



The National Horseshoe Pitchers Association



NEWSLINE

VOL. 10 NO. 4

JULY / AUGUST 1998



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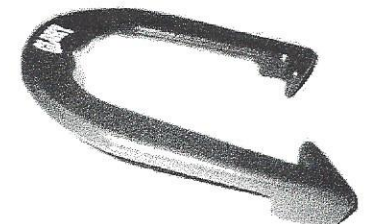
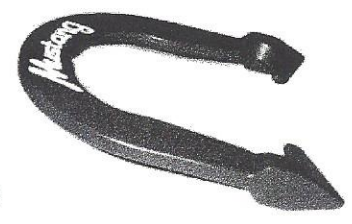
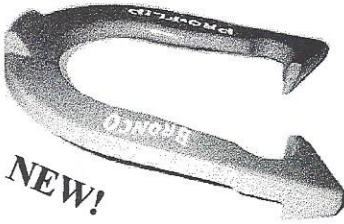
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ON THE COVER

World Champion Bev Nathe. See story on page 15.

President's Message

Ainsworth, Nebraska will soon host the 80th annual World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament. Initially more than 1,000 entries were received, but by the deadline, we had been notified of 25 dropouts. There was a small waiting list of late entries and adding where possible, the schedule went to press with 993 players. While the final total failed for the first time since year 1988 to reach the 1,000 mark, the number is still 213 more than Ainsworth pulled in 1986. Considering the limited motel accommodations available in town, one has to be pleased with the entry level.

In the middle of the tournament, we take a one day break from pitching to hold our annual business meeting (Convention) and Awards Banquet. This year the delegates will vote their year 2000 World Tournament site from among three bidders—Michigan, North Dakota and Wyoming. We will also discuss and vote on 15 proposed changes to NHPA Bylaws. The meeting should be over by mid afternoon with the banquet starting about 6 p.m. Commonly referred to as the Hall of Fame Banquet, this affair is where all our annual awards are given and a few people are inducted into the NHPA Hall of Fame. Starting with last year, the banquet is now an NHPF fund raiser as the Foundation gets a small portion of the ticket cost and will one day fund and build the Hall of Fame. Unfortunately, this year, for the first time in memory, no candidate received the minimum number of votes to be inducted into the Hall. That, in itself, will not dampen the festivities and we hope that a large number will attend.

In addition to many charter awards for membership and perfect games, achievement awards will be presented to Elden Sarbaugh of Ohio and Lee Palmer of Florida for their outstanding promotion and service at the charter level. Paul Stewart will be the recipient of the Presidential Award and Bob Dunn of Minnesota will be given the 1998 Stokes Award. George St. Pierre of Massachusetts will receive the Regional Director of the Year Award.

In the pages of this issue, you will find the fiscal year April 1, 1997 to March 31, 1998 financial report as prepared by the NHPA accounting firm. Members are encouraged to read it over to get a better understanding of where your association dues are spent and where additional income is derived.

Also in this issue is a comprehensive report on the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation. It appears that a general awareness of the NHPF is slowly getting beyond the pages of this magazine, but there is still much each of you can do to spread the word. Several charter newsletters ran an article I sent them about the Foundation, but that word will fade out of memory unless constant news and progress reports are made available to the entire membership. Since *Newsline* is subscribed to by only one in five members, this magazine alone cannot get the word out to all. Talk to your fellow members. Give them the magazine to read if they don't subscribe. Encourage your newsletter editors to print regular articles on the NHPF and above all, send an annual donation and encourage others to do the same.

Dave's Court Report

■ The Southwest can claim two annual tournaments—the Las Vegas Open and The Valley of The Sun—as among the biggest and best annual events in the NHPA. Now, Yuma, Arizona is announcing a new complimentary tournament that hopes to attract even more high level pitchers and keep them in the area long enough to play in the other two, previously mentioned.

The 1999 Yuma Southwest Classic is scheduled for January 9-10 in JFK Memorial Park, 24th Street and Kennedy Lane. Nearly \$10,000 in prize money has been pledged with a guaranteed \$500 for 1st place in each class. Additional prize money will be awarded to 2nd through 6th places.

This tournament, for the first year, is limited to 96 pitchers. They project 8 classes of 12 in three divisions. There will be 4 classes of 40' Men, 2 classes of Women and 2 classes of short distance Elders. The format of play in each division will be a round robin of 50 shoe cancellation games.

While the Yuma promoters would like to attract as many top averages as possible, they realize that travel expense and lack of vacation time will keep many pitchers in their winter wrapped homes. Therefore, the 96 spots will go to the highest percentage players in each division that apply. Everyone who would like to play and believes they can be available on January 9-10, 1999, is invited to apply. While the entry fee to

the 96 accepted will be \$50.00 each, you do not have to send any fee at this time. Just send your name, address, phone, card #, NatStat average and Division of play to: Bud Perry, Tournament Director, 887 Riverview Place, Yuma, AZ 85365. All applications must be postmarked on or before November 15, 1998. If you are one of the highest 48 Men, 24 Women or 24 Elders that apply, you will be notified of acceptance and at that time required to forward the entry fee. All averages will be based on their NatStat or CanStat percentages as of August 31, 1998. Selected pitchers must present a 1999 membership card at the tournament.

There is no reason to wait. Send your application now. If you can plan to spend some time in the area, you might also consider playing in the nearby Quartzsite Main Event and/or the Las Vegas Open which are both expected to be scheduled within a week or two of the Yuma Southwest Classic.

Charter Statisticians Take Note—*Newsline* prints the results of State Championships in the Nov./Dec. and Jan./Feb. issues only. Don't forget to report your State results. List all players in each "A" Division with name, W-L and percentage. For lower classes list only the winner W-L and percentage. Please do not include shoes pitched, ringers, high game, etc. It only has to be deleted.

Reader Forum

Having read some horseshoe promotion articles in recent editions of *Newsline*, I feel compelled to express my opinions on the subject.

Fred and Pam Rich, founders of USA/Canada Team Tuff-E-Nuff, whom I'm sure many are familiar with, continue to promote the sport not only in Florida but other states as well. Although they have received little in the way of support from State or National organizations, their enthusiasm has not diminished nor have their efforts to enlighten people to the joys and rewards of pitching horseshoes. Earlier this year, Fred and Pam were present at the Florida State Fair in Tampa. For the entire duration of the fair, they informed and entertained people on the sport. Certainly, one of the goals was the enhancement of their Tuff-E-Nuff organization, but they educated people about our state and national organizations as well. I believe this hands-on attitude of presenting our sport to the masses is an invaluable promotion tool.

Don Titcomb, whom I consider to be one of the top promoters of the sport in the world, has endorsed this hands-on attitude all of his life. I was very impressed when the NHPA had the foresight to establish a promotional committee including Don, for the enhancement of the sport. I was equally disappointed when very little was done to utilize this committee and the resources available to it.

The written word can only reach so far, and in most cases it reaches only those who are already familiar with the ins and outs of organized pitching. I agree that those of us who are NHPA members should all subscribe to the NHPA publication *Newsline*. However, this will not eliminate what threatens the game we all love—a declining membership at both state and national levels. We must reach out to those who are not aware we exist. Those who have never heard of the NHPA or don't realize there is a horseshoe pitching organization in their state. Don Titcomb has been reaching to these individuals for most of his life and in recent years, through their participation in fairs and festivals, Fred and Pam Rich have duplicated these efforts.

I would like to see the national orga-

nization utilize this type of promotion. Put NHPA representatives out there in the field where they can interact with the masses. State sanctioned tournaments, well known annual pitching events, fairs and festivals are a good place to start. The results can never be analyzed for success or failure unless we make the effort.

Thank you for considering what has been said here. I hope that our sport will be with us and future generations for years to come.

Jerry Michalek, Pres. Florida State HPA

TRUE CANCELLATION

Several readers commented on "True Cancellation," an article by Sol Berman, in the May/ June Newsline. Seemingly overlooked by most responses, is the fact that True Cancellation was proposed as a third alternative scoring method, not a replacement of the current cancellation form.

I have great respect for Mr. Berman's opinion and I think his scoring method sounds interesting. It would probably be liked by many. However, the change would be a big one and I think we should be sure it is better before we switch from something we all enjoy. Here are some points we might want to consider.

1. Speaking of getting beat out by a poorly thrown shoe, many pitchers might not like being outscored by 2 shoes (not open and out of line) when they have an open shoe (just short of a ringer) closer than either of them.

2. I have not experimented with this scoring, but it appears cancellation games with no shoe limit would be longer. I would expect fewer "one ringer 4" calls and in higher classes very few "one ringer each 1 point" calls.

3. As for the 3 point touch, all percentages would go up slightly. I would have no serious objection—but I see no reason to change the definition of a ringer after all these years. The argument that the stake may not have enough lean can be used to say we should not count ringers that struck the stake open, turned 180° and almost went off the back of the stake.

4. As Mr. Berman said, count-all would not be changed, so we already

have a choice between 2 systems. As for me, I enjoy both very much.

Thanks,

Gregg Craven, Liberty, MO

I have some personal views concerning Sol Berman's article on true cancellation. I do agree with the 2 point touch ringer. Too much time has been spent on trying to determine if a shoe is a ringer in tournaments. Calling for a judge to see if there is daylight between the stake and the shoe, or trying to stick a dollar bill between them holds up a game considerably. When it's that close it should be considered a ringer. As far as point cancellation, I think that the closest shoe within six inches should score. Many games are won or lost by a single point. Ted Allen once said that he won many games by one point!

**Allen A. Baptist, Reg. Director
CHPA Secretary**

"True" Cancellation??? Is this a new game? Does this mean we're going to lose our best advertisement "close only counts in horseshoes"?

Ten seconds or ten minutes measuring depends on how the shoes lay and who's pitchin'. As far as the peg being bent...that boggles my mind!

I'll go with the black shoe.

But I still feel that any 40' pitcher should be allowed to pitch the distance he chooses against a 30' pitcher. Think of the contention and controversy it would eliminate.

Bob Thompson, Orange, CA

In the article "True Cancellation", what Sol says is true *if*, in his drawing, the straight edge touches the two tips of each white shoe. *But*, as I see it, both tips are *not* touched on the white shoe on the left—the one which is most vertical in the diagram. It is *not* a ringer by the proposed 2-point rule because the straight edge does *not* touch both tips, even though the stakes are touched by the line for each shoe. This confuses the issue unless it was meant for both tips to be touched by the straight edge. (*Editor Note:* Obviously, the intent of the drawing was to show all points touching.)

Also, *flip* pitchers miss making a ringer differently than do *turn* pitchers. A shoe can be *open* in different ways and

Reader Forum *continued...*

what is a *close* shoe with respect to how *close* it was to being a ringer depends on how this distance is measured. Measuring from the part of the shoe which is closest to the stake, as is now done, is probably the fairest, least complicated and least controversial, for all pitchers. A *change*, say to True Cancellation or away from the present quoit system of scoring, will probably be more *regressive* than *progressive*, unless everybody starts pitching the same way and making the same mistakes. Do we want this?

Virgil L. Warren, Socorro, NM

Sports are interesting and a challenge when you have more than one way to score and when done frequently. True Cancellation would minimize both of these parameters. In basketball you can score 3 or 2 or 1 point; in football 6, 3, 2 or 1 point. Diversity is what is interesting!! True Cancellation would be digressive, not progressive.

Other valid reasons for not adopting True Cancellation are:

1. For beginners, throwing a ringer is difficult and the threshold to early success is high. Potential members of NHPA would lose interest and quit. In all sports, scoring even one point, one par or one basket, keeps us coming back.

2. No matter how you argue, a shoe one inch from the stake is a better thrown shoe, on the whole, than one five and one-half inches. The close shoe deserves its reward!!

3. Tournament directors will attest to the fact that conventional scoring of close shoes (1 inch better than 5-1/2 inches) accelerates and adds interest to the game for low percentage pitchers. Two 10 percent pitchers would have a very long game under True Cancellation rules. Tournament timing is more manageable with our present system.

4. As a fairly good pitcher, I do not mind giving a point to a competitor who is an eighth of an inch closer to the stake. He deserves it; I had my chance. That is what sports are all about—fairness. A 1 inch shoe and a 5-1/2 inch shoe being equal, *does not* represent a level playing field.

Jerry Kahle, Holiday Island, Arkansas

I am writing in regards to Sol Berman's proposal of True Cancellation. This topic was on a previous NHPA convention agenda, but never

made it to the floor because no delegate would second the motion to open it up for discussion. Sol argues that if the delegates "understood" the merits of True Cancellation they would vote for it.

In a nutshell, True Cancellation proposes to change our present cancellation scoring system by having non-ringers within six inches of the peg cancel each other. The rest of the scoring would remain the same. What Sol has never written is, as Paul Harvey would say, "The Rest of the Story." Here it is.

If True Cancellation was adopted, many single points would not be scored. This is especially important for the lower percentage pitchers. The following is a summary of the 4 situations in which single points would be lost.

1. If each contestant pitches one ringer and both have the other shoe in count, our present system awards a point to the shoe closest to the stake. True Cancellation would have those shoes cancel—no point would be scored.

2. In our present system, if contestant A has the only ringer and also the closest shoe to the peg (within six inches), four points are scored. Under True Cancellation, if contestant B has a shoe in count, it will cancel A's single point and only three points will be scored.

3. In our present system, if no ringers are pitched but all four shoes are in count, one of the contestants will score either one or two points, depending upon which shoes are closest to the stake. With True Cancellation, the shoes will all cancel and no points will be scored.

4. In our present system, if no ringers are pitched and each contestant has one shoe in count, the shoe closest to the stake scores one point. Under True Cancellation, those shoes will cancel and no points will be scored.

These four situations would cause a decrease in the scoring of single points, which, I feel, would be detrimental to all pitchers, but particularly to those with a lower ringer percentage.

In addition, there is a fifth situation where the scoring could change. If no ringers are pitched and "A" has two shoes in count and "B" has one shoe in count, our present system could have "A" scoring either one or two points or "B" scoring one point, again depending upon which shoes are closest to the stake. Under True Cancellation, B's shoe would cancel one of A's shoes and A would score a point for the uncan-

celled shoe.

One of Sol's strongest arguments for True Cancellation is he feels the closest non-ringer to the stake is not necessarily the "best" of the non-ringers and shouldn't be rewarded as such. He has countless diagrams, including one in the article, to illustrate his point. I understand Sol's interpretation, but I do not agree with it. Here's why...

The rules say all four shoes have to be pitched before any scoring takes place, and then we judge the shoes as they lay when we get to them. Shoes get jostled around. Some bounce off. Some are pushed on by other shoes. Some are just wide and barely fail to hook. If the court material is sand or loam, shoes can slide extensively. The point I am trying to make is that we have to judge them as they lay when we get to them rather than how well (or poorly) they were delivered. Because of that, and because we have few variables we do have, something that True Cancellation would, to a great extent, do.

Sol also mentions in his article a two-point touch ringer. This is his name for what we called a three-point touch (two points and the stake) and he wants to change that to be a ringer. This item was brought up at the convention several years ago. Through miscommunication, some people thought it passed. IT DID NOT—and I don't think it should. We have had the same interpretation for a ringer (the straight-edge touching the points of the shoe must not touch the stake) for as long as I know about. Why change it?

Sincerely,

Barry Chappelle, Rules Committee

I would like to comment on a couple of things mentioned in the May/June *Newsline*.

I very much support having the *Newsline* sent to ALL members. I do hope the proposed amendment to the Bylaws concerning this passes—if not, I trust the Executive Council will keep working on a way to get this done.

I would also like to comment on Sol Berman's article about True Cancellation. While I'm not sure I approve of this as he describes it, I do however, agree that a "three point touch" shoe *should be a ringer!* I firmly believe that if you can touch *both* heels of a shoe, with a straight edge, without rocking said straight edge, the shoe encircles the stake, and should be called a ringer.

Johnny Davenport, Post, Texas

The U.S. National Senior Sports Classic

Formerly Senior Olympics

by Bob Dunn

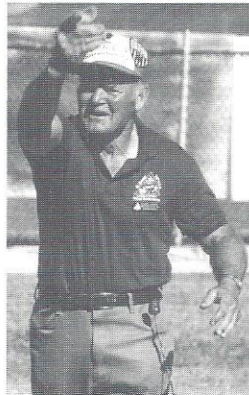
A number of Regional Directors have provided information so an article could be accomplished featuring the Senior Olympics. The event has been mentioned occasionally in *Newsline*, but little is known about this program. The Senior Olympics, or actually now referred to as the U.S. National Senior Sports Classic, sounds like a good opportunity for our Senior and Elder members. Some members have found success at local and national levels of this competition. Far more members, however, have had no involvement, no opportunity, mostly due to no awareness of the program or no horseshoe pitching event as part of the local venues.

There has been considerably more effort to promote our sport to the youth than in behalf of our Seniors. Probably it has been felt that the Seniors are more mature and can generate their own opportunities. While this might be somewhat true, most certainly we do need to invest in youth promotion for our long term future. But, we also need to pay attention to our Seniors. The Senior Olympics can be, and should be, a meaningful and available opportunity for our Seniors and Elders. It will require involvement by charter leaders if that is to improve.

Some areas that have horseshoe events conduct a brief type of competition, such as a 50 shoe count-all points event. This is great for novice pitchers or those trying their hand for the first time. This type of event can actually be a recruiting ground for our organization.

There is also the need for a meaningful competition for veteran skilled players such as double elimination events or the traditional round robin format. Senior-only pitching events are not commonplace and there certainly is room for improvement. Charter officers and NHPA members will need to play a promotion role for that to happen. Charter newsletters also need to announce dates of local or state level events, location and contact persons.

■ Elmer Landis of the Bakersfield Shoe Crew Horseshoe Club (CA), won the 1997 Senior Olympic Championship held in St. George, Utah. Not



only is Elmer a Senior pitcher, he is a real veteran of the sport, having started pitching horseshoe at age 12. He is now 82 years of age. He is a member of the SCHPA Hall of Fame, being inducted in 1991, and one of 12 founding members of the Bakersfield Shoe Crew.

■ Duane Goodrich, Regional Director (KS), provided this view of the Senior Olympics in that state. The event has been active and successful for several years in Kansas. The horseshoe event is directed by Duane and that single event does not share in the success of the other sports. The participants, ranging from 12 to 20, are novice players and prefer to pitch a very limited number of shoes (50) and then move on to other sports they can enter. Due to the lack of skilled level competition, there is no round-robin or play-down competition, and also that the competition is non-sanctioned has meant that NHPA members decline to participate. Even though local club members do attend to assist with scorekeeping and court maintenance.

■ This perception of the Senior Olympics in Wisconsin is provided by Regional Director Jim Haupt: "About four years ago I went to observe the horseshoe event at the Senior Olympics. They had crude courts, driven stakes, sandy dirt pits, grass platforms, old as hills. I thought I could do a better job, so I volunteered to help the next year and they gave me the entire event. First thing I did was move the location to the Washington Park Senior Center. Little did I know how appropriate those old courts were. There are three courts at Washington Park made by converting old shuffleboard courts with pit cut-outs, sand and backboards, only three, but good courts in most weather.

I asked for, and received, the format for the U.S. National Senior Sports

Classic. (Can you believe they were forced to drop the word "Olympic" by none other than the U.S. Olympic Federation?) The format seemed vaguely similar to the Ohio State Fair. Previously, they played some sort of elimination to earn their medals, but the many age classifications gave me a problem. With 30-40 entrants, some can medal just by entering. I wanted everybody to have a tournament experience so I set my own format. Every other year is a national qualifying year.

We pitch a 5, 6 or 7 man round-robin with 20 shoe limit games. With count-all scoring, everyone comes away with a point average. Medals are awarded by point average per 20 shoes. Wins and losses really don't count. Although I try to schedule by age groups and gender, there's generally a mix in most classes. The Washington Park Horseshoe Club (all seniors themselves—about a dozen—help keep score and monitor the games, judging or whatever.

The problem is the lack of numbers. I get people mostly from the county, a few from an adjacent county, a couple from Illinois, a couple from Indiana. Almost everyone medals—six of 33 did not medal, and they were all in the 65-69 classification.

The Wisconsin Senior Olympics will be doing this for the 19th time this year and spend a ton of money promoting, distributing entry blanks, program books, medals, etc. They also solicit contributions from all sources—corporate and even athletes.

I do it as a community service, but in my mind it's show and tell for old folks, although entry is open to Wisconsin residents over 50 years of age. I get very few real horseshoe pitchers. Most would be too embarrassed to enter. The very highest average might be 35% and that is by a misplaced NHPA person. The mean ringer percentage is 8.8%. Good grief, you can lose all your games, pitch 0 ringer percent and get a gold medal.

This year's events are scheduled for September 10-11. They collect fees—about \$18.00. Give me a list. I send out a schedule and handle changes and pass out medals!

THE HORSESHOE

PITCHER'S COMPANION

FEATURES: Pat. No. 4,399,614

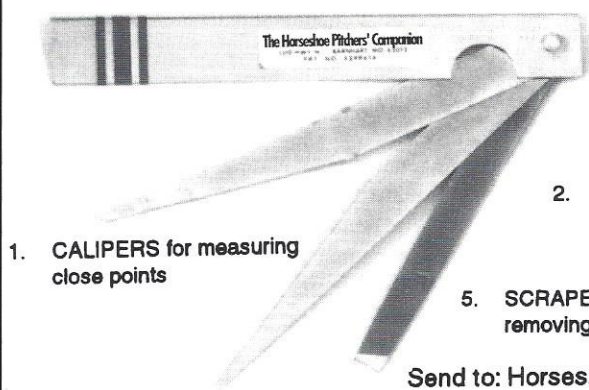
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PROMOTION JOTTINGS

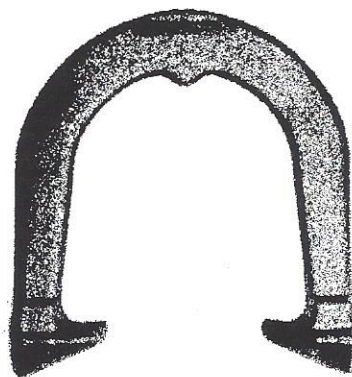
■ If each charter would please provide a profile on their oldest and longest running club, a series in *Focus On Promotion* will be done recognizing those individual clubs. Each profile can include information on how and when the club was formed, some on the leading pitchers and promoters over the years, and information on the present-day leaders. This can be an interesting series to all the *Newsline* readers and extend a bit of recognition to deserving clubs.

■ The 1998 convention will present a major challenge to the delegates. The vote to include a *Newsline* subscription as part of the NHPA membership dues may be the most important issue that has been brought forward in several years. This challenge is truly an opportunity for the delegates to take a strong step forward on behalf of the NHPA with a YES note. Communication is so important to our organization, let's take advantage of this opportunity to improve ourselves. From a promotion standpoint, the proposal is important, is positive and is long overdue. Be LEADERS and vote YES!

IMPERIAL

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TIDBITS

by Dave Loucks

■■■
The World Tournament phone number in Ainsworth is 402-387-1971

■■■
Walter Ray Williams Jr. is moving to Florida

■■■
Colorado, at their general membership meeting voted to increase dues by \$2.00 and donate \$1.00 per member to the NHPF.

■■■
A man under the age of 70, who has a temporary disablement, (heart surgery, broken limb, joint replacement etc.) cannot apply to pitch the 30' short distance until feeling better.
The physical handicap must be permanent.

■■■
The latest available NHPA figures indicate that approximately 74% of the membership are 40' men pitchers. Women account for about 13%, Elders 8% and Juniors 5%.

■■■
As of April of this year, Indiana had already recruited 62 new members!

Is Our Junior Program Growing?

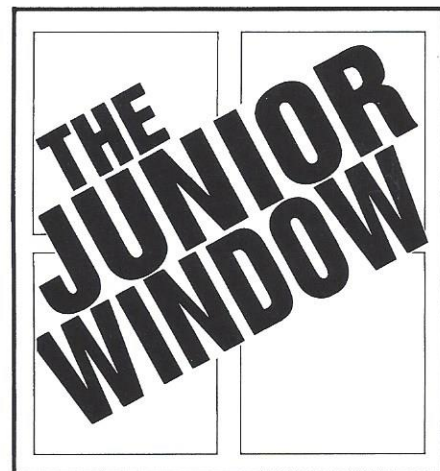
by Lorraine Sternberg

Recently, I received the 1997 membership report by Dick Hansen. It was not as hopeful as I would have liked it to be.

Out of 57 charters, only 18 had an increase in Junior members. Twenty-six charters had a decrease and 13 stayed the same. The biggest increase came from Minnesota, with an increase of 16 Juniors. Unfortunately, we lost a total of seventy-five Junior members overall. We can only hope that most of these Junior members continue their NHPA membership, but that is probably not the case for all of our loss.

What can we do to change these figures around? First of all, as adults we have to act like adults. There has been too much bickering about 30 foot

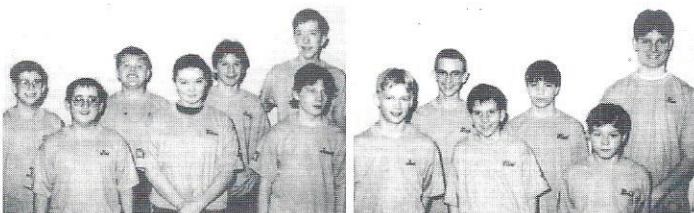
pitchers. Recently I read in *Newsline* about a person who said he does not want to pitch against old men, women and children. When our Junior pitchers read this or hear it on the courts, what are our chances of getting them to another tournament? There are many tournaments where there are not enough Juniors for their own class. We need all of our Junior pitchers in order to continue on with this sport we all love to play. Playing a game of horseshoes with a Junior can be as rewarding to them as it can be to us. We can all learn from the experience. After all, it still is a game. Try something different this summer, take a young person to a tournament with you and introduce them to horseshoes. Show them it's a



game for everyone. If we all did this, these figures could change around.

Just a reminder to all Junior Directors that this is the time to get copies of honor roll student's report cards for the Scholar Pitcher Program. Requirements are explained in full in the *Red Book*.

Junior Jottings

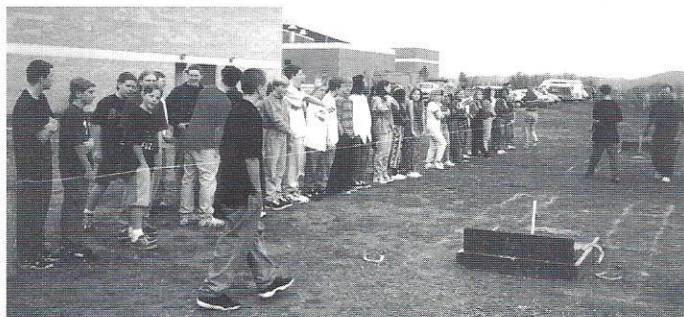


■ A Junior Horseshoe League was formed January 11, 1998, as reported by Sally Siegel of the Erie Horseshoe Club. The first league session was held indoors at the Stover Ceramic Building with 14 Junior pitchers, the maximum allowable for one shift. The youngsters ranged in age from 10-17. Next year two more shifts will be included for the Junior league and the league will be sanctioned.

Erie Club members donate time for coaching the new players and to teach scoring and game rules. Also the Erie Club sponsored the court costs so the Juniors had no fees. Additional merchant sponsorship provided each player with tournament shirts for this coming season.

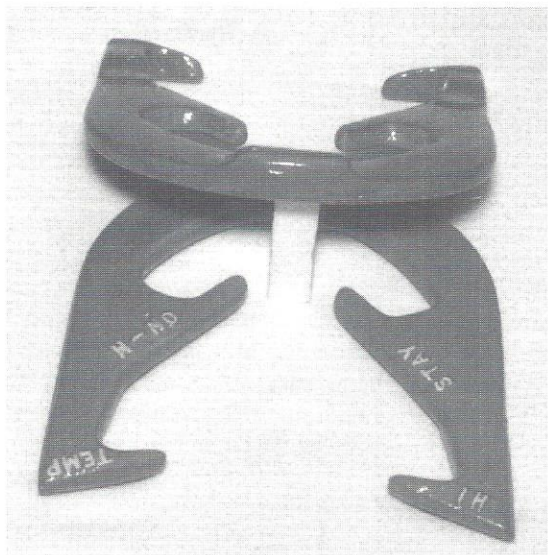
A local newspaper presented excellent coverage of the Junior members who pitched in the Roger Drayer Memorial Horseshoe Tournament on February 26 and 27. The pictures included here are courtesy of Community Affairs Publishing.

Bob Mullenhour, Assistant Regional Director from Union City, MI reports that a horseshoe pitching course has been implemented at the Union City Middle School (*above right*). Eight and ninth graders are bused to the local league courts one day a week for 1-1/2 hour sessions. Mullenhour is the instructor. Bob will be working to create interest sufficient to begin a summer Junior league.



■ Charles Bunner reports that a horseshoe pitching course is going in the Marion County (WV) school system (*above*). Portable courts have been set up at three different school sites and members of the Affiliated Horseshoe Pitchers Association and the Tri-County Horseshoe Club provided instruction. Since the program's inception, six Junior pitchers have been recruited to sanctioned tournament participation.

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Foundation Activity on Upswing

by Dave Loucks

April and May marked two months of increased activity in several areas for the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation. The NHPF signed a lease with Dr. Jack Freeman for the use of the Jack Freeman Courts in Joelton at \$1.00 per year. This improved 7 acre parcel adjoins the 57 acre parcel Jack donated to the NHPF a year ago. Eventually, the smaller improved parcel will also be donated to the Foundation. Dr. Freeman, an officer of the NHPF, remains the Facility Director. Tournaments and leagues that play on the courts will now have a modest court use fee included, which will come to the NHPF.

The number of contributions received during April and May jumped dramatically. While only 61 donations were received in the prior year, the last two months brought in 68 bringing the grand total to 129 contributions as of May 31st. A total of \$13,173 was received, though that figure was swelled by a \$10,000 check from Dr. Freeman who continues to lead the way.

Despite the jump in income, expenses for the two months took the Foundation asset balance to a lower figure. Expenses totaled \$23,119.99 as the NHPF paid a bit more than \$13,000 in attorney fees for the formation of the Foundation and extended dealings with the IRS to gain our charitable status. Overhead lights were also installed in the large covered 20 court pavilion next to the 18 court indoor facility. The charge for the electrical work was \$9,500 which basically offset the \$10,000 contribution by Dr. Freeman.

The Foundation can expect further expenses during the year, though they should be more of a general maintenance and upkeep type. We will one day have the large expense of constructing the Hall of Fame building and improving the parking and egress areas and hopefully, be able to put in a small RV parking and hook-up site. Our endowment fund will have to grow substantially before these major projects can be started. As stated before, it is within our reach, if only an average of \$10.00 per NHPA member is donated each year. Since not every member is going to contribute, it

means others must donate more and other outside sources be found. Remember, donations are tax deductible. Send your contribution now and encourage fellow members to do the same. Mail to: NHPF, 140 Sierra Blanca Ct., Grass Valley, CA 95945.

We would like to thank all the contributors of the past two months and acknowledge them here:

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Dr. Jack Freeman, TN

NHPF Contributions by State As of 5/31/98, total contributions: \$25,608

1. Tennessee, 4 for \$10,560
2. Massachusetts, 3 for \$3,925
3. California, 16 for \$3,393
4. Missouri, 8 for \$945
5. Wisconsin, 9 for \$838
6. North Carolina, 12 for \$730
7. Minnesota, 12 for \$596
8. Ohio, 20 for \$500
9. Colorado, 4 for \$350
10. Washington, 2 for \$300
11. Florida, 5 for \$255
12. Oregon, 3 for \$250
13. Pennsylvania, 4 for \$140
14. Michigan, 3 for \$130
15. South Carolina, 5 for \$125
- 16, 17, 18 tie. New Jersey, New York, Texas, 1 each for \$100
19. Indiana, 2 for \$80
20. Kansas, 3 for \$75
21. Illinois, 3 for \$70
22. Kentucky, 2 for \$50
- 23, 24 tie. Idaho, West Virginia, 1 each for \$25
25. Iowa, 1 for \$20
- 26, 27 tie. Nevada, South Dakota, 1 each for \$15
- Misc. 1997
- World Tournament Donations \$1,896

Regional Directors Report

by Paul Stewart

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

This year's **Regional Director of the Year** is **George St. Pierre** from Burlington, MA. Congratulations to George who joins a group of distinguished members who have received this award in the past, including Len Lipovsky, Sue Johnson, Marie Wetzel, John Decker, Paul Stewart, Rick Reberman, Elwyn Cooper, and Allen Baptist.

George is RD for six states: Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island. He is doing a great job. Thanks George, and keep up the good work.

The annual meeting of the Regional Directors and Assistant Regional Directors will be held in Ainsworth, NE. The exact date and time will be posted at the World Tournament site. All RDs and ARDs are invited to attend.

From The Mail Bag

Clint Bryson, RD for North and South Dakota reports that when talk turns to economic development, it's

easy to think that it means big new businesses bringing in new jobs. Many times this also means a big investment by the city or state to attract a new industry. That doesn't have to be the case. Last week the Pierre City Commission made an investment in economic development for just \$5,000.

The commission voted to spend the money on the renovation and expansion of the city's horseshoe courts at Griffin Park. The money will be used to repair the 8 courts that are there and add 8 more. While this is a nice example of the city fixing up its facilities, it also amounts to economic development.

Part of the inspiration for fixing up the horseshoe pits came from an inquiry by the State HPA. The group wants to have its state tournament in Pierre, which usually attracts 70 participants. However, organizers hope that a central location like Pierre would attract pitchers from both sides of the state. As we see it, for just a small investment, the city commission is not only upgrading a facility for the use of Pierre residents, it's making a smart investment in economic development.

Florida RD, **Ron Deckard**, reports that 12 new horseshoe courts with full walkways have been built in the City

of Niceville, Florida for the Panhandle Horseshoe Club. Their grand opening was held on March 15, 1998. Dan Guillotte and Larry Haney were selected to receive the FSHPA Outstanding Member award for the superb job they did in convincing the City of Niceville to construct these new courts and for their dedication to the sport of horseshoe pitching.

The FSHPA Outstanding Member award was also shared with Don Titcomb, who was the force in getting a new 12-court facility built on the East Coast of Florida in Knecht Park in Palm Bay. The Palm Bay facility had their grand opening on March 28-29, 1998 and is part of the Brevard County Horseshoe Club, which also has facilities in Wickham Park in Melbourne and Stradley Park in Cocoa. Titcomb said he is also working on getting lights and covers for the courts.

The Suwanee River Horseshoe Club was also formed on the West Coast of Florida in 1998 and they have twelve very nice courts with full walkways located in Fanning Springs which is just off US 19. They currently have sand but intend to get clay soon. The Suwanee River grand opening was held April 4, 1998. Charlie Thornsburg is the Tournament Director and was very instrumental in getting this club organized.

Also the St. Johns Horseshoe Club was formed in 1998 by Ed and Eileen Fox and has 8 sand courts located 4 miles north of Dunnellon on US 41. Ed and Eileen held tournaments to qualify 5 Junior pitchers for the Florida State Championship Horseshoe Tournament. This is the first year (1998) that Florida has had a Junior Division.

Utah RD **Bud Schardine** reports that the fifth annual St. Valentine's sweetheart horseshoe tournament was a great success on Valentine's Day at the Springville High School courts in Springville, UT.

Twelve pitchers made up the two classes and pitched the walking singles. Thirty-shoe handicap and a ladder pitch off were used for the cham-

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pionship. There was a 200-dollar purse for three places, plus first and second place plaques. The A-2 class was set up with a pacer spot and they invited spectators to take part.

Newly elected Mayor Hal Wing pitched in two games. He now wants to take lessons so he can compete against his employees. Bud Schardine and recreation director Alan Curtis sponsored the tournament. Bud is President of the No Dough Construction Company and has built most of the ball park facilities for the city and high school. These facilities are a trade-off for the fine horseshoe courts in the high school basement. These courts are the only public, free indoor courts in Utah.

Colorado RD Allen Baptist reports that at the CHPA general meeting it was voted to increase the CHPA dues \$2.00. \$1.00 per member will be donated to the NHPF.

The Cortez Horseshoe Club is planning on hosting their first sanctioned tournament in August 1998.

Rick Quillico, from Olathe, CO, is trying to start its first league this summer. The first annual Team Colorado horseshoe tournament was a huge success. This tournament was the brainchild of Mel Yockstick, the CHPA statistician and Baptist. It was run as a singles tournament with points being earned on how the individuals placed. Trophies were given to the teams that placed first and last, along with money to the 3 top finishers in each class and the top 3 teams.

May 2nd, Alan traveled to Beatty, Nevada for the "Best of the West" horseshoe tournament. The infamous Desert Rat Don Weaver ran it. There were over 100 contestants entered in the 3-day tournament. Alan's opinion is that this tournament is a major horseshoe sleeper. The Burro Inn is a great place with motel rooms, RV parking, restaurants, a small casino and 18 nice horseshoe courts. Two fellow RDs, Dave Garbini from Southern California and Joe Kubiak from Arizona plus NHPA 3rd VP Bev Born and her husband Floyd were also there. The tournament had participants from 9 states.

Joe Kubiak, RD for Arizona reports that the state can now be contacted on the internet. Their web page is located under the NHPA and all here in Arizona are looking forward to

having the pitchers surf their webring and sign the guest book.

The Yuma Horseshoe Club hosted the Arizona State Horseshoe Championship Tournament on April 4, 1998. Pitchers also enjoyed a state warm-up tournament on April 3. Gary Minnick, Sr. took the State Championship—Men's 40 ft. with a 54.13%. Chuck Stewart remains State Champion Men's 30 ft. for the second year with a 51.87% and Virginia Chalberg became the 1998 Women's Division Champion with a 65.63%.

Paul Anderson, member of the Central Arizona Horseshoe Club and Gary Minnick, Jr., a member of the Tucson Club were inducted into the 1998 Arizona Hall of Fame. Paul Anderson has been with the NHPA for 22 years and with the Arizona District for 11 years. He was the organizer of the Central Arizona Horseshoe Club and is the Junior Director for Arizona.

Gary Minnick, Jr. has been with the NHPA/AHPA since the age of 12 years. He has pitched in 4 World Tournaments in the Junior Division, has held office as Secretary-Treasurer and tournament director for the Tucson Club and has distinguished himself by his attitude and willingness to do whatever it takes to promote horseshoes in Arizona.

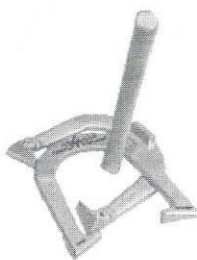
Remember that Arizona has full year pitching weather. From October to March there is pitching in Phoenix-Mesa, Tucson, Quartzsite and Yuma. From April through

October the Prescott Valley hosts six sanctioned tournaments, five open tournaments and the Yavapai County Fair Open Pitch.

Northern California RD Gail Sluys reports that due to fairground problems they have lost the Yuba Sutter Club, the Redwood Empire Club and possibly next year the Ukiah Club. Also, Nevada County has decided to tear out their 7 courts so more profit-minded activities can use the land. Has anyone else had problems with their "fair" boards wanting them to move out?

We are losing Walter Ray Williams, Jr. to the state of Florida. Not only Walter Ray, but he is taking Paige, and his in-laws Billie Sue and Tom Pennington. We will miss them all, but we do wish them happiness. So watch out Florida, California will have a new state champion but you are getting our best—please take good care of him.

We have had several successful tournaments but are setting new records for number of days of rain and rainfall amounts. We have even had several tornados touch down! Whatever happened to our calm weather and an occasional earthquake? For all you people out there not coming to California because of the earthquakes, I have to say they are nicer than those storms with tornados. So, everyone think SUN and get rid of El Nino.



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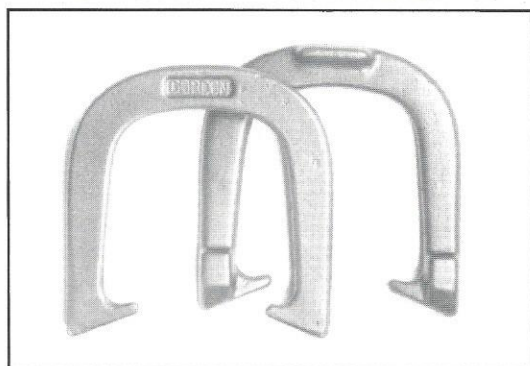
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News Release

The editor regrets that no report for Sanctioned Club/League News for this and the previous issue was submitted by the Sanctioned League Program Director. Newsline did, however, receive the following News Release direct from the Syracuse Club in New York.

1997 AWARDS SYRACUSE PIONEER CLUB

The Syracuse Pioneer Horseshoe Club successfully completed another horseshoe pitching season. 1997 marked our 14th season of outstanding competition, since the club's inception in 1983. Under the leadership of longtime League Director Lance Hinman and Assistant Director Ken Fraser, the club awarded trophies and prizes to members pitching in three leagues.



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Veteran tosser Glen Brown captured the Spring League Class A title, with Lance Hinman finishing second. Scratch game winners were Brown, again, and Ken Fraser. Marg Wilkinson won B Class and our Senior statesman Carl Mayer finished second. Improving John Luckhurst was tops in C Class. Jennie Hill came in second. Rick Whitney won scratch game honors. Robin Wilsch won Class D, and Veteran Mat Zera came in second spot. Robin also took scratch game high totals. Stan "The Man" Banner won E Class and Bob Gould placed second. Stan also took scratch game honors. Chuck Pickard captured F Class and "Jumpin' Joe" Delaney ended up second. Ernie Chittenden, and Arlene Stone tied for scratch totals.

Last, but not least, Chris Collier claimed 1st in G Class and Jo Ann Gould finished second. Newcomer Len Wells was high scratch man. Glen Brown won high scratch average for the Spring League with 107.81. High Ringer Game also went to "Battlin' Brown" with 82%; high Game Over Average went to sharp shooting Bob T. Wilsch with 40.61! Most Improved went to Rick Whitney with an almost 20 point increase!

Lance Hinman came back to capture A-Class in the Summer League with Ken Fraser finishing second. Fraser took the scratch crown for Class A. Lou Valentino won B Class, and steady Jennie Hill placed second. Loyd Barber and Jennie tied for scratch honors. Charlie Ridall mastered 1st place in C Class. Marg Wilkinson placed second. Marg also claimed scratch game totals. Bob Gould stayed hot and won Class D. Len Wells ended up second. Wells also took scratch honors. Consistent Jo Ann Gould won E Class and Chuck Pickard placed second. Three tied as scratch leader with Gordon Rode, Jack Lipp and Ernie Chittenden sharing honors.

High Point Average for the summer went again to that man of renown, Mr. Brown with 110.91! High Ringer Game was captured by Harry Dunbar with 76%! High Game Over Average went to Rick Whitney with 29.38! Most Improved was awarded to Len Wells who "clipped" along with a 13.49 increase!

Rounding out a tremendous season, Glen Brown captured the Class A title in the Fall League. Finishing second with another fine effort was Lance Hinman. Sam Barbuto was the scratch leader. Moving up, John Luckhurst won Class B with Art Dantuono coming in second. Art also took scratch game honors. Also moving up, Len Wells took Class C with Charlie Ridall placing second. Wells, again, won scratch award. Jennie Hill placed first in Class D and Bob Gould was second. Jennie also had high scratch total! Joe Delaney captured Class E and Ernie Chittenden was second. Gordon Rode garnered another scratch award in Class E. Newcomer Bob Vinette captured F Class, and Chuck Pickard finished second. Bob also took scratch honors!

Glen Brown again took High Point Average with 105.14! High Ringer Game, you guessed it! went to Brown with 76%! High Game Over Average was Stan Banner with a whopping 33.57%! Most Improved honors went to Bob Vinette with a 12.2 increase.

Dave Harnden, Pioneer Publicity Director

Bev Nathe

WORLD CHAMPION

By Bob Champion

Bev Nathe from St. Stephen, MN blew on the horseshoe pitching scene twenty years ago and since then has reached the pinnacle as the World Champion.

Bev will be defending her title, won last year in Canada, when the 80th World Tournament returns to outdoor pitching in Ainsworth, Nebraska July 20 through August 1.

The road to the top, which also includes the championship two years ago, hasn't always been a bed of roses for the 62 year old teacher in area schools, who until recently owned a porcelain doll business for over 15 years.

She writes: "I began pitching in 1977 with a season average of 10%, but with practice and determination have increased it to the 80% range." This increase was evident two years ago when the "teacher" relied on this determination to upset defending champion Sue Snyder from Kentucky at Gillette, Wyoming with a sensational comeback to earn her first World title.

It could be said that the championship final game between Snyder and Nathe was "Rags to Riches," but in this case it turned out to be "Lags to Riches." Bev was really lagging in the score before she made her move. Nathe trailed from the 8th shoe until the 104th, a long stretch in which Snyder seemed to be in complete control and heading for her third straight World title, and fourth overall.

The two superb pitchers battled throughout, with Snyder holding a commanding lead until the final ten minutes of play. She led 27-6 after 46 shoes, 30-7 after 54 and 36-10 two thirds into the contest. Then it happened! Sue went scoreless for 20 shoes as Nathe picked at the lead until she reached 30 points in the 40-point game and trailed by only six, 90 shoes into the game. Snyder then scored on a three-ringers-three to reach the magic number of 39, needing only one point to win. After three suspenseful four deads, Nathe made it 39-39 on three straight three-ringers-three and the score was knotted for the final inning. Bev quickly nailed a double and Sue countered with the first ringer before her second shoe bounced off the stake to lose, 42-39.

All Snyder could say after the game—"I had her, I had her." The only consolation for the defending champion was the fact that her overall 88.38 ringer percentage was a new World record, besting the 88.2% set by Sandy (McLachlin) Janssens in 1987 at Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

Before Bev's followers came by to break up the interview, she kept saying "I'm shaking, I'm shaking. I don't believe it. Even if it happens again, this is the best."

It did happen again, last year when the talented Minnesota pitcher won her second championship. In 1997,



Bev Nathe (l) will again be challenged by Kentucky's Becky Kemper (r), who finished third last year with an 83.12%. Sylvianne Moisan, who had the high percentage last year with 85.07 and finished 2nd, will not compete at Ainsworth. She is pregnant and expecting in August.

five women closed with percentages over 80%. In second spot was Sylvianne Moisan from Quebec with the tournament's high percentage with an 85.07. Youthful Becky Kemper from Kentucky finished third with an 83.12%. Two others in the top ten completed the final round robin with figures above 80%. Amy Monday from Virginia had 81.62 and Mary Ann Penninger, Kansas nailed an 81.09. In the final standings Diane Cantin, Quebec finished 4th and New York's Sue Twyman was 5th.

In eight appearances at the World, Nathe was never below sixth in the last seven events. Her highest overall percentage was pitched in 1996 when she finished first with a perfect 15-0 record and 81.71%. Her all-time record includes two first places, a third, two fourths and two sixths.

Nathe has been a force in the Minnesota State Championships since 1988, winning 7 titles and 5 in a row from 1992-1996, before she was upset by Edi Holland last year. Nathe pitched her overall highest state percentage in 1994 with 86.56 and had 84.42 in 1995. Bev has pitched two 100% games in state competition in 1995 and 1997.

Bev is a busy person. Her hobbies are painting, knitting, various crafts and, of course, horseshoe pitching. The latter is supported by her back yard regulation clay court where she practices (weather permitting) approximately one hour a day with her M and M heavy horseshoes. She also has been active in horseshoe club activities having served as President, Secretary and Tournament Director.

Minnesota's three sister act at the World Tournament has won seven championships. Phyllis Negaard from St. Joseph competed in 18 finals winning the championship in 1979, 1982, 1983, 1986 and 1989. She closed in the top ten 14 times, adding a second, two fourths, three fifths, two sixths and a seventh. Third sister, Sandy Karasch from St. Joseph competed in four World events from 1982 to 1985. She was fifth twice plus a ninth and twelfth.

WORLD TOURNAMENT PRELIMINARIES

1981 2 4 63.09 17th
1982 3 4 52.86 15th
1983 3 4 63.71 12th

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

1984 1 10 60.5 12th
1989 10 5 71.8 6th
1992 10 5 78.42 4th
1993 11 6 75.96 4th
1994 15* 1 78.04 3rd
*includes pre-lims
1995 7 8 76.48 6th
1996 15 0 81.71 1st
1997 17 2 80.38 1st

BEV NATHE MINNESOTA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

1988 5 0 79.6 1st
1989 3 2 67.6 2nd
1990 5 0 78.0 1st
1991 4 1 73.1 2nd
1992 5 0 80.9 1st
1993 5 0 86.5 1st
1994 7 0 86.6 1st
1995 7* 0 84.4 1st
1996 7 0 74.7 1st
1996 4* 1 77.0 2nd
*Pitched 100% game

Major Tournaments Attract Large Turnouts

Four major tournaments held in the East, Mid-East and West garnered large entry levels and, for the most part, were very successful. Three of the events were on-going annual tournaments while the fourth was trying a time proven concept aimed at the middle to lower class pitcher.

17th Annual Head-of-the-Mon-River Tournament



In the East, we had the 17th Annual Head-of-the-Mon-River Tournament held over Memorial Day weekend in Fairmont, West Virginia. This event hosted by the Tri-County Horseshoe Club with Beverly Tiano and Davis "Catfish" Woodward as tournament directors, attracted 125 entries from nine different states. Their 44 page program booklet is quite a promotion effort as more than 100 sponsor/advertisers were obtained. The top Class "A" group of 16 pitchers had 8 World Championship Division players and two former World Champions. Pictured above are the players from that Championship group and how they finished.

Front row, kneeling left to right:

| | | | | |
|------------------|----|------|------|--------|
| John Faidley | PA | 2-13 | 16th | 50.27% |
| John Passmore | MD | 4-11 | 12th | 51.15% |
| Elbert Shifflett | MD | 14-2 | 1st | 77.71% |
| Steve Kuchcinski | PA | 10-5 | 6th | 73.16% |
| Art Tyson | NY | 12-3 | 3rd | 75.58% |
| Rick Cale | WV | 11-4 | 5th | 74.47% |
| N.A. Moore | NC | 9-6 | 7th | 69.95% |
| Robert Faidley | PA | 3-12 | 15th | 48.15% |

Back row, standing left to right:

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|----|------|------|--------|
| Elden Sarbaugh | OH | 9-6 | 8th | 66.50% |
| Tommy Gann | NC | 13-3 | 2nd | 74.06% |
| Cliff Powell | WV | 3-12 | 13th | 52.36% |
| Richard Whiteman, | OH | 6-9 | 9th | 60.08% |
| Junior Goodwin | MD | 3-12 | 14th | 50.86% |
| Henry Pauley | WV | 6-9 | 10th | 54.62% |
| Walter Ray Williams Jr, | CA | 11-4 | 4th | 78.46% |
| Lawrence Miller | OH | 5-10 | 11th | 50.00% |

Dogwood Festival Horseshoe Tournament



The annual **Dogwood Festival Horseshoe Tournament** in Statesville, drew well over 200 entries, the most ever. Unfortunately, tournament director Paul Stewart couldn't accommodate them all and had to return several checks. Scheduled for the weekend of April 18-19, this event has, for years, been one of the premiere tournaments on the East Coast. With entries from a dozen states, including California and Wisconsin which brought NHPA president Dave Loucks, 2nd VP Casey Sluys and secretary/treasurer Dick Hansen, this year's event was well represented. The three NHPA officers had decided to lend their help and support to Paul Stewart by getting

away from months of rain and generally poor weather. Alas, it didn't happen. While the previous week had been beautiful in Statesville, Thurs. the 16th it began to rain a little and Fri. a bit more. Sat. morning was marginal enough to finish the morning groups but by mid-day it was pouring and the remainder of the tournament had to be canceled. Being the good sport he is, Paul didn't blame the other officers for bringing the rain from the West. He even let them be photographed with all the various Dogwood Festival Queens pictured above. Dick Hansen is on the left, Paul Stewart in the middle, Dave Loucks on the right. Casey Sluys was unavailable for the photo.

Best of the West

The **Best of the West** was held at the Burro Inn in Beatty, Nevada over May 2-3. This annual tournament hosted by John Bass at his lively casino and RV resort was directed by Don Weaver. Don, as most of you know, is the Nevada Charter President and Regional Director for the State. He has had more than a few tournaments under his belt as the long-time host and director of the annual Las Vegas Open. This tournament played on the 18 outdoor courts at the Burro Inn, attracted 113 entries from seven states. There were 9 classes of 10-12, each class receiving \$475 in prize

money, paid down to 6th place. The class winners were:

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|----|------|--------|--|--|
| A40 handicapped | | | | | |
| Tom McQueen | CA | 9-1 | 38.50% | | |
| A30 handicapped | | | | | |
| Ron Walton | CA | 9-1 | 51.25% | | |
| B30 handicapped | | | | | |
| Heber Tobiason | NV | 8-2 | 53.50% | | |
| Mixed Scratch | | | | | |
| C Mary Grant | NV | 10-1 | 40.91% | | |
| D Clyde Royal | NV | 10-1 | 39.32% | | |
| E Rosie Kubiak | AZ | 9-2 | 32.27% | | |
| F Gary Wilson | NV | 8-4 | 21.88% | | |
| G Tom Paulsen | NV | 7-3 | 21.75% | | |
| H Ken Piphoo | CA | 7-2 | 12.22% | | |

Summer Music City Team Tournament

The first **Summer Music City Team Tournament** took place at the Jack Freeman Courts in Joelton, TN May 23-24. Following the popular Winter Team Tournament format of 3 players to a team, this event drew 78 entrants from eleven states. The only difference was that this event was set up to attract more mid range percentage players and thus a maximum team percentage of 150 was imposed. Teams from Alabama, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Missouri, North Carolina and Ohio were entered and playing for \$2,790 in prize money.

The temperature was hot as well as some of the pitching. For the first time, the covered outdoor courts were used in addition to the indoor courts. Of the total 420 games pitched, 48 were 70% or higher. Becky Kemper had two of 92.5% while Charlie Meredith, Rich Altis and Chad Hyatt each had 85% games. When it was all over, the North Carolina team of Brothers Randy & Ronnie Joines with Clifton Jones were the Class "A" champions. Class "B" went to the Florida team of Don Titcomb, Marvin Grubb and Gino Pepe. The trio of Bobby Holland, Walter Sexton and Melvin Cooper representing Alabama/Tennessee won Class "C." The Indiana family team of Jim and Millie Hyatt with son Chad took Class "D" honors while the Illinois team of Luke Thompson, Dalton Simmons and Rick Andrysiak captured the Class "E" title.

Jack Freeman and Mary Bastian were tournament directors. Paul Stewart came from North Carolina to help out and Donnie Roberts was there to do the public address work. Bobby Cook was again in the computer room with help from Marvin Bastian and Paul Stewart. Former World Champions Don Titcomb and Debby Michaud pitched, as did Tony Hankins, a former Junior World Champion. The tournament was deemed a great success and plans are underway to make this an annual event. There was, however, an air of apprehension over the tournament as Frank Jones and Don Lee, two Tennessee pitchers, did not show up. It was later learned that they were involved in a head-on collision in Clinton, TN while driving to the tournament. Don Lee was killed in the accident as well as three young girls in the other car. Frank Jones suffered extensive injuries and was hospitalized in Knoxville. Fortunately, Frank is expected to recover completely in a few months.

NHPA Internet Website www.geocities.com/~nhpa

The NHPA World Tournament will be "online," live from Ainsworth, NE, July 20-August 1. If you do not have internet access yourself, find someone who does and follow daily progress of those attending. The playing schedules will be posted on the website by class and date for all entries. Each contestant will pitch 5 games a day for 3 consecutive days. Check out all features of the NHPA website and "surf" our many links to Charter websites. If your Charter does not have a website, contact Paul Stewart, NHPA 5th VP about getting one started, to promote your Charter and its tournament schedules and results.

Once "online" and after accessing the NHPA website, you are free to click any menu option, view (and add your comments to) our Message Board, our Guestbook, and other viewer interactive features. If your PC has multimedia capabilities (sound system) you will be able to hear background music, audio messages and other sounds. Your PC may be capable of receiving one or more "pictures" such as .gif, .jpg, and .wav graphic files and many should also be able to receive video snapshots or clips. In some cases, more instruc-

tions for receiving audio and video will be given on the website. Browser "preferences" must be set by the viewer... usually the default settings will be sufficient for viewing the NHPA website. We will have a special e-mail address for the "live" website during the World Tournament. It will be posted near the top of the NHPA website... please send us your questions or comments.

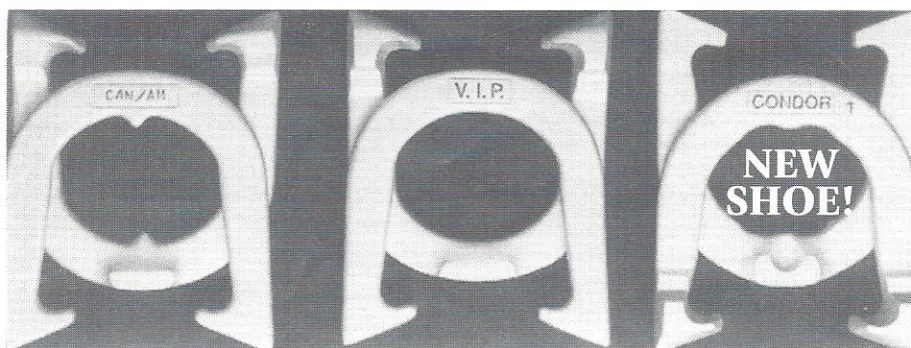
"Lurkers" are those who like to check us out without commenting or making their presence known. Lurkers are welcome at all times, but comments sure help us to know how well we are doing and how we can improve. NHPA volunteers produce almost all the website preparation and presentation of data. Glenn Jamieson, NHPA Director, provides current averages and Paul Stewart, NHPA 5th VP provides the website organizational leadership. All of us look forward to some lively activities "online" with as many pitchers as possible. Hope you are one of them.

Last month, we recommended suitable PC equipment and how to access the NHPA website. This month we want to describe how older PC equipment can be put to use at your court site. Few like to pack our expensive PCs

to the courts and reassemble it again back home. Older PCs can be obtained for very little money. Speed is not as critical as it is for "online" purposes and most horseshoe programs used are run in DOS or on a spreadsheet file that runs with the version of Windows installed in your older PC. Older PCs have 8088, 286 and 386 CPUs (central processing units...the "chip" around which the computer is designed). Those computers also use DOS 3.3 or higher (disk operating system which allows the computer to interact with disk storage and retrieval of data). Most PCs now online use DOS 6.x and higher but the older equipment can still be functional for running tournaments and creating reports.

Software is available from the NHPA website simply by downloading it, or by sending \$5 to pay for postage and handling of 3-1/2" diskettes. One diskette is for creating reports and managing your membership database, the second diskette is for running a tournament. Both are fully functional and free to be copied and shared by others. The Author retains all rights. Send queries to Paul Stewart NHPA 5th Vice President.

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1998 World Tournament Entries

United States

| | |
|-----|-----------------|
| 150 | Nebraska |
| 74 | Missouri |
| 61 | Kansas |
| 54 | Colorado |
| 52 | Minnesota |
| 51 | Ohio |
| 50 | Wisconsin |
| 44 | California |
| 38 | Illinois |
| 33 | South Dakota |
| 26 | Iowa |
| 24 | Arkansas |
| 24 | Pennsylvania |
| 23 | North Dakota |
| 22 | Oklahoma |
| 19 | Michigan |
| 18 | Texas |
| 17 | Utah |
| 17 | Indiana |
| 16 | Virginia |
| 16 | New York |
| 15 | Washington |
| 13 | Oregon |
| 12 | Florida |
| 10 | Wyoming |
| 10 | North Carolina |
| 9 | Montana |
| 9 | Georgia |
| 7 | Idaho |
| 7 | Arizona |
| 7 | Kentucky |
| 6 | New Mexico |
| 4 | Alabama |
| 4 | Tennessee |
| 4 | West Virginia |
| 4 | Maryland |
| 3 | South Carolina |
| 3 | Connecticut |
| 2 | Nevada |
| 2 | Louisiana |
| 2 | Delaware |
| 2 | Maine |
| 2 | New Jersey |
| 1 | Mississippi |
| 967 | Total US |

Canada

| | |
|----|---------------------|
| 14 | Ontario |
| 6 | Alberta |
| 3 | Saskatchewan |
| 3 | British Columbia |
| 26 | Total Canada |

Grand Total

| | |
|-----|---------------|
| 967 | United States |
| 26 | Canada |
| 993 | TOTAL |



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Up to 12 Pairs**

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|---------------|---------|
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| N.T. | \$40.00 |
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| E-Z GRIP | \$45.00 |
| CLYDESDALE DF | \$45.00 |

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George Bush Library and Museum Features Horseshoe Exhibit

Submitted by Bill Tedrick, Michigan/Texas

Horseshoe pitchers will have a special reason to visit the George Bush Library and Museum located on the Texas A&M Campus in College Station, Texas. Among the hundreds of exhibits and documents portraying President Bush's life, is one showing his lifelong interest in pitching horseshoes. As you may know, Bush had a horseshoe court constructed on the White House lawn soon after he was elected as our 41st president. In fact, NHPA assisted in the planning and construction of the courts, probably several *Newsline* readers were among the 20 top pitchers he invited to the White House to initiate the courts. In fact, a photo of some of the pitchers with Bush on the court is included in the exhibit.

Also featured in the exhibit is a carved set of horseshoes made from wood taken from the White House when it was renovated many years ago. The carving was presented to President Bush by the White House staff when he left the presidency in 1992. It was presented to him to express their fond memories of the many horseshoe tournaments he organized as a lunch time activity with the staff.

For more information on the George Bush Library and Museum, write to the Library located at 1000 George Bush Drive West, College Station, Texas 77845 or call 409-260-9552.

The Great Horseshoe League

One of President Bush's first acts in office was to install the White House's very first horseshoe pit. Added to the game since his youth, he invited the world's twenty top players and their spouses to the White House to inaugurate the new pit.

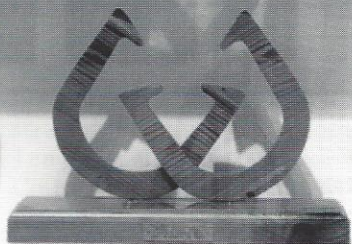
Soon thereafter, he organized the household staff into teams that would play at lunchtime during both the spring and fall in fierce semiannual tournaments. The president teamed up with his son Marvin. Sometimes the two were allowed to win, sometimes not.

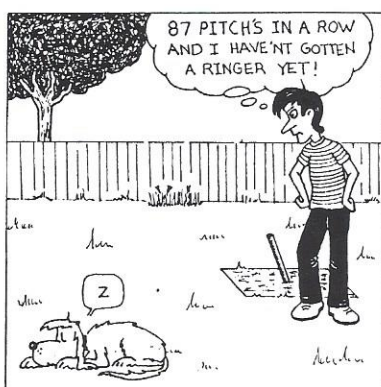
That first fall there were sixteen teams which included the electricians, nurses, grounds keepers, housemen, military aides, carpenters, and so forth.

A year later the total had doubled—proof that the experiment was a success.

At the finals, all the staff's families came to watch and share hot chocolate with President and Mrs. Bush. "It was such a good way for us to get to know the folks who made our lives sing," said Mrs. Bush.



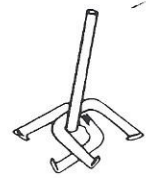







Bob Champion's

Charter Chatter



Survey Bob is at it again!

I read in the excellent Missouri newsletter in their logo where they listed the date their charter was established—1921. It might be interesting to compile a list of dates showing when all the charters entered horseshoes on their sports menu.

Please add this request to the one I have frequently asked for. This was a request to send information relative to perfect games pitched during 1997 and so far this year. *Charter Chatter* would like to give special recognition to those pitchers who reached the "pinnacle" in horseshoe pitching.

Send news and information to Bob Champion, 5505 Valmont #176, Boulder, CO 80301.

ARIZONA

Paul Anderson from the Central Arizona Horseshoe Club in Prescott, Arizona and Gary K. Minnick, Jr. from the Tucson Horseshoe Club were inducted into the Arizona Horseshoe Pitchers Association Hall of Fame for 1998.

Anderson distinguished himself by accepting to act as Junior Promoter for the State Association, has served as an officer of the Central Arizona Club, was an auditor for the secretary-treasurer's records, and for many years a member of the state and national associations.

Minnick has been a member of the association 11 years and has distinguished himself by his attitude and willingness to do everything to promote horseshoes. He participated in 4 World Tournaments as a Junior pitcher and is presently the secretary of the Tucson Horseshoe Club. His father, a former NHPA officer, is president of the State association.

CALIFORNIA

The Northern California Charter had two key members journey to North Carolina in April for the annual Dogwood Festival Horseshoe Tournament in Statesville. NHPA President Dave Loucks and 2nd V.P. Casey Sluys both made the trip hoping to get in some pitching after weeks of tournament rain-outs in the "sunny state"...ha. They must have brought the poor weather with them as the Dogwood was rained out and our two fearless officers were out of pocket about a thousand dollars each with nothing to show for it. Anyway, Casey, who is also the NCHPA President was so impressed with the Dogwood setup, that he is giving thought to trying to start a similar prestigious tournament in California.

CANADA

Membership is growing in Nova Scotia and from a total of 69 in 1982 it has now reached an all-time high of 191. In 1997 they had three clubs totally affiliating—City of Lakes, New Waterford and Middleton. They hope to go over the

200 mark in 1998.

Here is a different type of tournament—The Camp Antaka Annual conducted in Stillwater from 1982 to 1992. It was an invitational "Husband and Wife" only tournament. A draw for partners always insured a male and female on each team but never a husband and wife duo. Some year's enrollments were 16 teams with very good players contesting, but seldom did the better players win.

Nobody was allowed to bring their own horseshoes. In fact, very unusual sets of horseshoes waited at each court. M and M, G and G, Top Ringer and Deans were seldom used. Serious players soon realized that the "fun" sport could still be played and enjoyed. Usually a team of non-players claimed top spot for the day followed by a major feast.

Although the tournament's end came five years ago, the Camp Antaka Annual is still a topic of discussion and reminiscence when Hants County acquaintances get together.

COLORADO

The Colorado Tournament of Champions' seeding was possibly the fairest in the history of horseshoes in the state. Four pitchers were seeded in the championship flight—2 forty footers and 2 short distance pitchers. All four have been state champions in their respective distances.

The tournament was won by 14-time title holder Paul LaCrosse from Englewood with a 5-1 record and overall 74.54% in the double round robin event. Second place Dee Powell (30) hit 74.41, Rich Pintor (40) was third closing with 71.35 and Don Wild was fourth with 70.45.

The Chili Masters—Rich Pintor, Gene Sandoval, Julian Romero and Richard Pintor—claimed the first annual Colorado Team Tournament with 49 points, four points in front of second place Awesome Foursome made up of Dee Powell, Marge Snyder, Debbie Junker and Joe Rossi.

First place in each of the four classes (A,B,C,D) received 16 points, second received 13, third 10, and graduated down with 9,8,7,6,5 and 4. Nine teams competed in the tournament, held indoors at the Knaub Arena.

FLORIDA

Former World Champion Carl Steinfeldt from Largo, now 80 years old, came out of retirement to win the 1998 State title with 9 wins and 2 losses. He still pitches from 40 feet.

Other State winners were Carrie Carpenter in the Women's Division, Herb Drum is the Senior Champion and Jay Kilpatrick won the first ever Junior event to be held in Florida.

Steinfeldt and former World Champion Don Titcomb teamed to win the Men's Doubles, Lois Smith and Judi Oliphant took the Women's Doubles and the Wayne Cowger-Don Koth duo captured the Men's Senior Doubles.

CHARTER CHATTER

A new event for the first time in the State tournament the mixed distance doubles with 21 teams entered. The event was won by Ron Deckard and Wayne Cowger with a 6-0 record.

The 1998 prize fund was the largest ever offered. Every class was guaranteed \$100 first prize.

GEORGIA

State Secretary-Treasurer Jim Haley writes, "I wish to emphasize that you can't pitch in a sanctioned tournament without a current membership card. I have had some pitchers tell me that they went to a tournament outside of the state and were not able to pitch because they did not have an up-to-date card, or forgot to take it..." Please keep your card right next to your credit card.

The Albany Club has had 20 years of league play. Horseshoe clubs are the lifeblood of any association. They are close to home and provide a more comfortable atmosphere due to the smaller group setting for beginning pitchers to "get their feet wet."

Speaking of wet feet, here is a note from Iris Sandham from Stone Mountain. "We were rained out three straight weeks and it made me look for something better than a sponge to get the water off the courts. I found a hand pump at the Home Depot that works great. It was well worth the \$17.

ILLINOIS

The State organization donated \$50 to the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation in the name of Jim Korte, who passed away in February. He was 62, and was serving as 3rd Vice President and State tournament director. He was the founder of two leagues in Highland.

Along with his wife Marilyn, he ran an average of 18 tournaments each summer on the Knights of Columbus courts.

Dennis Davis reports that his license plate is RINGRS 2, Art Felgenhauer has RINGERS 2 and Lee Watkins has 200 SIX. Don Bailey claims the first personal plates relating to horseshoes. He says his TWO RING6 plates were spoken for BEFORE plates were actually available.

Mike Wood will donate a trophy each year to be known as the Jim Korte Award to recognize the person in Illinois who best promotes the sport of horseshoes. This award will be presented at the State tournament, and the winner will be selected by the executive council.

KANSAS

World class horseshoe pitcher Mary Ann Peninger, who finished seventh at the World Tournament in Kitchener last year, was inducted into the Sunflower Horseshoe Club's Hall of Fame in April at the Annual Marines Tamboer Horseshoe Tournament.

Tamboer, her father, was inducted as a charter member in 1995 along with Merrill "Cookie" Cook. Tamboer also was inducted into the NHPA Hall of Fame in 1992.

Other selectees through the years have been Gene Dixon 1996, William "Bill" Whitley 1996, Richard "Dick" Kinney

and Roy Smith in 1997.

Buzz Jones from Hutchinson was the driving force behind the Club's Hall of Fame and chose Pop Tamboer and Cook as the first inductees. Club officers chose the winners until the by-laws were changed last year when it was determined that nominations should come from the membership, and the top three nominees be voted on at the fall meeting.

INDIANA

1998 is starting with a bang. As of now, Indiana's membership is 293. This represents 268 adult members and 25 juniors. 62 new members have been recruited.

Huntington's Curley Seibold has been hitting the jackpot during the Winter indoor season. Since moving to the short distance he nailed three firsts and a second. He won the Classic City Thanksgiving Special with a 7-0 record and 73.61 ringer percentage and had the high game of 85%. He repeated the perfect record and finished with 77.66 and high game of 88.1 at the Stroh Horseshoe Palace in November, and the January event at the Palace where he copped a first with 6-1 and 72.72 ringer figure. Son, Mark, had the high game of 91.7 and finished third with 5-2 record and 73.26 percentage.

Curley's main competitor has been Bob Wolfinger who won in Elkhart and finished second behind Curley in the Thanksgiving Special. Bob also won the February event at Stroh.

MICHIGAN

The Ringer Report, official publication of the Wolverine State Horseshoe Pitchers Association is one of the few newsletters that lists the top pitchers in the state.

The top five men in order were Doug Bailey 67.05, Tom Williams 65.82, Larry Kemp 64.77, Marty Quillen 62.18 and Ray Hill 62.88.

Anne French's 73.23 leads the top five women followed by Kathy Yaworski 68.94, Judy Curtiss 67.95, Becky Perryman and Dorothy Falk 59.82.

The Elder's Division is headed by Jim Wiltse with 69.09. The next four were Claude Shannahan 64.35, Kent Rundell 64.14, Bob White 61.63 and Paul Bogardus 56.37.

The top five Juniors are Jim Urie 61.32, Daniel Tanner 52.28, Alan Shanks 37.74, Frank Quillen 35.67 and Colon Gibbs 17.18.

Ron Kohn was given the Don Zondlak Award in recognition for outstanding service to the Auburn area Chamber of Commerce, the community and horseshoes.

MINNESOTA

The Hibbing Horseshoe Club's indoor-outdoor facility may be one of the best in the country. Five years ago former police officer Bill Grillo was the force behind receiving \$100,000 in pledges to construct the building.

Disaster struck in 1996 and a snow storm wrecked the building. Following insurance adjustments the covered 70 by

CHARTER CHATTER

150 foot building was revamped. Overall the complex has cost \$240,000 already.

Two major projects have been completed, including installation of a six foot fence behind the courts and extending the concrete to accommodate the wider building, it has sky lights and night lights to make pitching enjoyable.

The club has 70 members and sponsors a special needs group every Monday and holds a tournament for these handicapped people. On July 17 the club will hold a Seniors only tournament for 40 and 30 foot pitchers and an open state sanctioned tournament for the same group on July 18.

There are twelve clay courts undercover and six extra courts outside.

MISSOURI

The MHPA web page is now into its sixth month on the internet with over 480 hits to date. Send all information or questions to Stan Griggs, 5629 Sterling, Raytown, MO 64133 (816) 313-1814.

COOKIN' WITH VICKI— Sometimes when Earl comes home late at night after being in the fields all day, working from the light of dawn 'til dusk, he's downright starvin'. And Vicki knows she had better have something ready on the table for him. Earl loves bread and claims he can make a whole meal out of it. Vicki would like to share Earl's favorite bread dough recipe with you:

30 lbs. flour, 15 lbs. fine salt, 4 lbs. vegetable oil, 14 lbs. water. It makes about 8 gallons.

You guessed it! This bread dough recipe is not for eating, although Earl does get quite hungry. It is for horseshoe pit material. In 1993, a local bakery mixed a batch for about \$8. Also I gave the recipe to the Festus Club and I believe they had some made and a member was going to try pitching on it. Someone had found a powder to mix in so that the dough looked like blue clay.

NEVADA

Yes, ladies and gentlemen, there is another part of Nevada besides Las Vegas and it is in Northern Nevada! Their new club is going strong for the second year with club headquarters in Reno. Reno is located in the Northwest part of Nevada where they say the hunting and fishing is great. They are close to Lake Tahoe and sport some great facilities for our sport.

26 courts at Evans Park are just a few blocks from downtown area where the casinos have gaming, entertainment, food and rooms. They sponsored tournaments in May and June and plan a September 12-13 event this year.

Foster Kenton from nearby Hawthorne is busy working with his city to build 16 new courts which will be ready for the 1999 Spring season. Foster and Harold Holbrook are going to work together teaching our young enthusiasts how to pitch horseshoes.

Elaine Perry, the NNHPA Secretary-Treasurer wishes to thank Jim Callon, Jim Costa, Dan Jones, Cas Bower, Corey

Casci, Norris Coit, Goldstein Enterprises and all the rest of the local pitchers for helping to install the new clay in Reno.

NEW YORK

The 1998 membership for the state as of May 15 is at 422, with 332 40-foot pitchers, 51 women, 20 elders and 19 juniors. Of the full membership, 49 are new members.

Congratulations are in order for Charlie Reigles of the Southern Tier Club and Ernie Hilpertshauer of the Moreau Club. These two deserving gentlemen will be formally inducted into the New York State Horseshoe Pitchers Association Hall of Fame at the State Championships at Waterloo next Labor Day weekend.

The Syracuse Pioneer Horseshoe Club successfully completed its 14th season in 1997. Under the able leadership of longtime league director Lance Hinman and assistant director Ken Fraser, the club awarded trophies and prizes to members pitching in three leagues.

NORTH CAROLINA

In the Troy Parks and Recreation Tournament, John Patzsch lost a key game to Gene Argabright by "ringing" both of Gene's shoes with just one of his own shoes.

Gene had pitched first and had two shoes leaning at the stake. John then pitched and knocked both of Gene's shoes with just one pitch. Gene got six points and won the game.

Down and Back is the title of the state's newsletter. Those words may be used also to describe the current state champion, N.A. Moore. He went down earlier after a motorcycle accident. This time, the "down" was the result of some heart difficulties. However, he went to the hospital on Sunday morning, March 29. On Monday they performed a catheterization, and on Friday did an angioplasty. He was out of the hospital on Sunday, April 5. He pitched two games in the rained-out Dogwood April 18. Knowing N.A., he will be out pitching in many more tournaments.

N.C. horseshoes is off to its best start. 1997 was a record year, but 1998 looks like a better one. They now have 157 members—20% above last year.

OHIO

Tournament results from the Buckeye State finds Elden Sarbaugh on top in three tournaments, second in one and fourth in another in tournaments held from December 1997 to the present time.

He won the Club tournament at his indoor courts in December with a 5-0 record and 75.2 percent. He captured the indoor event at his courts in February with a 5-1, 68.4% and added a victory in the Doughboy Open later in the month with a 6-1 record, 65.4%.

His second place finish was in the January 10-11 event at Sarbaugh's when Tinna Tonnous went 7-0 with a whopping 76.4 ringer percentage. His fourth place finish was in March, also at Sarbaugh's and won again by Tonnous who had a 10-0 record and 71.5%, and the Ohio State Indoor, 7-1, 71.9.

CHARTER CHATTER

OREGON

The Rogue River Warmup tournament was won by Barry Chapelle from Portland with a 5-0 record. Grants Pass pitcher Tuff Moles tossed a high game of 85% and took second honors with Al Brennan of Klamath Falls taking third in a six-person group.

The seven pitcher Class B was won by Art Gee from Umpqua in a playoff with Bob Bender from Bend. Ben Weidrich won the Sagebrush Open with a 6-1 record and a high game of 71.%. David Brown took second by percentage over Chapelle.

Oregon's David Brown pitched in five of the six Washington Winetrout Classics, taking first place in Class A. He averaged 63.05 overall with a high game of 77.5%. He also received the Most Improved Trophy.

The 75th anniversary of Oregon's state singles championships will be held this year in Phoenix. The list of champions dates back to 1924.

PENNSYLVANIA

Hot topics through the years have been the Kuchcinski brothers from Erie. Dan was a three-time World Champion—1967, 1969 and 1970. He won the state title in 1966 and 1967.

Don: Won PA titles twice in 1983 and 1987. He pitched the only perfect game in state tournament history with a 20/20 in 1984. Ron: 1966 Junior state champion. Fred: Four-time state Junior champion. Brock: 1966 state Junior champion.

Another set of brothers are Joey and Steven Morris from Darlington. Joey was a three-time Junior state champion in 1981, 1982, and 1983, but Steven has a record as long as your arm—in horseshoes, that is.

Steven: Four-time Junior state champion in 1994, 1995, 1996 and 1997. Indoor state champion in 1995, 1996 and 1998. Won the Eastern Nationals championship four times from 1994 through 1997. First Junior to win state titles four years in a row. Has been the only Junior to pitch a perfect game in the state (20/20).

He capped all of his performances with the 1997 World Class "A" title at Kitchener, Ontario, Canada in 1997. He closed with a 15-1 record and 74.05%. He placed third in the championship flight in 1997 with and overall 76.28 ringer percentage.

TENNESSEE

Loyd Wyatt nailed a 7-0 record and 62.29% to win the annual Men's Indoor State Championship, his first title. Joan Elmore had a 5-0 record and 72% to capture the Women's crown. The Elders title went to Abbott Kemp.

Elmo Cox is the Class B winner, Melvin Cooper won in Class C, and Willard Williams, who pitched in his first tournament since heart problems in November, is the Class D champion. Lou Murphy is the Women's Class B titleholder.

As of May 9, the leading contenders for the horseshoe

pitcher of the year are Melvin Cooper with 152 points followed by Joan Elmore 138 and Het Birchfield 134.

"Match up" tournaments are becoming popular with Missouri's New Melle Club visiting the Jack Freeman Courts in Tennessee. Kentucky is interested in competing against Tennessee and Freeman wonders if Alabama, East Tennessee vs. Middle Tennessee or Tennessee vs. Indiana/Illinois might be arranged in the "Match up" format. Maybe other states can arrange a match up series.

SOUTH CAROLINA

The SCHPA moved into the eastern part of the state with the first tournament held in Florence. The new facility opened its doors to horseshoe pitchers April 18 and is located at McLeod Park just northeast of the city. A.J. Nave of Greenville and Don Broome of Clover won that first doubles tournament, the first of four sanctioned events to be held there this year. Mitch Brantly and Fulton Hines are responsible for the construction and installation of the courts. They now have six sand courts and have plans to add six more later. They plan to install clay eventually.

The Junior Division has been very impressive in 1998 and their numbers have more than doubled over last year. With a total of 19 Junior members, they have had, at least, one full class of Juniors at almost every tournament so far this year. There will be no heavy favorites to win the title as in the past.

UTAH

Here in the state where the IRS has a regional headquarters, they have a chance to pick up a little extra for the government by checking into income tax returns of some of the pitchers in the state. The Southern Utah Horseshoe Pitchers Association Newsletter lists frequently the top money winners in the organization. Chatter hope he will not get anyone in trouble, but figures are figures.

The final top five money winners are Leola Peterson \$387.25, Cleo Wardle \$339.50, Shirley Steffen \$315.00, Rose Allred 297.38 and Bud Schardine \$272.38. Maybe this is their total income and they will not have to declare?

Wardle and Peterson have the most wins, 96 and 88 respectfully, with others following in order: Mac Fuller 74, Doug Liston 65, Glen McAllister 61, Schardine 49, Jason Bundy, Mont Lewis and Gib Mitchell 48 each and Hal Mineer 45 in the top ten.

Current ringer percentages for the top three in the association are Schardine 61.68%, Mont Lewis 61.0% and Shirley Steffen 60.76.

WASHINGTON

1993 World Champion John Monasmith from Yakima passed away last April after a long stay in a nursing home. In those early days qualifying was part of the World Tournament and John made his presence known early with the highest qualifying score, 558 points pitching 200 shoes. He also had 16 first place finishes in State and Northwest Championships in each.

Chatter's personal note: Reading the Washington newsletter

CHARTER CHATTER

Shoes News, I ran across the winner's name in the Class E results of the Columbia Basin Open. The winner with a 7-0 record and 47.72 ringer percentage was Dixon Finley, who pitched in Colorado and lived across the street from me in Boulder. His ringer percentage is better now!

Washington President Gene Kuiken touched recently on an item that should always be on our minds when pitching horseshoes...*Sportmanship*. "The motto on our logo states 'Seal of Good Sportsmanship'. To live by this saying includes how we act while we are competing and what face we portray to anyone watching. So using foul language and having temper outbursts is not in keeping with sportsmanlike conduct. To promote our game we must put our best foot forward."

WEST VIRGINIA

Plans are being made by the Affiliated Horseshoe Pitchers—MCPARC—to host their annual Pre-World sanctioned tournament July 10-12, with upwards of \$2500 being provided by sponsors. Registration forms were prepared by the Marion County Parks and Recreation Commission (MCPARC), and mailed by the County Convention & Visitors Bureau...that's real cooperation. More charters should have counties like this.

Recently, and after several years of lobbying, it appears that the town of Mannington, through the Mannington Fair Board of Directors, will have the capability of hosting horseshoe tournaments during their Fair in early August.

The 17th annual Head-of-the-Mon-River Memorial weekend horseshoe tournament in May attracted several Open Men Division State Champions. Among them were Rick Cale (WV); Art Tyson (NY); Elbert Shifflett (MD); N.A. Moore (NC); Tommy Gann (NC); Elden Sarbaugh (OH); Walter Williams (CA); and Steve Morris (PA).

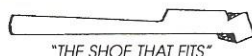
WISCONSIN

The announcement came at the Spring meeting only minutes after the selection committee made their decision. NHPA Secretary Dick Hansen is the 1998 WHPA Hall of Fame Inductee. Dick is known to have qualified in many forms of service to the sport of horseshoes—League President, State tournament director and WHPA President to

name a few. The question remains, is the man old enough? Age has been a major qualification for the Wisconsin Hall of Fame. Hansen is just past the half century mark and will himself admit that Hall of Fame selection should justifiably come after a lifetime of service.

Dick is now retired from AT&T, which is known for inducing its highly paid executives to take an early buyout. Moreover, the NHPA has been known to accept executives of any age and in this case, the organization has a great asset.

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AND A SOFT TOUCH DELIVERY

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SHOE FROM REBOUNDED BACK OFF THE STAKE

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

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

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

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

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



FISCAL YEAR NHPA FINANCIAL STATEMENT

National Horseshoe Pitchers of America
Statement of Activity and Changes in Net Assets
Regular Account (Secretary/Treasurer)
Years ended March 31, 1998 and 1997

| | 1998 | 1997 |
|------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Revenue: | | |
| Membership | \$157,183 | \$162,447 |
| World Tournament - Schedule (1) | 130,148 | 110,657 |
| Horseshoe sanction fees | 4,700 | 5,500 |
| Sanctioned league - Schedule (2) | 201 | 161 |
| Miscellaneous, sales and charter dues | 176 | 235 |
| Visa card and miscellaneous income | 852 | 802 |
| <i>Newsline</i> - Schedule (3) | 43,350 | 39,832 |
| Refunds | -0- | 30 |
| Donations | -0- | 1,200 |
| Total Revenue | 336,610 | 320,864 |
| Expenses: | | |
| <i>Newsline</i> - Schedule (3) | 33,226 | 33,247 |
| Sanction league expense - Schedule (2) | 11,332 | 9,348 |
| World Tournament expense - Schedule (1) | 150,846 | 155,464 |
| Regional Directors allowance & expenses | 7,674 | 7,180 |
| Tournament patches | 10,866 | 11,238 |
| Equipment purchases, rentals, repairs | 4,065 | 5,665 |
| Printing, paper & office supplies | 7,667 | 5,985 |
| Postage | 4,871 | 4,637 |
| Officers telephone | 3,558 | 3,315 |
| Officers travel | 5,499 | 6,709 |
| Secretary's allowance | 18,572 | 20,655 |
| President's allowance | 5,571 | 5,591 |
| Vice President's allowance | 4,650 | 4,659 |
| Publicity, promotion, advertising | 1,444 | 2,532 |
| Professional fees, accounting, legal | 5,242 | 4,153 |
| Misc. fees, bonds, bank charges, refunds | 2,118 | 1,465 |
| Insurance | 16,140 | 16,144 |
| NatStats administration | 3,515 | 3,624 |
| Awards - national championships | -0- | 2,053 |
| Depreciation | 2,957 | 2,957 |
| Donation to NHP Foundation | -0- | 160,353 |
| Total Expenses | 299,813 | 466,974 |
| Revenue in Excess of Expenses | 36,797 | (146,110) |
| Other Income: | | |
| Interest Income | 10,521 | 12,547 |
| Net Revenue in Excess of Expenses | 47,318 | (133,563) |
| Net Assets - Beginning of year | 265,941 | 399,504 |
| Net Assets - End of year | \$313,259 | \$265,941 |

National Horseshoe Pitchers of America
Statement of Activity and Changes in Net Assets
Game Items (Domey)
Years ended March 31, 1998 and 1997

| | 1998 | 1997 |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Revenue: | | |
| Shipley | \$ 24,621 | \$ 21,848 |
| Smith | 10,113 | 12,922 |
| Seibold | 19,860 | 17,860 |
| Ohms | 9,047 | 13,529 |
| Pro Shop | 17,928 | 19,142 |
| Senger | 7,501 | 8,117 |
| Domey | 56,064 | 63,019 |
| NHPA | 14,891 | 22,013 |
| White | 5,012 | -0- |
| Anderson | 3,354 | -0- |
| Stonerock | 1,050 | -0- |
| Total Revenue | 169,441 | 178,450 |
| Expenses: | | |
| Game related items | 12,098 | 14,156 |
| Office & miscellaneous expenses | 5,981 | 5,990 |
| Commissions | 8,058 | 13,922 |
| Horseshoes | 127,511 | 117,335 |
| Telephone | 600 | 725 |
| Postage | 857 | 946 |
| Freight | 11,689 | 11,182 |
| Advertising | 108 | 214 |
| Shirts & caps | 1,695 | 3,461 |
| Donation | 3,800 | -0- |
| Total Expenses | 172,397 | 167,931 |
| Net Revenue in Excess of Expenses Before Other Income | (2,956) | 10,519 |
| Other Income: | | |
| Interest Income | 1,186 | 1,185 |
| Net Revenue in Excess of Expenses | (1,770) | 11,704 |
| Net Assets - Beginning of year | 162,115 | 150,411 |
| Net Assets - End of year | \$160,345 | \$162,115 |

FISCAL YEAR NHPA FINANCIAL STATEMENT

National Horseshoe Pitchers of America
Statement of Financial Position
March 31, 1998 and 1997

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

| | 1998 | 1997 |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Assets: | | |
| Current Assets: | | |
| Cash | | |
| Regular Account (Secretary/Treasurer) | \$310,388 | \$260,195 |
| Game Related (Domey) | 73,137 | 71,298 |
| Memorial Fund | 3,700 | 3,618 |
| Total Cash | <u>387,225</u> | <u>335,111</u> |
| Accounts Receivable (Domey) | 16,903 | 13,444 |
| Inventories (Domey) | 62,076 | 69,144 |
| Total Current Assets | <u>466,204</u> | <u>417,699</u> |
| Equipment at cost less accumulated depreciation | 7,400 | 10,357 |
| Total Assets | <u><u>473,604</u></u> | <u><u>428,056</u></u> |
| Liabilities and Net Assets: | | |
| Net Assets - Unrestricted | | |
| Beginning Net Assets | 428,056 | 549,915 |
| Net Fund Activities | 45,548 | (121,859) |
| Ending Net Assets | <u>473,604</u> | <u>428,056</u> |
| Total Liabilities and Net Assets | <u><u>473,604</u></u> | <u><u>428,056</u></u> |

National Horseshoe Pitchers of America
Schedules of Activity—World Tournament
Regular Account (Secretary/Treasurer)

Schedule 1 - Years ended March 31, 1998 and 1997

| | 1998 | 1997 |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Revenue: | | |
| Payment against 1990 W.T. debt | -0- | \$ 10,000 |
| World Tournament entry fees | 85,102 | 76,272 |
| World patch and miscellaneous sales | 375 | 661 |
| Hall of Fame banquet | -0- | 2,615 |
| Kitchener World payment | -0- | 12,000 |
| 1998 Ainsworth payments | 15,000 | -0- |
| 1998 Morgantown bid | -0- | 5,000 |
| 1999 Greenville payment | 10,000 | -0- |
| 2000 World bidder payment | 15,000 | -0- |
| World Tournament finals fees | 2,900 | 2,450 |
| World Tournament results printout | 151 | 492 |
| World Tournament photos | 1,620 | 1,167 |
| Total Revenue | <u>130,148</u> | <u>110,657</u> |
| Expenses: | | |
| Cash, trophy, patch and trust awards | 131,297 | 118,707 |
| Administrative expenses | 8,644 | 12,397 |
| Hall of Fame awards, supplies | 698 | 4,162 |
| Bid & entry fee refunds and overpayments | 1,045 | 8,190 |
| Officer's travel expenses | 9,162 | 7,008 |
| GA World Tournament refund | -0- | 5,000 |
| Total World Tournament Expenses | <u>150,846</u> | <u>155,464</u> |
| Net Expenses Over Revenue | <u>\$ (20,698)</u> | <u>\$ (44,807)</u> |

Schedules of Activity—Sanctioned League
Regular Account (Secretary/Treasurer)
Schedule 2 - Years ended March 31, 1998 and 1997

| | 1998 | 1997 |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Revenue: | | |
| League patches | \$ 201 | \$ 161 |
| Expenses: | | |
| Sanctioned league: | | |
| Patches & awards | 7,930 | 6,145 |
| Office Supplies & phone | 1,463 | 1,017 |
| Director allowance | 939 | 963 |
| Junior scholar trust | 1,000 | 1,223 |
| Total Expenses | <u>11,332</u> | <u>9,348</u> |
| Net Expenses Over Revenue | <u><u>\$ (11,131)</u></u> | <u><u>\$ (9,187)</u></u> |

Schedules of Activity
Regular Account (Newsline)

Schedule 3 - Years ended March 31, 1998 and 1997

| | 1998 | 1997 |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Revenue: | | |
| Subscription income | \$ 33,246 | \$ 29,504 |
| Advertising income | 10,104 | 10,328 |
| Total Revenue | <u>43,350</u> | <u>39,832</u> |
| Expenses: | | |
| Printing, postage, supplies | 29,512 | 29,520 |
| Publication, editing and miscellaneous | 3,714 | 3,727 |
| Total Expenses | <u>33,226</u> | <u>33,247</u> |
| Net Revenue Over Expenses | <u><u>\$ 10,124</u></u> | <u><u>\$ 6,585</u></u> |

Special Events Calendar

SEPTEMBER 1998

19-20 Try County Horseshoe Pro-Am—Zanesville, OH. A benefit fundraiser for Genesis Hospice of Zanesville will match a top Pro player with an Amateur (under 50%). A charity pitch and Pro-Am dinner on Saturday and double elimination tournament on Sunday. \$700+ prize money. Pro Players selected by invitation only. Contact Donald "Fuzzy" Hittle, 740-796-6401 or Try County Club 740-796-6009.

NOVEMBER 1998

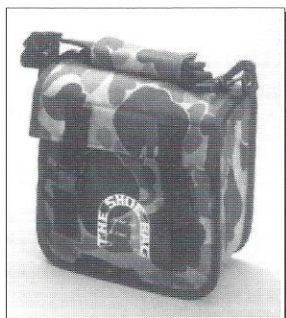
7-8 Music City Team Tournament—Joelton, TN. 3-person teams limited to 24 teams. mixed event, no juniors. NatStat team average as of 9/1/97 shall not exceed 215. Entry fee of \$100 per team must be received by Sept. 15. Send team entry and fees to Mary Bastian, 3730 Old Charlotte Pike, Franklin, TN 37069-4791. Phone 615-794-5620, fax 615-591-0833.

JANUARY 1999

9-10 Yuma Southwest Classic—Yuma, AZ. John F. Kennedy Memorial Park. \$10,000 prize money based on 96 entries. Four 40' classes, two Women and two Elder 30' classes, all 12 person groups. \$500 for 1st in each class, pay down to 6th. All interested send application only, no fee. If your average as of August 31 is high enough you will be notified after entries close on November 15. \$50 fee required after notification. Send name/address, phone, card # and Division applying for to: Bud Perry, 887 Riverview Place, Yuma, AZ 85365.

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NHPA Income and Expenditures

April and May, 1998

Income

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Membership Dues | \$46,246 |
| <i>Newsline</i> Subscriptions | 5,083 |
| <i>Newsline</i> Advertising | 450 |
| Horseshoe Sanction Fees | 600 |
| Misc. Patch Sales and Income | 250 |
| World Tournament Entry Fees | 71,720 |
| Bank Checking & Affinity Card Interest | 2,701 |
| Total Income | \$127,050 |

Expenditures

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| <i>Newsline</i> Printing and Mailing | \$4,344 |
| <i>Newsline</i> Editor Allowance | 616 |
| Sanctioned League Postage & Printing | 500 |
| Sanctioned League Office & Phone | 155 |
| W.T. Travel Expense | 502 |
| W.T. Administrative & Printing Costs | 1,007 |
| W.T. Refunds | 1,920 |
| Regional Directors' Postage, Phone, Supplies | 352 |
| Equipment Purchases, Rental, Repair | 3,705 |
| NHPA Office Printing and Supplies | 3,182 |
| NHPA Postage | 1,504 |
| NHPA Officers' Phone | 848 |
| NHPA Officers' Travel | 678 |
| Secretary/Treasurer's Allowance | 3,080 |
| President's Allowance | 924 |
| Publicity, Promotion & Ads | 435 |
| NatStats Administration | 693 |
| Misc. Bank Charges, Refunds and Fees | 25 |
| Total Expenses | 24,470 |

From the books of NHPA Secretary/Treasurer Dick Hansen.

The Toll of Time

ELSIE MAY BALDWIN

Oregon lost their oldest horseshoe promoter with the April 13th passing of 101 year old Elsie Baldwin. Born and raised in Oregon, Elsie was a prime force in the horseshoe community for some 30 years starting in the early 1920s. She was the recipient of the first Oregon Honor Roll certificate which was given to her for the many contributions she made to the early formation of organized horseshoe pitching in Oregon.

CAROLINE SCHULTZ DECKER

NHPA Hall of Fame member Caroline Schultz Decker, died March 29, 1998 in Cincinnati, Ohio, after spending nearly 20 years in a nursing home. She was 85 years of age. Caroline was the Women's World Champion in 1933 and 1934, that last year averaging 81.3%, something unheard of for the time. In 25 years of pitching, she was never defeated. With sisters Charlotte and Helen, the three pitched exhibitions for years with Barnum & Bailey Circus and other promoters. Caroline was inducted into the NHPA Hall of Fame in 1982.



SHARON ELLISION

Horseshoe Canada and many NHPA members lost a wonderful lady and friend with the sudden passing of Sharon Ellision on February 11, 1998 at the early age of 48. Sharon started her pitching in 1974 and won many tournaments. Her prime achievements

in the game, however, were organization and promotion. Sharon was the past President of both Horseshoe Canada and the Saskatchewan HPA. She served both organizations as editor of the annual yearbook and newsletters. During her years of service, she also served Horseshoe Canada as both Secretary and Treasurer. Sharon, who was inducted into Canada's Hall of Fame in 1985, leaves husband Marvin and three children.

FRED HARBURN

Fred Harburn was the Canadian National Champion three times in the 1930s. He competed in the 1935 World Tournament averaging 60%. The Ontario Province greatly benefited from his enthusiastic promotion of the sport as many top pitchers emerged from that area. Fred was inducted into the Horseshoe Canada Hall of Fame during the NHPA Awards Banquet in Kitchener in 1997 as he was in failing health and the location was close to his home.

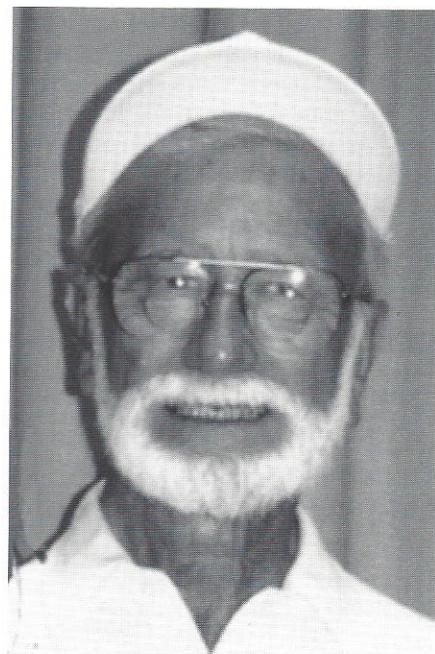
JOHN ALBERT JAMES JR.

John James was known to his Northern California friends as "Pee Wee" or "Mr. Wee." The lifelong Tuolumne County resident, living in Sonora, died suddenly on April 25, 1998 from a heart attack at age 59. Pee Wee was active in horseshoes at both the club and charter levels. He was the past 2nd VP of the NCHPA and attended many tournaments throughout the State. He also enjoyed bowling and golf and had been a musician as a young man. Many of his horseshoe friends attended his service and will truly miss him. John James is survived by a daughter, two sisters and three brothers.

JOHN MONASMITH

John Monasmith of Yakima, Washington, was the Men's World Champion in 1963. Born February 22, 1917 in Kansas, John was 81 when he died on April 30, 1998. John moved to Yakima in 1946 and became perhaps the greatest horseshoe pitcher in the northwest. In addition to his 1963 World Tournament win with 82.3%, John set Washington records by winning the

State Championship and Northwest Championships each 16 times. John was inducted into the NHPA Hall of Fame in 1978. He leaves a wife Florence, two sons, eight grandchildren and many great grandchildren.



JACK WILLIAM SORG

Northern California was saddened by the passing of longtime member Jack Sorg on May 18, 1998. Jack was a top pitcher for many years in the NCHPA where he started in San Francisco with the old Golden Gate Club. A retired Teamster, Jack and his family were very familiar figures at many tournaments for more than 20 years. Always a friendly, gracious competitor, Jack forged many lasting friendships as he pitched around the state.

In recent years, Jack had been a member of the Tri-Valley Club in Pleasanton. Even though he had been fighting recurring cancer for the past several years, Jack never appeared to be down. He was always there to pitch or help out as was wife Virginia and daughter Charlotte until they both sustained extreme medical problems that kept Jack at home to look after them. Just before his death, Jack had to put both Virginia and Char in care homes. He evidently knew his time was near. Jack was a friend and a caring person who will be missed.

Tournament Travel Contacts

The following is a list of all NHPA Regional Directors and the states or territory they cover. Those of you who travel and want to get out-of-area tournament information, are encouraged to contact the appropriate Regional Director. Each RD maintains a full list of all NHPA sanctioned tournaments in their area. If your travel plans call for stops in several states and you need multiple state information, you might want to write the NHPA 5th Vice President who is in charge of all RDs. He should have copies of all the state schedules. The address for the 5th VP can be found on page 3 of this publication.

| REGION | REGIONAL DIRECTOR |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
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| 2. Oregon | Rt. 5, Box 5257 |
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