

The Horseshoe Pitcher's News Digest

Official Publication of

**THE NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHER'S ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICA**

FEBRUARY, 1957

Vol. 1

No. 2

A MESSAGE FROM NATIONAL SECRETARY

We were without a magazine just ten months. This span was cut down by an issue put out in July and another in September at the expense of NHPA. I for one have missed it greatly and know most of the other regular subscribers have missed it also.

Our "News Digest" editor, Ellis Cobb, is to be congratulated on a job well done on the January issue of the magazine. It was the first in the new venture on which we have set forth. The good quality of paper, easy readable type and arrangement of articles indicates he knows that business very well.

We sincerely hope we have launched an undertaking that will be a decided success, both financially and for more full enjoyment to all members in the entire U.S. and Canada. As officials, National and State and individual members, both present and future, let us strive to make it an outstanding success.

We feel this magazine should be and can be one of the best mediums to make the NHPA stronger, more united and increase our membership. Of course to reach this coveted goal of success we must depend on the cooperation of officials, present and future, and each individual member as well.

There are very many ways of making your support felt. One of your more important contributions, as your membership chairman, Mr. Cletus Chapelle, made clear in his appeal to you in the January opening issue of this publication, is JOIN and JOIN now. Also make an honest effort to get other ways of making your influence felt toward enhancing the effectiveness of our magazine and the general uplift of the complete HORSESHOE organization.

We need articles of interest for the magazine. In selecting subjects for such articles, we must keep in mind that we have about 34 Charters in the U.S. These are scattered all the way from the Pacific to the Atlantic. Their interests and method of play are somewhat deversified. Altho the NHPA has gone far in standardizing the game of horseshoes over this large area, many local communities have their own particular methods of play special for that area.

Another thing the climate has its effects. Florida and California are very fortunate to be able to pitch shoes most of all year. In many States they have long cold winters and hang them up until spring comes. For this reason it has been hard to line up many of our regular members to become members for 1957

and subscribe for the new "News Digest" at this time of season. It has been their habit, and for very obvious reasons, to recruit their members when they come out for spring and summer games.

This effort to get all members signed up in January is such a radical departure from past procedure, whereas in the past more than fifty percent of all members were usually signed up after July, naturally it has retarded the goal we would have liked to have reached for January. For these reasons, personally, I think we should show some leniency in the magazine set up policy.

This all leads up to what we would like to say concerning articles. We need some articles sent in from all parts of the nation. We need articles by those who are most capable of writing. Let your own organization have the benefit of some of your talent in this field. We need articles that will be of interest to the average pitcher as well as to the professional. We need articles that are not too much localized, but will be of interest to Maine as well as California, to Florida as well as Washington State. Have Count-all and handi-cap's merits presented by those who have made a study of these types and like them. There are many novel ideas thought up by various individuals. Such ideas sometimes lead to advancement.

Of course we must adhere to our National rules as set up, but changes can be legislated if it is considered an improvement.

We need constructive articles. Constructive criticism is sometimes good. Please lay low on the gripes unless you definitely have something better to offer.

It is the requested duty of our editor to screen these articles. If your article does not appear when you expect it, it may appear later or be cut down and perchance not at all. This would be an indication that more has been sent in than there is space. This would be better than not enough. It gives our editor a chance to choose those items that he feels are of the greatest interest to the greatest number.

Even just a few lines of news dropped in here and there will help to keep interest in the magazine so all will look forward to that mid-month arrival of the mailman. Keep your mind alert for happenings in your area that might be of interest in other areas. Unless we take note of these things, when they happen, they become well known locally and we no longer think of them as news, but at greater distances they afford pleasure to your fellow members. Jot them down and send in to the "News Digest".

I want to take this opportunity to thank the many friends who sent me Holiday greetings. It would be quite impossible to respond to each one individually.

Elmer O. Beller



Introducing . . . the Personality of the Month

OUR PRESIDENT — ARCH STOKES

This month we salute the president of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association, Arch Stokes of Salt Lake City, Utah. He has served in that capacity several times, having been elected to that office previous to his present tenure of office.

He is a native of Salt Lake County and it is through his boundless enthusiasm and interest that the National Tournament has been such a wonderful success at Murray, Utah. While not of championship calibre himself, Arch is a strong adherent to the game and that accounts for his being able to give the National tournament the "shot in the arm" since it came to Utah.

He took up horseshoe pitching in 1940 as a member of the Salt Lake County Horseshoe Club. By 1945 his interest in the sport had reached the point where he had visions of bringing the National Tournament to Salt Lake County. It was then that he was commissioned to undertake the job of chairman of the Centennial Committee on horseshoe activities. He played a key role in the laying out of the horseshoe courts in Murray city park.

Salt Lake City can be justifiably proud to have a man of Arch Stokes ability in their community. We in the National Association are equally as proud in having him as our leader.

HARVEY ELMERSON, 1936 STAR RETURNS TO GAME

To the many pitchers that knew him, Harvey Elmerston will need no introduction, but to those that do not it can be said that he was one of the top players of 20 years ago. In the 1936 National tournament held at Moline, Illinois, he was runner-up to Ted Allen for the world's championship. He was living in Wisconsin at that time where he was well known among the ringer fraternity. He held the state title in that state five times between 1927 and 1936. He is well known in Illinois and Iowa having competed in various tournaments at that time.

Illinois players will get to know him better because he is now living in Broadview, Illinois and is a member of the state association for 1957. He is currently employed at the International Harvester Co. He plans on getting into a lot of tournaments this summer and has intentions of being at Murray, Utah in July.

* * *

QUIPS FROM NATIONAL ACCORDING TO STANDARD

During the play-off games he had with Curtis Day (late at night) he says, "I think anyone who is against "Day 'N Night" is certainly out of this world."

* * *

If a player would throw a horseshoe down the National secretary's throat, would "Elmer Beller" or would it make the "Horseshoe Digest?"

COLORADO ASSOCIATION TO LAY PLANS FOR 1957

By TED ALLEN

This article is too late for the January issue, and I regret it very much because I never like to miss an issue. In fact, this is the first time that I have ever missed an issue of any National Horseshoe Pitchers' magazine.

If you have any extra issues of the January issue, I would appreciate getting one. With all the news that it should contain, our club may be handicapped without having it. When we have our first meeting to get the ball rolling, or after our general meeting, we will be sending in for memberships from our state secretary.

We are going to be a bit later than I would have liked in getting in our subscriptions and memberships for the following reasons: As of last summer, our first scheduled meeting for 1957 will be in February. We made the ruling before the World's tournament. In spite of that we are calling a meeting of the club officers before the general meeting which will follow in about a week or so in February. At this first meeting we will make plans for the summer activities, including the team league between cities, subject to agreement with the state secretary. Also with the possibilities of the 2nd annual Rocky Mountain Open Tournament being held in July, Mr. Luet-hauser, Director of the Boulder City Recreation department will be present, he being the chairman of the club. It looks very favorable at this time for holding the tournament.

Construction and building in this area has been seriously slowed up this winter, but not due to the weather. It is expected to open up again in the spring. Since this industry has been a major item here, it has affected some of our club members. Not wishing to hurry them any in this slack period, I have been hesitant about calling a meeting for the purpose of getting memberships for 1957. I do not think that we could as much as we could at our regularly scheduled meeting in February, when the fellows begin to think about the coming season again.

The earth is about a billion years old. If a motion picture could show this earth evolving at the rate of a minute of "movie" for every million years, it would take over 16 hours to see the "show."

In the last minute you would see man and all he has done in all his history. And Christ would live, die, and be honored for 2,000 years—all in the last one-eighth of a second.

"I have come here," said the angry caller to the superintendent of the street railway company, "to get justice, sir. Yesterday, as my wife was getting off one of your cars, the motorman stepped on her dress and tore a yard of frilling off the skirt." The superintendent remained cool.

"My dear sir," he said. "I don't know that we are to blame for that. What do you expect us to do? Buy her a new dress?" An expression of fiendish cruelty spread over the angry man's contorted features. "No!" he snarled, "you're not going to get off that easy!" With a swift movement of his hand he drew from his coat pocket—a scrap of colored silk. "You're going to every department store in town if necessary until you match that piece of goods — that's what you're going to do!"

A gossip is a person who talks to you about others; a bore is one who talks to you about himself; a brilliant conversationalist is one who talks to you about yourself.

We can supply you with score-sheets at \$7.50 per thousand, post-paid. Reduced rates in larger quantities. Send your order to National Horseshoe Pitchers' Association, 15316 Cabell Avenue, Bellflower, California.

FINAL RESULTS

(31st Annual) INDIANA STATE HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT

CLASS A

	W.	L.	R.	SP.	Pct.
Gene Brumfield, Markleville	12	1	740	964	76.8
Ed Sharp, Mulberry	12	1	792	1004	78.8
Graydon McFatriddle, Rushville	9	4	709	958	74.0
Harrison Maitlen, Berne	8	5	839	1148	73.1
Curt Day, Frankfort	8	5	886	1148	77.2
Jim Kemple, Rushville	8	5	768	1060	72.4
Virgil Taylor, Greencastle	7	6	779	1074	72.5
Bill Neilson, Dugger	6	7	802	1072	74.8
John Stimac, Terre Haute	6	7	664	948	70.0
Floyd Fowler, Greencastle	6	7	667	976	68.5
Ray England, Crawfordsville	5	8	642	942	66.9
Bill Ferguson, Brazil	3	10	598	910	65.7
Oris Harshman, Frankfort	1	12	632	954	66.4
Ben Farmer, Union City	0	14	539	892	60.4

1st PLACE PLAY-OFF

Gene Brumfield, Markleville	2	1	196	272	72.4
Ed Sharp, Mulberry	1	2	186	272	68.4

CLASS B

Lowell Edmondson, Danville	9	0	469	626	74.9
Earl Green, Indianapolis	6	3	424	654	64.8
Harold McFatriddle, Arlington	6	3	506	762	66.4
Elbert Boone, Wabash	6	3	417	642	65.0
Harley Campbell, Bryant	6	3	435	628	69.2
Earl Van Natter, Bryant	4	5	479	710	67.5
Jim Finchum, Muncie	3	6	346	578	60.0
Roy Billingsley, Crawfordsville	3	6	365	608	60.0
Bob Pence, Gary	1	8	342	598	57.2
Cliff Green, Muncie	1	8	381	642	59.2

CLASS C

Tom Wetnight, Brazil	6	1	328	484	67.8
Paul Thistlethwaite, Sheridan	5	2	341	530	64.3
Nelson Brown, Mulberry	5	2	331	524	63.2
Clyde Green, Portland	4	3	299	465	64.3
Eugene Mendenhall, Noblesville	4	3	265	496	57.1
Harold Renner, Muncie	3	4	294	496	59.3
Clint Moore, Crawfordsville	1	6	222	418	53.1
Art Moore, Wabash	0	7	232	430	54.0

CLASS D

Charles Cummings, Sweetser	6	1	239	366	65.3
David Craven, Rushville	6	1	252	400	63.0
Steve Raymond, Lafayette	5	2	238	374	63.6
Paul Van Sickle, Indianapolis	4	3	237	352	67.3
Lewis Bollinger, Indianapolis	3	4	222	278	55.2
Art Sharp, Mulberry	2	5	203	386	52.6
Lawrence Grove, Muncie	2	5	140	312	44.9
Bill Hobbs, Kokomo	0	7	F O R F E I T		

1st PLACE PLAY-OFF

Charles Cummings, Sweetser	2	1	174	240	72.5
David Craven, Rushville	1	2	168	240	70.0

CLASS E

Clifford Landis, Monroe	7	0	235	350	67.1
Fay Emery, Mulberry	5	2	205	352	58.2
Gene Harris, Economy	5	2	199	360	55.3
Virgil Holloway, Fairmount	4	3	237	426	55.6
Ray Billingsley, Crawfordsville	3	4	206	382	53.9
Jim Johnson, Decatur	3	4	209	398	52.5
Glen McNew, Muncie	1	6	139	328	42.3
Burl Taylor, Greencastle	0	7	F O R F E I T		
George Johnson, Sr., Indianapolis			WITHDREW		

CLASS F

Carl Atwell, Flora	6	1	242	394	61.4
Jim Shively, Gas City	5	2	239	384	62.2
Manfred Swanson, Mulberry	5	2	224	394	56.9
Clair Christener, Berne	5	2	211	400	52.8
Ed Jamison, Marion	3	4	193	370	52.2
Bryant Hodgins, Indianapolis	3	4	210	412	51.0
Bill Wenzel, Mishawaka	1	6	157	366	42.9
Claude Barrett, Ridgeville	0	7	F O R F E I T		

CLASS G

Bob Harrold, Converse	7	0	270	468	57.7
Harold Walker, Pennville	5	2	235	472	49.8
Kenneth Achors, Frankfort	4	3	289	534	54.4
Bob Hubbard, West Newton	4	3	269	532	50.6
Dale Solsbery, Sharpsville	3	4	245	478	51.3
Marvin Craig, Parker	3	4	250	490	51.0
Kenneth Eltzroth, Wabash	2	5	170	410	41.2
Charles Schwartz, Muncie	0	7	182	444	40.0

CLASS H

John Coble, Peru	6	1	222	460	48.3
George Popejoy, Burrows	5	2	182	408	44.6
Cloyd Haffner, Crawfordsville	5	2	196	422	46.4
Elmer Metzger, Fowlerton	4	3	192	464	41.4
Joe Schilling, Lafayette	3	4	186	418	44.5
Charles Maly, Muncie	3	4	189	462	40.9
Byron Bemis, Frankfort	2	5	171	452	37.8
Jack Crane, Zionsville	0	7	154	414	37.2

CONSOLATION DIVISION

Carl Moore, Farmland	6	1	182	328	55.5
Kenneth Haffner, Portland	5	2	205	412	49.9
Neil Farr, Swayzee	4	3	176	378	46.6
Al Lafon, Lafayette	4	3	167	372	44.9
John Shuck, Forest	4	3	178	418	42.6
Paul Mitchener, Gaston	4	3	129	380	34.1
Emerson Moore, Lagro	1	6	159	388	41.0
Claybert Anderson, Lafayette	0	7	F O R F E I T		

BOOSTER DIVISION (Includes play-off games)

Bob Neaderhouser, Berne	10	0	292	488	59.8
Kenneth Day, Muncie	8	2	270	544	49.6
Virgil Huffman, Poneto	5	3	233	494	47.2
Lawrence Howard, Wabash	4	4	229	504	45.0
Emanuel Roth, Indianapolis	5	2	208	434	47.9
Clyde Richards, Fairmount	3	2	124	318	39.0
Harold Schooley, Muncie	2	3	132	310	42.6
Albert Amyx, Connersville	3	4	172	406	42.4
Charles Abbott, Bryant	3	4	175	413	40.7
Bob Borman, Muncie	2	3	115	302	38.1

CLASS D

Virgil Holloway, Fairmount	7	1	304	540	56.3
Steve Raymond, Lafayette	6	2	273	482	56.6
Al Lafon, Lafayette	4	3	184	436	42.2
Lawrence Howard, Wabash	4	3	185	436	42.3
Bob Harrold, Converse	3	4	199	414	48.1
Joe Schilling, Lafayette	3	4	198	436	45.4
Glen Wade, Wabash	2	5	180	410	43.9
Kenneth Grenzer, Hammond	0	7	160	398	40.2

Best game—Virgil Holloway, 46 ringers in 58 shoes for 79.3%.

CLASS E

Harold Walker, Pennville	6	1	196	392	50.0
Kenneth Eltzroth, Wabash	5	2	191	426	44.8
Lee Richards, Wabash	4	3	196	452	43.4
Cliff Richards, Wabash	4	3	177	446	39.7
Robert Snoke, Claypool	3	4	152	438	34.7
Randolph Fluhrer, Warren	3	4	157	378	41.5
Willard Landis, Monroe	3	4	188	468	40.2
Ed Nichols, Fairmount	0	7	109	400	27.3

Best game—Harold Walker, 30 ringers in 52 shoes for 57.7%.

Above figures include playoff games for first place in Classes B, C & D.

The qualifying round was 100 shoes each. Earl Van Natter led the qualifiers with 77 ringers and 352 points.

This marked the third consecutive Northern Indiana Tournament which was won by Harrison Maitlen without the loss of a single game.

* * *

OHIO STATE HORSESHOE CHAMPIONSHIP**CLASS A**

	W	L	R.	D.R.	S.P.	Pct.
1. Harold Reno, Sabina	14	1	671	264	868	77.3
2. Paul Focht, Dayton	13	2	725	263	974	74.4
3. Loren Crooks, E. Fultonham	12	3	637	207	992	64.2
4. Stanley Manker, Martinsville	11	4	628	203	950	66.1
5. W. O. Maxwell, Hicksville	11	4	583	171	986	59.1
6. Leonard Glass, Xenia	8	7	541	158	974	55.5
7. Harold Wolfe, Cedarville	7	8	545	161	904	60.2
8. Denver Ford, Fayette	7	8	547	151	968	56.5
9. James Schamp, St. Marys	7	8	523	155	940	55.6
10. Ray Miller, Irwin	7	8	474	126	890	53.2
11. Fred Raisbeck, Zanesville	6	9	589	162	1012	58.2
12. Charles Meloy, Newark	5	10	539	147	950	56.7
13. Gerald Wiseman, Chillicothe ..	5	10	440	109	900	48.8
14. Melvin Kalb, Bcyryus	3	12	398	91	864	46.0
15. Lester Rose, Gallipolis	2	13	398	93	842	47.2
16. Eddie Fouse, Wilmington	2	13	353	79	818	43.1

CLASS B

1. Leo Fouse, Wilmington	7		260	65	456	57.0
2. Howard Bryant, Washington C. H.	5	2	240	66	430	55.8
3. Tom Pearce, W. Jefferson	4	3	202	54	400	50.8
4. McElvin Montgomery, Columbus	4	3	221	55	450	49.1
5. Merle Banister, Thornville	4	3	202	51	422	47.8
6. Martin Hill, Westerville	2	5	178	39	428	41.5
7. Audie Rich, Cincinnati	2	5	144	22	402	35.8
8. Glenn Boehringer, Covington ..		7	68	8	288	23.6

Alvin Skinner, Fairmount	2	5	208	460	45.2
Richard Pitcher, Connersville	2	5	149	414	36.0
Paul Walter, Indianapolis	0	5	100	292	34.2
Ed Nichols, Fairmount	0	7	77	332	23.2
Lester Crask, Noblesville—WITHDREW					
Bob Brumfield, Markleville—WITHDREW					
Dale Buckallew, Indianapolis—WITHDREW					
Mel Paschall, Wabash—WITHDREW					
John Lents, Alexandria—WITHDREW					
Lester Craven, Moores Hill—WITHDREW					

JUNIOR DIVISION (Includes play-off games)

Tom Hinkle, Bloomington	9	1	279	538	51.9
Jerry Keyes, Winchester	7	2	234	468	50.0
Bob Harrold, Converse	7	2	218	462	47.6
Mickey Douglas, Bloomington	5	4	202	542	37.3
Bob Vinning, Parker	4	5	197	554	35.6
Larry McNees, Modoc	3	5	159	512	31.1
Jack Finchum, Muncie	3	5	151	512	29.5
Curtis Craven, Moores Hill	1	7	124	482	25.7
Jack Lee, Muncie	0	8	26	384	6.7

* * *

FINAL RESULTS

NORTHERN INDIANA HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT

CLASS A

	W.	L.	R.	SP.	Pct.
Harrison Maitlen, Berne	7	0	360	504	71.4
Earl Van Natter, Bryant	5	2	331	472	70.1
Richard Konieczny, Laporte	4	3	329	528	60.0
Clyde Green, Portland	4	3	296	466	63.5
Harley Campbell, Bryant	3	4	344	498	69.1
Noah Adams, Claypool	2	5	250	434	57.8
Bill Hobbs, Kokomo	2	5	273	464	58.8
Lester West, Gas City	1	6	263	446	59.0

Best game—Earl Van Natter, 48 ringers in 62 shoes for 77.4%.

Sportsmanship Award—Bill Hobbs.

CLASS B

Elbert Boone, Wabash	7	1	296	506	58.5
Bob Pence, Gary	6	2	310	524	59.1
Dale Solsbery, Sharpsville	5	2	270	466	57.9
Charlie Cummings, Sweetser	3	4	256	480	53.3
Neil Farr, Swayzee	3	4	217	434	50.0
Clair Christener, Berne	3	4	256	468	54.7
Cleve Reed, Rich Valley	2	5	188	388	48.4
Art Moore, Wabash	0	7	184	400	46.0

Best game—Bob Pence, 39 ringers in 52 shoes for 75.0%.

CLASS C

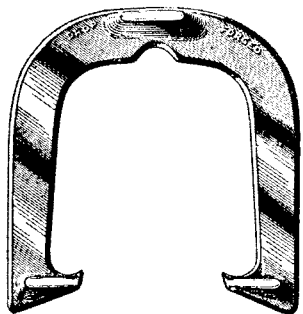
Clifford Landis, Monroe	7	1	309	532	58.1
John Huffman, Gary	6	2	293	540	54.3
John Coble, Peru	5	2	228	452	50.4
Ed Jamison, Marion	4	3	251	414	54.1
Kenneth Haffner, Portland	4	3	234	456	51.3
Mel Paschall, Wabash	2	5	212	456	46.5
Bill Wenzel, Mishawaka	1	6	186	440	42.3
Emerson Moore, Largo	0	7	188	430	43.7

Best game—Clifford Landis, 38 ringers in 58 shoes for 65.5%.

"CHAMPIONSHIP HORSESHOES" NEWEST TV SHOW GOES INTO TENTH WEEK — MILTON TATE HOLDS CHAMPIONSHIP FOR SEVEN STRAIGHT WEEKS

On December 19th, Milton Tate of Peoria, Illinois, Eastern National Champion, and Rocky Mountain Open Champion, set a pace that overpowered John Lindmeier and went on to capture Truman Standard, current Illinois State Champion, the week of December 26th thereby taking home his second golden horseshoe. Hoping to start the new year off right, on January 2nd, Curtis Day of Frankfort, Indiana, figured that perhaps if he used his reverse pitch on his worthy opponent maybe he could stop his winning streak, but to no avail, Tate marched on. With the glitter of gold in his eyes, he returned on January 9th to match ringers with Harrison Maitlen of Berne, Indiana, holder of the Northern and Eastern Indiana titles. Despite his valiant efforts, Maitlen succumbed to Tate's steady pitching. By this time, after many phone calls and wires, Glen Anderson of Moline, Illinois, 1956 Rock River Champion and holder of sixth place in the National Tournament, made his appearance on January 16th, but he too was unable to stop the forward look of the Peoria wizard. January 23rd, being the sixth appearance of the TV king it began to look like Tate was making a hobby of collecting golden horseshoes and by now his bankroll was beginning to show a slight swelling. His opponent was Virgil Taylor of Greencastle, Indiana, and Wabash Valley Champion. It being Virgil's 21st birthday he displayed the ability of a true champion and played Tate an outstanding game but at the end of the 25 inning match Tate was again the winner taking home his sixth golden horseshoe. All good things must end, so the saying goes, and so ended the winning streak of Milton Tate when he was dethroned by that sparkling ringer artist, Don Titcomb of Sunnyvale, California, on January 30th. The match was a nip and tuck game and was not decided until the final few innings of the game. Don's first opponent will be Gene Brumefield of Markleville, Indiana.

. . . 1957 . . .



Congratulations to the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association and best wishes on the new publication. For 1957 as in the past the Gordon Spin-On Horseshoes will be on the Top, used by the Top-Notch Pitchers, to establish new records and break the old ones.

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TWO ILLINOIS INDUSTRIAL TEAMS POSE BEFORE A MATCH GAME

Want To Improve Your Pitching?

. . . . Ted Allen, World's Champ, Tells You How

From my own person experiences and those of others I hope to show you where you are making mistakes in pitching so anyone, even an expert, may add a little to his knowledge of correct form or become a little more skillful.

To start with there is this to remember: Most every individual looks a little different when pitching and has his characteristic little peculiarities. Each topnotch pitcher has a different form. That goes in all sports, but each person in his own way makes his shot just as accurate. The expert does apply some of the fundamentals, though. Some of the peculiarities may be just bad habits developed in early training and they are hard to overcome after many years. For this purpose this article is to start a beginner out right so that the years of pitching ahead will be easier. At the same time the expert might learn some little habit of his which may be throwing him off his usual form.

No doubt this job of learning how to pitch horseshoes looks very hard when first starting in. But you remember when you were in school and a hard problem was put before you, it seemed impossible to do and there seemed to be no solution. Yet there was just some little thing you had to know before solving it and then you had it. When the examinations ahead made you feel nervous for fear you would not know the answers, you got down to work and studied hard. After they were over, you said "Why the exams this time weren't hard," simply because you had studied your lessons.

Practice Is Needed

The same applies to everything. **Knowledge of the correct way to pitch and putting that knowledge to practice will make a good pitcher out of most any beginner!**

There are exceptions to every rule of course. Some fellows are always in the state of experimentation and sometimes never get better. It sometimes is dangerous for a person to try changing his way of pitching and it has been

known to ruin him for good. And that is usually because he lost his confidence at the first sign of slipping in the new way. He forgot that you need practice in any method. I do not wish to scare you out of trying to correct a bad habit in delivering a shoe. If you have confidence in yourself to do a thing you can do it regardless of obstacles. A lot of it is in your head. You ought to be able to be your own judge of that and you will have to do quite a bit of judging as to whether you are forming the correct habits of pitching.

Each person is an individual and he might copy after this or that expert but as long as he puts to use the fundamentals of a good form he should not worry. His physique has something to do with it also.

Before I tell you actually how to pitch, there is another thing I want you to know. It also takes a certain knowledge of your physical being, physiology and physical culture to keep in the best condition for your best pitching at the proper time. I use my arms for many different kinds of sports. That is to say, I keep my muscles well developed and lead a well rounded life of sports. To do this also keeps your mind in a state of well-being which in turn also helps to keep your balance in pitching and also a better understanding and ability to concentrate.

With a development in different lines of sports you are building up a state of resistance against tiring out in a tournament. This also prevents going stale on the game of horseshoe pitching. Going stale on it means a sudden losing of interest in it and it might be several days or weeks before you care anything about it any more.

Muscles Count

Horseshoe pitching needs strong arms and legs to stand up in a tournament. Therefore a fellow who keeps developing his muscles in working, sports, or stretching has the advantage of co-ordination between his mind and muscles.

And so I believe the all around athlete stands a good chance of being a good horseshoe pitcher if he wants to. I have used my pitching arm for just about everything and every muscle has been developed at sometime or other. So I say to you young fellows: If you want to become topnotchers you better start learning early while your muscles can be trained the proper way for pitching horseshoes and you are athletically inclined, because the tougher pitchers now days are the young and well-developed athletes.

It is best to exercise care in over indulging in other sports just prior to a horseshoe tournament and if your muscles are stiff and sore from your occupation try to get them limbered up before hand. Many pitchers have told me they cannot do better at pitching because of the nature of their work. There is no doubt that it has something to do with it, speaking from my own experiences, but I do think the situation could be remedied somewhat if the person tries to adjust his pitching muscles to the occasion, and to get the working muscles and pitching muscles to coordinate. Sounds easier than done. It will help if a person can take his practice at the right time to tone up his muscles. Too much practice could be harmful because after so long a time your arm tires and you begin to toss back and forth just for the sake of it but you have lost your technique and lost desire to try hard enough. Just pitching packing and forth is not necessarily practicing. You have to be trying to put those ringers on with relaxed muscles. Tired muscles tighten up and then you are apt to be developing a bad form. It is time to quit when you feel you have had enough and are still going good. I mean this when you are practicing alone.

Next month's "News Digest" will feature another interesting article by Ted Allen, the World's Champion.

DEADLINE FOR "NEWS DIGEST"—FIRST OF MONTH

Reminiscing With Richard L. Herrick

As I sit here cozily perched in my big easy chair while the wind sweeps the snow across the plains of Nebraska, my thoughts carry me back to last summer at Murray, Utah. It was here that I saw my first National tournament after a lapse of 23 years.

It was nice to see some of the fellows I had met there many years ago. Among them were John Gordon, Ted Allen, Fernando Isais, Milton Tate, Robert Pence and many others.

Well, to begin with, in one of Tate's games he lost one ringer that seemed perfect to him but it lost the game and it just about broke his heart, but what was that compared to the one wild pitch in more than 2000 by Titcomb that cost him the championship of the whole world It took 5 straight doubles for Ted Allen to get his last point against a young man of 75 years young, Maxwell from Ohio The midnight game between Curt Day of Indiana and Truman Standard of Illinois, will always be remembered by many. Great victories bring bitter defeats. Dempsey and Firpo. The most popular man in the country at that time and now a forgotten man, tho' he's a millionaire I followed and scored all of Ted Allen's games and saw the last part of many others I watched Harry Russel continue to improve to become a class "A" pitcher. He used to lose the close ones but now he wins them Then there was Virgil Taylor who has tasted defeat and from now on he will be the man to beat. He is as nice a fellow as you would ever want to meet I bunked with Glen Anderson of Illinois and he is as calm out there on the courts as he is when he is sleeping I'll look forward all year to meeting our Canadian friends again As Robinson came off the courts he said, It's tough out there, I thought that man Wahlin would never stop throwing ringers. He added, "It's going to be different in the next round." Arch Stokes was beaming all over and shaking hands with everyone, he is one swell guy I watched Ted Allen climbing the light pole at Boulder, isn't that a dignified picture of the World's champion? He worked like 6 Missouri mules. Someone said, "That's not a man, that's a machine." Isais is still the most graceful of them all Ted Burrows is a champion in his own right They beat Bob Baker but they didn't scare him Alvin Gandy is a great guy when you get to know him. He makes it rough on you Dean Brown after his game with Ted, "How the heck could I beat him?" Harry Page, "I can't get my shoe to working." Fred Bonaly, "I don't have any business in there." Don Titcomb, "It's always a tough game if you beat Allen, Isais or Zimmerman." Sam Somerhalder, "A 3-quarter turn is all right if you throw it backwards." The most cheerful guy, Joe McNamara Curt Day, after his losing effort of 6 straight four-deads against Allen, "I just couldn't get going." And now as I hear the wind whistling outside my thoughts return from Murray and I leave you with this closing remark, "I'll be back next year with the grandest bunch of guys and dolls in the world."

* * *

OUR MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

The N. H. P. A. is an organization of horseshoe pitchers, conducted by horseshoe pitchers and for horseshoe pitchers. It is dedicated to the welfare and promotion of the game. With that thought in mind the delegates voted to publish a magazine at the last convention. It is now in production as you know and is a credit to our organization. Let's use it for what it is intended. We are proud of it and every member should think of himself as a committee of "One" to extend its sphere of influence. YOU can do your part by helping to get more members. Let's all change our name to GEORGE and then help GEORGE do the job that must be done.

With a television program and a magazine at our disposal the game will reach vast numbers of people that never knew anything about the game or our organization. Many of them will become interested and as a result an entirely new field is opened. Be an opportunist and a booster and help sell memberships. Please keep those State secretaries busy writing out new membership cards and they will thank you for your efforts.

Cletus Chappelle, Chairman

"HORSESHOE PITCHING COMES BACK"

By "MICKEY" VECCHITTO

The fine art of horseshoe pitching absent from this small town of 30,000 in Middletown, Connecticut returned just three years ago through the fine cooperation of the Middletown Press, Middletown Park Department and Mickey Vecchitto.

Horseshoe pitching thought of as a back yard game or a playground contest was revived in this town. Your writer journeyed to the Park Department to the new Recreation Director, Bernie O'Rourke and the wheels began to churn.

The Park Department okayed the venture, Fred J. Post, sports editor of the Middletown Press started the publicity rolling and a league was formed. The Park Department put in six courts and today eight are active.

The first year (1954), the Middletown Horseshoe pitching league was organized with six teams and 60 players. The second year the interest was at the same peak and the league continued.

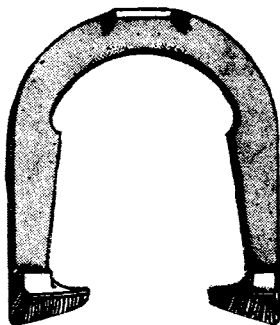
The urge continued and Deep River, a community of 2,000 just 21 miles south of Middletown took up after a 15 year lapse and 32 players took part. They played in doubles instead of singles. Both towns played home and home matches and broken even in a set of four.

Your writer would like to quote a letter from Al Pearson, secretary for the Deep River club, before the match: "I feel willing to arrange this match regardless of how good or bad we may be, for I think your main objective is to get the gang together for a good time. Am I right? I always did like to play a stronger opponent. In other words maybe I'm not a sore loser. I like the fun angle of the game, the winning or losing comes secondary."

The revival in Connecticut could start in any other town in the country. Recreation today is vital and what other way to enjoy yourself than tossing horseshoes.

Bernie O'Rourke, Middletown Recreational Director has this to say about the return of horseshoe pitching. "We in Middletown are lucky to have a fellow like Mickey Vecchitto in town who devotes so much time to horseshoe pitching, lining up the league and carrying out the details to run the league. Horseshoe pitching is here to stay in Middletown and we plan to fix up the courts again this year and add at least two more areas."

One of the aims of the group is to get Connecticut or the Middlesex County area 100% in the N.H.P.A. program. To date we have about 35 members but with the increased interest we hope to gain in 1957.



TED ALLEN HORSESHOE COMPANY

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The shoe used by the WORLD'S CHAMPION, Ted Allen in winning all his titles and establishing World's records.

WHERE TO PLAY WHEN YOU'RE AWAY

- ARIZONA**—Peart Park, Casa Grande; Rendesvous Park, Mesa; Encanto Park, Phoenix.
- ARKANSAS**—Fair Park, Boyle Park, MacArthur Park, Little Rock.
- CALIFORNIA**—Community Center, Compton; Exposition Park, Los Angeles; Union Pacific Courts, Long Beach; Mosswood Park, Oakland; Horseshoe Grounds, Ontario, Golden Gate Courts, Candlestick Cove, Crocker-Amazon Courts, San Francisco; Memorial Park, South San Francisco; Lincoln Park, Santa Monica; McNear Park, Petaluma; Ives Memorial Park, Sebastopol.
- CANADA**—Dieppe Park, East York.
- COLORADO**—City Park and Washington Park, Denver; City Park, Greeley.
- CONNECTICUT**—Beardsley Park, Bridgeport; Pope Park, Hartford.
- DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**—Commerce Courts, Washington.
- FLORIDA**—South Waterfront Park, St. Petersburg; Bradenton Trailer Park, Bradenton.
- ILLINOIS**—Welles Park, Chicago; Athletic Park, Canton; Riverside Park, Moline; Mineral Springs Park, Pekin; Reservoir Park, Quincy; Long View Park, Rock Island; Big Creek Park, Canton; Laura Branley Park, Peoria; Kings Park, Pittsfield; Fairview Park, Decatur.
- INDIANA**—Brookside Park, Indianapolis; Dorner Park, Frankfort; Columbia Park, Lafayette; Forest Park, Noblesville; 3rd Street Park, Bloomington; Greendale Park, Lawrenceburg; Jackson Park, Gary; Tower Park, Valparaiso.
- IOWA**—Birdland Park, Des Moines; Riverside Park, Ottumwa; Crapo Park, Burlington; Island Park, Cedar Falls; Ellis Park, Cedar Rapids; LeClaire Park, Davenport; Byrnes Park, Waterloo.
- KANSAS**—Forest Park, Ottawa; Gage Park, Topeka; Katy Park, Chanute; Huntress Park, Clay Center; Riverside Park, Iola; Klammer Park, Kansas City; South Park, Lawrence; City Park, Manhattan; Prospect Park, Wichita.
- KENTUCKY**—Shady Shores, Covington.
- MAINE**—Auburn, Riverside Courts, Bangor; Bangor Club, Farmington; City Park, Hebron; Community Courts, Portland; Deering Oaks, Rumford; High School, So. Portland; Wilkinson Park.
- MARYLAND**—Carroll Park, Baltimore; Magruder Park, Hyattsville.
- MASSACHUSETTS**—Municipal Playgrounds, Westfield.
- MICHIGAN**—Grand Rapids, Franklin, Park.
- MINNESOTA**—Como & Elfelt, St. Paul; Soldier Memorial Field, Rochester; Loring Park, Minneapolis.
- MISSOURI**—Municipal Park, Carthage; Neosho, Fair Grounds, Springfield; Grant Beach Park; St. Joseph, Noyes Blvd. at Edmond; Forest Park, St. Louis; Liberty Park, Sedalia; Memorial Park, Sweet Springs; Phelps Grove Park, Springfield.
- NEBRASKA**—Harmon Park, Kearney; Dewey Park, Omaha.
- NEW HAMPSHIRE**—South Playground, Portsmouth; Ryan H. S. Club, Dover Point; Pop Ryans, 14 Central Ave., Portsmouth; White's Courts, 942 Woodberry Ave., Portsmouth; Henry Law Park, Dover.
- NEW JERSEY**—Warinanco Park, Elizabeth; Branch Brook Park, Newark; Wessel Brook Park, Wessel Brook Playground; Nash Park, Clifton.
- NEW YORK**—Central Park, Fort George, 193 Fort George Ave., Inwood Hill Park, New York City; St. Mary's Park, Williamsbridge Oval Park, Woodlawn, Van Cortlandt Park, all in the Bronx; Parade Grounds, Fort Green Park, Brooklyn; Belmont Lake State Park, Babylon, L.I.; Johnson City, Endicott-Johnson Courts; Kirk Park, Syracuse; Recreation Park, Port Chester; Edgerton Park, Rochester; K of C Courts, Hoosick Falls.
- OHIO**—Jermain Park, Toledo; Cedar Point, Sandusky; Williams Memorial Park, Wilmington, Community Park, Cedarville; Norwood Courts, Norwood; St. Margaret Cartona, Cincinnati.
- OKLAHOMA**—Oklahoma City, Wiley Post Park; Sapulpa, City Park; Tulsa, Central Park.
- OREGON**—Laurelhurst Park, Portland; Bush Pasture Park, Salem; Atkinson Park, Oregon City; Columbia Park, Portland; East Side Park, Eugene.
- PENNSYLVANIA**—District Courts, Pittsburgh; Pt. Marion, Frank Murphy's Courts; Joe Mett's Courts, Revere; Oakhurst Courts, Johnstown; Playground Courts, New Freedom, Millsboro Hotel Courts, Millsboro.
- RHODE ISLAND**—Columbus Square, W. Warwick; Olney Courts, Washington.
- SOUTH DAKOTA**—McKenna Park, Sioux Falls.
- TEXAS**—Will Rogers Park, Amarillo; Elwood Park, Amarillo; Mason Park, Houston; Bellevue Park, Wichita Falls.
- UTAH**—County Fair Grounds, Murray; Liberty Park, Salt Lake City.
- VERMONT**—Stolte Field, Brattleboro; Memorial Park, Bennington; Ethan Allen Park, Burlington; Local Athletic Field, Springfield.
- WASHINGTON**—Zelasko Park, Aberdeen; City Park, Bremerton; Woodland Park, Seattle; Wright Park, Tacoma; Fair Grounds, Yakima; Lions Park, Hoquiam.
- WEST VIRGINIA**—Bar B-Q Courts, East Nitro; Wheeling Island, Wheeling; Midelburg Park, Logan; Winsle Coal Corp., Chapmanville.
- WISCONSIN**—Washington Park, Milwaukee; Jones Park, Fort Atkinson.
- WYOMING**—Pioneer Park, Cheyenne; Washington Park, Rawlins; Washington Park, Wheatland; Community Courts, La Grange.

IF YOU ARE NOT LISTED HERE, GET BUSY!

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