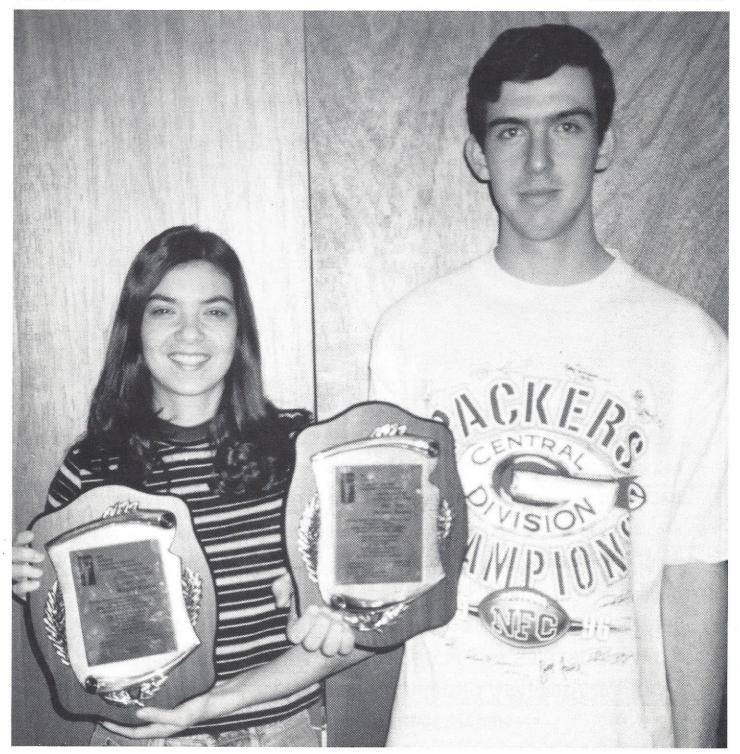
The National Horseshoe Pitchers Association

NEWSLINE

NHPA

VOL. 9 NO. 2

MARCH / APRIL 1997





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TYPESETTING / LAYOUT: KIM ROGERS, KIM ART

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ON OUR COVER

Michael and Michelle Newton. See story on page 19

President's Message

ne has only to pick up the daily newspaper or tune the television to the evening news to get an idea of how difficult it is to deal with a government entity. Citizens and businesses alike dealing with the IRS are often told one thing one day, only to be told something different on another day. It is sometimes impossible to know what they really want or what guidelines you are to follow because the regulations are so frequently changing.

The NHPA is a non-profit corporation, set up in many similar ways to the new NHPF which is a charitable corporation. Different tax codes, reporting procedures and requirements in how the corporations must be operated are big differences between the two. The NHPA has been under an IRS audit for more than 15 months. Started in September 1995, it has become a game of them asking a bunch of questions, we (NHPA auditor) reply, a month or two goes by and the IRS asks more questions, the auditor sends more replies and so on. The reason is that the IRS in 1994 or '95, changed some policy with regard to non-profit corporations and they are picking at different parts of the NHPA trying to find a hole where we might not be in compliance. As an example, the IRS says the elected Council members are employees and that withholding, Social Security and Disability should be deducted from our small allowance and that the NHPA as our employer, should match that

amount. The IRS has also stated that *Newsline*, by getting some revenue through paid advertisements and having multiple year subscription rates, must break everything down to show carry-over (year to year) revenue to prove that the intent is to inform members, not make a profit by selling outside the association. Game Related Sales have come under the IRS microscope for much the same reasons. Each IRS probe has been rebutted by the accounting firm of Tobkin & Chiang, the NHPA auditors. So far, the IRS has been satisfied with the responses but then just seem to pick another area to question.

The newly formed foundation (NHPF) has been granted a tax ID number which is not to say our charitable application has been approved. That could take another 4-12 months. However, since my announcement in the last *Newsline* about taking over the Jack Freeman Courts, the IRS threw us another curve. It seems that Dr. Freeman was advised (after *Newsline* went to print), that the IRS would not allow his entire property donation to be tax deductible in the normal time allotted. The value was too great so the property has to be given to the Foundation piecemeal. The first step was to deed the 55 acres of land adjoining the smaller 7 acre parcel that has the courts and improvements. This smaller parcel will be donated at a later time when tax regulations will permit Dr. Freeman the further deduction.

Dave's Court Report

1997-98 Bylaws Available. The new edition of the NHPA blue book is now available from your charter secretary. For purposes of heading off future IRS questions about our Game Related Sales Program an auditor suggested change was made to the wording of Article II, Purpose. It now includes the words "published material and approved equipment."

Elders Cannot Switch Back. At the January Las Vegas meeting, the Executive Council made a decision on Elder pitchers which is effective immediately. It is not covered in our Rules or Bylaws and charters have been asking for guidance. The decision, "once a man age 70 or more becomes an Elder short distance pitcher, he must remain there forever." Some men were bouncing back and forth messing up their charter records and NatStats. This decision should cause men to think long and hard before moving up from 40'.

New Mexico Charters Combine. The two former New Mexico Charters voted at the State meeting to become one. The former Northern Charter officers will become the officers of the new charter until elections this year.

A Trailer For Missouri. At the '96 State tournament, Missouri membership voted to purchase a 1993 model of an 8' x 20' modular office trailer. It will provide 160 sq. ft. of air conditioned space at tournament sites to house computers, copy machine, etc. When the question of financing came up, one member jumped up and placed \$50 in front of the officers and challenged other members to donate something. Before the meeting was over, some \$1,450 had been donated and the trailer was half paid for.

Quartzsite Death. On the first day of this 4 day annual tournament, Bob Chase of Seaside, CA fell to the ground during his first game. He was having a heart attack. While the call went out on cell phones for emergency EMT help, other pitchers with CPR experience came to the aid of Bob. Harvey Brown, retired fire fighter, guided Ivor Trimble and Marlene Carr through the breathing technique and twice got Bob Chase breathing on his own before the paramedics arrived, when he again faltered and a defibrillator was required. Despite the quick action of fellow players, Bob Chase did not survive.

Juniors Get More Recognition. Minnesota has long won the annual NHPA award for the most Juniors. We are now adding another award to be given to the charter with the largest increase in Junior membership. Also, we have decided to recognize all NHPA Junior members (rather than just sanctioned league) who qualify for Junior Scholar status and apply to the NHPA for the patch award.

New Horseshoe Book Published. A very informative book on Horseshoe pitching has been published by Stackpole Books. Written by Steven Boga, author of several books on outdoor sports, it covers rules, court layout, pitching techniques and advice from the experts, among many other things. This 112 page book was written after contributions and advice from several NHPA members. It will soon be available through your NHPA Game Related Sales Distributor at a cost of about \$10.00 See advertisement in this issue.

Plan to attend the World **Horseshoe Pitching Tournament in** Kitchener, Ontario, Canada, July 14 - 27!

Accommodation Guide

Our host hotels for the World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament include:

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\$59 US + tax

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(519) 894-9500

Fax:

(519) 894-9144

Howard Johnson

Rate:

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Phone:

(519) 893-1234

Fax:

(519) 893-2100

- must request the "World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament" special rate to reserve your room
- US rates subject to change due to exchange rate fluctuations
- 🌞 book now to guarantee your room

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\$76 US + tax

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(519) 893-1211

Fax:

(519) 894-8518

Four Points Sheraton

Rate: \$63 US + tax

Phone: (519) 744-4141

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\$59 US + tax

Phone:

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Fax:

(519) 745-3625

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Daily Rate:

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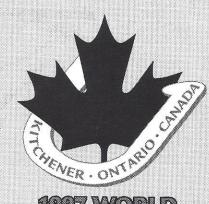
Daily rate:

Single \$22 US, Twin \$14.30

per person, per night

Weekly rate:

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ENTRY FORM

NHPA

World Horseshoe Pitching Championships

July 14th - 27th 1997 Kitchener, Ontario, Canada

Date	
P.M. Date	
check #	
\$ Amount	-
Div	

OFFICE USE ONLY

Entry Deadline May 1st 1997

Name
Zip Date of Birth Telephone Number, Home Work All Entries Must be on this form and mailed with a postmark no later than May 1st 1997. Entries received with a postmark after May 1st shall be put on a waiting list and pay an additional 20% penalty
Telephone Number, Home Work All Entries Must be on this form and mailed with a postmark no later than May 1st 1997. Entries received with a postmark after May 1st shall be put on a waiting list and pay an additional 20% penalty
All Entries Must be on this form and mailed with a postmark no later than May 1st 1997. Entries received with a postmark after May 1st shall be put on a waiting list and pay an additional 20% penalty
received with a postmark after May 1st shall be put on a waiting list and pay an additional 20% penalty
if later accepted into this event. NATSTATS files must substantiate that you pitched a minimum of four (4) sanctioned events, one of which may be a sanctioned league, in the preceding twelve (12) months prior to May 14 th 1997, which is the last date NATSTATS will accept results to determine entering average. Participants will be required to show their 1997 NHPA or Canadian membership card.
REGISTRATION FEES US & CANADIAN RESIDENTS - Adults - \$50.00 Juniors - \$10.00 All NON-CANADIAN OR NON-US ENTRANTS \$55.00 US FUNDS ONLY NO REFUNDS AFTER MAY 27th 1997
READ CAREFULLY; Any adult male pitching 40 feet may enter the Open Men's Division regardless of age just as any adult female may enter the Open Women's Division. To enter the Senior Division, you must be 60 years or older as of July 13 th 1997. Any individual 70 years or older as of July 13 th 1997 or physically impaired person of any age, all of which must pitch less than 40 feet, may enter the Elders Division. Junior Division entrants must be 18 years old or less for the entire 1997 calendar year.
You can play in only one division. PLEASE CIRCLE THE DIVISION YOU ARE REGISTERING FOR;
1. Open Men 2. Senior Men 3. Open Women 4. Elders 5. Junior Boys 6. Junior Girls 7. Senior Women (40')
PARTICIPANTS LIABILITY RELEASE: In consideration of participating in such activity, I hereby wave, release and forever discharge the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association, all officers, employees, agents and servants of the afore stated organization, and all fellow participants of this event, for any and all action, cause of action, damage, loss or injury, which I may suffer as a consequence of participating in the World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament.
Please indicate what you think your three (3) high average should be% Circle how many sanctioned events you
have competed in during the last twelve (12) months. 4 5-6 7-9 10 or more
We reserve the right to disallow your participation if we discover errors on this form or if your records don't appear in NATSTATS or CanStats, or false or misleading information is on this form.
Signed Date
MAIL REGISTRATIONS & FEES (PAYABLE TO NHPA) TO; DIRECT TELEPHONE INQUIRIES TO;
NHPA Dick Hansen NHPA Sec/Treas
3085 76 th St. 414-835-9108
Franksville, WI. 53126 If you want confirmation that your entry was received and your entering average, please include a self addressed, stamped postcard.

6 NEWSLINE

Letters to the Editor

Dear Dave,

The door has again been opened for more discussion on the 30 foot vs. 40 foot controversy. I enjoyed the comments in the Jan./Feb. issue of Newsline. Some were good, some not so good. I believe my feelings run parallel to yours in that there would be no need to try and change rules if the Charters would offer a variety of tournaments. This puts the responsibility right in the lap of the tournament director to offer an event most pleasing to the pitchers who will be participating. If a director runs two tournaments a year, how nice if one was mixed and one had a 40 foot division and a 30 foot division. It would be interesting to see the response.

Missouri had 951 adult members in 1996. Ten percent of those were 30 foot Elder Men, yet we drew just 26 of them to our State Tournament. The attendance at a lesser event would be minimal. We have a much larger number of women pitchers, yet in some areas they are not too active in tournament play either. Therefore, a mixed tournament seems to work best as far as evening the averages of

the participants. These have been well accepted by many of our pitchers. I do know some 40 foot pitchers who dislike pitching against 30 foot pitchers, but I also know of some who would be unhappy if their short distance competitors were removed. Most of the tough games would be gone and they would have no one to push them. Likewise, I also know of some 30 foot pitchers who dislike playing against 40 foot pitchers. It requires them to do more walking, when they may have moved to a shorter distance because of health problems.

Again, the answer would seem to be to have some tournaments mixed distance pitching and some that are not.

In all of the talk that has circulated throughout the nation in recent years, the one thing I find the most surprising was to learn of the 30 foot Elder Men, who refuse to pitch with the women and juniors. Then there are the women who refuse to pitch with the other 30 foot groups. My thoughts are if these people, who are all 30 foot pitchers, cannot accept one

another, how do they expect the 40 foot pitchers to accept them? Even in our large charter, it would be difficult to field good 30 foot classes at a weekend tournament if all 30 foot pitchers did not compete together. The World Tournament and a State Tournament are the only two events where this separation needs to be made.

A variety of tournament offerings seems to be one answer, along with the good sportsmanship and cooperation of pitchers being another, as was suggested by a previous correspondent. That would go a long way in solving this dilemma. I just don't feel it's in our best interests to make any further rule changes concerning the matter at hand.

Sincerely,

Vicki Winston, LaMonte, MO

Dear Dave.

Please consider this a vote for segregating 40' & 30' pitchers per Walt Davis' letter (3rd & 4th paragraphs).

Allan M. Bond, Houston, TX

Dear Dave,

I was remiss in not providing my views concerning the mixing of the 30' with the 40' pitchers. Especially at the local club level of competition.

Based upon discussion with a longtime and former top-notch ringer percent pitcher of the Men's Division, I believe the following procedure would help to maintain the "rhythm" that is lost by the 40' pitcher when competing against a 30' player:

Allow the 40' pitchers to pitch their shoes first...

Charles M. Bunner, Fairmont, WV

Dear Dave,

I am one of those pitchers who are opposed to mixing 30 and 40 ft.

pitchers in classes.

I am 77 years old and appear to be strong and in good health but am struggling to pitch from 40 ft. I do not feel like moving up because of the present controversy. My ringer percentage has dropped from a high of 53% a few years ago to a miserable 14.5% in the World Tournament. I'm about ready to stop pitching horseshoe in tournament competition

unless something happens that would eliminate the problem.

There is a simple solution to the problem. Have everyone pitch from some intermediate distance such as 35 ft. This would make a level "playing field" for everyone and would end, once and for all time, this controversy which is hurting organized horseshoe pitching.

Sincerely,

Roger Christianson, King City, OR

Dear Dave,

Your message in the Nov./Dec. 1996 issue of Newsline and the Letters to the Editor in the Jan./Feb. issue, all on the subject of 30' and 40' pitching, are interesting and collectively show the impossibility of ever successfully having the two classes pitch together. It is time to solve the problem by having two exclusive and separate groups-40' pitchers should pitch together. No exceptions should be made. Then the sport of horseshoe pitching could begin to grow again. Until that step is taken, we will continue to see decreasing numbers of pitchers.

It is impossible to compare the 40′ game and the 30′ game. The reasoning that each pitcher has established his percentage at his distance does not make it fair for the 30′ pitcher to pitch against a 40′ pitcher. It is far easier to pitch at the shorter distance.

I am about a 30% pitcher so I am far down in the classes. I am 78 years old, a small person and not very strong. But I can still pitch 40′, and I want to pitch at that distance as long as I am able to do so. If I have to move up to 30′ at some future time, I will want to pitch against other 30′ pitchers.

Sincerely,

Dale Dufur, Lebanon, OR

Dear Dave,

Idon't know why horseshoe pitchers waste so much energy about 30'-40' pitching. The simple answer is go back to the old rule book—40 footers pitch only 40 footers. Same for other groups—No more problems.

Dick Hucke, Fallon, NV

(continued next page)



1997 World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament Kitchener, Ontario, Canada July 14-27th

RV Site Registration

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Phone (519)634-8046

Letters to the Editor continued....

Dear Dave,

The letter by Walt Davis, Lincoln, NE on page 6 of Newsline, Jan./Feb. 1997 Letters to the Editor is the BEST solution toward solving the 30-40 ft. pitcher stand-off we are now experiencing. Mr. Davis, like many of we 40 ft. pitchers, believes the present 30 and 40 ft. games are not the same sport.

I especially support Walt Davis' recommendations that in open sanctioned tournaments where 3 or fewer 30 ft. pitchers are entered, the 30 ft. pitchers should be included into the 40 ft. class. If 4 or more 30 ft. pitchers are registered for the tournament they should be placed with their own division.

Les Jones, Santa Maria, CA

Dear Dave,

My comments on the 30-40 ft. controversy.

We used to have two Elder Divisions, one for 30' and one for 40'. When the 40' pitchers were made to compete against the 30 footers, they were at a distinct disadvantage. The older pitcher had to go to the shorter distance to be competitive. I know, because I was one of those pitchers.

40 footers, if they are honest with themselves, generally don't want to pitch against 30 footers. In the mideast, my experience indicates that Elders generally refuse to move up and dislike those who do. This fact, together with my observations at major tournaments, has turned me, too, against 30 foot pitching. Despite my success at the shorter distance, I returned to pitching 40'. Even though the transition has been difficult and I'm now 20% lower in average, I'm committed to 40' as long as I continue to pitch. Maybe we could again have an Elder 40' Division. It might prevent many Elders from dropping out of the sport rather than move up or be humiliated by 30' pitchers.

Ralph Maylahn, Genesee Depot, WI

Dear Dave,

The plan to let 40-ft. pitchers move up when pitching with 30-ft. pitchers is a step in the right direction.

It is the desire of all of us to have more fun and pleasure with our sport and to settle the controversy (15+ years) between the 30-ft. and 40-ft. pitchers. I would suggest the following:

- 1. Let all horseshoe pitchers have the option of pitching with either a 27-ft. foul line or a 37-ft. foul line.
- 2. There are many horseshoe pitch-

ers who will want to keep the "pride" of our sport by pitching the 40-ft. distance. Let them! More power to them if they can master the longer distance. Keep the 40-ft. pitching distance for World, State and special tournaments.

3. Most important!! The junior boys can stay with our sport instead of dropping out when they reach 19 and are forced to use the 40-ft. distance. It's a shame to lose them with all that potential when the NHPA could prevent it. Give them the option of either distance.

4. Challenge 40-ft. pitchers to set aside their "pride" and give the shorter pitching distance a try. They will be amazed at how much more accuracy they can enjoy with practice. And—for some, without such physical exertion.

5. The shorter pitching distance can become more of an incentive for the public to take up our sport. They will see all ages pitching from the same shorter distance—eventually.

Let's go for promoting the shorter distance, keep the 40-ft. pitchers happy, and look forward to more ringers through use of the shorter distance.

Sincerely,

Arnie Coleman, Olympia, WA

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Entry Form

July 12 - July 13, 1997 Affiliated Horseshoe Pitchers - MCPARC

N.H.P.A. Sanctioned Tournament # 39-97-010 Worthington, West Virginia



Name	1997 NHPA Card #				
Address	SS#				
	ZIP	Date of Birth			
Telephone Number Home	W	ork			
All entries must be on this form and mailed with a po	ostmark no later than 2	July 1997.			
REGISTRATION FEES & POLICY: Adults \$10, Entry Dues in advance and, there will be NO EXCE		NDS after 1 July 1997. Players required to pay			
READ CAREFULLY: This event is scheduled as an competing at 40' feet, will be assigned by Class in the be assigned in the 30' Divisions by Class.					
YOU CAN PLAY IN ONLY ONE DIVISION. Ple	ease circle the division	you are registering for: 1.40' 2.30'			
PARTICIPANT LIABILITY RELEASE: In cons forever discharge the Affiliated Horseshoe Pitchers stated organization and all fellow participants of this may suffer as a consequence of participating in this N	- MCPARC, all officer event, for any action, ca	rs, employees, agents and servants of the afore auses of actions, damage, loss or injury, which I			
Please indicate what you believe to be your current R	Ringer Per Cent Averago	e			
Adults will be competing for both First Place Plaquinimum of \$1000 provided by the Marion County Cou					
CHAMPIONSHIP CLASS of the 40' Division will l site.	be required to pay a CL	ASS PITCHING FEE of \$15, at the tournament			
Signed		_Date			
MAIL REGISTRATIONS & FEES (PAYABLE TO 508 Ohio Avenue Fairmont, Marion County, WV., 26554-4155	O AFFILIATED HOF	RSESHOE PITCHERS-MCPARC)			

TELEPHONE INQUIRIES: (304) - 366-7986

Players will be notified by Postal Card the date and time they are to compete.

1997 World Tournament Information

We anticipate World Tournament entries in Kitchener to be at an all time high. Some 2000 or more pitchers are expected to participate this year, the first time the tournament has been held outside the United States.

Pitching will follow the same popularized format of recent years. Everyone will be seeded into 16 person groups and scheduled to play 5 games a day over 3 different days. The top 5 finishers of every class of 16 will win a share of \$800. The percentages pitched for the 15 class games will determine who will advance to the championship finals of each division.

This year, due to the expected record turnout and an added \$7,000 prize money contribution by Horseshoe Canada, the number of championship finalists has been increased in four divisions. Championship Men and Women will have 20 players. Senior men 12 and Elders 8. During class play, junior boys and girls will be mixed together while Senior Women will be mixed with the Open Women. The Championship Finals will separate the best of these mixed groups to play for their Division World Titles.

Championship Divisions

				Senior Women,
Me	n & Women	Senior Men	Elders	Jr. Boys & Girls
1.	\$3,500	\$1,500	\$600	\$500
2.	1,800	1,000	425	350
3.	1,400	750	375	275
4.	1,100	600	350	250
5.	900	500	325	225
6.	825	450	300	200
7.	750	400	275	
8.	700	350	250	\$1,800
9.	650	325	N	
10.	600	300	\$2,900	
11.	550	275		Each Class of 16
12.	500	250		1. \$250
13.	450	g 		2. 175
14.	400	\$6.700		3. 150
15.	375			4. 125
16.	350			5. 100
17.	325			
18.	300			\$800

Total Purse for Championship Divisions...\$47,000

All adult Championship Finalists will be charged an added fee of:

\$50.00 for Championship Men and Women

\$40.00 for Championship Senior Men

\$30.00 for Championship Elders and Senior Women



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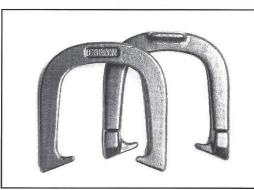
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FOCUS ON **PROMOTION**

Tournaments Keep The Community Involved by Bob Dunn

he 1997 tournaments are being scheduled. Across the country, there are few tournaments that have full sponsorship, with good media coverage, and even fewer designed to offer charity value to local concerns. The odds are that charity benefit events are a very small portion of all tournaments. Yes, there are some, and when written up in Newsline, it is impressive reading. It is fair to say that most tournaments are conducted to benefit the host club if there are any profits.

Keep these thoughts in mind when setting plans for your 1997 tournament. The media is not so interested in the event that is a self-serving concern but will be available for pretournament build-up and articles and pictures of the event if a local charitable concern will be benefited. Sponsorship is far more readily available

when a worthy concern will receive some contribution out of the proceeds. Local personalities will be more apt to become involved if the tournament has a charity framework. Mayors can play police chiefs, sports figures can play other celebrities, well you get the idea.

Tournaments are the "showcase" for our sport. Tournaments should play a major role in our over-all promotion. This all will work so much better if the community is involved. Many tournament directors may feel that it is difficult enough to just try to recruit players to participate, let alone try to recruit sponsors, media etc. It's the 1990s, we need to re-look at our focus and address the theme of our tournaments and their purpose.

If 100% of the entry fees can be pledged to a charity, sponsor(s) will

contribute towards awards and tournament costs, provide coupons or merchandise that can be used as prizes in drawings or raffles. Raffles can help increase the charity funds. The media will follow suit in their upgraded support of the event.

To enhance the opportunity for success, all members of the host club need to be involved with the pretournament efforts and all need to be on hand to assist in conducting the event. It cannot be left up to only the director, or just a few of the club. All members need to accept assignments and responsiblity to contact sponsors, making arrangements and working with local personalities and the media. If the entire club is behind the effort, tournaments will rise to new levels of success and promotion of our sport will also benefit.



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REGULAR	\$40.00
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CLYDESDALE DF	\$45.00

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N.T.s now have better hooks and more weight to the front.

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PROMOTION JOTTINGS

by Bob Dunn

■ The NHPA became the sole governing organization of our sport in 1921. Initially there were 17 affiliated state organizations. The official by-laws and game rules were adopted as of January 1, 1922 and on that day, these were the affiliated associations:

Buckeye Horseshoe Pitching Association of Ohio California State Horseshoe Pitchers Association Colorado State Horseshoe Pitchers Association District of Columbia Horseshoe Association Florida State Horseshoe Assn. Idaho State Horseshoe Assn. Illinois State Horseshoe Assn. Indiana State Horseshoe Pitchers Association Iowa State Horseshoe Pitchers Association Ironwood Horseshoe Club, Ironwood, Michigan Kansas State Horseshoe Pitchers

Pitchers Association Missouri State Horseshoe

Minnesota State Horseshoe

Association

Missouri State Horseshoe Pitchers Association

Oklahoma State Horseshoe Association

Pennsylvania State Horseshoe Association

Washington State Horseshoe Association

Wisconsin State Horseshoe Pitchers Association

Did you notice the District of Columbia had an association? Makes sense, for at the time President Warren Harding was honorary president of the NHPA.

■ In 1929, D.D. Cottrell described horseshoe pitching activity in Missouri this way:

MISSOURI

There is a horseshoe club in Kan-

sas City, MO, that has a number of good courts in one of the city parks. I.A. Cummings, 621 Grand Ave., is the president. In St. Louis, Gus Klemme, connected with the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat* and secretary of the Municipal Horseshoe Pitchers League, is the moving spirit of the game in the city. The league which was organized in 1916, has courts in Fairground Park.

The Flint team of the league set a ringer record for the season of 1928 by averaging a total ringer percentage of .414 and is the only team that has made better than 40 per cent for a season. A. Michel, also of the Flint team, holds the one game ringer record, having tossed 25 ringers out of 36 shoes or a percentage of .694.

Mr. James Putman, Mokane, was

champion of the MKTRR System and entered the National Tournament at St. Petersburg, FL, February 1928, to represent that system.

There is considerable horseshoe pitching in different cities and towns in the state but no state association. At Independence, there are a number of especially enthusiastic players. One of the bowling establishments has under consideration building some indoor horseshoe courts in St. Louis for winter pitching. In its issue of September 30, 1928, the St. Louis Globe-Democrat had a double page spread in its magazine section on the activities of the Municipal League. There were a number of columns of description and it was illustrated profusely with pictures of players and teams printed in colors.

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- 3. A 6" notch for measuring legal points.
- 4. Straight edge for measuring ringers.
- 5. Scraper for removing dirt, mud, etc.
- 6. Just the right size for back pockets.
- 7. NHPA approved.

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close points

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Leather Carrying Case Available. \$5.00 each

\$5.00 each)

 STRAIGHT EDGE for measuring ringers



6" NOTCH for legal points.

 FILE to remove burrs from shoes

. SCRAPER for removing dirt

Send to: Horseshoe Pitcher's Companion 2058 Woods Circle Barnhart, MO 63012 (Add \$1.50 for postage and handling)

Sanctioned Club/League News by Bev Born

I am pleased with 1996. Sanctioned cl/lgs were up, with 22 new ones, which included 3 all juniors, although total membership was still down from '95. The program also had the lowest mandatory and other cancellations in its history. Only three forced, due to no correspondence, reports or replies to the two notices sent to them in Nov. and Dec. Of the other six, three were put on hold for regrouping, etc. and three were cancelled, by request. The forced cancellations were West Side, MA, Sarasota/Bradenton, FL, and Cobb Area, GA. If these directors would contact me, ASAP, perhaps we could work out any problem they may be having and reinstate their club. Since one of these (West Side) was a charter 1978 club, it drops the charter clubs to 8 of the original 13, with '97 being 20 years for those. Still a good record and I am proud of them.

Total reported clubs for '96 was 222, with a total reported membership of

6,249—4,779 men; 1,069 women; 300 boys and 101 girls. Junior totals are from 13 all-junior leagues and those that pitch with adult mixed ones. There were only two all-women, with First Capital, MO. 64 members and Bismarck Women's, ND with 19. The largest all-men, with 78 is Greater Danbury, CT. Largest mixed is New Melle, MO with 203 and largest all-junior is West St. Paul, MN with 26.

Well over half, some 126 leagues, play 50 shoe count-all using a handicap. There are still only 44 states with sanctioned cl/lgs and I have not yet given up hope of seeing this go to all 50 or at least 48. I say 48, because Delaware and Rhode Island have no NHPA Charter. Come on! Alabama, Maine, Oregon and Washington, have your club/s become a part of this great program. Your joining would be a great way to celebrate 1997, our 20th year!

The Director of the Year for 1996 has been presented to Glenn Bale,

Chevenne County HSC of Lodgepole, NE, along with my sincere appreciation for all of his many years of good work and dedication. If anyone would like to submit a deserving director for this honor, please feel free to do so. The person submitted should have at least 5 years or more as director of a sanctioned club or league, be fair minded, dedicated, a good promoter and have always submitted all due reports in a neat and on time manner. Please include a history of his/her work, accomplishments and number of years as Director. Final choice will be made from this information and also from my records of their working and reports with this office.

Summary of past three years:

75	1994	1995	1996
No. of States	44	44	44
No. of Clubs	198	209	222
Adults	5656	6046	5848
Juniors	388	373	401
Total Members	6044	6419	6249

It was great to see so many horseshoe friends in Las Vegas. Even though the pitching conditions may not have been perfect—(are they ever, anywhere?) and perhaps not as nice as those at the Hacienda, I heard very few complaints. The weather was cooler than normal, but still much warmer than many of our home states. Do hope that all enjoyed the break, the friends and good time, as Floyd and I did. May everyone share good times, pitching, health, happiness and prosperity in this New Year.

Thanks to Don Weaver for his long, hard year of work which made this Vegas Open possible one more time. I hope that other pitchers took the time to thank Don. Praise should go to any tournament Director who works hard to provide us with an event to pitch in. Pitching and having fun, regardless of any unpleasant circumstances, not bitching, should be a New Year's resolution for all of us. One not to be broken. Give it a try, you may truly enjoy the event more and I know the Director will be pleased and proud of you.

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Regional Directors' Report

I know it's hard to believe it's nearly time for another World Tournament. The Regional Directors know what this means—it's shoe checking time. Again, this year, the RDs will be checking all shoes before you pitch. Remember, if your shoes do not meet NHPA World Tournament requirements it's your responsibility to correct them and make them legal or you will not be allowed to use them.

I would suggest that you have your shoes checked at the local level. This will avoid delay and unwanted frustration for you, and make the RD's job easier also. I will be making up a work schedule for RDs and ARDs that plan to attend the tournament and I will also be asking John Decker, Earl Waggy, and a few of the Canadian Officers to assist in the shoe checking this year. I know they will all do a great job as in the past.

From The Mail Bag

RD George St. Pierre, New England reports that the 1996-97 winter season saw two new indoor horseshoe courts start up. One is a 8 court facility in Manchester, CT, which is having a tournament every two weeks until April 1997. Another is a six court facility in Burlington, MA where they play in dirt. George says that he is planning for 16 courts to be indoors by Spring. These courts will be located in a building, housing an indoor baseball field and a soccer field. Working with the owner, George has designed a removable stake so it can be taken out of a base plate under the 4-6" of dirt. Changing from a baseball field to horseshoe courts takes approximately two hours for 16 courts. This sounds like a very fast pit stop to me George. Keep up the good work.

RD Jim Haupt, Wisconsin is the first Regional Director to send in a patch order by e-mail. Any of the Regional Directors and Assistant Regional Directors can also send their patch orders and Regional Director reports to me by e-mail, nhpa5th@abts.net. Jim also reports that he and Tony Scrima checked out the new indoor courts at Deansville, WI and says this will be a great place for winter leagues or smaller tournaments.

RD Ron Deckard, Florida, reports that Florida has 74 sanctioned tournaments scheduled for the 1997 season. Ron also reports that the St. Cloud courts have been re-located. St. Cloud previously had 9 courts and the new site has 18. These additional courts will now allow St. Cloud to host up to 84 players per tournament and perhaps hosting a State Closed Tournament at St. Cloud is not too far in the future.

RD Ricky Bolick, North Carolina, reports that two new court locations will be sanctioned and both locations will hold sanctioned tournaments for the 1997 season. They are Burlington and Albemarle. Burlington will hold two sanctioned tournaments and Albermarle will have three. Ricky says both locations are in an area where there are no sanctioned tournaments and should help pick up new members from both clubs.

RD Dave Garbani, S. California, reports that S. California has 108 sanctioned tournaments scheduled for the 1997 season with two more on the horizon. With this many sanctioned tournaments on their schedule no one should have any problems getting in their four required sanctioned tournaments to be eligible for the World Tournament.

RD Bud Schardine, Utah, reports that 1996 was a good year for Utah Horseshoe. The Ogden Town Days Celebration Tournament was pitched on portable courts downtown and was well attended. They had an estimated 10,000 people witness the event. Another invitational tournament that had good exposure was the annual Utah State Fair in Salt Lake City. They pitched two days and also had a Junior Tournament.

Nephi, UT surprised everyone by building a 12 court complex and inviting everyone to participate in a tournament that had a good turnout and everyone had lots of fun. Kearns, UT, a city near Salt Lake, is in the process of building a new complex that will include horseshoe courts.

ARD Shirley Steffen, S. Utah reports that Richfield, UT has added 8 more courts which doubles what they started with 5 years ago. Shirley also reports that they now have a "Memorial Monument" in St. George, built by the late Lorin Condie. Past members that have passed on are engraved on the brass plate. The monument was built of rocks the members have gathered on their travels. Some are really beautiful. They have also added a fence around the monument. This sounds like a great way to honor our past Horseshoe Pitchers.

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M&M SPECIAL



While searching for some interesting details concerning Hall of Fame inductees, I decided to feature the women this time. From 1920, to the present day, many records have been set and broken. One oddity is that one Women's World Tournament consisted of only three games. However, the record I'm going to feature is one that's happened only once.

A woman won four consecutive World Tournaments, from 1970 through 1973, and then won her last title in 1976 in a tough two-outof-three playoff. This woman is Ruth Hangen of Getzville, NY. Ruth's five winning averages were in the high seventy percent range and her best one pushed eighty with a 79.6%. In her four consecutive title years, Ruth never lost a game, winning 28 straight games during that four year period.

Ruth Hangen

In four consecutive title years, she never lost a game.

In the 1976 World Tournament, one half of the class were destined to be World Champions, and some already were, so it was not easy sailing. Three tough competitors were Vicki Winston of MO, Lorraine Thomas of NY, and Deborah Michaud of MA. To review what Ruth had to do to win number five title (playoffs were two-out-ofthree in those days) she had to tangle with a fellow league pitcher, Lorraine Thomas. The two were tied at the end of round robin play. Lorraine was no stranger to horseshoes and in 1980 would win the World title with an

average of 80.3%, going undefeated.

The battle began and would last nearly three hours. Ruth won the first game 50-43 while hitting a 77.2% pace. In game number two, Lorraine warmed up the peg to the tune of 82.1% and Ruth got barely half way. The last game, to clinch the title, saw Ruth win 52-39, while hitting 78.4%. Truly championship pitching and that year the defending champion placed third.

Ruth also served the NHPA as a Vice President, being elected to that position in 1968. Later, she was appointed to chair the NHPA Hall of Fame Committee, a position she served in for six years. She is the only woman to have held that position. Hats off to Ruth Hangen for all she accomplished during her pitching career and for her years of service to the NHPA behind the scene.

9th ANNUAL OPEN ELMER HOHL RINGER CLASSIC May 23-25, 1997—K.W. Khaki Club

RR#1, Wellesley, Ontario NOB 2TO-519-656-2271 • Sanction #65-97-036

ENTRY FEES: Men's and Ladies' A—\$30.00 Cdn. funds
All other classes \$20.00; Juniors \$2.00
Cheques or money orders to be made payable to Jean Markle and mailed with entry form to the address above.
Banquet will be in the club house Saturday evening—bring along your talent. Proper dress code will apply.
Entry deadline April 25th—you will be notified by mail as to your day and time of play providing you enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope with your entry. U.S. entrants add .45¢ to you cheque. Alternative—call the phone number below week prior.

Breakfasts and lunches will be served on the grounds

Name	
Address	
	Postal Code
Phone	Current Ringer %
Class Entered: ☐ Men ☐	Ladies
Entry fee paid:	Membership paid □Yes □No
Enclosed: Banqu	net tickets: Do you wish a
☐ Without Hydro \$7 per	b? □ With Hydro \$10, per night. night □ Tent \$5 per night. These othy Drury before departing the site.

BED & BREAKFASTS:

Firella Creek Farm c/o Adolph & Emily Hafemann, RR#2, Wellesley, Ontario, NOB 2T0, 519-656-2974. 5 minutes from courts Bluebird Meadow, Murray & Beth Schleuter, RR#1, Gadshill, Ontario, NOK 1J0, 519-656-2731. 10 minutes from courts Night Owl, Myrna & Lorne Leis, 60 Main St. S., Milverton, Ontario NOK 1M0, 519-595-2128.15 minutes from courts

MOTELS:

Riviera Motel, 2808 King St. E, Kitchener, Ontario N2A 1A5 519-893-9371. 15 minutes from courts Sherwood Motel, 2830 King St. E (Hwy. 8), Kitchener, Ontario N2A 1A5, 519-893-6122. 15 minutes from court Comfort Inn, 2899 King St. E, Kitchener, Ontario N2A 1A6 519-894-3500.15 minutes from courts. Guest Inn Motel, 2933 King St. E, Kitchener, Ontario N2A 1A8 519-893-7011. 15 minutes from courts. Destination Inn, 547 King St. N, Waterloo, Ontario 519-884-0100. 10 minutes from courts. Heidelburg Motel, 2 King St. W, Heidelburg, Ontario 519-699-4413. Approx. half hour from the courts. New Hamburg Inn, Hwy. 7, New Hamburg, Ontario,

519-662-3990. 10 minutes from courts. Howard Johnson, 1333 Weber St. E, Kitchener, Ontario N2A 1C2 519-893-1234. 15 minutes from courts.

THE HORSESHOE TRADER

Collectors: Here's Your Chance To Expand Your Collection by Bob Dunn

This is the first in a new series of The Horsehoe Trader. This series is designed to benefit the avid collectors of pitching shoes, encourage and assist those that wish to start a collection, be of interest to all who may not even be aware that there are antique shoes and help out those who would like to identify an old shoe that they have just been hanging on to. Hopefully this column can bring forward more rare or unusual shoes for our NHPA Hall of Fame archives. There certainly are antique shoes among us and there are many NHPA members always on the lookout for the artifacts of our sport.

The commercial-official pitching shoe probably started with the Ohio Horseshoe Company in 1921. Interest in our sport spread rapidly as the NHPA had just formed and many manufacturers got into the business. George May obtained a patent for his design in 1923 that became the National Standard shoe, not to be confused with the Standard provided by the St. Pierre Company.

Commercial pitching shoes were made by no less than 6 companies in the Chicago area and by the Diamond Horseshoe Company in Duluth. Both Sears and Montgomery Ward were selling horseshoe through their catalogs by 1924. All the shoes in this era were hookless and several were brandless. The first shoes to have hooks were the creation of Putt Mossman and first used in the 1927 World Tournament. Mossman also claimed a patent on his newly designed shoes that were nicknamed "cheaters," but certainly revolutionized the design of pitching shoes for decades to follow.

In the 1930s, more companies got involved and many produced both hookless and hooked versions. St. Pierre produced the Leader, hookless model and the T.J. Octigon hooked shoe. The Giant Grip company of OshKosh made the Winner (hookless) and the Giant Grip Official (with hooks). Diamond received a patent in 1931 for their first hooked shoe which became the Eagle Ringer. And there were more, much more.

All shoe collectors are invited to send your name and address to me. A roster will be developed and provided back to each that register. Those who have shoes available for trade, provide a listing of what brand, model, type etc. you have to offer and what shoes you may be looking for in return. These lists will be presented in our "Horseshoe Trader" series and hopefully generate responses.

Following is how the information can be provided and is my request for shoes:

WANTED-Giant Grip Winner (hookless), hookless Ohio, and Junior Giant Grip and Ohio shoes. Available for trade-Hookless Diamond Official (straight or curved toe calk), Eagle Ringer, Leader and one pair of Top Ringer.

A bit more on the unusual-Art Moran, 4490 41st Street, Webster, MN 55088, found an old fashioned flat horseshoe box by the Phoenix Horseshoe Co. Inside the box is a label for pitching shoes with the address of Joliet, IL and Catasauqua, PA. He has never seen a Phoenix shoe but would like to fill the antique box with a set. If anyone knows about the shoes or, better yet, has a set, contact Art directly. He has a large inventory of shoes to make a fair trade.

Art also is the proud owner of a 1939 Indian 4-cycle motorcycle originally owned by NHPA Hall of Famer Putt Mossman. Mossman used the cycle in his county fair exhibitions, where he shot clay pigeons while he was standing on the cycle seat as the cycle was in motion. Moran could also use a pair of Mossman shoes. Can anyone help him out? Below is a copy of the actual draft from Putt Mossman's application for patent. The patent was approved October 25, 1927. Note how the first hooks were certainly smaller than the models we are accustomed to today!

Actual Draft of Putt Mossman's **Application for Patent** 1,646,627 O. P. MOSSMAN ET AL HORSESHOE Filad Warch 30, 1927 Fig. I Fig. 3

NHPA Sanctioned

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This shoe was designed with flip pitchers in mind but A.J. Nave, a championship caliber player from Greenville, SC, uses it with a 1¾ turn. A.J., 71 years young, pitching 40', recently had an 88.1% game and 68% tournament with the Hi Temp Stay On. *Maybe you should try it!*

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Return broken shoe only to mfg. along with check, cash, or money order for \$5.00 and we will send you one new shoe of equal weight, postpaid.

No shoes sent on consignment.

NHPA Rewards Junior Scholars & Champions

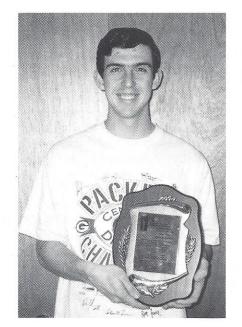
Junior members of the NHPA who excel scholastically or become a finalist in World Tournament play have an excellent chance to claim some money when they graduate high school. The NHPA, in recent years, has been awarding up to \$1,000 annually to its Sanctioned League Junior Scholars and about \$3,500 to Junior finalists in the World Tournament. These awards aren't actually paid immediately but are put into interest bearing Trust Accounts that can be claimed upon completion of high school.

In the past ten years, the NHPA has paid out nearly \$21,000 and currently holds about \$9,000 to be claimed in the future. This year's W.T. will add \$3,600 to that amount plus another \$1,000 in Scholar funds later in the year. Those that have claimed their trust funds in the last ten years are:

Date	Name	Amount	Year Subtotal
10/05/87	Tony Hankins	\$ 355.99	1987-\$ 355.99
09/02/88	Alan Francis	1,067.15	1988-\$1,067.15
09/08/89	Sandra McLachlin	390.37	
09/08/89	Steven Barnes	430.67	
10/19/89	Deborah Bestul	1,586.16	1989-\$2,407.20
08/28/90	Edward Neeb	544.14	
09/12/90	Marlana Davidson	411.89	1990-\$ 956.03
05/01/91	Douglas Moon	305.53	
06/20/91	Renee Sternberg	521.47	
08/23/91	Kipp Barody	419.42	
09/09/91	Jenny Walters	540.48	1991-\$1,786.90
09/15/92	Matt Hoyt	228.03	1992-\$ 228.03
07/12/93	Kerrie Preisler	259.64	
09/15/93	Reed Filley	858.99	
10/18/93	John Walters	231.71	
12/08/93	Ronnie Meredith	215.56	1993-\$1565.90
07/15/94	Celeste Polak	2,155.21	
09/12/94	Vorn Ven	1,182.18	
12/01/94	Tiffany Gage	206.14	
12/19/94	Julie Walters	450.00	
12/19/94	Jim Walters	2,771.40	1994-\$6,764.93
02/15/95	Heather Kiefat	229.63	
02/17/95	Colin Sullivan	242.73	
10/16/95	Annie Cote	325.89	
11/06/95	Lenwood Conner Jr.	1,086.66	
12/01/95	Heidi Sternberg	511.80	
12/01/95	Vance Harren	513.81	1995-\$2,910.52
03/28/96	Jessica Dunn	223.93	
11/18/96	Crystal Curtis	1,362.69	1996-\$1,586.62
01/28/97	Penny Steinke	1,124.03	

Grand Total Paid Out To Date \$20,753.30

As of February 1997, the NHPA still holds \$8,927.08 in 20 Trusts for our Juniors.



Newtons DOMINATE

The brother/sister combo of Michael

and Michelle Newton are as tough to beat in school as they are on the horseshoe courts. Michael carries the 8th highest pitching average in the country for junior boys, while sister Michelle is the 4th highest percentage in the junior girls. Both of these youngsters from Rapid City, South Dakota are at the top of their class in high school. For three consecutive years, they have tied for the highest scholastic grade point average in the NHPA Junior Scholar Program. Both have carried a 4.00 GPA all three years. For those of you who aren't sure, that's straight As.

The NHPA is very proud of these two fine youngsters and their equally proud parents, Jim and Marta Newton who, like their children, are very active NHPA members. Newsline received these letters from Michael & Michelle.

am currently a senior at Douglas High School in Box Elder, South L Dakota. During my busy junior year, I participated in a number of activities. I lettered in 3 varsity sports: golf, basketball, and track, as well as knowledge bowl. My basketball team won the South Dakota State A Championship, and my track team was 3rd in the regional track meet. I was team captain of my knowledge bowl team

Region out of 18 schools.

I also attended a number of academic activities and contests. I had a very interesting week as a Boys' State delegate (a tornado touched down within 15 feet of the auditorium when our state governor was giving a speech). I was inducted into the National Honor

that was 1st place in the Black Hills

Society, named president of the Close Up Club that went to Washington D.C. for a week, and elected treasurer of the Junior Class. I also attended a week-long program called Youth Business Adventure to learn information about the

business world.

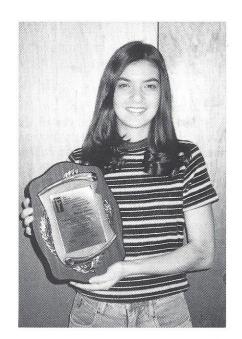
The 1996 World Horseshoe Tournament was very exciting for me. We only had to drive 150 miles to get to Gillette, Wyoming. I had a large crowd cheering me on and pitched very well in the tournament, taking 3rd place in the Championship class. I also watched my mother win her first World Title as the Women's Class O champion.

During the rest of the summer, I relaxed for a week or two and then defended my South Dakota State horseshoe singles and doubles titles. I also prepared myself for my

senior year of high school.

Just recently I was notified that I was accepted early action to attend the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). I am still waiting for responses from Stanford University and Harvard.

I thank the NHPA for having the opportunity to earn scholarship awards.



t the present time, I'm a sophomore at Douglas High School. During my freshman year, I was involved in concert band, volleyball, golf, and knowledge bowl. Some of my interests outside school include skiing and

At a regional academic competition held in Chadron, Nebraska, I placed 8th out of 200 participants in the World Geography division. Once again I participated in the solo/ensemble music contest and received a superior rating as part of a clarinet choir.

At the end of my freshman year, I received the Outstanding Freshman Band Member Award along with the Academic Achievement Awards in Physical Science, World Geography, and Computer Studies.

Life at home isn't as hectic compared to life at school. I have one brother, Mike, and a cat named Apollo. After the '96-'97 school year, my father Jim will leave for Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho (50 miles east of Boise) and Mike will be off to college. This will leave my mother, Marta, and I together at Ellsworth AFB for the remainder of my high school career.

I would like to thank the NHPA for this scholarship

opportunity.

These two fine youngsters earn awards in the NHPA Junior Scholar Program for the third consecutive year.



Bob Champion's Charter Chatter



Dubbed "Survey Bob" by NHPA President Dave Loucks, Chatter is again searching records. This time, for the highest overall percentage of husbands and wives during Championship play at the same tournament in World Play.

On top of the listing will probably be Alan and Amy Francis, who each nailed over 81% at the Gillette, Wyoming World Tournament. We might, however, be surprised who makes the list.

It might be interesting if each state would begin research on this little survey. It would enhance the family action for our sport of horseshoe pitching.

Please remember states are urged to send their list of Hall of Fame inductees and a complete list of state champions through the years in all divisions. This could be valuable information for future records in the NHPA. Send to Bob Champion, 5505 Valmont Rd., Boulder, CO 80301.

ARIZONA

The 6th Annual Quartzsite Main Event tournaments are history, and preparations are now being made for the 7th annual event in 1998. The tournament is held in January on the 32 court facility, the largest in the State.

These tournaments are sponsored by Howard Armstrong, who donates \$2,500 to the prize money. Gary and Virginia Chalberg are tournament directors and handle all the entries, scheduling and prize allocations. The January 1997 purse exceeded \$7,000.

Thirty states and three Canadian provinces were represented among the 160 participants.

It was a 12-man round robin method of play, completing 11 games over two days with a tournament champion crowned in both the 30 and 40 foot distances with the top six in each group cashing.

CANADA

Quebec's Andre LeClerc, a World Class pitcher married Sylvianne Moisan on her birthday, July 21, 1990. Sylvianne is also a World Class pitcher, having finished third last year in the World with an 83.19 ringer percentage. The reason she uses her maiden name is the fact that in Quebec, the law reads that married women cannot assume their husband's name.

Two teams from Canada competed in the Sixth Annual Music City Team Tournament in Joelton, Tennessee. Sylvianne, Sandy Janssens, Tom Stroh and Karen McLachlin representing Horseshoe Canada, captured first place in Class A during the five-team ladder finals.

Another Horseshoe Canada team made up of Angeline Moisan, Steve Hohl, Andre LeClerc and Kevin McLachlin, garnered fifth. Angeline from Quebec had the high game in Class A with a 97.5% effort.

CALIFORNIA

Glenn Jamieson, NHPA NatStats director, has resigned as

statistician for the Northern California group. He has published numerous stats listing results of all the tournaments in the area. This is an appointed position and NCHPA President Casey Sluys is looking for a replacement.

Dayton Schroeder of the Sonoma Horseshoe Club and employee of the California Department of Forestry was a winner of the World Firefighter Games recently held in Canada. The WFFG is sponsored by the fire departments in the U.S., Australia, New Zealand, England, Canada and France.

Fifty-two year old Tim Taylor from Stockton, competed in the peace officer's games year after year with one goal in mind...to win a gold medal. He finally did at the California Police Summer Games in Modesto last year.

COLORADO

Ted Allen won ten World Titles in 31 years of competition in the Championship class. Through the years since 1933, Ted's first competition and first World Championship, ten Colorado pitchers have competed in the NHPA Championship division.

Paul LaCrosse finished fifth last year and has made four attempts against the cream of the horseshoe pitching crop. Rich Pintor has competed in six World Championships, his best being a 7th place in 1988.

Other Colorado pitchers in the top World class through the years have been Gerry Labbe (3 times), Harry Russell (twice) and one each for Roger Vogel, William Cessna, Jerry Comstock, Ira Allen and Richard Allen.

Three Colorado women have competed in the World Championship Class. They are Ted Allen's niece Gertsie Lou Selby, Hazel (Harris) Russell and Margaret Tarket, five time state champion. Hazel won the World title in 1955 and Gertsie was the World Champion in 1957. Selby competed five years, 1953 through 1957, Harris in 1955 and 1956. Tarket joined the elite group at Spearfish in 1986.

FLORIDA

From 1927 through 1996 there have been only 14 State Class A Champions, headed by Largo's Carl Steinfeldt with 13. Add 10 titles by Plant City's John Rademacher and that leaves little left for the other 11 pitchers. The current Class A Champion is Ron Deckard from Tampa.

Since 1989, six women have commanded the State championships-Marge Spray from Newport Richey won three titles in 1990, 1991 and 1993. The current women's champion is Joyce Coles from Inverness.

Paul Scheub from Sarasota won Elder titles in 1990, 1991 and 1993 and Russell Lubuzzetta from Sarasota won in 1992 and is the current champion in the Elder division.

228 members have pitched in five or more tournaments in the last 12 months from a membership of 430. 74 FSHPA Inc. sanctioned tournaments are scheduled this season.

(continued next page)

CHARTER CHATTER

ILLINOIS

The Berwyn Park District deserves to be recognized for their continuous cooperation and support of horseshoe pitching with the AVF Berwyn HPA and the NHPA, since 1970. They installed many courts through the years along with complete lighting systems. In 1996, the Park District made extensive repairs to update the pitching facilities. Club members helped to remove the old courts and install six new ones, added blue clay, fences and provided flower beds, shrubs, and grass within the confines of the court area.

These courts are the home facility for the Berwyn Club and they invite anyone visiting the area to see and pitch on these courts. Two of the courts are completely wheel-chair accessible and the other four have extended pitching platforms.

IOWA

In six years 700 Winterset students have been introduced to horseshoes. Recently 128 eighth graders were part of this total figure. On three mornings last September, this group enjoyed their school physical education class at the horseshoe courts. John Pletchette, director of Winterset City Parks and Recreation coordinated the program for the sixth year in a row. His wife, Jean is the 8th grade PE teacher.

The students were introduced to scoring, three different grips and pitching fundamentals. The program involves some basic instructions and demonstrations, a hand-out and most important, time to pitch.

Pletchette gathered 50 horseshoes needed for the program from area horseshoe pitchers. The youngsters appeared excited about the program and later, some of them were seen pitching on their own.

KANSAS

Jerry Holt continues to sparkle as he went 5-0 with a 64% figure to win the Championship division in the Merrill Cook Open in Wichita. Four Washburns competed in the tournament with Robert and the bucketman, Harvey, finishing fifth and sixth in Class A. Letta, wife of the bucketman won Class C with a 6-1 record and 24.6%.

Dennis Edgington's indoor facility was the scene for a team class during his early December tournament. The Sunflower Club is fortunate in having this indoor facility with 8 courts using bread dough.

MINNESOTA

The World Championship tradition is alive and kicking in the Gopher State. Every time their pitchers compete, they "go-fer" more top prizes. The latest is World Champion Bev Nathe from St. Stephen, who captured the 1996 Women's title.

Minnesota boasts no less than 11 World Champions, starting with Marie Mathews, Minneapolis, in 1921. Frank Stinson won the Boys' title in 1924, then copped the Senior Men's crown in 1976. Frank also hails from Minneapolis.

Phyllis Negaard won five women's championships, and Dale Lipovsky has three Men's. Phyllis is from St. Joseph and Dale hails from Bloomington.

Mildred Brouillette, Minneapolis, won back to back titles in 1926 and 1927, and Art Holter, Crystal, was the Intermediate champion in 1970 and 1971. Two other pitchers have dual titles. Marv Richmond from Pequot Lakes won the Senior Men's title in 1977 and 1981 and Boni Boser was the Girls' winner in 1981 and 1983.

Single winners were Andy Paglarini, Hibbing, Intermediates in 1975; Vance Harren, Badger, Boys' title in 1994; and Bev Nathe in 1996.

MISSOURI

Loree Meier, 62-year old Independence woman, captured the Class C division at the 1996 World Tournament in Gillette, Wyoming. Meier won all 15 of her games on the way to her first World Class title. She also finished fifth in the Senior Women's Championship Class.

Loree had an excellent instructor, none other than her nephew, Alan Francis, formerly from Blythedale, Missouri about 120 miles north of Independence, who now resides with wife Amy in Defiance, Ohio. "Alan talked me into pitching horseshoes," Loree said, "and all of his help gives me the initiative to continue pitching horseshoes as long as I can."

Meier was the 1986 Missouri State Champion and a threetime mixed championship class winner of the Las Vegas Tournament. Her latest title came this year in Vegas when she defeated former Colorado Champion Rich Pintor for the second time in two years. Loree stated that "he was not very happy losing to me."

NEW JERSEY

Records were set at the 1996 New Jersey State Championships with Joe McCrink winning his 7th title, nailing a high state tournament average of 77.5%, and a single high game of 94.7%, breaking Larry Mahoney's 92.8% record set in 1940.

Following McCrink's victory, there have been several news stories in the local newspapers, plus a special television presentation by the West Essex Horseshoe Pitching Club featuring the popular state star.

It was a "live" show on Channel 7 at 28 different times during four hours. It was amazing, since the show hit the national TV sets between 5 and 9 a.m. The special from the Richard E. Hurd Park went on every time the local weatherman took the mike.

71-year old former lefthander Ed Quigley, has continued his interest in horseshoes by switching to the right hand following a rotator cup tear on his left side. An ardent lefty, who bragged about all the good portsiders for years, now must start to admire the pitchers on the "right" side.

NEW YORK

It seems Bob Hayes has an eye for the stake and an eye for news! On a recent trip to the local library in Olean, Bob discovered a very old article written by Ted Allen, 10-time World Champion, who penned the story on horseshoes in 1934. Thinking that someone, somewhere, might be interested, Bob sent the full page color layout with Sue Twyman to Gillette. The full page article has been framed and will be presented to the NHPA at the annual awards banquet in Kitchener, Canada next July.

Mike DiMartino, Bob Hayes and Art Tyson finished one-

CHARTER CHATTER

two-three in the NYS tournament and during the process Art beat Mike twice, Bob defeated Art three times and Mike defeated Bob three times. It was a real battle with Mike closing with a 9-2 record and 74.3%, Bob was 9-3 with 71.9, and Art was 8-3 with 73.3.

Dave Harnden, Syracuse Pioneer Horseshoe Club publicity mogul, writes that Mike won the Pioneer Open with 7-0 record and 77.1%. Art was second and Bob was third. New York has some good pitchers and lots of competition.

NORTH CAROLINA

J.B. Fuller, the ringer-man, was highlighted in the October issue of the State newsletter *Down and Back*. This N.C. Hall of Famer has played against some of the best pitchers in the country in the Carolina Dogwood tournament.

He had nine straight appearances in the tournament from 1981-1990 with a second place finish in 1986 with a 13-2 record and 73.4%. That tournament featured some powerhouses: Alvin Perry, Art Tyson, Jim Knisley, Ron Kuchcinski, Mark Dyson, Mike DiMartino, Roger Norwood, Ralph Maddox, Joe Young and B.J. Thomas.

Speaking of B.J. Thomas, Chatter finds that he was the most successful pitcher in North Carolina history. Just a brief look at the last 11 tournaments show this: State champion 8 times and runner-up 3 times. Furthermore, his average ringer percentage for those 11 tournaments is over 71%. In spite of his success, B.J. experienced difficulty with the ringer-man.

OHIO

At the association's annual meeting Alan Francis was congratulated on his third World Championship held in 1996 at Gillette, Wyoming.

Certificates were presented to three players for their outstanding contribution to the sport in Ohio. They were Dick Honigford, NW district; Jack Schuetz, SE district and Tom Baudendestal, SW district.

The sportsmanship award was presented to Melvin Miller. The Hall of Fame committee nominated Jeannie Manns, Earl Noe and Alan Francis for induction into the Ohio Horseshoe Hall of Fame. Motion was carried to induct this important trio.

Following his third World triumph at Gillette, Alan Francis is now the top pitcher in Ohio, replacing former World champion Jim Knisley. Alan won the Labor Day Ohio State Tournament with an 11-1 record and 82.0% figure, and captured the Championship Semi-finals in the Ohio State Fair Open with a 5-2 record and 81.0%.

OREGON

Patty Sapp of Eugene garnered her fourth consecutive women's State title with a perfect 6-0 record and 68.5% figure. Her high game was 80%. Coming in second was LaVerne Ewing of Salem, the 1996 World Senior Champion, who closed with a 65.84% with a high game of 74.13.

It was great to see Barry Chapelle of Portland, former NHPA 2nd Vice President on top of Class A in the O.D. Loy Memorial Open which was published in the *Oregon Ringer Review* newsletter. Barry, now retired from full-time teaching, has been struggling with a painful shoulder pro-

blem which Chatter has heard will soon go under "the knife" for correction.

SOUTH CAROLINA

After all the planning and preparation was over, eleven current or former State champions, three Regional Directors, a National officer and the number two ranked horseshoe pitcher in the World, participated in the First Annual Summerfest Open in 1996. Nice to have Paul Stewart, NHPA 5th VP on hand.

The 40-foot championship was won by New York State Champion Art Tyson, who finished with a 6-1 record and 78.4%. NC State Champion Tommy Gann was second with a 71.8% and 5-2 record. N.A. Moore from Biscoe, NC was third, 5-2, 66.8%.

Ben Penland of York, a former three-time SC State Elder's champion took first place honors in the 30-foot division with a 5-1 record and 68.1%. Milton Vinson, Georgia, was second and SC Junior champion Dean Broome was third.

Barbara Taylor from Clover and Humberto Stephens from Charleston were voted to the SC Hall of Fame.

TENNESSEE

Talk about twin power. The twin World class pitchers, Marlene Ray and Maxine Griffith from Covington, Tennessee, have won 13 State Championships since 1982, a 15 year span.

Over the years, the twin machine has lost only 4 games in state competition. Marlene won the first title in 1982 with a 6-0 record and 49.0%, then in 1996 lost only her second game, but closed with a 5-1 record and a much better percentage of 77.95. Maxine continued to improve through the years and won the 1995 title with 4-0 and 77.23% Only Wanda Hensen in 1986, and Alla Rutherford in 1993 have broken the twin's domination. In World competition both twins made the Women's "Sweet Sixteen" last year with Maxine finishing 11th, Marlene 16th.

Three pitchers will be inducted into the THPA Hall of Fame. They are Marvin Bastian, Van Fox and Hank Irwin.

Dexter Stallings of Powell is the 1996 Summer Horseshoe Pitcher of the Year. Stallings pitched in 49 tournaments and earned 149 points. Other finalists were James Davis, Melvin Cooper, Willard Williams, Frank Jones and Tom Williams.

TEXAS

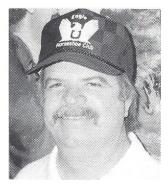
Ed Arionus of Seguin and Mary Ann Kramr of East Bernard became the 20th and 21st members to be inducted into the Texas Horseshoe Hall of Fame in ceremonies held in San Antonio in September. Ed joined the THPA in 1991, winning the State Championship in 1991 and 1992 and capped it off by winning again in 1996. Ed is also a two-time World Champion having won the Intermediate title in 1991 and the Senior World Crown in 1996. Master of the flip shoe, Ed's NatStats ringer percentage ranks him in the top 30 best pitchers in the world.

Mary Ann began pitching in 1985 with an average of 8%. In five short years she was averaging 65-70%, winning the State Championship five times from 1990 through 1994. In 1991 and 1992 she pitched in the Women's Championship Class at the World Tournament finishing in the top 10.

(continued next page)

Allen Baptist

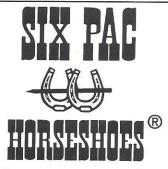
Announces
Candidacy for
NHPA
First Vice President



I would like to announce my candidacy for the office of First Vice President in the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association. I have been a member of the NHPA/CHPA for the past twelve years and currently serve as the Colorado Regional Director and am a member of the CHPA Hall of Fame Committee.

I have been in the lumber business for 22 years and have been General Manager for the last 15 years, for very successful, multi-million dollar operations. I have been married for 20 years. My wife and two children are very supportive of my involvement in horseshoes.

I think that the NHPA is a great organization, of which I am very proud to be a member. I love the sport of horseshoes and I believe I could be an asset to the NHPA Executive Council.



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CHARTER CHATTER

WASHINGTON

Herb and Audrey Criss recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at a gathering of family and friends in hometown Bremerton, Washington. Herb is one of the outstanding people in horseshoes.

The State's president, Gene Kuiken wrote in the October, 1996 *Shoes News* newsletter that "the sad day has arrived that I have been dreading. Phyllis Quist has written her letter of recipration as our state secretary."

letter of resignation as our state secretary."

"Her ability to organize tournaments and have them come off without a hitch has become routine. I have leaned heavily on Phyllis. But new challenges and mountains to climb are in her future. We all wish her well."

Jim Quist also has resigned as Regional Director for the Northwest. His contributions have been monumental. Vey Allen has agreed to serve as the new assistant RD.

Add these two names to the anniversary list! Ray and Alice Stubner celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary in October. In addition Ray reached his 84th birthday October 10.

WEST VIRGINIA

Eight sanctioned courts are now in operation in Worthington, thanks to a group of hardworking people. The courts at one end have an abandoned railroad bank which provide great seating for spectators. The courts are lighted and have full walkways between the stakes.

Last October Charles Bunner from Fairmont had the opportunity to present an introduction to horseshoe pitching, with the assistance of Beverly Tiano, Davis "Catfish" Woodward and Kenney Stottlemire to several Marion County physical education people representing 6th to 12th grades.

They were all asked by school officials to coordinate the program relating to instruction to their students. A set of portable pits at the East Fairmont High School was set up to allow students to be exposed to the game. Items discussed included safety, competition, league and tournament events at various percentage levels and personal instruction. Other physical education people were invited to attend the sessions.

WISCONSIN

Ralph Maylahn, who finished fifth in the Gillette World tournament pitching with the elders, has gone back to 40 feet. In spite of his 73% average he believes he has taken the 30-foot percentage advantage as far as it can go. It should be evident he also expects to regain the respect of some 40 footers who have been reluctant to accept short distance pitchers.

Maylahn pitched the 30-foot distance for five years experimenting with the three-quarter turn, the flip and the one and a quarter. His first 40-foot outing at the August tournament in Beloit found him in the middle of the standings.

Maylahn is the only man of record who has held both the open men's championship and the senior championship (short distance) titles in Wisconsin.

Lorraine Sternberg has announced the grand recipient of earned scholarship funds to date is Penny Steinke of Waukesha. She will shortly be eligible to receive \$1,200.

Tony Scrima and Jim Haupt have checked out the new indoor courts at Deansville located off Highway 19 between Marshall and Sun Prairie. It is a building separated from the main sports-bar setup for horseshoes and archery.

NatStats Reports Top'96 Pitchers

NatStats Director Glenn Jamieson has provided *Newsline* with lists of the best pitching averages for reported 1996 tournaments. Among those with two or more tournaments, some new names cracked the Top Ten in their division.

Men had 58 above 70% a year ago and find just 55 above that threshold now. Six of the top ten remain from a year ago while Doug Kienia, Norm Kelly, Rick Cale and Gus Martin have joined the elite group. 32 women were above 70% a year ago while 33 top that mark now. 6 of the Top Ten a year ago remain while Amy Monday,

Lois Webster, Gerry Brooks and Marlene Ray have joined them. In the Elder Division, 25 were above 65% a year ago while 32 reached that plateau in 1996. New to the Top Ten are Jack Moore and John Reedy. The Junior Boys seem to be getting more competitive in the mid upper range as 40 ended 1996 above 50% compared to only 29 the year before. Breaking into the Top Ten were two new names, Marcus Mosness and Robert Gillett Jr. Junior Girls a year ago found only 3 above 50% and now that number is just 2 with a grand total of only 15 girls above 30%.

TOP 55 MEN w/averages 70% & over

	arciage	,,,,,	
Name		Average	
Simmons, Brian	ME	84.26	10
Francis, Alan	OH	83.30	13
Tyson, Art	NY	81.55	32
Kienia, Doug	ME	80.54	7
Williams Jr., Walter I	Ray CA	79.93	13
Lipovsky, Dale	MN	79.49	5
Kelly, Norman	SC	78.99	29
Kapnis, John	MA	78.98	14
Cale, Rick	WV	76.70	27
Martin, Gus	CA	76.66	26
Foster, Shannon	TN	76.49	8
LaCrosse, Paul	CO	76.40	16
Shifflett, Elbert	MD	76.09	8
Griggs, Stan	MO	75.89	15
Hollister, Kevin	VT	75.67	8
Walters, Jim	OH	75.60	10
Rein, Randy	WI	75.50	20
Rioux, Norm	CT	75.49	10
Williams, Richard	GA	75.49	13
Kuchcinski, Stephen		75.15	11
DiMartino, Mike	NY	75.13	9
Thomas, B.J.	NC	74.93	8
Meredith, Charles	KY	74.69	3
	IA	74.63	5
Cone, Kevin	NJ	74.40	5
McCrink, Joe	CO	73.89	19
Pintor, Rich	PA		12
Burris, Glenn		73.87	
Arionus, Ed	TX	73.69	10
Knisley, Jim	OH	73.68	12
Greene, Gale	VT	73.43	12
'Guy, Matt	KY	73.35	11
Webb, Charlie	IL	73.30	10
Moore, N.A. Gann, Tommy	NC	73.26	28
Gann, Tommy	NC	73.10	20
Baker, Cliff	IL	73.04	10
Hayes, Robert	NY	72.99	13
Clark, Peter	WA	72.85	7
Leclerc, Andre	PQ	72.69	4
Hyatt, Chad	IN	72.53	12
Fleshman, Phil	MD	72.37	7
Seibold, Mark	IN	72.21	11
Mathys, John	PA	72.00	14
Williams, Nathan	CA	71.73	6
Smith, Frank	OH	71.41	6
Kangas, Don	WI	71.33	8
Baumann, Mark	MN	71.06	3
Cooper, Jim	OH	71.02	28
Foley, Roger Lane	VA	70.70	2
Decker Thomas	PA	70.66	10

IL 70.66

11

Knop, Larry

ago found only 3 above 50% and now that number is just 2 with a grand total of only 15 girls above 30%.					
Roberts, Gary	OH	70.36	7		
Riggleman, Floyd	WV	70.13	4		
Powell, Ron	KY	70.12	5		
Jones, Robert	NY	70.08	16		
Brown, John	OH	70.05	15		
TOP 33 WOMEN w	/avgs	. 70%	& over		
Snyder, Sue	KY	85.45	14		
Moisan, Sylvianne	PQ	82.60	5		
Monday, Amy	VÃ	81.59	12		
Griffith, Maxine	TN	81.35	8		
Nathe, Bev	MN	81.05	6		
Webster, Lois	KY	81.03	9		
Sternberg, Lorraine	WI	79.86	18		
Francis, Amy	OH	79.69	14		
Brooks, Gerry	ME	79.54	9		
Ray, Marlene	TN	79.34	9		
Alexander, Debbi	NH	78.93	7		
	ON	78.19			
Janssens, Sandy			6		
Silva, Diane	CA	77.71	7		
Filley, Connie J.	ND	77.61	11		
Kissick, Myrna	AB	77.04	9		
Twyman, Sue	NY	75.41	7		
Peninger, Mary Ann	KS	75.29	14		
Guillotte, Teddy	CA	74.13	31		
McLaughlin, Brenda	WV	73.75	7		
McKinney, Edie	WI	72.88	10		
Moisan, Angeline	PQ	72.87	5		
Simpson, Carol	ME	72.54	8		
French, Anne	MI	71.96	28		
Maille, Lisa	NH	71.81	9		
Winston, Vicki	MO	71.75	5		
Negaard, Phyllis	MN	71.16	4		
Cantin, Diane	PQ	70.94	2		
Drury, Karen	AK	70.84	6		
Paddock, Sharon	CA	70.70	12		
Reno, Opal	AR	70.56	4		
Elmore, Joan	TN	70.30	21		
Hanson, Barbara	MA	70.11	24		
Drayer, Aileen	PA	70.00	10		
TOP 32 ELDER ME	N w/	avgs.	65%+		
Bohun, Frank	PA	82.93	4		
Pagliarulo, Jim	CT	81.08	8		
Gage, Clayton	WI	80.48	16		
Harris, Don	MO	79.67	19		
Santana, Ray	CA	79.11	17		
Moore, Jack	WA	75.58	21		
Rector, William Lou	MO	74.00	14		
Reedy, John	WA	73.23	27		
Van Dyken, Andy	MT	72.56	12		
Noble, Jim	KY	72.46	10		
- TODAC, JAMA		,	10		

0 1 11 0 1	** *	=0.05	4.0
Seibold, Curley	IN	72.25	16
Penland, Bill	SC	71.20	19
Maylahn, Ralph	WI	70.91	21
Rebman, Pete	NE	70.62	6
	OH	69.21	15
Hostetler, Henry			
Sierks, Gene	NE	70.62	5
Wolfinger, Bob	IN	68.62	18
Bracken, John	UT	68.60	9
Shannahan, Claude	MI	68.30	15
Vinson, Milton	GA	68.22	23
Basham, Juke	CA	67.96	21
Pilipovich, George	IN	67.89	5
Pringle, Charles	KS	67.31	11
Green, Charles 'Bud'	KS	66.93	5
Work, Lee	KY	66.78	7
Powell, Dee	CO	66.70	10
Roberts, Mel	CA	66.02	20
Rinehart, Joseph	PA	65.86	8
Wild, Don	CO	65.69	16
Davis, Lowell	OR	65.30	21
Austin, Bob	CA	65.15	10
Rundell, James (Kent)	MI	65.08	12
To the control of the			
TOP 40 JR. BOYS v	1/200	50% 8	TOVER
II I I I	TV	. 00 /0 0	21
Umphries, Jeremy	TX	82.18	21
Smith, Joseph	IA	76.61	21
Miller, Branson	VA	75.22	11
Broome, Dean	SC	75.05	12
Morris, Stephen	PA	74.73	17
Morris, Stephen			
Presley, Lee	GA	74.06	17
Mosness, Marcus	MT	72.46	12
Newton, Michael	SD	70.06	15
Keen, Allen	IN	69.49	10
	CA	68.36	10
Gillett, Jr., Robert			
Dean, Bradley	VA	68.11	12
Escareno, Luis	CA	67.34	16
Bolick, Jr., Ricky	NC	65.04	9
Lund, Brandon	WA	64.12	18
Boll, Richie	IA	62.92	9
Thomsen, Marcus	NE	61.47	10
Moore, Damien	TX	60.90	9
Bayne, K.C.	WA	60.28	9
Mitchell, Cody	TX	59.67	3
Hernandez, Louis	CA	58.37	15
Stencel, Allen	NE	58.14	6
Loranger, Dale	CA	57.94	31
Ramsdell III, Joseph	ME	57.39	7
Murray II, Ron	CT	56.97	14
Johnson, Cody	TX	56.39	16
Bradley, David	IN	55.03	5
Langley, Tyson	KS	54.78	8
Rein, Wesley	WI	54.77	10
Roberts, Ryan	OH	53.93	9
Hill Jr., Donnie	AR	53.88	2
	HI		2
Apela, Alika		53.33	
Quillen, Frank	MI	53.30	18
Hernandez, Nicandro	CA	52.89	15
Keen, Brent	IN	52.68	8
Loranger, Chris	CA	52.23	29
Burgett, Jeremy	IN	51.61	7
	MI	51.16	19
Urie, James			
Inman, Tyler	OR	50.59	3
Fedde, Troy	NE	50.37	3
Montgomery, Kelly	TX	50.14	4
Transferrance Company Maria Ma			
TOP 15 JR. GIRLS	w/av	rgs. 30'	% +
Kemper, Becky	KY	65.13	11
Steinke, Penny	WI	62.50	9
King Reboses			
King, Rebecca	OK	44.74	6
Jarrett, Michelle	OK	43.91	9
Newton, Michelle	SD	41.54	10
Adams, Chrissie	CA	41.32	11
Gore, Diana	MI	41.05	15
	IL		7
Pierce, Misty		40.45	
Moody, Bridgette	KY	40.09	7
Machacek, Jennifer	NE	36.43	5
Sanders, Stacey	OH	33.49	4
Robbins, Bonnie Jean	CA	30.72	4
Miller, Autumn	VA	30.51	10
Eaton, Tori	CT	30.16	4
Tioner Heather	MO	30.10	3

30.08

MO

Tignor, Heather

Candidates for

Allen Baptist for First Vice President

I would like to announce my candidacy for the office of First Vice President in the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association. I have been a member of the Colorado Horseshoe Pitchers Association for the past twelve years and currently serve as the Colorado Regional Director.

As a member of the Eagle, Colorado Club, I helped to turn it into a sanctioned club and have been the Secretary-Treasurer for the past four years.

My work schedule has allowed me to participate in twenty-four sanctioned tournaments this past year, which has included traveling to six states, plus Canada, and includes sponsorship and pitching in the last two Team-World events. I have competed in the last eight World Tournaments.

My profession for the past twentytwo years has been in the lumber business. It does allow me ample freedom for the time necessary in being an NHPA officer. The lumber business is a multi-million dollar operation and as General Manager the past 14 years, my business background would be greatly beneficial to the NHPA. A computer is available at all times.

Married for 20 years, my wife and two children have been very supportive of me through the years during my active horseshoe participation.

Initiated this past year, have been training sessions for newcomers in the sport in Colorado and neighboring states. More sessions are planned for next summer.

Presently, I am a member of the Colorado Hall of Fame Committee, have access to and have read many charter newsletters from over thirty state organizations.

Your consideration as a member of the NHPA Executive Council will be appreciated.

Thank you,

Allen A. Baptist

Earl Winston for re-election as First Vice President

For those of you who don't know me, let me introduce myself. I am your current First Vice-President and Chairman of your Hall of Fame Committee. I am self employed, and married to Vicki Winston, the current Sec./Treas. of the Missouri Charter.

Horseshoe pitching has been of major importance all of my adult life. I have attended every World Tournament since 1951. I served as the President of the Missouri Charter for nearly 30 years, before resigning to devote full time to NHPA duties. I was founder of the Missouri Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame and served as its first chairman.

NHPA duties began in a small way by serving as the official judge of the World Championship Men's Class many of the years during the 50s and 60s. Under Bob Pence, I served as a Regional Director. Elected to the office of NHPA 3rd Vice President in 1972, I later became your 1st Vice-President in 1983. Having served on the NHPA Hall of Fame Committee since 1974, I was appointed chairman in 1989 and am also serving on the NHPA Rules Committee.

I have been very honored to have been voted into the NHPA Hall of Fame, as well as having been honored as a recipient of the prestigious Stokes Award.

My desire is to continue serving as your First Vice-President and Hall of Fame Committee Chairman. I believe I have the necessary background and experience of working with others to fulfill the duties of this position in a very capable manner. Should I be re-elected, it is my goal to see a permanent home for the NHPA Hall of Fame and Museum, where we can properly display the important history of our sport.

I appreciate all of the cooperation I have received during my years in

office and would welcome your support in allowing me to continue to work for the NHPA.

Thank you.

Earl Winston

Beverly Born Third Vice President

It is again time to announce my candidacy for re-election as your Third Vice President and Sanctioned Club/League Coordinator. It would be a great pleasure for me to continue my duties as an officer of the NHPA and my work with all sanctioned clubs and leagues. I still enjoy all of my duties and working with and for all NHPA members and promise to continue doing the very best possible for the benefit of you, the NHPA. Your support, as shown in the past, and your votes in '97 will be greatly appreciated.

Paul Stewart for Fifth Vice President

I am Paul Stewart of North Carolina. I am presently serving as your NHPA 5th Vice President by appointment.

I wish to announce my candidacy for the NHPA 5th Vice President position. Given the opportunity and honor to serve you for the next 2 years as your NHPA 5th Vice-President, I can promise continued service of diligence and sincerity toward your enjoyment and growth of our horseshoe pitching sport.

First and foremost in my experience I am a horseshoe pitcher with 14 years of local, state and national tournament participation. Second, I have been involved in local and state organizations as tournament director of the past 6 NC-HPA State Tournaments. I was fortunate enough to have been the 1990 NC-HPA State Men's Champion, and I have the honor of being a member of the NC-HPA Hall of Fame. I am the

NHPA Office

Carolina Dogwood Festival Tournament Director, and NC-HPA Secretary-Treasurer. Third, I have served both as an NHPA Assistant and NHPA Regional Director for North Carolina, I serve on the NHPA Rules Committee, I am currently chairman of the NHPA Software Applications Committee, and I serve on the board of directors for the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation. I worked the NHPA 1996 World Tournament in Gillette, WY, as a Tournament Shift Director.

I respectfully ask for your vote as an NHPA 5th Vice-President candidate and I believe my past and current horseshoe pitching experience and dedication to the organized sport will justify your confidence in me.

Thank You,
Paul Stewart

Dave Loucks Seeks Re-election as NHPA President

For several years, I have been honored to serve the NHPA as President. With your support, we have been able to accomplish much together. A standardized pitching format and greater prize money for all classes has pushed World entries to record highs.

A full revision of our Bylaws and separation of the Playing Rules, each being considered every other year, has enabled our delegate meetings to become shorter, more worthwhile and enjoyable.

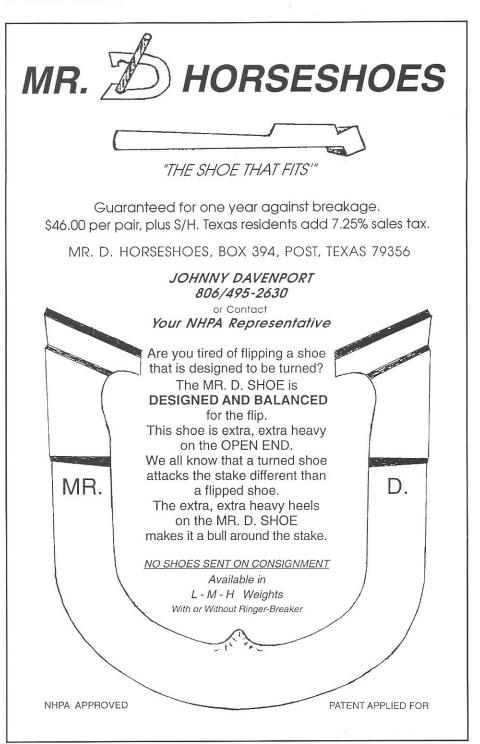
The development and establishment of needed National Guidelines in the form of Promotion, Publicity, Tournament Reporting (NatStats), World Tournament Bidding and Liability Insurance, to name but a few, has brought us uniformity, better communication and a greater feeling of togetherness and security.

There is still much to do and gains to be made. The recent formation of

the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation (NHPF), a charitable corporation of which I'm a founding Director, is the first step toward obtaining our own property to build an NHPA Hall of Fame and operate a court complex of significant size to which members can make tax

deductible donations. Now fully retired, I hope to devote even more time to the work that needs to be done and that with your continued support and vote, I will be able to lead the NHPA into the 21st century. *Thank you*,

Dave Loucks



by André Leclerc

Ontario and the Kitchener-Waterloo Region

After presenting an overall portrait of Canada and its horseshoe organizations, let me introduce you to one of these: Horseshoe Ontario and more specifically the Kitchener-Waterloo region which will be host of the 1997 World Tournament.

Canada has an overall population of 27,296,859 and the largest part of it comes from the province of Ontario where are located the Metropole (Toronto) and Capital of the Country (Ottawa).

These two cities, along with Sarnia, and Kitchener-Waterloo, were among the first to organize horseshoe pitching. The St.Paul's club in Sarnia and the Riverdale club in Toronto were founded in the mid-20's.

Today, Ontario is still a hotbed of horseshoe pitching in the world with close to 1000 individual members and more than 60 horseshoe clubs!!!

Last September, I went to the Khaki club in Wellesley (12 miles from Kitchener) to meet with people who will help recover our History of horseshoe pitching in Canada - Ed Murray will print a book about it in 1999. Hurricane Fran, transformed into a tropical storm, was hitting Ontario on that week-end hampered by rain and winds. My researches (through old horseshoe publications, newspaper clippings, pictures), the rain and the atmosphere made me feel nostalgic. I couldn't help but think about what this small town, and the whole region meant to horseshoe pitching. The greatest horseshoe pitcher who ever walked the courts, Elmer Hohl, was born and lived here. Through his influence, many youngsters practiced and became horseshoe pitching champions themselves: George Schummer, Ross Stevenson, Robert Riehl, Gerry and Paul Roeder, Stan Leis, Steve Hohl, Billy Zinger, Willi Prange, Edward Neeb and many more became World, Canadian or Ontario champions in different divisions. They all come from the Kitchener-Waterloo region!

You might have noticed the German origin of many of those names. You won't be surprised if I tell you that the former name of Kitchener, which was founded in 1833, was "Berlin". Many of its first inhabitants came from Germany or transited through Pennsylvania (such is the case for Hohl's ancestors), as many of them were mennonites... It is one of the treasures of the region, to drive or walk through St.Jacobs country to get a taste of their quiet way of living.

continued next page...

Did you know that

- There are two official languages in Canada. French is spoken predominently in Quebec, and in some regions of New Brunswick, Ontario and Manitoba. English is spoken by about 80% of the population.
- The first Ontario championships were held in Stratford in 1930. There were 240 contestants in the two-day tourney. Fred Harburn won the singles defeating Harley Brady. Pitching with the oval shoe, Harburn scored 43 ringers in this final game, including 18 consecutive and they had 3 straight fourdeads! Mrs Stewart Smith won the ladies singles.
- If the Canadian Championships history is associated to Ontario who hosted it from 1929 to 1969, the Ontario Championship's belongs to Elmer Hohl, who won it 23 times (his first being 1957). While Dean McLaughlin wrested the Canadian title 5 times from Elmer, Hohl was not defeated at the Ontario Championships until 1984!!!
- The first Canadian Women's champion, who won it in 1972 and 1973, was a lady from Waterloo: Jackie Sehn.
- The province of Ontario is bordered by and touches 4 of the 5 Great Lakes!
- To learn more about Horseshoe Canada, internet surfers may visit at: http://www.fqjr.qc.ca/hcan.html

Some festivals remind those origins such as the Oktoberfest, during which a horseshoe tournament is held in October at the Elmer Hohl horseshoe courts. Yes, the beautiful 24 outdoor courts facility located at the Khaki Club was named quite naturally in honour of Elmer. They have seen 3 Canadian championships (1983-85-95) and many other major tournaments. One you should not miss is the annual Elmer Hohl Ringer Classic held the last week-end of May.

Many promoters, organizers of the game also the first Secretarycame from this region: Treasurer of the Canadian Association (in 1929-30) was Albert Bersch ironically from Wellesley (that same little town where Elmer lived). Harold Leis was national president in the late 60's. Bud Prange and Mery Lichty, both deceased in their fifties, are two of the greatest volunteers we've had. Today, Bernie Baetz and Bruce Hohl are the main organizers from the Khaki Club, and they will be among the busiest people at the Kitchener Memorial Auditorium next summer.

Hope to see you in this beautiful surrounding... in May for the Classic or/and in July for the World Tournament!

The two greatest horseshoe pitchers among Canadian men came from Ontario: Dean McLaughlin and Elmer Hohl (pictured at the 1965 Canadian Championships).

A rare occasion to have, on the same picture, five Canadians that have been World Champions. Taken at the 1993 annual banquet of Horseshoe Canada: Crystal Curtis (1993 girls), Edward Neeb (1988 boys), Sandy McLachlin-Janssens (1986 girls and 1987 ladies), Steve Hohl (1978 boys) and Ross Stevenson (1965 boys).

Not pictured is **Elmer Hohl**, 6 times World Champion. Out of the 6 Canadians that were crowned World Champions, all are from Ontario, except Crystal Curtis. And of those Ontarians, all but Sandy are or were from the Kitchener-Waterloo region!

HORSESHOE ONTARIO EXECUTIVE 96-97

President	Bob FANJOY, Hamilton	(905) 544-3192
Secretary	Karen McLACHLIN, Sarnia	(519) 542-3172
Treasurer	Don BOYD, St.Catharines	(905) 682-0694
1st Vice-pr.	Bernie BAETZ, Waterloo	(519) 884-3894
2nd Vice-pr.	Kevin McLACHLIN, Sarnia	(519) 542-3172
3rd Vice-pr.	Bill HOLT, Kitchener	(519) 745-7618
4th Vice-pr.	Harry COLLINS, Oakville	(905) 849-1289
1st Director	Norm LAFLEUR, Hanmer	(705) 969-3139
2nd Director	Jean MARKLE, Hamilton	(905) 385-1754
3rd Director	Jim McKINNON, Southwold	(519) 652-3871
Statistician	Frank WEAVER, Waterford	(519) 443-5305
Membership	Marilyn McELHINNEY, London	(519) 473-0965
Newsletter Ed.	AI SPRINGALL, Brantford	(519) 759-0410
Hall of Fame	Bernie BAETZ, Waterloo	(519) 884-3894



noto courtesy of Alexandra Photo Studio Collection • CNE Archives, Toronto



Photo by Sylvianne Moisan, Quebec

The Toll of Time

JACK GIDDES

The NJSHPA was saddened by the loss of member Jack Giddes to cancer on August 11, 1996. Jack joined the New Jersey association in the early 60s. He played in the W.T. Championship Class in 1965 and 1971. He was 5 times the NJ State Champion and was inducted into their Hall of Fame in 1974. A member of the Middlesex and Hunterdon Clubs, Jack was not only a skilled pitcher but an enthusiastic promoter of the sport who will be greatly missed by the horseshoe community.

BILL HENRY

Northern California lost a wonderful friend and longtime promoter with the November 4, 1996 death of Bill Henry who passed on just a few weeks before his 78th birthday and 51st wedding anniversary. Bill joined the NCHPA in 1963, started a club in Hollister and later was secretary/

treasurer of the Seaside Club. A serious work injury in 1979 ended his pitching activities but that did not stop him from attending many tournaments where he was always seen to be judging and offering pitching tips to those in need while his loving wife Maggie was keeping score or assisting with stats. Bill was cremated and some of his ashes will be spread in a special memorial spot at one of the Northern Clubs so he can continue to watch over the sport he loved so much.

GEORGE OLAF LARSON

After a courageous battle with cancer, George Larson of Fortuna, California, died November 23, 1996. George was born April 12, 1920 in Havre, Montana, the fifth of eight children. An Air Force veteran of WWII, George moved to Northern California in 1961 and had lived in Fortuna the past 28 years. He was a

very active member of the Fortuna HPC and traveled weekends to one of the many charter tournaments. The sport was his second love next to his family, wife Bernice, 3 daughters and 8 grandchildren.

WOODROW SHEPARD

A lifetime resident of Saline County Missouri, Woodrow Shepard, age 82, passed away November 25, 1996. He was a 21 year member of the NHPA and 12 years in the Saline County HC which he was instrumental in forming in 1985. Woodrow was elected to the Missouri Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame for his promotion and financial support of the sport throughout the state. He will be sadly missed by fellow pitchers, as by wife Alice, family and friends.

JERRY TEELA

Northern Utah lost a good friend and very active member with the recent death of Jerry Teela. Jerry, VP of the NUHPA, contacted a virus that persisted for weeks, wore him down and finally took his life at age 62. He was the 1992 State Champion, a Navy veteran, college graduate and owner/operator of Teela's Tacos restaurant in Springville, Utah. Jerry is survived by his wife Susan, 5 children and 11 grandchildren.

DONALD G. WILCOX

December 5, 1996 marked the passing of Donald Wilcox of Olean, New York. Don was a resident of Olean most of his life, born there 12/31/24 and leaving only while serving in the Navy from 1943-1946 and three years when employment took him to Ferndale, Washington. Don retired in 1985 after 26 years with the Olean City School District. He was a very avid and accomplished horseshoe pitcher, having won titles in both the New York State and World Title in Stone Mountain. In 1991, he was inducted into the NYSHPA Hall of Fame. Don was the sole founder of the Enchanted Mountain Horseshoe league in 1984 and served as an officer of the club until 1995. He was preceded in death by his wife of 45 years, but is survived by 3 sons, 3 daughters and 9 grandchildren.

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NHPA Secretary-Treasurer 3085 76th Street, Franksville, WI 53126

NHPA Software Application Committee

Appointed August 26, 1996

A growing interest has been shown by several Charters in personal computers using horseshoe pitching software applications. A survey by Jerry Smith (CA) made in 1995 identified several programs in use. Some used simple functions while others demonstrated well written, multi-function programming that created reports, maintained Charter files or kept tournament records.

NHPA President, Dave Loucks (CA), appointed a 5-member committee at the 1996 NHPA Annual Meeting to further pursue the availability of horseshoe pitching software found to be compatible with NHPA and Charter needs. Personal computers and special software applications have been used by the NHPA for several years for its own NatStats operations and to run the annual World Tournaments.

Charters and the general NHPA membership at large, have heretofore been given little information on available software applications and what should be expected of such software. The committee appointed by Dave Loucks is chaired by NHPA 5th Vice-President, Paul Stewart (NC). Other members include Glenn Jamieson (CA), Natstats director; Bill Marvin (IL), Jim Gorth (CA), and Duane Goodrich (KS). The Committee goal was to provide as much information as possible on available software and to outline what users should expect of software written for horseshoe pitching.

Proprietary rights and costs prevented thorough review of many currently available programs and diversity in functions as well as pricing made comparative recommendations unmanageable. Additionally, the Committee found personal preferences by users varied on what was expected of their software.

The Committee chose an alternative means of informing Charters and the general NHPA membership about software for horseshoe pitching. Several free software applications were collected into two suitable packages to be made available for free copying and sharing by anyone. These are fully functional programs

which demonstrate basic standards for users choosing to write or use other horseshoe pitching applications. The "Enaud Software for NHPA Horseshoe Pitching Reports" package contains functions which create Charter Dues Reports to NHPA Secretary/Treasurer, Charter Membership Reports to NHPA Secretary/ Treasurer, Tournament Results Reports to NatStats, maintains Charter Membership Records, maintains sorted and alphabetized summary records reported to NatStats, and prints mailing labels based on membership records.

The "Enaud Software for NHPA Horseshoe Pitching Tournaments" package contains a multi-function program called "Horshoes" which is used for running tournaments. The Committee encourages Charters and interested individuals to write or obtain other software on their own, which matches or exceeds the capabilities of these packages, and asks all software sources to post details on their programs with the NHPA 5th Vice President, outlining their program functions and pricing. Such information will be made available to all who inquire.

Also, the two above packages of free software will be available for downloading on the internet at website address www.cjnetworks.com/gudrich. Other horseshoe pitching software sources may have their program information posted on the same internet web site by sending complete details to e-mail address gudrich@cjnetworks.com

The NatStats specifications for tournament results reports on computer diskettes work very well and NatStats reports satisfactory reception of data sent to them via the Enaud software function for this purpose. The Committee worked closely with NHPA Secretary/Treasurer Dick Hansen to develop the Enaud software functions for Charter dues reports and associated membership reports.

The Committee found general compliance with NHPA Bylaw Art. XII, Sec. 3 (All NHPA Tournaments) to be unmanageable and recommends further NHPA study for a way to improve conditions. The bylaw states,

"All pitchers' averages shall be based on the three highest NHPA sanctioned tournaments pitched in the preceding 12 months or the last ten tournaments during the same period, whichever occurs first." Because data is processed and passed along, generally in order by tournament director, statistician, and NatStats, the filing of data and return of 3 high average reports to tournament directors requires from a week to as long as 30 days. The 3-high records are not available to tournament directors in time to make their tournament lineups based on current averages.

We found that one of the biggest delays is when reports come to NatStats with incorrect information. Please make a quick check to see that all information on your NatStats reports are correct. This will help to speed up your returns.

Anyone wanting a 3-high averages records return from NatStats should make a note on their report or diskette stating that you would like a return on your Charter's 3-high averages. NatStats will be glad to make a return promptly.

The two above packages of free software are also available on diskette from NHPA 5th Vice President, address listed on page 3.

Internet
Home Page
for the NHPA
in development
stage.

Expect to see posting of daily results and news reports of the 1997 World Tournament on the internet.

NHPA Income & Expenditures:

December 1996 and January 1997

INCOME

Membership Dues	\$22,894.00
Newsline Subscriptions	6,265.00
Newsline Advertising	5,702.00
Misc. Patch Sales and Income	176.00
Annual Horseshoe Sanction Fees	3,600.00
Kitchener 1997 W.T. Payment	3,200.00
Morgantown 1998 W.T. Payment	5,000.00
Bank & Affinity Card Interest	1,201.00

Total 2 Month Income \$48,038.00

EXPENDITURES:

LAI LINDII ORES.
Newsline Printing and Mailing4,823.00
Newsline Editor Allowance620.00
Sanctioned League Postage & Printing500.00
Sanctioned League Patches & Awards1,940.00
Sanctioned League Office, Supplies, Phone451.00
Sanctioned League Director Allowance450.00
1996 W.T. Travel Expense
1996 W.T. Administrative Expense276.00
Regional Director Supplies, Phone, Postage719.00
Regional Director Allowance330.00
Equipment Purchases, Rental and Repair261.00
NHPA Office Printing and Supplies2,899.00
NHPA Postage790.00
NHPA Officers Phone247.00
NHPA Officers Travel
Secretary/Treasurer Allowance3,100.00
President Allowance930.00
Vice Presidents Allowance2,325.00
Publicity and Promotion489.00
Insurance
NatStats Administration970.00
Transfer Funds to NHPF Account160,353.00
Misc. Bank Charges, Refunds & Fees156.00

Total 2 Month Expense \$200,910.00

From the books of NHPA Secretary Treasurer Dick Hansen.

Special Events Calendar

APRIL 1997

19-20 29th Annual Carolina Dogwood Festival—Statesville, NC. Jack H. Springer Courts, Lakewood Park. Limited to first 180 entries. Over \$2,500 in prize money. Entry fee \$20 (additional at tournament for Championship and Class A/B) Pre-register by April 1, 1997. Send fee, 3-high average, and Division (30'or 40') to Carolina Dogwood Festival Horseshoe Tournament, Statesville Rec. & Parks Dept., P.O. Box 1111, Statesville, NC 28687-1111. Director Paul Stewart, 704-528-5081.

MAY 1997

- **16-18 Team World**—Beloit, WI. 4-person teams must represent your state or province. Maximum 2 short distance pitchers per team. Total prize purse exceeds \$3,000. Pre-register deadline April 12, 1997. Fee \$200 per team. Mail entry and fee to Earl Paulson, 7105 So. County Rd. H, Beloit, WI 53511. Phone 608-879-2304.
- **23-25 Elmer Hohl Ringer Classic**—Wellesley, Ont. Canada. K-W Khaki Club. Preregister by April 25th. Entry fees, Men & Ladies "A" \$30 Canadian, all other classes \$20. Checks payable to Jean Markle and mailed with SASE to: K.W. Khaki Club, RR#1, Wellesley, Ont. NOB 2TO.
- 24-26 Head-of-the-Mon-River—Fairmont, WV. \$5,000 in cash & awards with 150 adult entries. Divisions same 7 as W.T. Full distance pitchers will not mix. Short distance pitchers may be mixed. Entry fee \$25 adults, Juniors \$5. NatStats average to be used. Preregister by May 9th. Send entry and check to: Tri-County Horseshoe Club, 1133 Sunset Dr., Fairmont, WV 26554, phone 304-366-3819.

JUNE 1997

- **21-23 Eastern National**—Kuchcinski Family Park, Erie, PA. Approx. \$3,000 prize fund, entries determine. Preregister by June 1st. Entry fee \$25. Send with class and percentage to: Aileen Drayer, 1317 W. 20th St., Erie, PA 16502. Phone 814-454-4642.
- 21-22 Dakota Sioux Casino 3rd Annual Tournament—Watertown, SD. \$1000 added purse plus 80% payback of all entry fees. Free buffet and free \$10 gaming coins and Blackjack play. Preregister by June 14, 1997. Send \$25 entry and NatStat average to Clifford Ziehl, Mitchell, SD 57301-1462. 605-996-7986.

JULY 1997

- 12-13 Affiliated Horseshoe Pitchers—MCPARC, Worthington, WV. Entry fees plus \$1,000 added. Full distance classes and mixed short distance classes. Preregister by July 2nd. Adults \$10, Juniors \$5. Entry payable to Affiliated Horseshoe Pitchers-MCPARC, mail to: 508 Ohio Ave., Fairmont, Marion County, WV 26554-4155. Phone 304-366-7986.
- **14-27 World Tournament**—Kitchener, Ontario, Canada. Preregister by May 1st, \$50 adults, \$10 juniors. Must use official NHPA entry form in this magazine or available from your Charter secretary.

NOVEMBER 1997

1-2 Music City Team Tournament—Joelton, TN. 3-person teams limited to 24 teams. Mixed event, no juniors. All players must have NatStat average showing at least 3 NHPA-sanctioned tournaments in 12 months prior to 9/1/97. Total combined percentage of 3 team members shall not exceed 215. Entry fee of \$75 per team must be received by Sept. 15th. Tournament Director not responsible for loss of income or expenses incurred in anticipation and then not being one of the 24 teams selected. For more information contact: Mary Bastian, 3730 Old Charlotte Pike, Franklin, TN 37069-4791. 615-794-5620. Fax 615-591-0833.

Promote your special event here. If you have a tournament of significant interest, distinguished by some special quality setting it apart from the usual, send details to the editor at least 90 days in advance.

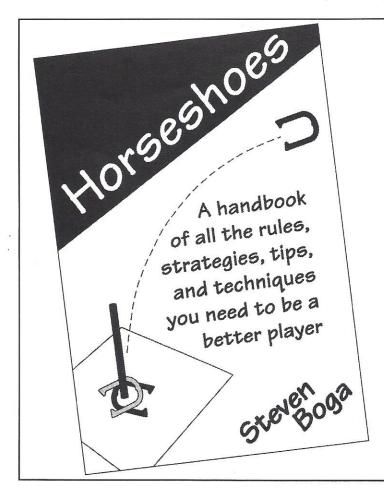
Las Vegas Tournament Ringers San Remo

More than 300 entrants turned out to pitch under the tent at the San Remo Hotel in Las Vegas. Despite strong winds on a couple of days and too few portable heaters, the pitchers for the most part had fun and were part of another very successful Don Weaver Tournament. Accommodations, dining, hospitality and show were superb at the San Remo. Some folks took home a lot more than they brought as the tables and slots in the hotel casino were very generous to several. As with any new event, the host hotel wasn't sure just what to expect and there were some last minute glitches that had Don Weaver on the run. NHPA officers staffed the work shifts and Jim Gorth, Southern California Statistician handled the computer work.

Each class had two groups of 12 or 13. After round robin play, the groups were combined with the top six pitching a ladder. The top three finishers in each combined class were:

class were:

A)	Loree Meier, MO Rich Pintor, CO Edi Holland, MN	57.0% 62.1 57.1	G)	Allen Baptist, CO Charles Knotts, NM Chet Foster, IA	32.9 36.9 30.6
B)	Gary Wood, UT Marty Quillen, MI Bud Schardine, UT	48.8 46.3 44.5	H)	Joe Stencel, CO Jeff Henkes, TX Gorden Carlson. CO	36.2 38.0 30.2
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Basic grip, stance, and swing techniques

Anecdotes and advice from the experts

Steven Boga is the author of several books on sports and the outdoors, including <u>croquet</u> and <u>Badminton.</u> He lives near San Francisco.

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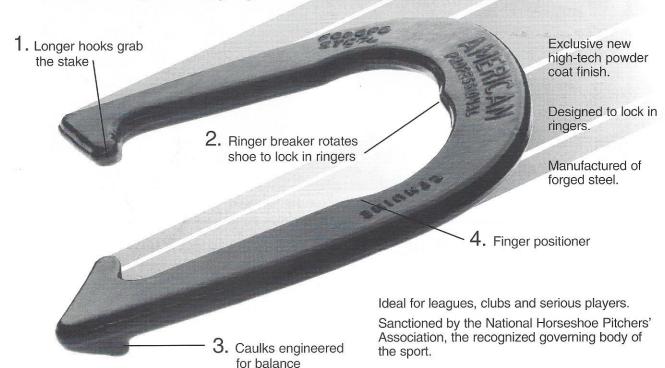
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