

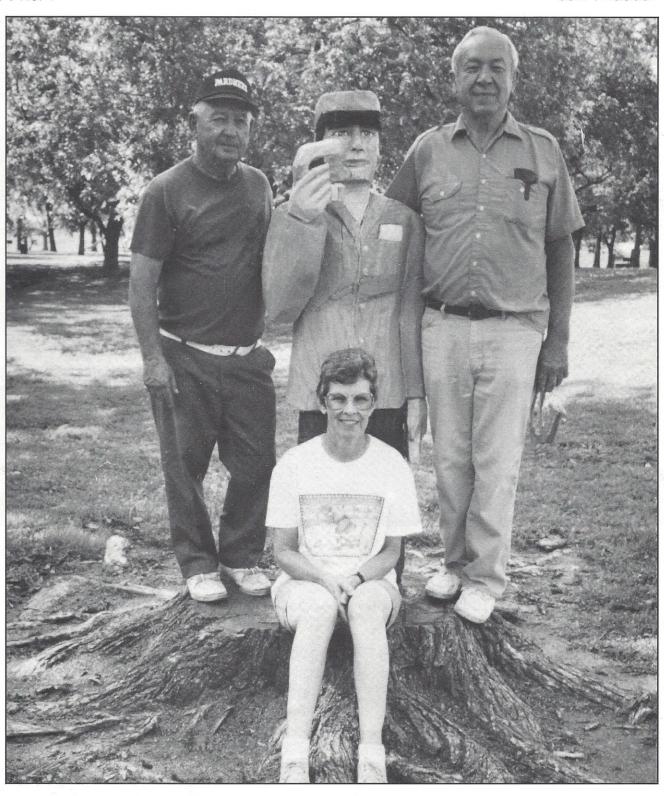
The National Horseshoe Pitcher's Association

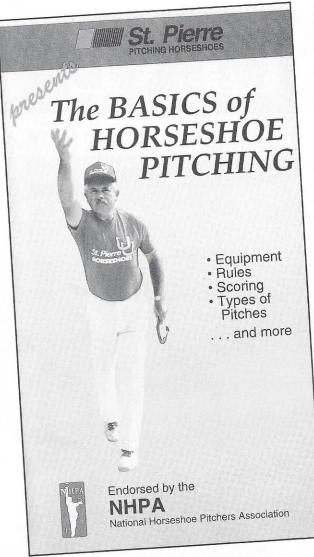
NHPA

NEWSLINE

VOL. 6 NO. 4

JULY / AUGUST 1994





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OUR COVER

Marvin & Deanie Reheis, Ronald Martin with "The Horseshoe Thrower."

President's Message

In the Fall of 1988, I was asked to attend the Minnesota State business meeting in Wadena. There was some opposition to the newly implemented NHPA liability insurance and confusion as to the benefits of being an NHPA member. The question "why" was being magnified by a portion of the state membership that didn't belong to the NHPA and seemed opposed to the charter efforts of strengthening ties with the National Association.

In the years since that visit, total NHPA membership in Minnesota has grown from just over 350 to nearly 1000, making that state one of the strongest charters in the land. While some still remain only state members, seemingly content to stay within an ever decreasing field of play, the improvements in NHPA membership and sanctioned play in Minnesota are examples to be praised and admired. But that is not the purpose of this message. Rather, it is to remind ourselves of why we belong and why others should belong, to the NHPA.

The average horseshoe pitcher in any part of the country doesn't get too involved with the politics of the game either at the club or state level. Most just want to pitch and not be bothered with much else. Fine, but if you have a desire for any form of organized horseshoe play outside of the back yard, you have to recognize that it doesn't happen without the efforts of others who are willing to impart their knowledge and assistance. It is naive to believe that recognized competition can take place with-

out some form of higher organization having been involved.

NHPA members are fortunate to have a minority of dedicated people working within the game for the benefit of the majority. It starts with your club officers and moves up to your Charter Officers, Regional Directors, Program Directors and on to your National Officers. All of these levels are assisted by workers and sometimes sponsors that give of their time and money. The point is that no matter how uninvolved you may wish to be, you can't stay informed or participate without being assisted by the work of someone else.

The courts you play on, the horseshoes you pitch, the handicap system you use, the tournaments and leagues you attend, the rules and bylaws you follow and sometimes criticize, are all there for you because the NHPA is constantly overseeing all aspects of the game. The manufacturers of the horseshoes you pitch are monitored, informational data is published and made available for distribution, videos produced, juniors promoted, leagues formed, tournaments played and averages maintained, all because the NHPA is there for you.

If you know a horseshoe pitcher or a club that does not yet belong to the NHPA, encourage them to join for the above reasons. If these are not enough, remind them of why they register to vote, join the PTA, AARP, a trade union or other organization—because membership not only helps to perpetuate the association but gives one knowledge with a voice and a stronger sense of belonging.

Dave's Court Report

- The Southwest Pacific Zone Regional Tournament scheduled for April 23-24 in Davis, California was rained out. It has been rescheduled for September 17-18, 1994 and entries have been reopened.
- Ten division winners or top finalists of 1993 Regional tournaments have confirmed their intent to play in the first U.S. National Championships to be held in Syracuse, New York during the World Tournament. The 10 players are Walter Ray Williams Jr., Don "Mtn. Goat" Gregson and Gail Sluys from California, Rick Cale from West Virginia, Art Tyson from New York, Peter Clark from Washington, Jim Walters from Ohio, Lenwood Conner, Jr., from Virginia, Phyllis Negaard from Minnesota and Patty Sapp from Oregon.
- So far comments on the 1994 World format of play have been very supportive. I realize that no format will please all, but your comments have encouraged me to put the proposed 1995 format on the agenda of this year's convention for discussion and hopefully, delegate approval. Setting the format early will help everyone.
- Congratulations to the following people who will be honored at this year's Awards Banquet in Syracuse. Inductees to the NHPA Hall of Fame will be Tari Powell of Illinois and Harold Darnold of Iowa. Ed Domey of Massachusetts will receive the Stokes Award. Achievement winners are the Pioneer Horseshoe Club of Syracuse, Ed Quigley of New Jersey and Bart Sargent of Massachusetts. The Presidential Achievement Award will go to Oliver Smith of California.

- Eight new courts have been completed in Winchester, Kentucky with two more planned. The club and courts started by Don Titcomb recently hosted their first tournament and received front page coverage and pictures in the Sports section of the May 14th edition of the Winchester Sun.
- Tournament Directors and/or Statisticians—don't forget to send results to NatStats in a timely manner. It became apparent many of you have been lax in this responsibility as World entries were being received. Many members claimed tournaments that had not been reported, causing NatStats director Oliver Smith hours of phone calls as he tried to verify the claims of entrants. If it weren't for his extra efforts, more members than just a few would have been denied entry to the World.
- ■Thanks to N. California member Stewart Snyder who once again has done his part to promote the NHPA and *Newsline*. As has become his practice, Stu sent the NHPA \$60 to cover the cost of 5 one year subscriptions to *Newsline* which is his gift to all new members of the Sonoma County Horseshoe Club. Stu has also been responsible for funding the initial subscription of readers in Australia and the Bahamas.
- Again, with little time left, I'd like to remind charter presidents their delegates to the National Convention (NHPA Business Meeting) must be pre-registered to be seated and have voting privileges at the meeting. A list of delegates naming the chairperson must be submitted to the NHPA President at least 72 hours before the meeting. Some charters failed to do this last year, leaving them with no voice or vote at the meeting.

Letters to the Editor

Newsline Editor,

Although I have wondered if any other charter has a State League Tournament to determine a state champion, it brings out whether the NHPA could honor a National Champion.

May I explain how Colorado conducts their charter League Tournament and offer to answer any questions other states might have.

In 1993 we had 11 clubs during the summer months having league play and if they have league on more than one night, a playoff is held to determine the city champion. Denver has fall and winter leagues and may send their champions.

The state league coordinator (vice president) is the director of the tournament. All stats must be received by a designated date. Teams are usually represented by a high, middle and low percentage pitcher. The tournament is handicapped using the 90% chart in the NHPA red book. During league and tournament play, a 50-shoe countall format is used.

In Colorado, a 16-team bracket was used, inserting the necessary byes. Winners advance to the quarter-finals, semi-finals and finals. A consolation series is played to determine third and fourth place. The tournament is completed in one weekend. The tournament is sanctioned and percentages are forwarded to NatStats.

Alternates are assigned to each player and cannot be more or less than 10 points for the pitcher they will alternate for in the event. At the 1994 Annual Meeting in April, the membership voted that teams MUST have, at least, two members of the championship teams pitching or forfeit.

I hope the future holds a place for both the League and doubles championships.

Russell Bartle, CHPA Secretary

To The Editor,

Do we dare change?

Our NHPA president contacted 60 national corporations and not one indicated any interest in allocating funds for sponsoring our sport. Newsline, in the May/June 1994 issue, also reported potential sponsors related that horseshoe pitching was

not an exciting game. Moreover, a marketing survey reported horseshoe pitching failed to make a list of the 114 most popular sports in America. At Seward, Nebraska, no one observes our horseshoe pitchers in league play and just a few spectators observe our pitchers in tournaments.

I enjoy pitching horseshoes. In fact, I have fun every time I play the game. I can't understand why others do not become involved in our game and have fun and get in some good exercise too.

Is is possible to have both fun and spectator appeal? Are we able to promote our sport so we can make the "Top 100" list of the most popular sports in America? Perhaps, but we will need to change to make it more appealing to the spectators and media.

I will compile any suggestions for improvement of spectator appeal and pass your suggestions on to my NHPA Regional Director and the national officers. Please write if you have any ideas on this.

John Seevers Route 2, Box 270, Seward, NE 68434 402-643-4703

Editor's note: Thanks John. As NHPA President and *Newsline* editor, I appreciate your offer to get involved.

Dear Dave,

We really enjoy your informational articles and letters to the editor each month, so much we wrote our own.

We are not interested in who complained about the format of earlier World Tournaments, it seems as if someone is always unhappy. A potential problem this year is that with the three-day pitching, many of us family pitchers could be at a disadvantage. Many persons have limited vacation days. With this year's format, instead of the usual one week stay we may be forced to stay over ten days. We saw the tentative Syracuse schedule in the last Newsline, and have questions of: Who decides on the format and who changes it? Shouldn't involved pitchers in the past WT's have some input? Our motto here is "if it's not broken, don't fix it."

There could have been no smoother running W.T. than Spearfish 1993, so why did we change it? It seems if persons want to pitch more days, they

should attend more tournaments! We also wonder why it takes so long to get the schedules published after the deadline for entering the W.T. has passed. If you receive a schedule in the end of June and the refund period is before June 3, how can you rationally make a decision without just withdrawing and losing your entry fees, or make plane and hotel reservations, which many times must be made 30 days in advance?

We also would like to comment on a recent letter to the editor from Stewart Snyder, CA. It seems that my family, plus about 80% of the NHPA pitchers are in your "Tom, Dick and Harry" group. We doubt that any pitcher was born in "A" class, so they were at one time the "lowest and poorest pitchers" as it was put. We attend the W.T. to enjoy the company of other horseshoe pitchers, whatever class they may be in! We find it refreshing to pitch with persons from other countries and states and have formed lasting friendships from year to year. We feel this is the true meaning of the W.T. We doubt that the W.T. is ever going to become a "cumbersome discredit to the NHPA." In our opinion, it is just the opposite and we applaud the attendance of ALL competitors every year.

Brian and Tam Fisher Lewisburg, Ohio

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Reader Forum

Dear Dave.

I'm 72 and still pitching at 40', just a mediocre, inconsistent, streak, 35% player. But like all players, once in a while I have a magical 20% over my average game in tournament play. That keeps me going, thinking that with more practice and experience that will be my average sometime before I die. I'm dreaming I suppose. However, my friend, no young buck either, just threw a career high, 40', average length game of 77%. So none of us should give up our dream.

You have been publishing some interesting letters on this 30'-40' subject. A little friendly controversy is good to keep us old codgers alive and thinking on how to improve this great game. I hope we can disagree agreeably and not create any animosity. After all it isn't a life and death matter.

It's crazy to say that 30 footers and 40 footers are evenly matched by putting them in the right group by percentage. That doesn't allow for the advantage (29%) they have of making single points plus other advantages that Mr. Rosa pointed out. I don't know how to correct this problem except by not counting points or using the countall with handicap game. It is a little upsetting to be beaten by a 30-ft.'er when you have the most ringers.

Four points/three points is now being touted as a brilliant idea. Mr. Pardue even suggested it could be a revelation from the Almightly comparable to our Country's founding principles (humorously exaggerating, I'm sure). When I first proposed this original (Ithink) idea in Newsline May-June '91, no one even commented on it. Now two years later (Newsline May-June '93) a Mr. Orv Lokken proposes my idea and it is suddenly hot stuff. Regardless of who gets the credit, I hope it is discussed more. I'm sure it would keep the strong healthy players throwing 40' longer, maybe even some women and humble some 30-ft.'ers who seem to get a little arrogant.

Please, Dave, give the complete addresses of letter writers, so we nuts who like this forum can contact each other. Thank you.

Mariner Munk P.O. Box 8, Howell, UT 94316 801-471-2274

Reader Forum,

For years I have listened to and read about people criticizing 30 ft. pitchers. I am a lady horseshoe pitcher 71 years old. When I started pitching I threw from 40 ft. and was lucky to get the shoes in the pit. I am a short person and there is no way I can pitch at 40 ft. My eye-sight isn't as good as it used to be. My old hips, knees and arms aren't as flexible as they used to be. Am I supposed to quit pitching? I know men, especially elders that cannot pitch from 40 ft, but they sure can pitch from 30 ft. Are they supposed to quit pitching? What do you want us to do?—sit around and cheer you on? Ha!

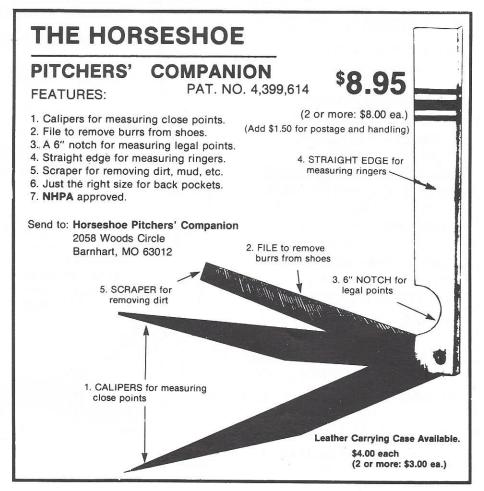
I thought horseshoes was a game of fun, meeting and making new friends. There aren't enough 30 ft. pitchers to hold their own tournaments, so we have to have mixed tournaments. You can't please everyone all the time. Have fun, but get off our backs.

Jeanne Gibbons, Grass Valley, CA

Dear News Editor,

In regard to 30 footers, some pitchers are getting tired of hearing about it, I know, but I would like to make one more statement. I have participated in sports all of my teen to adult life. I was introduced to horseshoe pitching when I was 62 years old. Because of an arthritic condition I had to give up other sports. I enjoy pitching with people. A fellow stated in the Newsline that 30 footers should only keep score or go home and pull weeds. He must be an uncaring person and has little respect for others. We don't have advantage over the 40 footers. I am 73 years young, have had five hip joint replacements, two total knees and a round with cancer in the past 16 years. I still pitch horseshoes in competition, enjoy it greatly at only 25% ringer. Just because some of us have years totaled up and some problems, that does not mean we are through living. Thank you.

Bob Mullenhour, Union City, MI Secy., Union Lake Horseshoe Club



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The Syracuse Pioneer Horseshoe Club

Past and Present 1983-1994

By Dave Harnden

he Pioneer Horseshoe Club moved from its original site of the Mattydale VFW to its present location, the NY State Fairgrounds, in the winter of 1983. The reason for the move was twofold; we nearly doubled the number of courts from 6 to 10 (later 12) and our new courts were to be inside. We had to postpone several league matches on the old courts due to severe weather conditions.

Instrumental in the Great Move from the VFW to the Fairgrounds, were the Pioneer Club's "Founding Fathers." Led by John Ruston, this group consisted of Lance Hinman, Al LaRock, Harry Dunbar, Caz Osinski, Tony Sauro, Charlie Mertens, Mike Vanelli, and yours truly, Dave Harnden. John, Tony, and I had constructed courts, run tournaments, played in tournaments and leagues, and pitched horseshoes over a span of twenty-five years prior to this move!

John received permission from the Fairgrounds to use one of its unoccupied buildings. The building was located on the west-side of the Fairgrounds, near the microd-race track. The Pioneer building-to-be was one of the Fairgrounds older but sturdy structures. It originally housed a skating rink with ample bleachers on each side. In more recent years, it was used to store tables, chairs, booths, and various other paraphernalia from the State Fair.

If you had seen our building back in '83, and now in '94, you would be amazed by the great transformation. It changed from an open-ended barn, packed to the brim with storage equipment to an enclosed horseshoe pitching arena. The Before, and After pictures were certainly sights to behold! Astounding changes have taken place since 1983!

We, first, had the arduous task of removing all the stored equipment from our arena-to-be to a nearby building. The next procedure was to lay out the pit areas for each of the 10 courts. The pits were measured carefully, and lined up in a grid-like pattern. Thanks to the expertise of several carpenters in our club's midst, our calculations were very accurate. We put our stakes in treated railroad ties, and checked their alignment in the center of each pit using string fastened tightly from one stake to another. We checked each box frame with a level to make certain there were no high or low spots. Our courts came out better than expected, with most of the stakes right on line, as you looked down across them from one court to another.

The first winter of construction began in early February. It was quite difficult, because we had to contend with frozen ground. We used jackhammers to break up the soil, and did plenty of shoveling to clear the pit areas. We constructed the frames for the horseshoe boxes as we aligned the pits in a grid pattern. We placed the railroad ties with stakes in the center of the pits and lined them up, looking from the front and the sides of the pits.

Next we brought in wheelbarrows of crushed stone to use for drainage in the pits, and as a base for the platforms, and walkways. We then took on the immense task of pouring cement for the platforms and some walkways. Our last, and most important task was to find and gather clay for the courts. We took it from a construction site located right on the Fairgrounds. We completed cement walkways and backstops for each pit in the next few winters.

Each winter, we made further improvements in our indoor pitching arena. In four years time, we had complete cement walkways and backstops for all tencourts. We added 2 courts on each end to bring our total number of courts to 12. We also installed a chainlink fence on both sides of our court areas to help prevent errant shoes from hitting spectators.

The next project dealt with enclosing the open ends of the building to

eliminate harsh rain and wind from coming in, and blowing across the courts. This also solved the dilemma of dust and dirt blowing in and also gave us privacy. The enclosure project consisted of large sheets of corrugated metal, which allowed for two large doors at each end. These can be opened during the summer months to allow fresh air in the pitching area.

The majority of the finishing work was done in the winter months on Saturday work details. Preparation for each new pitching season was also done before the start of our Spring League. Each year a faithful group of 10-15 workers make needed improvements and get the courts ready for the pitching season.

Other great im

Other great improvements over our years at the Fairgrounds site are a beautiful women's restroom, highly visible scoreboards and name cards, and enlarged backboards. These three improvements took many hours of hard labor, and received raves from visiting players throughout the years.

Monthly meetings are held during the off-season from December-April, to give us time to discuss rule changes and prepare for the coming season. We, of course, are holding more meetings this winter with the Syracuse Chamber of Commerce, because the Pioneer Club and the Chamber are hosting the 1994 World Tournament right here in Syracuse! It will mark the first time a World Horseshoe Tournament has ever been held in New York State!

Instrumental in organizing the work details, meetings, and the general running of the club, has been the Pioneer's first President at the Fairgrounds, Big John Ruston. John, the Saturday faithful, and the thirty or-so people who show up at our meetings, are the nucleus of the Pioneer Club. Without John and these Pioneer mainstays, our club would not be a reality!

During the peak years, our total club membership has reached as (continued next page)

high as 90 members. We average about 60-70 playing members, who pitch in our 3 leagues. We have mixed membership, with the ladies pitching against the men, in the various classes. Each member pitches two games of 50 shoes each Wednesday night during our 8-week leagues. League play begins in late April or early May and extends to late October. We have a two week break during the State Fair.

We operate our league using a countall format and a 90% handicap system. Originally we had 4 annual club tournaments, and now we have reduced this to three. This was mainly done to accommodate our main feature of the pitching season, the Pioneer Open Tournament, which we hold in early June. This has been held for the past seven years, and has attracted hundreds of players from New England, Pennsylvania, New York and Canada. It has met with tremendous success and has attracted such great players as Carl Steinfeldt, Art Tyson, Mike DiMartino, Glenn Burris, Kevin Hollister, and Andre LeClerc. Outstanding lady tossers have been Ruth Hangen, Sue Twyman, Lorraine Thomas, and Angeline, and Sylvianne Moisan.

The legendary "Steinie," who won our Open twice, will return to Syracuse to view the '94 World. Walter Ray Williams, also pitched at our courts in 1987. He was conducting a bowling promotion in New York, and stopped

by our courts in Syracuse. He pitched three close exhibition games with Pioneer ace, John Ruston. Walter Ray will be on his way to Syracuse again, to pitch in next summer's World!

Al LaRock served as the Open's first tournament director, followed by Glen Brown, and John Ruston. All three did a bang-up job, and carried on the tradition of a smoothly run, professional tournament. This is the base of operation from which we shall launch our biggest project ever, namely the 1994 World Horseshoe Tournament! Also, vital in the success of our open tournaments as well as our over-all league play, has been great contribution of our Ladies Auxiliary. Led by Joan Hinman, Ann Sposato, Ellie Ruston, and Teresa Mayer, the lady Pioneers have logged countless hours helping to make our Open tournaments great successes.

Many key people have helped to make the Pioneer Club one of the top organizations in the state. Chuck Mertens served faithfully as our first Treasurer, for four years. Margaret Wilkinson took over, and has served with distinction ever since. Jim Robertson was our first Secretary, and had a real flair for the position. Pat Delahunt ably took over his spot and also serves as a board member. Cas Osinski was our first League Director, and I followed him, serving for four years, 1984-87. Lance Hinman took over from there and still holds the position, having done a top-notch job the entire time.

Our club used a computerized system for figuring league statistics for four years. Bob Grozelka was the fine director of this system. Lance Hinman's son-in-law, Doug St. Laurent, continued with his own computer system, serving well for five years. We now have divided the responsibility by selecting class directors to figure class statistics, and oversee the pitchers in each class.

In a major move we also created a Board of Directors who make policy and carry out the duties of running the club. Before, most of the responsibility for running the club fell on the shoulders of John, Lance and a few others. Glenn Brown, Dick Sposato, Joe Frenza, and Carl Mayer have helped share the load by running club and open tournaments, selling raffle tickets, and supervising referees and pit workers.

Two of our pitchers are members of the New York State Horseshoe Hall of Fame. They are Tony Sauro and John Ruston. After a long and distinguished career, Tony was inducted in 1975. John followed Tony, being inducted at Floyd, NY in 1985. John, at the top of his game, and Tony, in his prime, were two of the best pitchers to ever come out of the Syracuse area. John finished a close second to Steinfeldt in the 1970 State Tourney, also held at the Fairgrounds. Tony was the first horseshoe player to be inducted into the Greater Syracuse Hall of Fame this fall. His induction helped to place horseshoes on its rightful level with other sports here in Syracuse.

It's with this great background of horseshoe pitching, and hub of activity, that we, the Pioneers, look forward to the 1994 World Tournament with great excitement and anticipation! For us it's a dream come true! It will be held in the Fairground's largest building—the Center of Progress building. Before long our maintenance crew will be working full steam ahead in getting the courts ready for their installation. They will be patterned in a similar fashion as those installed at Columbus in '92.

As the countdown to the '94 World Tourney takes place, we are anxious to put on what we feel will be one of the best World Tourneys ever. The Syracuse Pioneers extend to all of you, who plan to participate, a hardy welcome to pitch in our 1994 World Horseshoe Tournament!

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Horseshoe Legends Here in '94

by Dave Harnden

he Horseshoe Legends are on their way! That's right! Hall of Famers Carl Steinfeldt, Curt Day and Don Titcomb will be heading to Syracuse this summer for the 1994 World Tournament.

The Syracuse Pioneer Horseshoe Club and the Syracuse Chamber of Commerce will host the tournament. It will be held at the Center of Progress Building on the Fairgrounds from July 25-August 7. It will mark the first time New York State has ever hosted the World Tournament, and so our Pioneer Club is very anxious to put on one of the best ever tourneys!

Carl Steinfeldt

Carl Steinfeldt needs no introduction to Syracuse, because he won three consecutive State Titles at the Fairgrounds from 1969-71. Along with Day and Titcomb, "Steinie" ranks as one of the best pitchers of all time. In an unbelievable career, spanning over fifty years of pitching, the great left-hander has averaged over 8 out of 10 shoes ringing the stake or better than 80%! Steinfeldt is the only man to win a World Championship in the Men's Open, Intermediates and Seniors.

He won his Men's World Title in 1976, defeating Curt Day in a grueling play-off. Carl finished 2nd on two or more occasions, and was in the top five or ten throughout his career! "Steinie" captured 22 New York State titles, and 10 straight Florida State Crowns. He polished off ten Eastern National titles, and four straight Dogwood Festival titles. He also won two North American Tournaments during the only years the tourney was held.

In all of these contests Carl faced the top pitchers of the day, most of them averaging 80% or above for the entire tournament! Some players, as well as Carl, pitched in the mid to upper eighties for whole tournaments. Sporting a smooth-as-silk 1¼ delivery, "Steinie" was a competitor in many of the biggest remembered games. Such as the 1960 marathon game with Don Titcomb that went 176 shoes. This game, which Don won pitching 88.6% to Carl's 87.5%, broke

the 174 shoe game record set only three years earlier by Curt Day and Ted Allen. This new record stood only until 1965 when Glen Henton and Ray Martin set the current record (probably never to be broken) of 194 shoes—the world's longest game.

Carl still holds the World's record with Elmer Hohl for consecutive four-deads (all four shoes on the stake at the same time). They performed this feat in 1964 when both men had 15 doubles each, or 30 ringers in a row!

Curt Day

As with Carl Steinfeldt, Curt Day needs no introduction to the World Horseshoe scene. He has won the World three times in 1966, 1971 and 1974. Curt has averaged well over 80% in his many years of pitching. In 1966 he was 16-1 in an abbreviated tournament, averaging a blistering 85%. He finished 2nd in the World on three other occasions and was always in contention in the tournaments that he played.

A perfector of the ¾ reverse turn, Day was a great competitor and super-cool under under fire. He had an automatic delivery, and faced down his opponents like a gunfighter of the old west! While watching Curt pitch in the 1974 World, I asked a fellow spectator if Day could pull the game out. At that time, Curt was 18 points behind! The fellow looked at me and with a wink of his eye, said, "It's no sweat, old Pop will get him!" The fellow was right! Curt reached back, and with a little bit extra, fired a barrage of ringers at his opponent.

In 1957, Curt Day and Ted Allen set World records in the greatest game ever played up to that date. Day and Allen pitched 174 shoes, hit 55 four-deads, 69 doubles each, and both averaged 89%! Allen picked up one more single point that day and won a thriller 50-49.

Don Titcomb

"Lefty" Titcomb, like his contemporaries Steinfeldt and Day, needs no introduction. He began pitching in the World Tournament in 1947. Don won

the World Championship in 1960 at Muncie, IN. He finished 33 and 2 with an eye popping 84.9%! Although he was only 35 years old, he had been pitching for 23 years! During most of those years he had prepared himself for the title. He finished second in the World in both 1958 and 1959, losing both times in a play-off.

Don was highly competitive and always one of the favorites to win during an era which marked the hey-day of Ted Allen, Fernando Isais, Casey Jones and Guy Zimmerman. Joining the "murderer's row" in the fifties were Carl Steinfeldt and Curt Day. One of the top games during the 1960 World Tourney was "Lefty's" match with Steinfeldt. The key game went an incredible 176 shoes with Don eking out a narrow victory in a contest which still stands as the longest top game between lefthanders.

Titcomb also holds the World qualifying record for 100 shoes, set in 1958. As if in a trance, he fired on an astounding 97 ringers out of a possible 100 shoes, for an unbelievable 97%. Once he had achieved his goal of winning the World title, he relaxed and was never able to again reach the fever pitch needed to win the Open Men's World Crown.

However, Don stayed active and highly competitive in the game finishing 6th in the 1963 World Tourney, pitching 79.6%. In 1986 he also finished 6th, his best showing since the '63 tournament. In 1988 Don won the Intermediate World Championship with an 11-0 record, averaging 76.6%—the highest percentage since Steinfeldt's record 85.6% in 1978.

As you can see, he has spanned several decades of tournament pitching, including finishing 14th in the '93 World Tourney with a mark of 21-14 and 66%. He also has won the California State Title eight times in his career, including four years in a row from 1955-1958. This year Don will attempt to equal Carl Steinfeldt as only the second man to win a World Championship in three different adult divisions. Don Titcomb is the number one seed in the Seniors.

There are a lot of perhaps little things to some, that are extra nice things to me. Things that remind me why I enjoy doing the work of this program, simple things that make it all worthwhile.

Such as, an extremely nice note that was received from Joe Morgan, Director of the Bradenton HSC in Florida. A lift to my spirit and I quote: "Just a note to remind you how much the league directors appreciate the great job you do for the leagues." Joe went on to say something that I am sure all of us, at some time or other, are guilty of. I know I am, just stop and think about it. "I'm afraid I'm not long on praise. I have a tendency to take for granted a job well-done and complain about a poor job."

This statement strike close to home for many of us. Joe also let me know he had received the club's 15 year plaque. Although in most cases I never hear if these special awards are received, (I do not expect any thanks for these awards, as heaven knows

the recipients earned and deserve them) aknowledgement of their receipt would be nice. Thank you, Joe, for your kind words and for taking the time to send me "just a note."

There are still some of you who are requesting awards/patches at the end of your leagues, but have never submitted the annual, mandatory membership report. No awards, of any kind, will be sent until this mandatory membership report has been received—every year. The annual membership report/s are mandatory and should be submitted within 2 to 3 weeks after your league play has begun. This rule is now and always has been in the Red Book and also covered several times in these articles. Please do not expect, or ask for, your patches until this report has been sent to this office.

Did a little research this spring, while cleaning up my file cabinets. There have been, since 1978, the first year for this program, at total of 164 sanction cancellations. Makes me

think just how huge this program could be, if even only half of those were still sanctioned. Currently there are 209 adult/mixed and 15 all junior cl/lgs. Would sure be great if it were 388. I'd probably have to hire myself a secretary! Ha! Guess I'll just continue to strive for at least one sanctioned CL/LG in every charter and wish for one year with no cancellations. I'll be optimistic and not believe I'll win the Texas lottery before this dream comes true. Stats for current and cancelled sanctions are as follows:

States Co	urrent	Past	States	Current	Past
1. AL	0	0	28. NV	1	2
2. AK	3	0	29. NH	2	0
3. AZ	1	2	30. NJ	2	2
4. AR	5	3	31. NM	4	1
5. CA	10	9	32. NY	6	18
6. CO	12	4	33. NC	2	0
7. CT	3	2	34. ND	12	5
8. DE	0	0	35. OH	12	11
9. FL	5	0	36. OK	4	1
10. GA	5	3	37. OR	1	0
11. HA	3	5	38. PA	3	3
12. ID	1	0	39. RI	0	0
13. IL	14	17	40. SC	3	0
14. IN	4	3	41. SD	4	1
15. IA	5	1	42. TN	1	1
16. KS	1	3	43. TX	15	6
17. KY	6	4	44. UT	0	3
18. LA	4	4	45. VT	1	1
19. ME	0	2	46. VA	6	5
20. MD	2	2	47. WA	0	3
21. MA	6	4	48. WV	3	1
22. MI	4	2	49. WI	7	1
23. MN	16	12	50. WY	2	3
24. MS	1	1	Australia	0	1
25. MO	13	2	Canada	0	2
26. MT	1	1	Phillipin	es 0	1
27. NE	8	6	Dist. of		0
			TOTA	LS 224	164

Sixty more current than total cancelled over the past 16 years. Can we be proud of this fact? Well, I am, even though I wish and dream of all of the clubs I know are out there, to become full NHPA sanctioned. Each of you can help accomplish this goal, as it cannot be done without you.

You may not receive this before World, but want to wish all entrants the best of luck pitching and a safe trip to and from Syracuse. Will be looking forward to seeing all friends and meeting new ones. The beauty of having World held in all different parts of our great country is not only the benefit of seeing the beauty in all places, but having the oportunity to meet more of the good folks I correspond with.

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Regional Director's Report

At this writing I have just returned from a two week stay in Dayton, Ohio. When you're away from home it's nice to know that you have a horseshoe family wherever you go. While in Dayton I had the chance to visit with NHPA Historian, Gary Kline and his wife. I would just like to thank them for their hospitality in making me feel at home in Ohio.

I also attended the Ross County Open tournament in Chillicothe, Ohio where Tournament Director Lawrence Miller got me in the tournament at the last minute. Even though the class I was in got rained out, it was nice to visit with the Ross County Club and meet and talk to horseshoe pitchers from another state. I thank them all and hope to pitch some of them at the World Tournament this year.

The mail bag is full for this issue of Newsline, the Regional Directors have been very active this time around so I may not have room for all the reports that were sent in but we will try.

Early Waggy, RD for Virginia, presented six 45 minute sessions to 530 junior boys and girls at the Montevido Middle School, explaining the basic fundamentals of horseshoe pitching. With the excellent help of Audrey Swartx and Carol Layman, two local horseshoe pitchers, they showed two videos on the techniques of horseshoe pitching. One was put together by WVPT public television and the other was a four minute tape put together by Brian North, sports news for WHSV T.V. News, showing the different ways to hold and pitch a shoe.

Between videos, Earl talked and passed around the June 1989 issue of Newsline picturing the presentation by Dave Loucks of some horseshoes, plaques and NHPA jackets to then President George Bush and wife Barbara. The kids were intrigued, it was said to really draw their attention to the Newsline.

The school has two sets of courts with plans to expand to four. They have purchased from the NHPA 2 videos and 3 books on pitching techniques and the history of horseshoes for the school library, plus subscribed to Newsline for one year. Earl would like to thank the T.V. stations and the school staff for their ongoing plans

for horseshoe as part of Physical Education at the school. Nice work, Earl.

Jerry Kahle, RD for Arkansas, reports that the Northwest Arkansas Horseshoe Pitchers Association has constructed 20 state-of-the-art courts at Walker Park in Fayetteville. Fred Hash, Allan Clark, J.W. Gibson, Danny Bryan and Eugene Payton were the prime movers on this project, which started last fall. The city provided materials, leveling and the trucks to bring in the blue clay that was donated by the Acme Brick Co. of Tulsa, Oklahoma. The members of the club provided the know-how and the labor.

Their first sanctioned tournament was held May 14 and if you're just passing through, stop in and throw a 100 shoes or so, they would love to have ya. Jerry also reports that Archie Matheny of Wirth, AR has built a pitching complex on his own property. His tournaments draw pitchers from Arkansas, Missouri and Kentucky. Archie was also just recently inducted into the AHPA Hall of Fame.

Bill Calhoun, RD for Alabama and Mississippi, reports that the most important advance for horseshoe in Alabama has been the construction of two new court complexes. Montgomery Parks and Recreation has a new 8 court complex with all courts meeting NHPA standards and all with blue clay. The courts have increased NHPA membership by 18 and expect more in 1994. Now pitchers can play in sanctioned tournaments without the 400 to 450 mile round trip to north Alabama, a healthy improvement.

Also, the city of Gadsden Parks and Recreation has under construction a covered 10 court complex with all services nearby. This new complex will draw new pitchers from yet another Alabama area. Bill is a retired Parks and Recreation Administrator. it looks as if he still was some influence in this development. Keep up

the good work, Bill

Ron Taylor, RD for South Carolina, reports that the SCHPA is making a special effort in 1994 to increase junior membership. Barbara Taylor SCHPA Junior Director, reports they have already doubled their number

of juniors over last year. Bullocks Creek Horseshoe Club is leading this effort by installing two new 30' courts and will hold a Junior Tournament this year.

Adult membership is also ahead of last year, and they are confident they surpass last year's numbers. The SCHPA schedule will now show a significant increase in the number of singles tournaments. They have added 15 tournaments, which will give them 34 tournaments for 1994. Ron also reports that A.J. Nave of Greenville has made arrangements to share their courts with the Shriners in the area in hopes of gaining new members from that area of the state.

Leslie Burroughs, RD for Southern California and Eastern Sierra, CA reports Charlie Tatum and his fellow officers of the Hemet San Jacinto Horseshoe Club, with the help of the Country Lake Park, where the courts are located, have updated the courts by installing pitching boxes for 30' players. They have also put up an 8x8' building for the tournament directors. The courts are all grass and lots of shade trees. Charlie invites everyone to come and enjoy-they offer free coffee.

Bob Walters, RD for Iowa sent me the following, something we can all do. "Things our members should be doing for the good of the sport."

1. Think about planning a couple of days of introducing the art of pitching horseshoes in your local school systems P.E. classes.

2. See your city Sports Director about where you can give instruction on how the game of horseshoe is played, how to throw ringers, it just doesn't happen by accident.

3. Each of you get kids and retired people involved in the sport of horseshoe.

4. Iowa Sec. Treas. Cliff Kenny says, "You've got to take new players with you to the courts, if you're going to get new players and new members. Will you each get out and teach someone how the sport of horseshoes is played."

By the sounds that are coming from most of the Regional Directors, the word for this year is membership, "MORE IN '94."

Ringers To You, Dick Hansen

Two years ago the NHPA completely revised our bylaws and last year, our playing rules. Associations, not only the national, but state as well, need to examine their basic operating documents from time to time to see whether they match their actual operations.

NHPA bylaws say we shall review our two prime operating documents, the bylaws and rules, every two years on a rotating basis. This is good and as it should be, because these two

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documents are really like a contract between the association and its members. Bylaws must be responsive to changes in an association and in a nonprofit corporation such as the NHPA we must also pay attention to judicial decisions and law not only in our founding state, but states of our charters as well.

We will have our National Convention in Syracuse on July 31 where our bylaws will be reviewed. Some need change, some do not. More often than should, changes are proposed without much thought to the overall impact on the association. Will it remain healthy and be better off with the change? Regrettably, this question is not foremost in the minds of all the voting delegates.

As the association matures, there is need for a change in the role of the officers and the membership. For smaller associations, it is common for members to place authority in themselves or a delegate assembly. While there may be elected officers, the policy making decisions of the association quite often fall to the delegate assembly.

As an association grows, so too does the need to shift the policy making decisions to a smaller governing body, often a board of directors who have been selected by the members. The directors then hire the personnel

needed to carry out the day to day functions of the association.

The NHPA is probably years away from shifting policy making decisions away from the delegate assembly and putting it into the hands of a Board of Directors. But members should keep an open mind to the possibility. The NHPA Executive Council is in some ways a Board of Directors who have limited policy making powers, but are expected to carry out the day to day work of the association. This can often put undo pressure on some council members who weren't necessarily put into office for their business expertise, but more likely because of some other appeal to voting delegates.

Today's associaton needs and those that are expected to work them, cover many specialized fields. Insurance, state and federal law and tax, contracts, legal, finance, negotiation and arbitration, computers and software, promotion, are just a few.

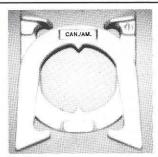
Naturally, we can't overlook the obvious attention needed to the bylaws, rules, articles and meetings pretty much taken for granted by most members. The point is that to remain healthy in today's everchanging world, an association has to be flexible and have the people and resources needed to not only recognize when change is required, but to implement those changes.

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Bob Champion's Charter Chatter



Tis the season and the reason for making RINGERS. And we all associate ringers with news, and it is the Chatter's wish that every charter makes it a habit to send news for publication. May I urge all those charters who do not have a newsletter, to start the wheels turning with your officers to get the news out to your members. It isn't necessary to have a 16 page printed publication as a starter, although the more information you have, the better you can serve your membership. Send to Bob Champion, 5505 Valmont #176, Boulder, CO 80301.

ARIZONA

The Central Arizona YMCA Horseshoe Club hosted the 1994 State Tournament in Prescott, followed by an Awards dinner. Nathan Williams won his 6th title, Ruthie Barrett is the new women's champion and Dale Arionus the 30 foot men's champion.

Arizona now has four horseshoe clubs—Tucson, Phoenix-Mesa, Yuma and Prescott. While the Prescott area is just beginning their sanctioned tournament season, the other areas have just finished their schedule.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Since 1962 when the Seaside Club was started, five pitchers have won California State Championships: Elsie Gregerson, Women's Class A; Stella Gates, Women's Class A; and Genevieve Lavett, Women's Seniors; plus Flash Lavett, Men's Senior Champion twice and Walt Robinson, Men's Senior.

Fred and Genevieve Lavett have worn out three R.V.'s on the horseshoe trail. They recently bought a new R.V. and were going to start the 1994 season in Arizona. Fred had to withdraw because he ended up on crutches for 10 days in January. By now he should be ready for 1994, and Genevieve, who recently recovered from eye laser surgery is priming for the World at Syracuse.

CANADA

The Ringer Round-up newsletter in Canada gets a real break since their publication is sponsored in part by a grant received from the Ministry of Housing, Recreation and Consumer Services.

The Vernon Horseshoe Club will be having a tournament on August 20 to honor the birthday of one of their longtime members. On that date Duke Proctor will be celebrating his 95th birthday. He is still actively pitching shoes.

Information from the B.C. newsletter reveals some interesting figures: A total of 57 tournaments were held in 1993. 526 members out of 796 participated in at least one tournament, 324 pitched in three tournaments and 32 players participated in more than one category. That is, senior men's 30 and 40-ft. classes, intermediate ladies and regular ladies.

COLORADO

Gene Sandoval, Darlene Shirley and junior Walter O'Dell topped all pitchers as the most improved pitchers in 1993. World Class pitchers Rich Pintor and Paul LaCrosse finished 1-2 in the 2nd Annual Tournament of Champions. Pintor closed with a 5-0 record (67.2) while La Crosse nailed a high 76.7 to finish one game behind.

Horseshoe pitchers Ray Morgan and Janie Thompson closed with total pins of 1210 to win the tenth annual "Four Dead" bowling tournament in April. CHPA secretary Russ Bartle had the high scratch series of 584 and Karen Burgess topped the women with 540.

Ed Knaub, the super-supporter of horseshoes in the state, was married to Jan Howell on March 27. Knaub is the gentleman who built the 8-court indoor facility on his farm in 1985.

One never knows how many horseshoe pitchers in the NHPA are mountain climbers, but Colorado has one in Steve Ruddock of Boulder. Steve has climbed Mt. Hood in Oregon, Mt. Rainier in Washington, many peaks in Colorado and Himalayan peaks in the shadow of Mt. Everest.

CONNECTICUT

The holidays from Thanksgiving through New Years were happy days for Art Tyson of New York, who celebrated with victories in the Turkey Shoot at Nutmeg Indoor, the Christmas Special and the New Year Classic.

He was 7-0 in the Turkey Shoot (75.2%), 7-0 in the Christmas fling (75.5) and the same victory mark with a 73.7 in the New Year event. The courts are located in London, CT.

The only state pitchers who did well in the Volunteer Open in Joelton, Tennessee were 1¾ crankers. Ron Beck finished first in Class D (5-2, 51.48%) and Dwight Hanson was on top in Class F (4-1, 36.45).

The Connecticut newsletter says that John Forti, Elaine Hanson and Don Maine were among 52 entries who played at the beautiful Jack Freeman horseshoe courts in Tennessee. They were so friendly there that they would try to give you credit for a ringer even if the shoe was almost out of the pit.

ILLINOIS

At the annual meeting in March, Pete Rankin presented information about Shelbyville, the site of the 1994 State Tournament. He also pointed out the success of the 1993 tournament at Oakland, specifically recognizing the efforts of Floyd Tennil. Casey was selected as the 1995 tournament site.

Charlie Webb won the Mascautah Open in January with a 59.5%. Dennis Griesbaum was second 53.3 and Steve Denault was third 53.0. Griesbaum won the February Mascoutah with a 5-2 record and 47.7, Denault was second 4-3, 48.1 and Dave Lanctot was third 4-3, 45.2.

The new 1st vice president is Marilyn Korte, Mike Knop will fill the remaining year as 2nd vice president, and Jim Korte was elected third vice president. Bill Marvin is the Secretary-Treasurer.

KANSAS

Recently Gregg Turner put a class of sophomores through the paces of horseshoe pitching at Wichita South High School. It all started when coach Dan Cosgrove, an instructor at the high school level saw him wearing a Sunflower Horseshoe Club jacket.

(continued on next page)

CHARTER CHATTER

Gregg and Dan hatched a plan and two weeks later Gregg was putting a mixed class through an intensive 3-hour seminar on three consecutive days.

They discussed the rules, required equipment and the basics of running a tournament the first day, had fun pitching shoes by their method the second day. By the last day they learned about turns, grips and actually scoring the game.

Gregg plans to hold more seminars in the future, as now, the rumor is spreading to the physical education instructors citywide that horseshoe pitching instruction is available by contacting Gregg or the Sunflower Club.

MICHIGAN

Congratulations to Oz Williams, Pat Smith and Ken Jensen, who received 30- year patches, and to Lee Jacobs who received a 50-year patch. Looks like NHPA figured 50 was as high as they needed to go. This is Lee's 70th year as a member.

Rex Ryan of Hillsdale is carrying on what was started by the late Dean Wolfe by hosting the annual Hillsdale County Fair Tournament. It is a 6-day event attended by many of the WSHPA members.

It was a special year for the Smith family 25 years ago at the Michigan State Tournament. Roy Smith stayed in automatic drive to win his seventh title, setting a new state record of 93.7% single game. Fred Smith, Jr. won the Boys crown and averaged 81.1% in playoff. His brother Norman had 67.6%.

James Smith, Roy's son, won the Boys Class B, and Peggy Smith, Roy's daughter, won the Girls Championship.

Marlene Cooper is one of the top pitchers in the state. She finished first in two Jackson tournaments in March and third February 12. Her high percentages were 72.34 and 72.

MINNESOTA

Newsletter editor Dave Pederson's April publication is a 28 page beauty including reports from officers, NHPA President Dave Loucks, Regional Director Len Lipovsky, editorial, features, junior promotion, tournament directory and schedule, all-time Minnesota leaders, reports from several clubs including a list of club contacts. Congratulations, Dave.

Vance Harren is creating a state junior record that will be hard to beat. With one year to go in the class, Harren is the all-time boys leader with a 37-7 state tourney record.

His 1993 title won at Hibbing was Harren's sixth overall, fifth in the last six years. Finishing high at the World, Harren has one more chance to win the World title before moving from 30 to 40.

The Men's All-Time Career Class A pitcher on top of the list is the late Frank Stinson. He pitched from 1925-1980, won 265 games in 38 appearances and 8 titles.

Phyllis Negaard tops the ladies with 128 wins in 18 appearances and 14 titles since 1978.

MISSOURI

Missouri is proud of their World Champions headed by Vicki Winston's 10 Women's titles in the Championship class. She also won a Women's Class C crown.

Next in line is Alan Francis, who has won two Men's Championships and four boys titles. Next is Loree Meier who won the Women's Class J in 1982, Class H in 1983,

Classes D and E in 1984. Marilyn Hanes captured the Women's Class G in 1977, the Class D title in 1979, Class F in 1980 and Class F in 1982.

NEW JERSEY

The American Red Cross in South Jersey has been awarded an NHPA Regional Tournament. New Jersey will suport their efforts. They will be installing 12 regulation courts near the beach in North Wildwood in between two piers. The clay courts will have wood walkways.

The NJSHPÅ has turned 60! Their newsletter Jersey Jargon was born in March 1977 and organized by Claude White. He started with a one page report, then collaborated with Triple Z, Phil Zozzaro, to create a President's Forum which gave Phil the opportunity to share his knowledge and viewpoints. In 1988 Claude resigned for personal reasons and John Danko took over. When John moved to North Carolina, Jersey's present editor Anne Marie MacIntyre took over.

The state should be grateful that *Jersey Jargon* remains alive and healthy. It is now 17 years old, and destined to reach old age.

Art Tyson from New York won the Anne Marie MacIntyre Birthday Open with 9-0 record and 76.9%.

NORTH CAROLINA

Art Tyson sure gets around. He won tournaments in Connecticut, New Jersey and now the North Carolina Dogwood Festival event.

Tyson, Mark Seibold from Indiana and Lane Foley from Virginia tied for first. In the playoff Seibold defeated Foley and then New York's finest outlasted Mark for the title. No scores were given in the news release. Art's percentage was 75.35, Mark's was 73.76 and Lane nailed 69.04.

After the tournament the Tysons headed back to Mt. Vernon in their conversion van. Seibold took his winnings and headed south to Jacksonville, Florida to play on the sandy beaches and watch some championship volleyball playoffs. Foley headed back to Virginia.

Tyson won last year and Jim Walters from Ohio was the 30 foot champion. Top winners in the Festival event are Carl Steinfeldt, who won four titles, Eldon Sarbaugh from Ohio 3, and John Rademacher 3. Renee (Hix) Cowan won five women's titles, Mark Dyson captured four boys crowns and Lorma Reno and Jenny Walters each won three girls championships.

OHIO

Frank Hiendlmayr of Westlake, Ohio is 93, but you can't call him an old man! This super youngster plans to attend his 12th World Tournament in recent years at Syracuse and pitch in the 40-foot seniors at 45%.

He started pitching horseshoes at age 8 and bowled his first game at 12. Presently he is bowling five nights a week and posts averages from 182-190. He has bowled eight 300s and wants a couple more

and wants a couple more.

When he first started to pitch, it was with washers 4-5 inches across, but soon gave way to regulation shoes, castaways from the horses in the Ohio area. Of course, he went to regulation shoes as soon as they were available, and pitched as high as 80% in a tournament many years ago.

At one time in his bowling career, he rolled an 884

CHARTER CHATTER

series, which at that time was only two pins short of the world record set back in 1936. It included games of 299, 300 and 285. You'll see him at the World pitching and talking with friends.

OREGON

It has been ten years since the OHPA began using the top 24 system for the annual state singles tournament. In that time 80 different players have made the field.

Ben Weidrich, Lowell Davis, Barry Chapelle and Len Christensen made the top 24 ten times. Jerry Gorton hit it nine times, Ridge Leggett and Bill Graham eight times, Phil Hendry, Roger Christianson, Lee Wallace and Charles

Wendling seven times to lead the parade.

State statistician Lloyd Kilgore has come up with some interesting figures. In 1970 Bob West was 39 of 40 and 33 of 34 for 97.5 and 97%. He won both games 51-1. The high ringer percentages by class through the years finds West with 84.66% in 1970 in Class A. Barney Hampton (B) had 66.75 in 1971, Lowell Davis (C) 58.10 in 1962, Tom Williams (D) 55.25 in 1979, Pete Brachmann (E) 49.10 in 1959, Lowell Davis (F) 48.22 in 1958, R.E. Click (G) 42.01 in 1985, Kyle Dixon (H) 38.53 in 1983, Jack McGrew (I) 33.54 in 1983 and Dick Mathers (J) 33.18 in 1980.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Gene and Yvonne Ficek will relinquish duties with the Association and newsletter due to a busy work schedule. They have done masterful jobs with the two World Tournaments in Spearfish and deserve to be full time operators of the Lock and Knit shop. *Chatter* still wears the short sleeve sweater presented to me by Yvonne.

Carlene Donnelly will have her day at the courts. The South Dakota group set aside a day in May for a fun day of pitching to raise some money to help her finance her way to the World Tournament in Syracuse. The S.D. pitchers feel she deserves to go as a result of her fine showing in the Championship Women's group last year.

TEXAS

Hazel McCall and Roger Daughtry won the 1994 mixed double State Tournament at Tyler in March. Their 7-1 record was one game in front of Virginia Mathison and Paul McCreery. McCall closed with a 50% average and Roger had 42.4. Virginia and Joe Stephens won Class B, Anita Bilnoski and Henry Carmichael took "C" and Jeri and Bill Smith won Class D.

Terry Applegate of Kilgore and Martin Batts of Longview entered the Houston Livestock Show Go-Texas horseshoe tournament confidently and with dead aim wrapped up the title for the first time. Pitching against rivals from six counties, they wrapped their 2 pound, 8 ounce shoes around the stake between 55 and 60% to cop the crown.

OFF THE WALL: James Miller of Bastrop was down to one last ray of hope in searching for a partner for the mixed doubles in Tyler. He asked Ricky Whisenhunt: "You could

wear a dress." Ricky refused so neither went.

There are some "Ding Dong" courts in Zapata, Texas. Every afternoon one of the pitchers shows up and starts banging his shoes together and one by one all the pitchers come out for some good honest fun. They have had tournaments with competitors from other trailer parks. There

were pitchers from Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska and Oklahoma.

UTAH

News from Southern Utah Association pegs Bill Thompson of Washington City for the Sportsmanship Award. New player of the year (rookie) was Donna Carroll of St. George. She was a Gold Medal winner in Class F during the World Senior Games. The junior player award went to Anilee Bundy of St. George.

Current ringer percentages again finds John Bracken on top with a 72.3. Lorin Condie is second with 67.8, followed by A. Lee Jones 63.3, Shirley Steffen 58.2, Richard Buchanan

and Gary Wood each with 54.1.

Stacey Glendon tops the juniors with 27.3, followed by Jeffery Coulter 24.1 and Seth Ohms 19.6.

In this young season Glen McAllister tops the money list with \$32.50. Duana Archibald is second in line with \$27.50. Chatter wonders how many other charters keep track of total money won for all individuals. I'll bet the IRS main office in Salt Lake City reads these figures every year.

So far this year the most improved player is Nate Barney

with 21.2.

VIRGINIA

The VAHPA Players of the Year award was initiated in 1993 and was awarded to individuals in each division who won the most games in sanctioned tournament play in the state. If pitchers pitch in ten tournaments or more they qualify.

The 1993 winners are Alvin Perry in the men's division, Debbie Barbour for the women and Lenwood Conner, Jr. in the junior class. They will probably add a men's 30 foot

division in 1994.

1993 league winner in the Winchester Club was Debbie Barbour with second place going to Carol Fredrikson and third to Doug Sharp.

The special appreciation award went to Jack Melton for outstanding service to the WHC. A lifetime membership was presented to Chuck West.

WISCONSIN

It was a double first for junior pitcher Penny Steinke at the Freezeroo Tournament in Arena. Not only did Penny take first in the junior division in horseshoes, but she also received a first in the arm wrestling tournament that was going on at the multi-sport facility.

The Arena team needed another girl and Penny fit that spot. This was a new sport for Penny, so he had a quick lesson from her team captain. She had lots of support from

her horseshoe pitching friends.

After it was over, she was already talking about what she would do differently the next time. The Arena team finished first and all the team members received a trophy.

In the WHPA average department in tournaments, Randy Rein from Mosinne leads the parade with a 76.4% figure. Second in line is Ralph Maylahn, Genessee Depot 71.97% followed by Don Kangas, West Allis 70.32; John Udelhofen, Barneveld 68.29; Gus Schram, Ringle 66.37; Mark Mauthe, Platteville 64.93; Harold Bestul, Plover 64.84; Marvin Huffman, Brodhead 63.78; Dan Bloom, Janesville 61.69; Clayton Gage, Milltown 61.69; and Mark Stevens, Marengo 60.37.

Minnesota Team **Wins Third Consecutive Title**

he powerhouse team from Kentucky dominated the prelims losing only 7 of 68 games and earning one tie. Minnesota also had one tie but lost 19 pre-lim games. The Gopher state pitchers came from the third position of the ladder playoffs, passing Missouri to edge the Kentucky team in a feeler gauge finish.

In the final match the tournament's two top percentage pitchers set the pace. Bev Nathe, Minnesota, and Lois Webster, Kentucky tied. "Ties stand," answered Nathe's plea. Only seconds before, Phyllis Negaard, Minnesota had lost to Ron Powell of Kentucky by 5 points.

One court away Dale Lipovsky was swinging that shoe in his finest game (90%) out-pointing Charlie Meredith of Kentucky by 16. Lu Cave, Minnesota, and Don Titcomb, Kentucky were the last pair still engaged. Titcomb had just scored four to make their numbers the same and was first to pitch the final two shoes. The ominous black backboard blocked our view, but Titcomb was stretching to check his second shoe-maybe short. Cave answered with her last pair, somewhat the same—one on and one a touch short.

After an eternity of measuring by two judges, the short shoes were declared equally close—a dead inning; the game was a tie. The match score showed each team with one win, one loss, and two ties.

Minnesota won the match by virtue of total team points scored in this final round. The margin of 11 points hardly represented the squeaker it actually was.

The Team-World Cup goes to Minnesota one more time—the third in 3 years-and the fifth title in 10 years!

All teams in the five place ladder finals were former Team-World winners with the exception of Wisconsin. The Indiana team lost the first ladder match to those Wisconsin newcomers but the Minnesota team took over from that point claiming Missouri next and finally Kentucky.

Ladder competition was intense. Every one of the five final matches was scored at 2 wins and 2 losses Each match was decided by total points as outlined in Team-World rules. Up for discussion this year will be a possible rule change to play out game ties in the ladder rounds.

Minnesota won the match by virtue of total team points scored in the final round...

A record of forty-two pre-lim wins, of the possible sixty-eight, was shared by Illinois-1 and Ontario-1. It was a sixth place deadlock for the "alternate" ladder position worth \$200. Ontario-1 took the award with a greater team average—about one percent greater.

Fifth place Indiana received \$300. Wisconsin-1 won \$450 for fourth place. Missouri-1 at third was awarded \$650. Second place Kentucky received \$900, and the Minnesota-1 winners took home the Team-World Cup and \$1700.

Out of the money, but winning more than half their games, the second team, Minnesota-2 placed ninth, ahead of all other "second team" entries.

Eighteen teams got into it Friday noon, pitched all day Saturday, and most of Sunday leading to the finals.

The California team notedly missed this year, but Ontario came with two. Kevin McLachlin recruited his wife, Karen, forming the basis for a second Ontario team. The man who plays horseshoes-on-wheels, Dennis Reid, finds the smooth surface easy wheeling. His teammate, another Illinois-3 pitcher, Abe Austin, 871/2 years young, came to try it at 30 feet. Ralph Dykes, who came to write the numbers, again, is sporting a 50 year NHPA

membership patch.

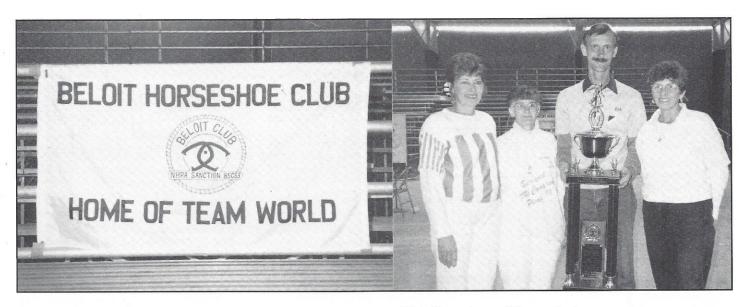
Chad Hyatt played in place of Karl Van Sant on the only team from Indiana. Donnie Roberts, a welcome and illustrious guest, came as a nonpitcher; the sole representative of Ohio. The state of Michigan was again among the missing. There was one team of five former Junior class pitchers—Wisconsin-4. Two teams originated from Iowa, and the president, herself, of the Iowa association, Mic Wilson, played; but oh for the Iowa team capable of pitching the final five.

It's tough to stay up and maintain a winning record over the three days, but two pitchers came close. Don Titcomb, Kentucky, and Randy Rein, Wisconsin-1, each won 16 of 17 in the pre-lims. Titcomb won one more and tied one in the finals. Rein became the most successful player winning both his final games.

This tournament has become a time to renew the rites of Spring-a gathering of the extended horseshoe clan for some easy competition, but reserve the evenings for fun. Saturday, when the games were done, the keeper of the house bar, a man called Mouse, put out some good stuff to munch on and opened his taps for all.

Despite Winter's attempt to stomp on Spring, competition for the Team-World Cup was top flight. Saturday, pitchers rubbed their stiff fingers a little faster at the sight of snow squalls outside the arena; while listening to the local folks say how warm it was last weekend.

Next year Team-World has made a play for warmer weather. The date will be one week later but still a week before Mother's Day, May 4-6, 1995.



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Wisconsin-3, 13th Place

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CASEY SLUYS

by Stewart M. Snyder



asey Sluys; twice a President.
President of one of California's
three Charters, and at the
same time, President of Sonoma
County Club, one of 23 in the Northern California Charter.

Casey speaks freely of life before horseshoes. Born in 1943 in occupied Netherlands, education started in this so-called Low Country, land of wintertime snow, occasionally knee-deep through which Casey sloshed his way to school wearing customary wooden shoes.

In 1952 the entire family emigrated to the United States, preceded several years by an Aunt who lived in Palo Alto, California, hence setting a destination for this family of five—father, mother, brother, sister and Casey.

After fourteen days aboard a freighter with rooms for passengers, the Statue of Liberty in New York's harbor beckoned welcome to a new country and a new life.

"In pursuit of our new life we headed westward to California on a bounding, shaking, rattling train. My father found work at Stanford's Corporation Yard, and I, a boy of 9 years, struggled in school, not having had prior instruction in the English language. With no hold on English I was bounced around, from first grade to second, to third, in attempt to fit me into my proper niche.

"No one of my family had knowledge of this new language and my father stated an unwritten rule that helped to overcome this deficiency; at home as elsewhere, we were all to speak nothing but English. We settled in diligently to master the language and following this new rule, rewards soon were noticeable—it is no secret today that Casey speaks with no accent, a fact that belies his foreign origin.

"With change in my father's work we

moved to Modesto where I graduated from high school. I was too small to enter sports, but exercise aplenty was had when delivering newspapers on a bicycle, up one street and down another.

"At age fifteen, when I got a drivers permit to operate a car, I purchased a Honda motorcycle-scooter that enabled me to enlarge my paper route and increase earnings.

"While in high school I worked in a local motorcycle shop assembling new Honda 50s, a popular bike of the day (I bought one of 'em).

"Junior College followed high school and there, among electives, I chose Machine Shop, not realizing at the time that shop study would open a trade I'd follow throughout my working life.

"I joined the Navy in 1964 in the nick-of-time. When I returned home that very day, my Army draft notice was lying on the table. Due to the Machine Shop course I was able to stay with the Machinist Trade throughout all Navy duty. Boot Camp in San Diego was a short three months, then six months aboard a Repair Ship in Long Beach harbor.

"Vietnam, being frequently mentioned in new reports, all of us Navy men knew where we'd go if we stayed on the West Coast—we had a choice: COAST, DUTY STATION, PORT. I wound up in Norfolk, Virginia, aboard a helicopter-carrying Amphibious Assault Ship."

Casey became hesitant, then admitted, "Friendships made in the service can be lasting affairs. Tom, my future brother-in-law, took me to his home one weekend to meet his sister, coming down from New York. She arrived at an unthinkable early hour Saturday

morning, made cup after cup of coffee, was delightful to behold, and eagerly continued a warm friendship, agreeing to a Sunday morning motorcycle ride through the Virginia countryside.

"Her name was Gail, now my wife of some 26 years. I pitched my first horseshoes at Gail's home in upstate New York in 1967, married her in '68 and moved to San Jose, California, where I continued schooling to attain Journeyman Machinist rating, which put me in line for a job in that trade with Hewlett Packard Company. HP picnic facilities had horseshoe courts—even had a few courts at the work site where I pitched infrequently.

After nine years with HP, Casey left to join partnership with his father who had started his own lucrative business in Modesto. Casey and Gail, now with two young daughters, moved to be near work. His father retired from the business in 1980 and Casey sold all interests to his brother, thus giving him a chance to put working hours back into a more rational family basis.

Another move, this time to Santa Rosa, back again with Hewlett Packard, where he now is employed as a supervisor in the machine shop. Casey's interest in horseshoe pitching continued and improved. "A sport-section ad in a Santa Rosa newspaper in 1980 mentioned a horseshoe tournament in Doyle Park. I entered and won second place. This was the first time I had heard of the NHPA.

Horseshoe pitching has become Casey's leading sport. Second in line is Motorcycle Touring and third on the funspectrum, golf. "Enthusiasm for horseshoe pitching has hooked me and I've traveled to every World Tournament since the 1988 event in California."

The Horseshoe Thrower

by Dave Loucks

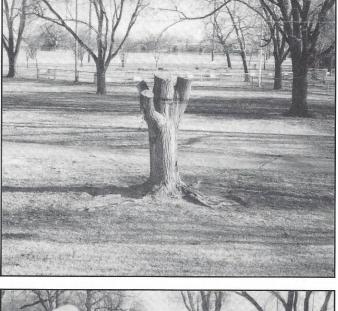
he Sunflower Horseshoe Club in Wichita, Kansas has 24 courts in Linwood Park. They also have a new member who stands watch over the courts 24 hours a day, every day of the year. Horseshoe pitchers have given him the name Willie Woodin, but to park officials and the Wichita art colony, he is known as The Horseshoe Thrower.

He is actually an it—a life sized sculpture cut with a chain saw from a tree trunk. Bill Whitley, secretary/ treasurer of the club promoted the sculpture, which was actually done for the Wichita parks department by Gino Salerno.

Gino Salerno left his native Peru at age 16 to pursue a love of art and education that is still with him, three college degrees and 14 years later. Salerno has bachelor's degrees in fine arts, biology and a master's of library science. He holds a teaching certificate and, now married with two children, says he will continue going to school as it's stimulating, rewarding and keeps him young. Few Kansas artists' names are as widely recognized as his, but it is his medium, wood, that sets him apart.

The horseshoe thrower is the latest tree-trunk sculpture he has done for the parks department, but in the same area one can find sculptures of Popeye and Olive Oil, and the Tin Soldier also cut from tree-trunks by Gino. There have also been private commissions of his work and his latest accomplishment, now on exhibit at the city's Fourth Financial Center, is a series of wooden superheroes. Gino Salerno has truly become a Wichita treasure.

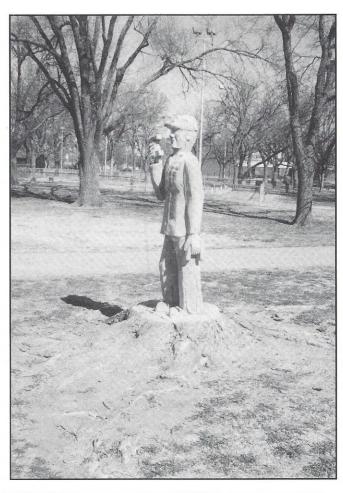
The following pictures
show the birth and
development of
The Horseshoe Thrower

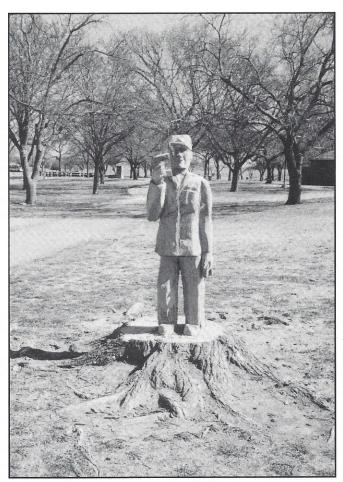


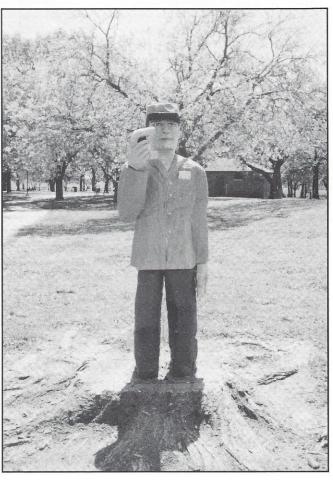


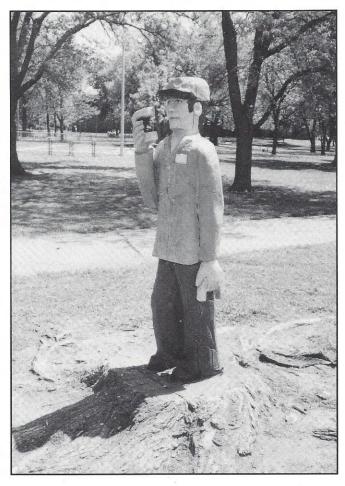


Photos courtesy of Bill Whitley









NHPA

Income and Expenditures: March and April, 1994

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Membership Dues\$3	5,279.00
Newsline Subscriptions	5,642.00
Newsline Advertising	365.00
Patch and Misc. Sales	70.00
1996 World Bid Deposits1	5,000.00
1994 World Entry Fees	.2,350.00
Horseshoe Sanctioning Fees	400.00
Charter Dues and Overpayments	99.00
Bank & Affinity Card Interest, Collections	580.00

Total 2 month Income \$59,785.00

EXPENDITURES:

Newsline Production and Mailing\$4,192.00
Newsline Editor Allowance560.00
Sanctioned League Patches & Awards1,074.00
Sanctioned League Director Allowance250.00
Sanctioned League Postage and Printing23.00
Regional Directors Phone, Postage, Supplies511.00
Regional Director Allowances
NHPA Office Printing and Supplies4,682.00
Equipment Purchases, Rental and Repairs
NHPA Postage581.00
NHPA Officers' Telephone603.00
NHPA Officers' Travel520.00
Secretary/Treasurer Allowance2,800.00
President Allowance840.00
Publicity and Promotion272.00
NatStats Administration500.00
Misc. Bank Charges, Refunds, Fees5.00

Total 2 month Expense \$19,451.00

NOTE: These figures, rounded off to the nearest dollar, are from the books of the NHPA Secretary/ Treasurer and do not include monies handled by other NHPA personnel.

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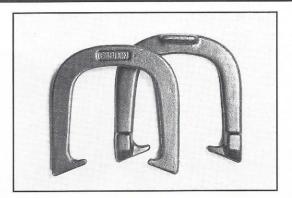
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Kevin Cone

by Bob Champion

e may not be the \$6 million pitcher Kansas City Royals David Cone is, but Alta, Iowa's own Kevin Cone is just as much a National Champion as the former baseball hurler for the World Champion Toronto Blue Jays.

Horseshoe pitching style that is!

The rural Alta farmer and auctioneer won the 1992 World title at Columbus, Ohio. He is the essence of cooperation in all his endeavors, always ready to discuss horseshoes with all his peers, on hand to give autographs to admiring pitchers, or just sit in the bleachers with his fans when not pitching or spending time with his family. You might say he is the All-American horseshoe pitcher.

Kevin wasn't always the top dog in the sport. He has competed in the Men's Championship eleven years, and in seven of those years finished in the top five. However, he was "down the line" in the other four, the first in 1983, and three years from 1987 through 1989 when he had shoulder problems. But when he is "fit," Kevin is a tough competitor.

He finished second to Mark Seibold of Indiana in 1986, second to Jim Knisley of Ohio in 1990 and was second again last year against Alan Francis from Missouri at Spearfish.

Horseshoe pitching is a family affair with the Cones. Kevin is part of four generations of horseshoe pitchers and the sport has always been a part of family reunions. His father, grandfather and great-grandfather all have pitched competitively. When Kevin started he was just two years old and throwing rubber shoes at chair legs, until his mother chased him out of the house. He won his first trophy at a local fair when he was seven. The prize hooked him for life, even if he didn't win the tournament. He finished 15th out of 16. He recalls: "I didn't find out until a year later that everyone got a trophy, but I thought it was the greatest thing."

His involvement in the sport is fueled by more than trophies. He loves the competition and the individuality of horseshoe pitching. Kevin rates mental preparation as the most important part of competition. The arm motion and the follow through

is routine. Cone says that horseshoes appeals to him because it is a life-long and family sport.

Kevin has been tossing iron for 25 years and now, at age 32, this pitching enthusiast, farmer and auctioneer is the owner of Cone Seed Sales and Auctions in Alta.

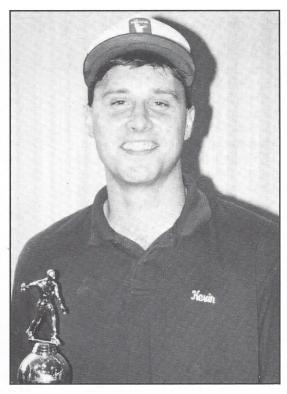
He pitches Henton Supreme horseshoes, 1¼ turn with a high backswing. His brand was Imperial for 16 years until Red Henton convinced him to try his Supremes. They worked and Kevin has passed the test with Red's shoes, winning the 1992 World title.

1992 was a big year for the young sportsman. He was invited by the Sasakawa Sports Foundation to exhibit the sport of horseshoe pitching at the "International Sports For All Fair" in Japan in October. The allexpense paid trip was arranged as a part of an international teaching team for leisure activities. It was great that all expenses were paid, since the plate cost at the banquet was around \$440. The only meal he bought for himself was at McDonalds—A Big Mac, fries and Coke for \$7.00.

It seemed strange to him when he visited Tokyo that he saw no babies. He didn't see a baby until the seventh day. It was explained to him that modern Japanese have few children due to the lack of housing space and high cost of living. Kevin and wife Cindy have two children, 7-year old Kylor and 2-year old Nolan.

Football, basketball, golf and baseball were on the agenda for Kevin during four years of high school. He was offered scholarships at small schools for both basketball and baseball, but opted to attend a bigger university, Northern Iowa University and concentrate on studies and career. He majored in accounting. All the better to keep track of ringers.

Pitching excellence is one category we all know about, but few realize that in the mid 1980s Kevin was active in the service of the game. He was NHPA statistician and historian from 1985-1987, on the publicity com-



mittee in 1986 and has been a subdistributor for NHPA game related sales from 1988 to the present time.

In state circles, he has been vicepresident, Iowa's historian and statistician, constitution and by-laws chairman, parliamentarian for state meetings and investment trustee.

In addition, through the years he has conducted numerous exhibitions and clinics and has been a member of the Five County Horseshoe League in northwest Iowa for many years and uses this league play to keep his game sharp. He has been competing in state events for 21 years and World participation 17.

Cone was recognized for his achievements in horseshoes by induction into the Iowa Hawkeye Horseshoe Pitchers Association Hall of Fame for pitching excellence and his outstanding record as a promoter of the sport.

Other accomplishments for this superb athlete include Class A titles at Las Vegas in 1983 and 1984, third highest game in World competition, a 97.6% in 1986, a 13-1 record and 77.6% to lead Iowa's team to the Team World title in 1986, and was Valley of the Sun winner in 1992, with three games over 90%.

Cone has pitched horseshoes in 21 states and has won state champion-ships pitching two different turns. He once tossed 98 ringers in a row, and has won tournaments with 5 dif-

(continued next page)

ferent turns: Reverse ¾, Reverse 1¼, and Regular ¾, 1¼ and 1¾. He has won the Iowa Men's State Championship for the past 5 consecutive years.

The 1994 NHPA World Championships will be held in a Syracuse, New York arena that can seat up to 5800 spectators. Kevin said he hopes to be ready to make a run at the title again. In 1993 he was surprised that he finished second, but was disappointed he didn't win after getting that close. "I'll be back this year to give it another try," he said.

Iowa State Record

	TOWN DEALE IL	CCOIC	
1977	Junior Class A	3rd	68.3
1978	Junior Class A	2nd	71.1
1979	Junior Class A	1st	73.4
1980	Men's Class A	8th	61.2
1981	Men's Class B	2nd	60.3
1982	Men's Class A	3rd	69.4
1983	Men's Class A	5th	69.6
1985	Men's Class A	2nd	76.5
1986	Men's Championship	6th	65.6
1987	Men's Championship	1st	69.2
1989	Men's Championship	1st	73.7
1990	Men's Championship	1st	73.9
1991	Men's Championship	1st	74.1
1992	Men's Championship	1st	75.4
1993	Men's Championship	1st	74.2

World Tournament Record

		Pos	W-L	R SH.	%
1983	Chmpshp.	18	7-16	902-1306	69.1
1984	Chmpshp.	4	18-5	1126-1462	77.0
1985	Chmpshp.	5	24-7	1463-1894	77.2
1986	Chmpshp.	2	29-2	1377-1722	80.0
1987	Chmpshp.	18	14-17	1385-1926	71.9
1988	Chmpshp.	24	10-21	1216-1810	67.2
1989	Chmpshp.	12	19-12	1288-1810	71.2
1990	Chmpshp.	3	23-4	1424-1788	79.6
1991	Chmpshp.	4	22-5	1318-1658	79.5
1992	Chmpshp.	1	29-2	1774-2140	82.9
1993	Chmpshp.	2	31-4	1456-1950	74.7

Is the making of a champion In the blood or in the soul. Is the skill divined from high above or just supreme control.

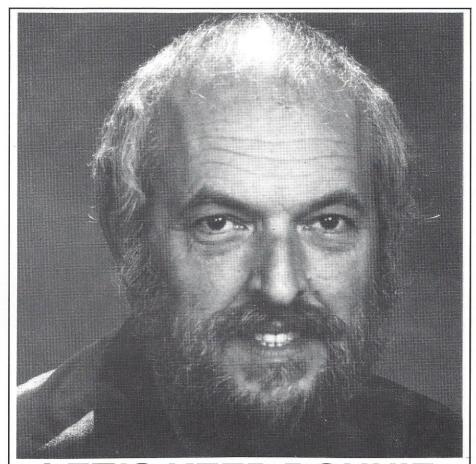
Endless hours of practice With a goal so clearly seen Until it's almost automatic With the precision of a machine.

From small town Alta, Iowa Comes a champion all our own A horseshoe pitcher world reknown Better known as Kevin Cone.

From the corn fields of our Iowa To the land of the rising sun, Kevin now promotes our sport making work to seem as fun.

A man of winning spirit
A treasure of our time
I'm proud to say that Kevin Cone
He is a friend of mine.

by Ron Steward



LET'S KEEP DONNIE NHPA SECRETARY-TREASURER

Toll Of Time

MARIE KAMPSCHROEDER

Marie Kampschroeder of Ottawa, KS passed away March 23, 1994, at age 79 of cancer. Her husband Ralph died in June of 1992. They had no children. She served as a VP in the NHPA from 1949 to 1953. They attended many World Tournaments in the late 40s and during the 50s. She played in the Ladies Division five times, finishing 2nd, 3rd, and 4th in three of them. They attended several WTs as spectators, the last time was 1981 at Genola, MN. They enjoyed traveling, visiting 49 states, missing only Alaska. They operated Ottawa Bowling Lanes from 1950 to 1982. they sold the business and retired.

FRANK "ELLIS" COBB

F. Ellis Cobb of Aurora, IL, died June 15, 1994. He was 84 years old. Ellis was a past secretary of the Illinois HPA, holding the position for over 30 years. He was also a charter member of the Il-

linois HPA Hall of Fame.

Ellis Cobb spent more than one-half his life working for the benefit of horseshoe pitchers everwhere. In addition to his work at the state level, Ellis was not only a fine horseshoe pitcher and winner of many championships, but for 32 years was the editor of the *News Digest*, the NHPA magazine which preceded *Newsline*.

Ellis received many horseshoe awards during his time, among which were lifetime NHPA membership, an Achievement Award in 1957, the Stokes Award in 1962, induction into the NHPA Hall of Fame in 1970, the Illinois Hall of Fame in 1977 and the NHPA Presidential Award in 1987.

Ellis is survived by his wife Virginia, 2 daughters, 8 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren. Those of you who remember him may wish to drop Virginia a card at 1307 Solfisburg Ave., Aurora, IL 60507.

A Leader Of Our Past, Remembered

by Dave Loucks

he NHPA has had many notable names entered into its Hall of Fame but for many pitchers, that have been around forty or more years and still remember, no individual had a greater impact on our sport than the late Archibald L. Stokes. From a letter in his own hand, let me share with you an interesting life story written 40 years ago for his granddaughter's genealogy class.

Arch Stokes was born July 24, 1886 in Draper, Utah, the son of Thomas Stokes and Ellen S. Canfield Stokes. The family owned an 80 acre farm in the southern section of town where Arch was raised with six brothers and sisters. The family, devout members of the LDS church, all worked on the farm when not in school.

Arch started his schooling at age 6 in a one room school house that taught grades 1-5. Each grade would get a turn each day in the front row seats where it would be taught the subject for that period. Once you returned to your regular seat in back, learning became tough, as you had to try and concentrate on your grade subject while the next class in the front row was reciting their subject. Arch mentions that many students didn't do well in this environment but if you slacked off or got out of hand, the teacher had access to a hickory stick that helped bring you back to your studies.

After finishing the 5th grade, Arch went to the Central school where grades 6-8 were taught. When he graduated from the 8th grade, he started study at the University of Utah as at the time, there were no high schools in the area.

In January 1906, Arch left for an LDS Mission in England, returning home in February 1908. It was shortly thereafter that he married Mary L. Heward, who was the Draper postmaster. During the next four years, working with his wife in the Post Office, Arch and Mary Stokes had three children.

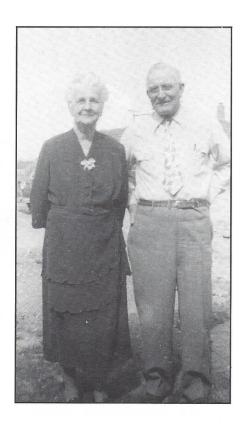
In June 1916, they moved to Burley, Idaho, where Arch had purchased a

farm. Things went well for awhile until drought and depression took hold of the area. The Stokes managed to trade their equity in the farm for a home in Burley where Arch went to work in the Sheriff's Office to make ends meet. In 1923, he returned to postal service work in Burley where he remained some four years before transferring to the Salt Lake City Post Office in 1927. During their time in the Burley area, five more Stokes children were born and another followed shortly after their move to Salt Lake City.

Arch Stokes enjoyed playing baseball which was his main recreation as a young man. As time, age and family responsibilities began to increase, Arch started to pitch horseshoes and it was about 1940 that he joined the Salt Lake County Horseshoe Pitching Association. He helped promote new clubs in several nearby cities and was instrumental in getting his city to improve their courts and build a clubhouse. For 8 years, Arch served as President of the Utah State association.

In 1946 Arch was on the Utah Centennial Committee and went to Des Moines, Iowa, where he bid for the 1947 NHPA World Tournament. The bid was successful and upon returning home, Arch set out to plan and supervise the building of new courts with lights in Murray Park. It was the first national tournament held under lights, which were installed by Utah Power and Light. The conditions and lighting were ideal as contestants at the 1947 event shattered many long standing pitching records.

Arch Stokes was elected 1st Vice President of the NHPA in 1947, the first person from Utah to hold a national office with the association. The World Tournament went to Milwaukee in 1948 but returned to Murray in 1949 where it stayed for 11 consecutive years before moving to Muncie, IN in 1960. During those years that the tournament was in Murray, Arch Stokes was elected NHPA President, not

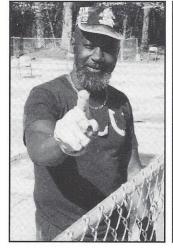


once, but twice—the only person to be so honored. He was first elected in 1951 and served two years, 1952 and '53. In 1955 he was again elected and served in office in 1956 and '57.

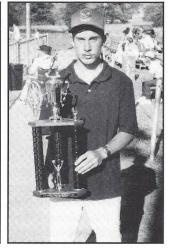
Arch Stokes passed away in October 1957. In 1958, Mary Stokes and her children started what has become known as the "Stokes Memorial Award." It is an award given annually to the person who has contributed the most during recent years to promote, foster and build the sport of horseshoe pitching. It is worth mentioning that this award preceded the start of NHPA Hall of Fame awards by eight years. It was not until 1966 that the NHPA inducted the first seven charter members to the Hall of Fame, among them the name of Arch Stokes.

Initially, the Stokes Award came from the Stokes family, but as it became difficult for Mary Stokes to travel, the NHPA took over the responsibility of selecting and presenting the award.

Many people whose names are quickly recognized by the membership have previously received the Stokes Award and this year's recipient is no exception. The NHPA will present the 1994 Stokes Memorial Award to Ed Domey of Massachusetts who has built the NHPA Game Related Sales Program into a very successful enterprise that profits everyone in the association.







Art Tyson

Jack Springer Memorial Courts

Lenwood Conner, Jr.

Tyson-Conner Southeastern Regional Champs

202 horseshoe pitchers traveled to Statesville, North Carolina April 15-17, 1994 to participate in the Southeastern Regional Championships. The event was staged on the 24 Jack Springer Memorial horseshoe courts, the former site of the World Championships in the late 70s and early 80s. Paul Stewart, North Carolina Charter Secretary and NHPA Regional Director, was the Tournament Director.

Forty 30-ft. players and 162 40-ft. players took the courts to battle for \$3,116 in cash and \$1,200 in trophies. The field included 27 women and 7

senior men. Ohio had 59 entries, North Carolina had 56, and South Carolina fielded 24.

Art Tyson of Mt. Vernon, New York captured the 40-ft. division with a 10-2-75.4 mark. To win a spot in the U.S. championship in Perry, Georgia in 1995, Art had to win a 3-way playoff. Foley, Seibold, and Tyson were tied at 9-2 after regulation. Seibold downed Foley and Tyson defeated Seibold in the playoff.

Lenwood Conner, Jr. of South Hill, VA took the 30-ft. competition with a 7-0-75.2 effort. Iris Sandham, Lilburn,

Georgia finished second at .6-1-54.3.

Tyson and Conner will advance to the United States Championships in Perry, Georgia in July of 1995 to compete against the winners of the other seven Regionals being held throughout the United States during 1994.

The Statesville, North Carolina Parks & Recreation Dept., under the direction of John Bullard, again demonstrated a fine ability to host a large horseshoe pitching tournament.

(Results of this event can be found in the "Special Tournament Results" section of this issue.)

It Happened At A World Tournament

Bernard Herfurth

The 1977 World Tournament was held in Greenville, Ohio. One evening after the pitching was completed, a group went out to have a snack.

Bernard Herfurth, his wife, and another couple walked in to eat. They picked up their food and carried it to a table on a tray. They finished their food in a few minutes, and left.

A few minutes passed and Bernie was back. He lost his glasses. Someone suggested that he probably left them on the tray and dumped them into the garbage can.

Bernie spent the next few minutes searching in the garbage can. Two policement walked past the window and came in to see what was going on. Bernie's wife explained to them that he was looking for his glasses.

After several minutes with no success, Bernie looked up and complained that it was so dark in the can he couldn't see a thing. He reached into his pocket and took out his glasses, put them on, and started looking into the garbage can. Everyone burst out laughing and poor Bernie left embarrassed.

Anticlimax. He returned in a few minutes looking for his car keys. It was suggested he look in his pocket. He found them.

Harold Reno

Harold Reno, two-time World Champion, probably owes his success

to his tremendous power of concentration. If he missed a ringer with his first shoe, he would pump his arm back and forth, sometimes as often as ten times before releasing the second shoe.

Many years ago at a World Championship he was behind against a new young pitcher, Roger Vogel, who was sporting a beard. Roger was leaning against the fence after having thrown a double. Harold missed his first shoe and was pumping his arm back and forth at least ten times.

One of the spectators turned to "Red" Henton and remarked, "Did you know that young fellow was clean shaven when this match started?"

Octogenarian Is **Top Ringer Again**

"I enjoy pitching. As long as I can still throw, I'll pitch," said Mervin George of Jackson Center, Pennsylvania. Merv is 84 years young. He is too busy playing horseshoe and winning championships to think about his chronological age. The spry senior citizen with a magnetic personality started pitching horseshoe 69 years ago. He first learned to pitch horseshoe at his father's blacksmith shop in Grove City, PA.



erv recalls in 1925 he was 14 and almost every afternoon he helped his dad in the blacksmith shop after school. That summer my dad and I got to pitching horseshoe-without the horses. "We got pretty good," he recalls. We pitched against every local pitcher and club. The father-son team pitched against them all and lost only once.

Two years later at the age of 16, George won the 1927 Pennsylvania State Horseshoe Championship. He returned to the state tournament the next two years, losing in 1928 but winning the title again in 1929. George went on to become 1930 Pittsburgh Press Champion and in 1931 West Park Championship both located in Pitt-

sburgh, Pennsylvania.

In the late 1930s he and his wife Peg moved from his Grove City home to a Jackson Center area dairy farm. Merv said he never touched a horseshoe after 1939 until three years ago. The reason for the incredible time span? "you don't milk cows and pitch horseshoe, milking cows and working nights was the end of horseshoe pitching for me," said George.

A couple of years ago, after 50 years away from the game, he learned about an indoor horseshoe pitching facility in Grove City. He was teased about his rusty shoes. "My shoes might be old and rusty, but they still work," he said.

During his sabbatical from pitching, not much has changed in the game. "It's still a good clean sport," he said. The only difference George noticed was the way the younger players pitch. "In all the years I pitched, I never saw anyone flip the shoe, now that's all they do." The traditional style was to fling the shoe sideways. "Flipping is definitely out for me," he added.

His wife humorously commented her husband hasn't done anything since reactivating his hobby except pitch the shoes, and she added "He won't pitch the shoes with the senior citizens. He competes with people on the average old enough to be his kids." He hasn't pitched against anyone older than himself, saying a 73 year old competitor was nearest his age. Merv still pitches a strong 40 feet.

On September 5, 1993, Merv won the Class B Pennsylvania State Horseshoe Championship in Brady Run Park, Beaver. He has an incredible number of impressive trophies collected for championships in the last couple of years, but the trophies from back in the 20s and 30s radiate a nostalgic air about them, because of their old time shapes. Mervin's most prestigious award ever was being inducted into the Pennsylvania Hall of Fame in 1977.

At age 84, George is still going strong. "Pitching horseshoe is for all ages, if you get too old to pitch, you still can enjoy watching and supporting the game," he said. When asked if he would be the next state champion, George replied, "I wouldn't mind trying, I'm doing pretty good."

Does he possess a secret that enables him to keep winning championship after championship? Merv says he has no secret. Comparing horseshoes to pitching in a baseball game he said, "Concentration and good luck are needed. I like pitching because it's fun. Anyone interested in a good clean sport with good exercise can't beat this." George added that horseshoe pitching may not get

crowds like other sports, but the competition is still there.

Merv, you are a real inspiration to not only your generation, but to the younger generation as well. Keep up the good work, Western Pennsyvania and the NHPA are very proud to have you represent us.

Note: Newsline thanks Betty Lapping of Beaver Falls, PA for the interesting data on Mervin George.



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World Records Don't Always Mean World Tournament

by Dave Loucks

The NHPA has been pretty good at keeping and reporting pitching records made during World Tournament play. The best of these are known as World Tournament Records. While they could be, these are not necessarily World Records which are the best marks ever made in any sanctioned tournament, the World or otherwise.

We have endeavored to compile a list of World Records without much success. Outside of perfect game history and the World Tournament, we have very little other data. Unless we can get some member support, it seems that the hidden history will forever remain unknown.

You can help us with this project. If you have some old written scoresheets or information that can be otherwise substantiated, please send it or copies to us for study. If what you submit is the best we get, it could go into the books as a World Record to stay until someone breaks it or submits a better record in that category.

Initially, we are seeking the best performance records for Men, Women, Seniors, Elders and Mixed play in the following categories that

might apply:

- 1. Highest sanctioned tournament percentage pitched.
- 2. Most shoes pitched in a tournament, both 40 and 50 point games.
- 3. Most total ringers pitched in a tournament, both 40 and 50 point games.
- 4. Longest shoe game.
- 5. Most ringers in a single game.
- 6. Longest consecutive string of ringers.
- 7. Longest string of 4-deads.
- 8. Highest percentage game pitched in a losing effort.
- 9. Most NHPA sanctioned tournaments entered in a calendar year.



A First For New York State

by Stewart M. Snyder

New York state has so many firsts, is it possible there could be another? Yes! The NHPA World Tournament to be held July 25-August 7, 1994, in an enclosed pavilion at the Syracuse Fairgrounds, the first World Tournament to be held in New York State.

Portable courts, delivered by truck to the fairgrounds Center of Progress building, will be set up by Syracuse Pioneer Horseshoe Club members. Court placement in the pavilion will be patterned after that used successfully in Columbus, Ohio's 1992 World Tournament.

All facilities will be according to NHPA standards under which the Pioneer Club operates; perfection in detail as bleachers, scoreboards, restrooms, safety fencing and surely a hot dog stand for hungry fans.

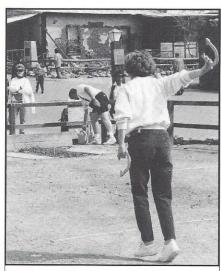
Pioneer's Hall of Fame pitcher, John Ruston, "The Saturday Faithful" and some 30-or-so Pioneer Club members have been working with Syracuse Chamber of Commerce people for two years marking progress on their daily program lists as time closes in on tournament opening day! Pioneer Club's indispensable publicity director Dave Harnden, liberal with praise in the right places, speaks highly of club members who form a strong working nucleus around which the success of the '94 World Tournament is dependent.

Shown above: Lance Hinman (left) Big John Ruston (right)

10. Most sanctioned tournament game victories in a calendar year.

Dig through your club, charter or personal files to see if you have something that might be worthy. It might even be in a category different than what is listed above. That's fine, we've just listed those to get started. Remember to include dates, event, location and opponent, where applicable. Send your submission to NHPA Publicity Director, Bob Champion, 5505 Valmont #176, Boulder, CO 80301.

Bob will compile the data and report the initial list of records which will be published in Newsline. We will then have a historical file that can be tracked and updated as new records are set and reported.



Nancy LaMoureaux of the Boron HC in S. California displays a nice high backswing during play at the Calico Hullabaloo.

BROTHER BATTLES BROTHER

for the BIG BUCKS

On Saturday, March 6, the Professional Bowler's tour event was rolled in Toledo, Ohio. But it had a Wisconsin flavor-and a horseshoe flavor to boot.

In the audience were Bob and Jeanette Traber of Cedarburg, Wisconsin. Bob is recognized as a well-traveled horseshoe tournament player. Their sons, David and Dale, were Numbers One and Two in

the televised bowling finals.

In the first match, triple crown champion Johnny Petraglia won over Eric Forkel. His next opponent was 5-time World Champion Horseshoe Pitcher, Walter Ray Williams, Jr. and Johnny nailed 12 straight strikes for a perfect game, \$100,000 from True Value and a 300-191 win.

Petraglia's next opponent was the older Traber brother Dale. In a close

match Dale won, 193-188 to force the history making event that would pit brother against brother in the TV finals for the first time. David took the challenge and defeated brother Dale, 197-187 to win \$23,000. Dale's second place finish money was \$14,000.

Their parents spent many hours answering phone calls from all over. A Sports Illustrated story is in the works.

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CENTRAL NHPA REGIONAL

Iowa State Fairgrounds-Des Moines, IA • August 20th and 21st

20 Courts • Adult Entry Fee \$25, Junior Entry Fee \$5 \$2500 added purse by Iowa State Fair

Mail entry fee and high 4 sanctioned Tourneys by August 1, 1994 to: Cliff Kenney, Box 243, Collins, Iowa 50055 • 515-385-2544

Check Class Entering: ☐ 40' Men ☐ 30' Mixed ☐ Junior Name_ Address _

For Information Call: Chet Foster, Director, 515-964-0159



Special Tournament Results

ARIZ STATE CHA	37 37 37 37 37 37 38 38 38 38 38 38 38 38 38 38 38 38 38	ID.	TEAM WO		Dan Bloom	5½ 9	54.11 51.47
STATE CHA			Beloit, WI	May 1, 1994	Larry Barber	276 1000000	
Prescott, AZ	April 16,	1994	Sanc. #28-9	4-007	13th: Wisconsin-3	25w	53.64
Men's Champion			1st: Minnesota	481/2w 67.02	Edie McKinney	7	65.50
Nathan Williams	7	3.97%	Bev Nathe	14 77.12	Jane Smith	51/2	57.66
Women's Champion		0.07 70	Dale Lipovsky	15 73.00	Clayton Gage	5	55.96
Ruthie Barret		52.5%	Phyllis Negaard	12 64.62	Rich Pichler Bill Schaaf	3	36.04
		JZ.J70	Lu Cave	71/2 56.25		41/2	49.23
Elders 30' Champio Dale Arionus		6.02%	2nd: Kentucky	60½w 72.72	14th: Ontario-2	24w	49.26
Dale Allollus	5	0.02%	Lois Webster	15 76.11	Kevin McLachlin	10	64.41
SOUTHEASTE	RN REGIO	ΝΔΙ	Charlie Meredith	15 73.05	Shelia McGrath	5	49.16
AND DO	그 일 경기에 대통하게 되고 하게 구나보다 구나		Ron Powell	141/2 70.97	Tom Stroh	3	40.14
			Don Titcomb	16 70.13	Karen McLachlin	5	47.05
Statesville, NC	April 15-17,	1994	3rd: Missouri-1	51w 69.30	Jim Haupt	1	36.50
40' Championship	W-L	%	Vicki Winston	13 71.80	15th: Wisconsin-4	22w	50.55
Art Tyson		75.35	Sam Carter	11½ 71.66	Mark Mauthe	91/2	62.03
Mark Seibold	IN 10-3	73.76	Don Harris	131/2 67.22	Debby Bestul	4	50.16
Lane Foley	VA 9-3	69.04	Stan Griggs	13 65.13	Ken Jaeger, Jr.	2	33.38
Jim Walters	OH 6-5	71.86	4th: Wisconsin-1	431/2w 64.85	Pam Steinke	4	53.46
Rick Cale	WV 6-5		Randy Rein	16 73.15	Tom Hansen	21/2	46.16
		70.89	Ralph Maylahn	4 61.50	16th: lowa-2	19w	42.98
John Bogardus	NY 6-5	66.27	Lor. Sternberg	10 65.78	Leo Buell	71/2	52.50
Ron Kuchcinski	PA 5-6	61.83	Don Kangas	4½ 59.28	Harold Garner	5	39.85
Elden Sarbaugh	OH 5-6	60.83	John Udelhofen	9 62.85	Herbert Hanson	1	36.02
Norman Kelly	SC 4-7	63.01	5th: Indiana	471/2w 65.26	Russ Martin	51/2	43.52
Clyde Southern	NC 3-8	63.28	Sue Snyder	11 68.33	17th: lowa-1	12	43.75
Ricky Bolick Sr.	NC 3-8	60.31	Mark Seibold	13 65.97	Stoney Jackson	1	46.17
Jack Baldwin	OH 1-10	53.03	Chad Hyatt	13 67.22	Robert O. McKee	21/2	48.52
30'Championship			Curley Seibold	10½ 59.16	M. Wilson	51/2	46.91
Lenwood Conner Jr.	. VA 7-0	75.17	6th: Ontario-1	42w 64.30	James Jackson	3	33.38
Iris Sandham	GA 6-1	54.34	Steve Hohl	13 70.29	18th: Illinois-3	11w	43.01
			Stan Leis	14 70.88	Dennis Reid	4	43.82
Milton Vinson		62.23	Bill Vanderburg	7 58.82	Tom Reid	2	44.37
Amy Brown		54.11	Andy Kutsch	8 57.20	Ron Hopman	1	40.57
Rivers Prewette		51.23	7th: Illinois-1	42w 63.49	Abe Austin	0	37.79
Renee Cowan		45.65	Cliff Baker	9½ 70.29	Rich Andrysiak	4	49.00
Troy Messer	NC 1-6	40.63	Charlie Webb	11 63.52			
Carol Fortner	WV 1-6	40.21	Bunny Ward	10½ 59.26	TENNESSEE II	NDOO	D
Other Group Winne	ers W-L	%	Jerry Dumstorff	11 60.88			
40'A James Cooper		60.1	8th: Saskatchewan	38w 59.41	STATE TOURN		
40'B Doug Cook	WV 11-0	63.2	Howard Weitzel	12 65.44	Joelton, TN Ma	rch 26,	, 1994
40'C Ken Walters	OH 9-2	51.7	Marv Ellison Colin Finnie	81/2 57.50	Class A	W-L	%
40'D Dean Squires	NH 7-0	50.7	Al Ross	11 67.35 6½ 47.75	Jack Conner	5-1	65.67
40'E Everett Frost	VA 6-1	51.4			Jack Freeman	4-2	64.00
			9th: Minnesota-2	36½w 59.41	Shannon Banks	2-3	57.20
40'F Harry Mills	WV6.5-0.5	55.7	Edi Holland	11 64.85	Roger Norwood	2-3	52.80
40'G Henry Westbro		49.6	Gerald Stangland Don Jakel	8 58.23 10 56.17	Hank Irwin	2-3	51.60
40'H Dave Rose	OH 7-0	48.6		10 56.17 7½ 58.38	Frank Jones	1-4	56.00
40'l Clifton Jones	NC 6-1	41.4	Wilfred Korpela		OTHER GROUP WINNE	RS	
40'J William Murr	SC 5-2	33.9	10th: Missouri-2	34w 56.91	Class B Loyd Wyatt	4-1	55.60
40'K Bill Arms	NC 6-1	34.3	Elwyn Cooper	10½ 66.17 10½ 60.88	Class C Ray Duncan	5-0	40.80
40'L Randy Joines	NC 7-0	37.1	Ken Pogue M.O. Turner	91/2 59.11	Class D Abbott Kemp	5-0	32.80
40'M Bill Walker	NC 7-0	41.8	Gerald Francis	31/2 41.47	and the second of the second o		
40'N Michael Quinn	SC 6-1	32.8			Class E Mike Melton	5-1	34.67
40'O Bobby Price	NC 5-1	23.3	11th: Illinois-2	29w 54.37 10 63.38	Class Women	.	E7.00
40'P Steve Shrewbu	ry WV 6-0	27.5	Larry Knop	10 63.38 4 46.91	Marlene Ray	5-0	57.20
40'Q Frank Allen	VA6.5-0.5	15.3	Mike Knop Harold Lange	11 58.67	Paula Hunsicker	4-1	58.80
30'A Ricky Bolick, J		54.6	Ray Phillips	4 48.52	Maxine Griffith	3-2	57.20
30'B Karl Hix	VA 7-0	61.8	200 A CONTRACTOR OF THE RESERVE OF T		Class Junior Boys	0.0	00.00
30'C Frank Oldenbu		37.9	12th: Wisconsin-2	26½w 54.08	Gary Melton	2-3	29.60
30'D Paula Jacobs	SC 6-0	23.3	Gus Schram Marvin Huffman	6 58.67 6 52.05	Matthew Melton	1-4 0-5	29.20
JU D I aula Jacobs	0-0	20.0	iviai viii Fiullillall	6 52.05	Shea Lebow	0-5	16.80

Special Events Calendar

JULY 1994

22-24 Mountain States Regional—Seeley Lake, Montana. In conjunction with the 11th annual Seeley Lake tournament and fun filled singles and doubles money throws on Friday night under the lights. Regional on Sat./Sun. at the 20 courts in the Seeley Lake Community Park. Pre-register by July 10. Entry fee \$25 for Regional, \$10 for money throw. Total expected purse for Regional \$3,500 plus over \$1,000 in money throws. Fees payable to Seeley-Swan Shoe Slingers. Mail fee, name/address, NHPA card # and NatStat average to P.O. Box 285, Seeley Lake, MT 59868. Contact Don Larson 406-677-2080 (work) or 677-2570 (home).

World Warm-up Tournament—Port Byron, NY. Doubles-Blind Draw at Bill & Lottie's River Tavern courts. Limited to first 64 entries. \$10 entry. 100% payback. Food and drink available. Send entry and average to Bill & Lottie's, RD2 RT38, Port Byron, NY 13140. 315-776-8874

25-Aug. 7 NHPA World Tournament — New York State Fairgrounds. Syracuse, NY.

AUGUST 1994

5-21 Governor's Open—Ohio State Fairgrounds, Columbus, Ohio. \$8,000 or greater purse. Pre-register by July 2nd. Entry \$20, juniors free. This is a mixed event. For details and forms contact Ohio State Fair, 717 East 17th Ave., Col., OH

43211, phone 614-644-4040 or contact tournament director Donnie Roberts at NHPA address/phone.

20-21 North Central Regional—Des Moines, Iowa. 20 courts at the Iowa State Fairgrounds. Pre-register by August 1. Entry fee \$25. Total purse should exceed \$4,000, entries and weather permitting. Fees payable to IHHPA. Mail fee, name/address, NHPA card # and NatStat average to Cliff Kenney, Box 243, Collins, IA 50055. Chet Foster 515-964-0159.

SEPTEMBER 1994

Southwestern Pacific Regional RESCHEDULED

Due to rain, this Regional originally scheduled in April will now be played in September.

NEW DATES: SEPTEMBER 17-18, 1994 Yolo Horseshoe Club, Davis, CA

Entry fee \$20.00. Juniors Free. \$2000+ purse. Entry Deadline August 19, 1994 Fee payable to Northern California HPA Mail with name, address, NHPA card # and

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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 tour-
nament 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.
1

REGION 1. Washington 2. Oregon 8. Idaho	REGIONAL DIRECTOR Rick Rebman Rt. 5, Box 5257 Hermiston, OR 97838 (503) 567-8560
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Keith Thompson

Strasburg, CO 80136

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	Falls City, NE 68355 (402) 245-3540
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20. Oklahoma	Chuck Arnold 10024 Millspaugh Way Yukon, OK 73099 (405) 324-7161
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22. Texas	Charles Posey 2026 Rockcreek Ct. Arlington, TX 76010 (817) 275-8533
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24. Iowa	Bob C. Walters 1401 Edgington Eldora, IA 50627 (515) 858-3861
25. Mississippi 26. Alabama	Bill Calhoun 1307 Clearmont St. Opelika, AL 36801 (205) 745-2356
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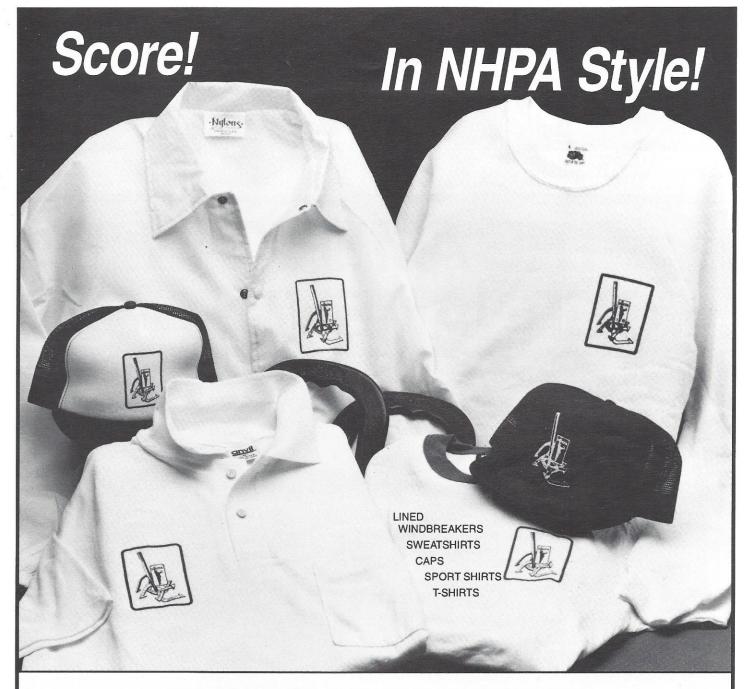
32. Kentucky

John Hankins

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	Goshen, KY 40026
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49. Connecticut	
50. Rhode Island	d
51. New Jersey	Phil Zozzaro
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	Little Falls, NJ 07424
	(201) 256-8996
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	Box 140, Palmer, AK 99645
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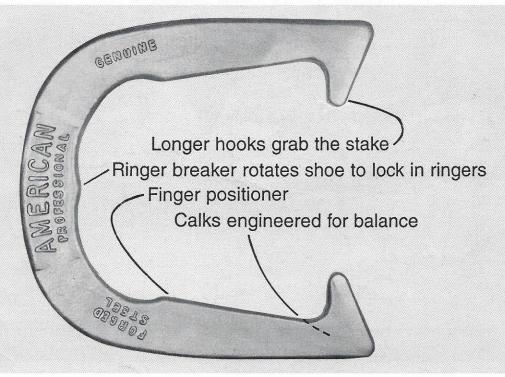
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