding 80%. Charlie Kilgore shows two eighty percent games, which may be an indication why Missouri-2 jumped out to an early lead.

Perfect games at Team-World are rare. Cathy Carter, of Iowa was the first when she was still active a few years ago. Alan Francis had been knocking on the door in this year's event with 21 games at 80% or over. He did his perfect game in normal cool fashion. We haven't heard from Edi Holland who could not score for 40 shoes. The most excited guy on the court was said to be the President of the Beloit Club, Mouse Beckius, who was keeping score.

Team-World is always looking for the most diverse line up of teams; conversely this year it could have been called the All-MidWest. The home state, Wisconsin produced five teams. Long time supporting competitor

Missouri again entered four teams. Minnesota now brings three. Illinois did enter five teams. Unfortunately only four were accepted. Sometimes there's a team or two too many. Michigan came with two teams. Indiana was among the missing. The home of the championship short distance pitchers could not locate a pair of forty footers to fulfill tournament requirements. New to the roster this year is Nebraska. It appears they are hooked! Maybe it will become a habit.

Over the years Team-World has enjoyed the entry of many fine state teams. Even Montana tried it one year; four guys on a vacation. California tried it several years, until they ran out of available forty footers. Kentucky won it once but is also shy of full distance men. Saskatchewan was a regular entry in earlier days. They once brought two teams. Quebec came the distance several times. Ontario, was here this year again, but had two teams at one time.

The Team-World staff thanks all teams for participating and invites all former and new teams to give it a try next year.

TEAM-WORLD			ROUND # <u>45</u>		
Team # <u>8</u>			Team # <u>24</u>		
<u>OHIO</u>			<u>MN-2</u>		
ALAN FRANCIS PLAYER <u>Edie Holland</u>					
R's	pt	score	R's	pt	score
⊗	—	—	2	⊗	—
⊗	—	—	4	⊗	—
⊗X	-	3	6	⊗	—
⊗X	-	6	8	⊗	—
⊗X	-	9	10	⊗	—
⊗X	-	9	12	⊗	—
⊗Y	-	12	14	⊗	—
⊗	-	12	16	⊗	—
⊗	-	12	18	⊗	—
⊗Y	-	15	20	⊗	—
⊗X	-	18	22	⊗	—
⊗	-	18	24	⊗	—
⊗X	-	21	26	⊗	—
⊗X	-	24	28	⊗	—
⊗X	-	27	30	⊗	—
XY	-	33	32	—	—
⊗	-	33	34	⊗	—
⊗X	-	36	36	⊗	—
⊗X	-	39	38	⊗	—
⊗	-	39	40	⊗	—
40			Total Ringers 27		
Scorekeeper <u>mouse</u>					

TEAM WORLD 2003 RESULTS

	RINGER %	WINS	NAME	COLORADO	HI GM	80%+ GMS		RINGER %	WINS	NAME	MINNESOTA #3	HI GM	80%+ GMS
1st	68.07	80.5	TEAM	COLORADO	13			51.60	41.5	TEAM	MINNESOTA #3		
	70.94	22.5	Dee Powell	34	5		13th	53.15	13.5	Jerry LaBrosse	28		
	73.75	22	Paul LaCrosse	36	7			54.46	10	Dave Hughes	31		
	86.04	20	Rich Pintor	31				52.28	9	Rosie Leyk	28		
	61.56	16	Tony Paiz	32	1			46.52	9	Lu Cave	27		
2nd	70.13	80	TEAM	OHIO	32		14th	50.27	41	TEAM	MISSOURI #4		0
	77.10	24	Amy Francis	38	10			53.70	15	Ken Pogue	29		
	86.15	23	Alan Francis	40	21			52.83	11	Ed Pashia	27		
	61.70	16	Fluth Rife	32	1			46.63	9	Larry Jo Lucas	26		
	56.14	13	Bob Garber	27				47.93	6	Joe Buskirk	26		
	60.71	4	Virgil Rife	26			15th	51.36	40.5	TEAM	MISSOURI #3		0
3rd	69.81	83.5	TEAM	MINNESOTA #1	33	14		59.46	16	Mary Vogel	31		
	64.50	22	Jan Turquist	33	1			54.67	12.5	Ron Hassler	28		
	73.00	21	Mark Baumann	36	6			47.63	9	Bob Diekamp	26		
	71.20	20.5	Dale Lipovsky	34	4			43.48	3	Jim Howard	22		
	70.52	20	Bev Nathe	38	3		16th	51.11	36	TEAM	ILLINOIS #2		0
4th	63.80	70.5	TEAM	WISCONSIN #1	6	6		63.15	18	Larry Knop	31		
	70.79	19	Gert Wilczek	34	4			54.24	10	Cliff Baker	28		
	65.40	16	Randy Rein	33	1			47.28	5	Mike Knop	27		
	57.88	15	Mark Mauthe	28				39.78	3	Mike McBride	22		
	68.58	13	Clayton Gage	32	1		17th	49.38	31.5	TEAM	IOWA #1		1
	48.64	7.5	Jim Larson	24				58.37	13	Marvin Woolums	33	1	
5th	64.85	79	TEAM	MICHIGAN #1	9	9		53.26	10	Larry Purcell	29		
	74.30	24	Judy Curtiss	35	6			40.22	4.5	Leo Buell	23		
	69.70	22	Jim Witse	35	2			45.65	4	Mike Fishnick	24		
	62.60	19	Tom Williams	32	1		18th	48.29	30.5	TEAM	NEBRASKA		0
	52.80	14	Larry Kemp	27				50.98	10	Teri Hanson	29		
6th	61.85	66.5	TEAM	MISSOURI #1	3	3		53.26	8	Lorin Mills	29		
	64.00	20	Rose Diekamp	32	3			46.09	7.5	Kelly Petersen	28		
	63.70	19	Pam Henderson	30				42.83	5	Terry Hiatt	22		
	65.30	17	M.O. Turner	31			19th	49.92	29	TEAM	ILLINOIS #4		0
	54.40	10.5	Sarn Carter	27				54.46	12	Dalton Simmons	27		
7th	61.70	68	TEAM	ONTARIO	4	4		58.47	6	Craig Zuehke	29		
	67.73	20	Lucille Leis	34	2			45.76	6	Rich Andrysiak	23		
	66.47	19.5	Stan Leis	34	2			54.50	3	Hallie Romanellie	29		
	58.50	17	Kevin McLachlin	27			20th	38.33	2	Luke Thompson	21		
	54.78	11.5	Steve Hohl	27				46.01	28	TEAM	WISCONSIN #5		0
8th	63.53	59	TEAM	ILLINOIS #1	10	10		54.78	12	Tom Ender	27		
	76.20	20	Marvin Kramer	36	8			45.54	6	Harry Nelson	28		
	61.09	15	Robert Schaver	33	1			39.57	8	Lloyd Johnson	21		
	68.48	14	Dennis Reid	33	1			44.13	4	John Crook	25		
	48.37	10	Ken Schaver	25			21st	39.95	26	TEAM	WISCONSIN #4		0
9th	55.49	50.5	TEAM	WISCONSIN #2	0	0		54.64	8.5	Steve Wiegert	27		
	59.13	15	Edie McKinney	28				41.52	8.5	Merwin Sorenson	24		
	57.93	13.5	Don Kangas	30				42.17	4	Elaire Troullier	26		
	55.76	11	Sue Helene	27				41.94	4	Tom Costa	25		
	49.13	11	Wayne Totten	26				26.41	1	Cliff Troullier	19		
10th	55.06	49.5	TEAM	MICHIGAN #2	0	0	22nd	44.38	25	TEAM	WISCONSIN #3		0
	57.83	14	Kathy Yaworski	30				52.83	10	Dave Schorbahn	27		
	56.20	14	Clayton Bonham	29				49.47	5	John Koepp	25		
	46.85	11.5	Jason Stevens	25				46.73	4	Ken Jaeger	22		
	59.46	10	Jack Gensman	30				45.42	4	Larry Barber	23		
11th	56.30	46.5	TEAM	MISSOURI #2	2	2		23.13	2	Pudge Dahl	17		
	59.24	14.5	Don Mercier	29			23rd	42.04	19.5	TEAM	ILLINOIS #3		0
	57.61	12	Oden Sullivan	28				45.76	10.5	Charlie Harget	24		
	57.50	11	Charles Kilgore	33	2			43.48	5	Michelle Thornton	25		
	50.87	9	Tim Herrnderson	31				41.52	2	Alice Brown	20		
12th	53.64	42	TEAM	MINNESOTA #2	0	0		37.39	2	Dale Sumoski	23		
	60.65	13	Edi Holland	30			24th	40.65	15	TEAM	IOWA #2		0
	51.96	12	Bert Logsdon	29				49.44	4	Red Ferguson	23		
	53.15	10	Dick Dvorak	25				44.35	4	Betty McGregor	24		
	48.80	7	Lloyd Wolf	27				38.70	4	Bob McKee	21		
								45.00	3	Leroy Law	23		
								25.00	0	Harold Garner	18		

"WISH UPON A RINGER" by Jerry LaBrosse



The MGSHPA Make a Wish committee has successfully conducted the 1st Canterbury Park "Wish Upon a Ringer" benefit horseshoe toss. A record crowd of over 10,500 turned out at Canterbury on June 7th because of the Belmont races featuring "Funny Cide" going after the coveted "Triple Crown" of horseracing. Sunday's attendance was busy as usual with numerous racing fans! Portable pits were set up right down near the track in front of the grandstands. The MGSHPA Hall of Fame trailer was also displayed in the same area. Racing spectators would come down

and visit the trailer and perhaps buy a chance to make a ringer. If they were successful, they were awarded a \$25 gift certificate to Wal-Mart or Target. We had six winners on Saturday and three on Sunday. The promotional value of this exposure was fantastic. Lots of folks stopped by to chat about horseshoes. We had a sign-up sheet for people who wanted more information on horseshoes and collected a whole page full of names! The event netted about \$500.00 for the Make a Wish Foundation, which was somewhat short of our projections. Reading the odds, next year's event will be bigger and better now that the first event has been held. Canterbury Park personnel will be helping us with adjustments and will be working with us on some new ideas for next year.

A "trifecta" of thanks go to the wonderful people at Canterbury Park for first of all, allowing us to hold this event right by their beautiful racetrack; secondly, for

helping us with the planning of our event and helping with some great ideas; and thirdly, for inviting us back to do this again next year! Canterbury graciously gave us a \$250.00 donation to put towards our Make-A-Wish fund. A "superfecta" thanks to the people who showed up to help set-up, run, and take down the equipment for the event. There were 21 helpers throughout the two days—many of them showed up both days. Everyone had fun at this event and some even collected a few bucks on winning a bet on the horses. Anyone who wishes to be a part of this event or any other Make-A-Wish event can contact Jackie Hughes, our Make-A-Wish committee chairperson.



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