

AUGUST, 2006

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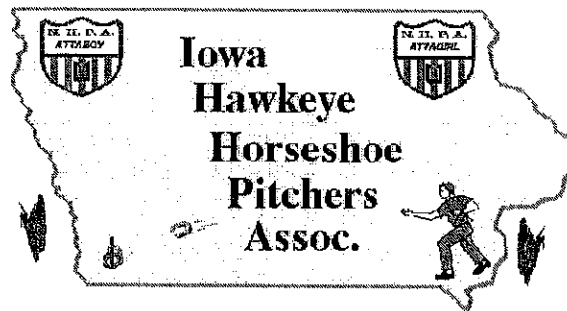
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& Chair – IA Region**

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UPCOMING EVENTS

August 5 (Sat) Al Burgess Memorial, Marshalltown
Reg. by 9:30/play 10:00 – Bob McKee 641/753-7311

August 6 (Sun) Council Bluffs, Sunset Park
Reg. by 12:30 /play 1:00 – Jan Flenning 712/483-2029

August 10 – 20th, Iowa State Fair – Play everyday;
State Championships on weekends
Danny Sease, 515/285-0131; Cell 515/238-1293

August 26 (Sat) Cedar Rapids Open, Ellis Park
Reg. by 9:30/play at 10:00 – Ronnie Burgess 319/390-3979

Sept. 2 (Sat) West Des Moines, Valley Junction Open
Reg. by 9:30/play 10:00 – LeRoy Law 515/224-2000

Sept. 4 (Mon) Guthrie Center, Guthrie County Fair (NS)
Reg by 10:00, singles at 10:30 – John Ridgely 515/834-2855

Sept. 9 (Sat) Iowa City Open, City Park
Reg. by 9:30/play 10:00 – Ron Swartzendruber 319/530-3763

Sept 10 (Sun) Boone Open, Puffer Billy Days, Memorial Park
Reg. by 9:30/play 10:00 – Mike McNace 515/230-3355

Sept. 16 (Sat) Cedar Rapids Open, Ellis Park
Reg. by 9:30 /play at 10:00 – Ronnie Burgess 319/390-3979

Sept. 17 (Sun) Burlington, Corn Belt Open, Crapo Park
All classes be ready to pitch at 9:30 – Stoney Jackson 319/752-3792

Sept. 23 (Sat) Indianola Open, Pickard Park
Reg. by 9:30/play 10:00

Sept. 30 (Sat) Russell Open, Community Building
Reg. by 9:30/play 10:00 – Harold /Lois Garner 641/897-3174

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE :

NHPA BUSINESS MEETING:

The meeting was held Sunday morning the 16th. Iowa's three Delegates were present along with 127 other Delegates. Jerry Labrosse from Minnesota was elected the 4th Vice president replacing Bonnie Seibolt, the long time incumbent.

After a lengthy discussion the proposed new rules rewrite was voted on. The vote was overwhelmingly in favor of the new RGS Book (Rules, Guidelines, Specifications) that will replace the old green rules pamphlet. While the new RGS Book is quite extensive and covers most everything, it was explained prior to the vote that changes could be made at next year's meeting, and Delegates were asked to submit such changes that they felt were needed.

Dave Loucks gave a report on the NHPF. All NHPA Members will be receiving a brochure asking for support of the new Hall of Fame structure in Missouri. All charters are being asked to purchase bricks that will be inscribed and placed in the walkway of the Hall of Fame.

World Tournament Results:

It was no surprise that Allan Francis (Oh..) won his 12th World 40 ft. Title. 19 wins and 0 losses with an 87.83 Ringer percentage. Joan Elmore (TN) won her first Women's title. 18 - 2 - 82.20 %; Ed Arionus (TX) won the Elders 30Ft. Division. 75.59%; and the Junior Champ was Thomas Lee (SD) 73.14%.

Congratulations to **Marv Dirks** !! He won the Division F - 1 Class World Championship !! Finishing in 2nd place in the Men's 30 ft K Division was **Pete Ver Mulm** !! **Nathan Duffy** placed 2nd in the Junior Division E Class!! while brother **Allan Duffy** finished 3rd in Division D !! **Leo Buell** placed a respectable 3rd in the Men's Senior B Division. The rest of us made a lot of friends and had a good time doing it.

2006 State Fair !!!!

I hope everyone has taken the time to enter the State Championships and also team captains have sent in there entries to the team events. Let's make this year's eleven days of pitching a huge success. It can be just that if you plan to attend. (Oh yes, don't forget to bring along a new pitcher to play in one of the many open events.)

SEE YOU AT THE FAIR !!!!

This and That :

After arriving home from the World Tournament I was given an article that appeared in *The Des Moines Register* that addressed the seemingly decline in the number of participants playing horseshoes. There are many factors involved that have caused a decline in participation in horseshoe pitching and other sports as well. Adding to this is the cost of travel due to the rise in gasoline per gallon. The trip to Gillette and back cost \$190. The numbers in Gillette were under 1,000. In this day and age there are many more activities and options for juniors and adults that were not available before my time and while I was younger. The increasing interest in soccer and golf over recent years is a good example.

Is the sport of horseshoes dying ? I certainly don't think so. Declining some, Yes. Due to the many activities that are available now, I think horseshoe pitching will survive as it has in the past. I choose to take a positive approach to our sport of horseshoe pitching. With the many new members joining us, it is very encouraging. As all of us get older, we will face the day when we no longer can participate. The answer is to give back to the sport we enjoy by introducing and encouraging others to take up the sport. There are millions who play at picnics and backyards and there are children and relatives of horseshoe pitchers who, with a little encouraging, will join with us. In talking to the many out of state members at the World Tournament, they have a definite positive outlook. If everyone will take a positive approach, instead of negative, we will see positive results.

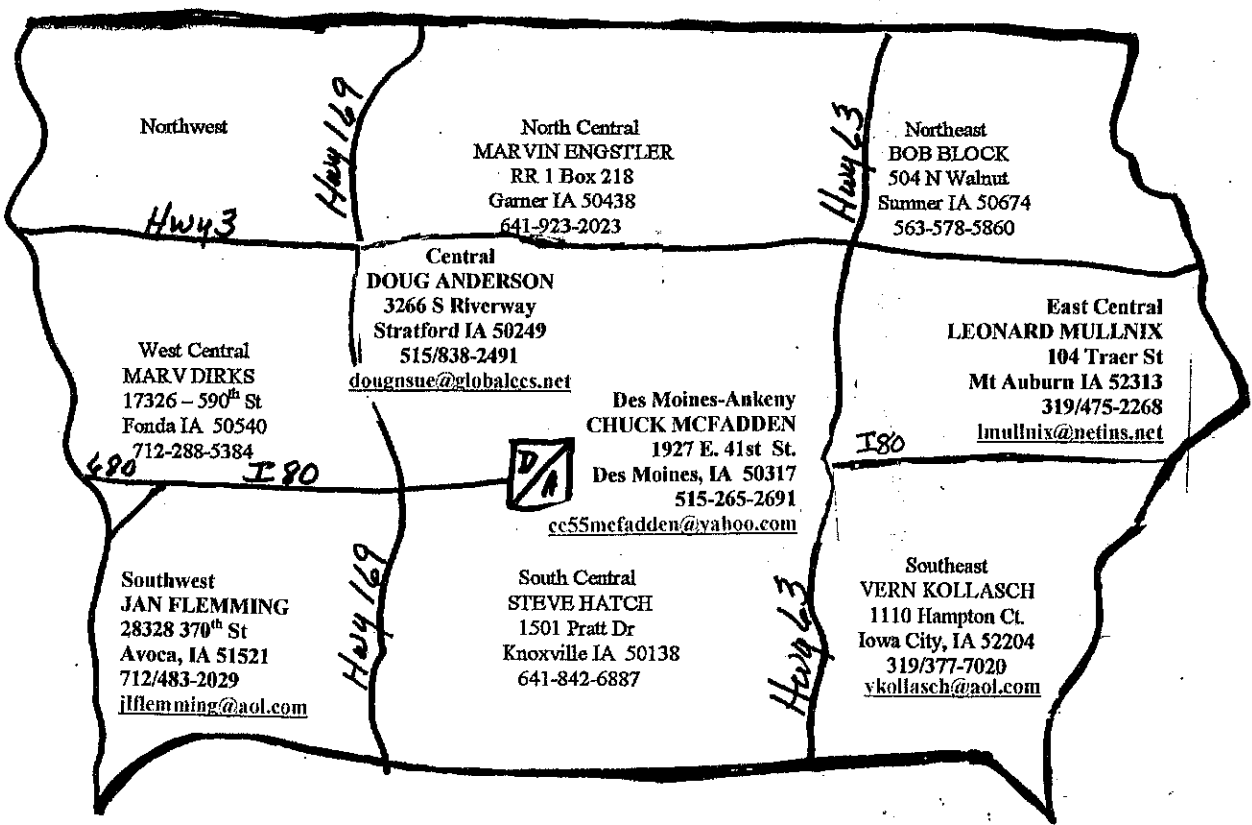
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Condolences

Martin C. Simonson, Sioux Rapids, passed away July 4, 2006. Born May 19, 1924, Martin was a retired farmer and an avid horseshoe player in Northwest Iowa.

Martin would pitch shoes for hours at a time, stop for a dry shirt and handkerchief, then keep on pitching. He was leader of the Little Sioux Horseshoe Club and a willing helper at the Clay County Fair horseshoe courts. He will long be remembered by the pitchers of Northwest Iowa.

Martin is survived by his wife of 57 years, Evelyn, of Sioux Rapids; daughter Linda Olson of Linn Grove; son Steven Simonson of Sutherland, six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Don Wilson, Greenfield, passed away Friday, July 28th, following surgery. Services are pending at a later date.



Congratulations to the winners of the **Hardin County Fair** tournament on Thursday, July 20th. Trophies were presented to **Bob McKee**, Marshalltown, 1st place Class "A" and **Bill Mason**, Grinnell, 1st place Class "B."



TEAM WORLD RESULTS

Team IOWA attended the 2006 Team World in Beloit, Wisconsin May 19th through May 21st. Sixteen teams attended to play 15 games over the 3 days. The team members were Captain Ronnie Burgess (Cedar Rapids), Jim Jackson (New London), Vern Kollasch (Iowa City), and Harold Garner (Melrose).

The competition was very tough. Most teams had two pitchers above 60%, then maybe one or two 50% pitchers. Also many of the players were state champions, 30' champions or women champions.

Team IOWA totaled 12.5 wins and finished in 16th place. As our captain says, "We made friends."

All pitchers had a great time and did enjoy pitching against pitchers from other states and Canada. We are looking forward to a much improved team in 2007.

-- Vern Kollasch

GREETINGS FROM THE LAST FRONTIER

As you know, I went to the Alaska State Horseshoe Tournament on Sunday, July 9 2006, in Eagle River, Alaska at the invitation of Tom Bower, Regional Director of the Alaska Horseshoe Pitchers Association (AHPA). The officers of the Association are: Tom Bowers, Regional Director; Rick Lagarde, President; Mike Lucas, 1st Vice President; Jeff Seibert, 2nd Vice President; Norm Rousey, 3rd Vice President; Willie Kunish, 4th Vice President; and Cathy Adams, Secretary/Treasurer.

The summers are so short up here that they must get everything done while the sun shines or they have trouble getting in tournaments. The AHPA only has about 7 or 8 tournaments a year. All the pitchers were very impressed with the number of tournaments the IHPA has every year.

There were a total of 17 pitchers in this tournament. After the competition, they hold their annual meeting and steak dinner.

Trophies were awarded to the top three in each class, and a beautiful traveling trophy for the men and women's championship classes. A plaque was engraved with each winner's name and on each traveling trophy.

The winners in each class were:

Men's Championship Class

*1st -- Tom Bowers
2nd -- Norm Rousey
3rd -- Lane Campbell*

Women's Championship Class

*1st -- Jinny Day
2nd -- Cathy Adams
3rd -- Ursula Lucas*

Class A

*1st -- Dackie Sanchez
2nd -- Walt Milton
3rd -- Bud Cassidy*

All pitchers are very nice people and all were having a good time, win or lose. Tom also tells me he rents a building in the long Winter and sets up indoor courts. They invited me to pitch in the Pipeline Tournament they are having August 5th & 6th in Valdez, Alaska. One of the things that is different from our pitching is that they pitch on sand courts.

When I went to leave, everyone stopped pitching to say their goodbyes to an Iowa horseshoe pitcher. I invited them to pitch at an Iowa tournament if they are ever in our area.

At this writing (July 15th) we are about 40 miles outside of Anchorage - - no mosquitoes and high temperatures in the low 70's.

Happy Pitching, Bill & Shirley Sprague

STATE FAIR UPDATES

HORSESHOE EXHIBITION. The Exhibition of horseshoe pitching that we do every year at the Bill Riley Stage on the second Saturday will be changed this year.

We have been changed because of scheduling problems of the Special Events Director Tonya Cook.

This year the Exhibition will be at 9:30 a.m. at the Susan R. Knapp Amphitheater in Heritage Village on Saturday, August 19th. This is a brand new theater located just South of the maintenance building which is just East of the horseshoe courts. The time is 30 minutes earlier - please put this on your schedule.

Susan Knapp is a friend of horseshoes. Her Uncle, Marion Lange, is in the National Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame.

I have been told we will not get our spot back at the Bill Riley Stage in the next few years. Let's do our best to make this new spot known. *State Fair Updates cont'd:*

PITCH & WIN. This year we will have a Pitch & Win contest for people who pass by the Iowa State Fair Horseshoe courts. This will be for non-members, for youngsters all ages, for all people whatever their age.

They will throw two shoes and if they get a double ringer we will give them a prize. If they get one ringer a prize. If they get one shoe in the pit or both in the pit, a prize. All will receive a ribbon from the Iowa State Fair.

We would like some cash donations so we can purchase prizes. We are asking businesses for prizes such as free drinks, food, etc. We need the cash to get the right prizes for ringers and double ringers. Something to draw them in for their chance.

We will have a banner and PA system at the courts to attract people walking by. We hope to have them on TV and radio. The Iowa State Fair is helping also by sending children to us from their activities all over the Fair. The publicity will bring many to the horseshoe courts. We hope to win new players and members.

If you can spare some cash for the purchase of some prizes, please contact Leroy Law. Send or give your donation big or small to:

LeRoy Law, President
IHHPA
303 Oaklane Drive
West Des Moines, IA 50265
e-mail lawringers@msn.com

Thank you for your help. Let's all Pitch in and Win.

-- Danny Sease,
Superintendent of Iowa State Fair Horseshoes

CEDAR RAPIDS OPEN, June 17, 2006

CLASS (A)					
Don Marx	Marion	1 st	3-0	47.10	
LeRoy Law	West Des Moines	2 nd	2-1	50.85	
James Jackson	New London	3 rd	2-1	45.71	
Pat Simon	Waterloo	4 th	2-1	35.34	
Larry Purcell	Cedar Rapids	5 th	0-3	38.71	
Ronnie Burgess	Cedar Rapids	6 th	0-3	19.83	

CLASS (B)					
Bob McKee	Marshalltown	1 st	4-1	43.14	
Russ Martin	Clarksville	2 nd	4-1	33.20	
Betty McGregor	Lone Tree	3 rd	3-2	38.59	
Carl Kaiser	Des Moines	4 th	2-3	36.67	
Leo Buell	Iowa City	5 th	1-4	30.39	
Stoney Jackson	Burlington	6 th	forfeit		
Deb Dalton	Indianola	6 th	1-4	37.50	

CLASS (C)					
Larry Bolt	Mt Auburn	1 st	3-1	32.61	
Tom Cranston	Parnell	2 nd	3-1	31.05	
Bob Hardy	New London	3 rd	2-2	25.79	
Charles Phipps	Grimes	4 th	2-2	32.43	
Leo Lamparek	Cedar Rapids	5 th	1-3	28.26	
Marian McKee	Marshalltown	6 th	1-3	16.67	

CLASS (D)					
Deb Davis	Ankeny	1 st	5-0	35.29	
Roger Tope	Marion	2 nd	4-1	26.52	
Jason Clark	Monticello	3 rd	2-3	32.02	
Ken Cook	Cedar Rapids	4 th	2-3	25.83	
Leonard Mullnex	Mt Auburn	5 th	2-3	23.42	
Ernie Benda	Cedar Rapids	6 th	0-5	17.50	

CLASS (E)					
Sheryl Mason	Grinnell	1 st	4-1	21.90	
Gary Elliott	Muscatine	1 st	4-1	20.00	
Vern McGrath	Dubuque	3 rd	2-3	19.74	
Dean Fortune	Des Moines	4 th	2-3	18.49	
Jason Smith	Tipton	5 th	1-4	22.44	
Francis Wagner	Cedar Rapids	6 th	1-4	18.44	

CLASS (F)					
Richard Cranston	Keswick	1 st	5-0	21.35	
Wade Benge	Mt Pleasant	2 nd	4-1	20.10	
Marty Baldanado	Cedar Rapids	3 rd	3-2	14.80	
John Peterson	Coralville	4 th	2-3	15.00	
R. Swartzendruber	Iowa City	5 th	1-4	17.48	
Jim Fulcher	Nichols	6 th	forfeit		

Cedar Rapids Open, 6/17/06 (cont'd)

CLASS (G)					
Vicki Elliott	Muscatine	1 st	5-0	20.94	
Steve Hyler	Winterset	2 nd	4-1	29.50	
Leona Gaines	Mt Vernon	3 rd	3-2	17.50	
Chris Bennett	Cedar Rapids	4 th	2-3	12.50	
Paul Clark	Marshalltown	5 th	1-4	8.10	
Harold Barker	West Des Moines	6 th	0-5	7.87	

CEDAR RAPIDS OPEN, July 1, 2006

CLASS (A)					
Walt Behnke	Marion	1 st	5-0	60.71	
Joe Smith	Gladbrook	2 nd	4-1	64.02	
Larry Purcell	Cedar Rapids	3 rd	2-3	46.30	
James Jackson	New London	4 th	2-3	40.28	
Pat Simon	Waterloo	5 th	1-4	45.18	
Vern Kollasch	Iowa City	6 th	1-4	42.08	

CLASS (B)					
Leo Buell	Iowa City	1 st	4-1	39.47	
Betty McGregor	Lone Tree	2 nd	3-2	44.20	
Don Marx	Marion	3 rd	3-2	40.37	
Bob Hardy	New London	4 th	2-3	39.90	
Ralph Palmer	Cedar Rapids	5 th	2-3	30.65	
Ronnie Burgess	Cedar Rapids	6 th	1-4	30.29	

CLASS (C)					
Fred Martin	Washington	1 st	6-1	38.21	
Leo Lamparek	Cedar Rapids	2 nd	5-2	29.29	
Dick Timmer	Illinois	3 rd	4-3	32.14	
Roger Tope	Marion	4 th	4-3	31.79	
John O'Shea	Cedar Rapids	5 th	4-3	30.71	
Tom Cranston	Parnell	6 th	2-5	27.14	
Leonard Mullnex	Mt Auburn	7 th	2-5	26.07	
Ken Cook	Cedar Rapids	8 th	1-6	23.93	

CLASS (D)					
Dick Shepardson	Iowa City	1 st	6-0	27.08	
Gary Elliott	Muscatine	2 nd	5-1	24.58	
Francis Wagner	Cedar Rapids	3 rd	4-2	20.83	
Vern McGrath	Dubuque	4 th	3-3	23.33	
Jim McCord	Illinois	5 th	1-5	19.17	
John Peterson	Coralville	6 th	1-5	17.92	
Marty Baldanato	Cedar Rapids	7 th	1-5	10.83	

CLASS (E)					
Wade Benge	Mt Pleasant	1 st	4-1	23.71	
Mervin McCord	Illinois	2 nd	3-2	17.08	
Leona Gaines	Mt Vernon	3 rd	3-2	14.40	
Vicki Elliott	Muscatine	4 th	3-2	12.80	
R. Swartzendruber	Iowa City	5 th	2-3	16.67	
Chris Bennett	Cedar Rapids	6 th	0-5	11.57	

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Summer Classic, July 2, 2006

CLASS (A)

Jan Flemming	Avoca	1 st	6-0	49.6
Tom Chambers Jr	Exira	2 nd	5-1	47.9
Don McCance	Nebraska	3 rd	3-3	52.9
Wilber Rasmussen	Prescott	4 th	3-3	47.1
Charlie Trojan	Nebraska	5 th	2-4	38.3
Dennis Hopkins	Missouri Valley	6 th	1-5	38.3
Steve Ronk	Council Bluffs	7 th	1-5	24.6

CLASS (B)

Kristy Klejch	Creston	1 st	6-1	39.6
Cameron Chambers	Exira	2 nd	5-2	42.8
Gary Berg	Nebraska	3 rd	5-2	26.4
Bill Vogt	Council Bluffs	4 th	4-3	25.4
Scott Carroll	Council Bluffs	5 th	4-3	22.5
Kirk Vannausdle	Elliott	6 th	3-4	32.5
Tom Berg	Nebraska	7 th	1-6	16.4
Jake Berg	Nebraska	8 th	0-7	7.1

WEST DES MOINES, Holiday Classic, July 4, 2006

CLASS (A)

Slim Allen	West Des Moines	1 st	6-0	54.54
Jan Flemming	Avoca	2 nd	3-3	51.37
Pat Simon	Waterloo	3 rd	3-3	46.83
Mike Fishnick	Dubuque	4 th	3-3	46.18
Keith Baker	Clive	5 th	2-4	51.10
Larry Purcell	Cedar Rapids	6 th	2-4	49.65
Vern Kollasch	Iowa City	7 th	2-4	46.24

CLASS (B)

Gary Reed	Stuart	1 st	5-1	54.74
Wilbur Rasmussen	Prescott	2 nd	4-2	51.81
Leo Buell	Iowa City	3 rd	3-3	46.76
Tom Chambers	Exira	4 th	3-3	43.16
Carl Kaiser	Des Moines	5 th	3-3	41.28
Ronnie Burgess	Cedar Rapids	6 th	2-4	47.82
LeRoy Law	West Des Moines	7 th	1-5	34.44

CLASS (C)

Harold Garner	Melrose	1 st	5-0	37.80
Russ Martin	Clarksville	2 nd	3-2	37.87
Darwin Mott	Hartford	3 rd	3-2	36.60
Bob Hardy	New London	4 th	3-2	35.52
Chuck McFadden	Des Moines	5 th	1-4	31.35
Charles Phipps	Grimes	6 th	0-5	32.89

West Des Moines (cont'd)

CLASS (D)

Roger Tope	Marion	1 st	5-0	33.98
Steve Ronk	Council Bluffs	2 nd	4-1	32.91
Deb Davis	Ankeny	3 rd	3-2	36.57
Ken Bailey	Dallas Center	4 th	2-3	29.74
Bill Vogt	Council Bluffs	5 th	1-4	29.29
Delbert Pettyjohn	Hamilton	6 th	0-5	17.64

CLASS (E)

Cameron Chambers	Exira	1 st	5-0	37.14
Don Madsen	Atlantic	2 nd	3-2	27.82
Gene Rittmann	Ankeny	3 rd	3-2	24.29
Kevin Bailey	Prairie City	4 th	2-3	24.78
Bob Bown	Delta	5 th	1-4	19.13

CLASS (F)

Dean Fortune	Des Moines	1 st	4-1	23.07
Ralph Davis	Ankeny	2 nd	3-2	21.31
Bob Walters	Eldora	3 rd	3-2	20.40
Ron Moon	Indianola	4 th	3-2	19.20
Dick Huitt	Des Moines	5 th	1-4	16.80
Rusty Dalton	Indianola	6 th	1-4	15.38

CLASS (G)

Steve Hyler	Winterset	1 st	5-0	34.60
Allan Bloodgood	Prole	2 nd	3-2	15.28
Leona Gaines	Mt Vernon	3 rd	3-2	13.15
Bob Ehrhart	West Des Moines	4 th	2-3	11.47
Cody Wessell	Indianola	5 th	1-4	10.80
Harold Barker	West Des Moines	6 th	1-4	9.28

CLASS (H)

Vince Goemaat	Hamilton	1 st	4-1	13.60
Rusty Dalton II	Indianola	2 nd	3-2	11.20
Tyler Hines	Norwalk	3 rd	3-2	10.00
Paul Clark	Marshalltown	4 th	3-2	6.40
Jim Kempkes	Des Moines	5 th	2-3	6.80
Dave Oliver	Indianola	6 th	0-5	4.80

SW IOWA HORSESHOES
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May 7th - June 14th - July 2nd - August 6th
Sunset Park - Council Bluffs 16th Ave & 10th St
Jan Flemming 712-483-2029

BURLINGTON, S.E. Iowa Open, July 9 2006

CLASS (A)

Jim Jackson	New London	1 st	4-0	62.34
Vern Kollasch	Iowa City	2 nd	3-1	43.13
Betty McGregor	Lone Tree	3 rd	1-3	38.74
Harold Garner	Melrose	4 th	1-3	37.60
Stoney Jackson	Burlington	5 th	1-3	33.00

CLASS (B)

Don Dickey	Wapello	1 st	3-1	40.00
Bob Hardy	New London	2 nd	3-1	31.94
Dean Wehrle	Burlington	3 rd	2-2	33.00
John Peterson	Coralville	4 th	1-3	38.36
Steve Jackson	Grandview	5 th	1-3	20.47

WHAT CHEER, Keokuk County Fair, July 16, 2006

CLASS (A)

Vern Kollasch	Iowa City	1 st	5-1	42
Darwin Mott	Hartford	2 nd	5-1	36
Larry Purcell	Cedar Rapids	3 rd	4-2	40
Ken Cook	Cedar Rapids	4 th	3-3	34
Fred Martin	Washington	5 th	2-4	32
Bob Hardy	New London	6 th	2-4	28
Tom Cranston	Parnell	7 th	0-6	20

CLASS (B)

Kristy Klejch	Creston	1 st	6-0	42
Kevin Bailey	Prairie City	2 nd	4-2	21
Richard Cranston	Keswick	3 rd	3-3	24
Matt Bombei	Delta	4 th	3-3	22
James Bown	Delta	5 th	3-3	11
John Peterson	Coralville	6 th	1-5	25
Bruce Dennis	Prairie City	7 th	1-5	12

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE :

On June 2nd I received notification that Dave Sidles, our Secretary Treasurer and Statistician, will be moving to Omaha, Nebraska sometime in the next three months. Dave has devoted many hours serving the IHHPA in a manner that exemplifies a degree of excellence that will be hard to replace. We certainly wish him and his family the best in his transition to his new location. The Executive Board will be making a decision to name a new Secretary/Treasurer and Statistician in the near future. That person, or persons, will have the opportunity to spend time with Dave to allow a smooth transition to these positions. While Dave handled both the Secretary/Treasurer position and the Statistician position, I think it might be best to see the two positions filled by two individuals as was filled previously. If you would like to be considered for either of these two positions, please contact me.

A final decision to bid on the World Tournament for 2009 in Cedar Rapids has not been made as of now.

Several of our court facilities have been upgraded or in the process now. Along with the extensive upgrading in Dubuque, Iowa City has made major improvements also. Additional 30 foot concrete platforms have been added in Marshalltown so that all have 30-foot platforms now. On behalf of all the horseshoe pitchers, a big thank you goes out to those responsible for these improvements.

I want to thank everyone who has been actively seeking out new members. If everybody works at this, we can present to others what all of us enjoy, THE WONDERFUL SPORT OF HORSESHOE PITCHING.

The Volunteer State Open Horseshoe Tournament, Crossville, Tennessee, drew 320 entrants with a prize fund in the neighborhood of \$75,000. This is the first tournament that acquired major sponsorship of this magnitude. The complete results can be found on the NHPA web site. First place in the Championship 40 foot men and the mixed 30 foot Championship Class paid the winners \$7,000 each. 2nd \$4,500; 3rd \$ 2,500; 4th \$1,500; 5th \$ 1,000 (12 player classes). Alan Francis won the 40-foot men Championship and Sue Snyder won the 30-foot Championship. The following is a report posted on the NHPA web site by another pitcher who watched Alan Francis and Brian Simmons play the deciding match:

They started with 4 fourdeads in a row, and Brian scored on two that bounced off on Alan. Actually, the early part of the game saw the guys score mostly because of bouncing shoes than real misses. After 6 – 6 Alan started to escape I think up to 18 – 6. At that point (probably more than 40 shoes) he had not missed as Brian scored on two that bounced off. Considering Alan also started (and finished) his previous game with 39 out of 40, this is absolutely amazing! The game lasted 100 shoes with 89 for Alan and 84 by Brian who, with 4 or 5 ringers lost, was just as amazing as Alan! “

Tournaments with this kind of prize money and number of participants can only increase the interest in the sport of horseshoe pitching. If they can do it in Tennessee, other states could do it also. Who knows? Maybe it could happen in Iowa !!.

Dear IHHPA members,

I am writing to inform you all of a decision my wife and I have made to move to Nebraska. We hope to be there by Sept. 1st. Because of this, I will be giving up my positions of Secretary/Treasurer and Statistician. I would like to encourage anyone interested in any of these duties to contact myself or Leroy Law as soon as possible. I will be more than happy to work with you so that the transition will be smooth.

As the NHPA has grown into the computer age along with everyone else, those skills, along with use of e-mail, are almost essential. These positions combined currently receive a \$600.00 annual salary. Something to think about.

This, in all likelihood, will be my last Iowa Games, State Fair, and sanctioned league involvement. It has been as pleasure to serve the IHHPA. My involvement in horseshoe pitching in Iowa over the last 18 years has brought me many wonderful memories and many friendships. I hope to stay involved in horseshoe pitching in Nebraska and see many of you in Council Bluffs.

Dave Sidles



2006 Iowa State Fair
August 10-20

The entry deadline for the Iowa State Fair championship tournaments is August 1st. You are required to play in three sanctioned tournaments to participate in any of the State Championships. For more information, see the enclosed flyer.

NHPA HALL OF FAME

The NHPA Hall of Fame, Museum and horseshoe pitching facility will be built in 2006 on a three-acre site in Quail Ridge Park, St. Charles County, Missouri. The 23,000 square foot structure will house the Hall of Fame and Museum, offices, store, a food service center and sixteen indoor courts. The facility will be heated and air-conditioned. Outside there will be an additional eight courts.

This is all possible because of a gift of land and buildings from Jack Freeman of Joelton, Tennessee. Unfortunately Mr. Freeman died before all legal arrangements could be completed. The sale of 65 acres of land and buildings has made it possible to rebuild the Hall of Fame in St. Charles. After Mr. Freeman passed away, there were few people to maintain and run the facility in Joelton. The New Melle Club in St. Charles is 200 members strong and they have agreed to oversee and run the operation.

Donations may be made to the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation (NHPF). Send to: NHPF, P.O. Box 1628, Penn Valley, CA 95946. A commemorative brick may be purchased for \$100 with 3 lines of engraving of 13 characters each. Contact Leo Buell for more information.

U U U U U U

TO ALL RDs:

The State Fair is coming up and that means TEAM REGION Championship. I urge all RD's to get their four-member team together as soon as they can. A Region may have more than one team, the more the better. Team Region has been at the Fair for several years so all should know the rules. Just in case you need a refresher: 4-person team from your region, (one may be from a neighboring region). Combined ringer averages not more than 176 percent. A fifth member may be used as a sub. All must be members of the NHPA in good standing. Entry fee is \$80.00 per team. Send entry fee to C. Leo Buell 1809 Lakeside Drive Iowa City, IA 52240. We need entry fee and team members to Leo by July 28th. Danny Sease has to have time to do his thing to be ready for you when you get to the Fair. Please don't be late. Take note that Team Region is on the first Friday of the Fair, which is August 11th. Make checks payable to Iowa State Fair. See you at the Fair.

Leo Buell

NEW COURTS IN DUBUQUE, IOWA CITY AND MITCHELLVILLE

Dubuque: On Saturday, June 3, 2006, Flora Park welcomed 52 pitchers from Iowa, Illinois and Wisconsin to initiate ten renovated courts, two additional new courts, new lighting, fences and pavement.

The morning began with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and a song from Red Hinton, followed by the National Anthem and Pledge of Allegiance. Coordinated by Mike Fishnick Sr and Vern McGrath, and hosted by Betty Fishnick, her two daughters, Tonya and Jamie, and Eleanor McGrath, the tournament ran from 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. There were eight classes, A through H, with six or seven in each class. Mark Kramer of Fulton, Illinois won the Class A Division with a 7-0 record and 74.6 ringer percentage.

(The photo and article on the next page appeared in *The Dubuque Telegraph Herald*, on June 4, 2006)

* * * * *

Iowa City: It was a great morning. Thirty-six pitchers registered. The morning classes were underway at 10:00. The afternoon classes were rain-shortened after three games. The tournament was called after 45 minutes of rain. As soon as everybody had gone except the cleanup crew, the sun came out as big as ever. You can't bet on the weather.

Bob Hardy helped run a 50/50 raffle. 50% went to the NHPF and 50% to the lucky ticketholder. A total of \$82.00 was collected. There were other prizes awarded before the drawing for the grand prize. The lucky winner was Steve Jackson from Grandview. Dave Sidles will send a check for \$41.00 to the NHPF from the IHHPA



Above: City Park Horseshoe Courts, Iowa City, Iowa

"The city really did a great job in getting these done."

VERN McGRATH, local horseshoe pitcher



TH: Jeremy Portje

Vern McGrath, of Dubuque, competes in the Iowa Hawkeye Horseshoe Pitchers Association tournament

Saturday afternoon at Flora Park. The event drew 52 pitchers from around the region.

City tosses a ringer

New courts a hit with pitchers

By JIM LEITNER

TH sports editor

Betty Fishnick welcomed players from all over the state with a warm smile and the offer of a hot sandwich and a cold drink at a very reasonable price.

Each date on the Iowa Hawkeye Horseshoe Pitchers Association schedule includes as much hospitality as competition. And, on Saturday, Dubuque rolled out the red carpet for 52 pitchers—the most in the five years Flora Park has hosted the event.

"It takes a lot of work to put one of these on, but it's worth it," says Fishnick, who spent the better part of the week getting food ready. "You see a lot of the same faces every time you go to one of these, and you want to make sure you do a good job."

Saturday's event drew rave reviews because of the reno-

vated courts located in the middle of the park. The Leisure Services Department installed a new lighting system, fences, dirt boxes and pavement while expanding the area from 10 to 12 courts.

"These are really nice, and they put us on par with the courts in Cedar Rapids and Iowa City and Marshalltown, which are really, really nice," said Vern McGrath, who coordinated Saturday's tournament along with Mike Fishnick Sr. "These are nice and level, and they're a lot easier to walk across because of the cement.

"The city really did a great job in getting these done. Although, they didn't help my game at all today."

McGrath lost all five of his matches in the F Division.

It took five years for the new horseshoe pitching courts to make it on the city's to-do list. They opened this spring for league play, but Dubuque Leisure Service manager Gil Spence waited

until Saturday's showcase event for a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The tournament included eight divisions — A through H — based on pitchers' previous ringer percentage and attracted former state champions from Iowa, Illinois and Wisconsin. It ran from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., with the Fishnick family smack dab in the middle.

Mike Fishnick Sr. competed in the tournament with his son, Mike Jr., and grandsons Alan and Nathan Duffy. Betty took care of the food, and her two daughters entered the results on score sheets.

"It's pretty neat, because it's something the whole family can get involved with and it brings us closer together," said Mike Sr., who posted a 5-2 record and finished second in the B Division. "We have a lot of fun with it, and it's neat to pass the game on to our kids and grandkids. The whole family looks forward to this, and

we're planning to go to the world tournament in Wyoming this summer."

The Duffy boys represent the future of a sport populated mostly by the older generations. Local enthusiasts hope to someday introduce the sport to youngsters through physical education classes in the schools.

"My grandpa and my uncle got me into it, and I'm glad they did because it's a lot of fun," said Alan Duffy, 14. "There are some really good guys here, and they're always willing to give you tips to help you get better at it."

Pitchers throw from 40 feet, although the older competitors may move up 10 feet if they choose. Their horseshoes have a three-inch opening, and the stake at each end measures one inch thick. Each pitcher in a head-to-head match throws up to 50 shoes.

Marv Kramer, of Fulton, Ill., won the top division on Saturday with a 7-0 record and 74.6 ringer percentage.

Mitchellville: The following article appeared in The Altoona Herald-Index on June 26, 2006:

Monday, June 26, 2006 ■ HOME : NEWS

Warden pitches in

By ADAM WILSON
Herald-Index editor

Posted at 01:05 on 06/22/2006

Glenn Warden channeled his inner movie buff when he spoke of the renovated horseshoe courts at the Mitchellville City Park.

"I told (Mayor) Dave Wieslander that if we build that thing back up, people will come," Warden said Monday, paraphrasing that famous line from "Field of Dreams."

With material and time donated by Ed Brose Trucking, Anderson Construction, Metal Masters, Harris Lawn and Landscaping and Ed Wieslander, Warden rebuilt Mitchellville's courts. And people are starting to come.

In fact, about a dozen horseshoe players were on hand Thursday night for the weekly games organized by Warden, who moved to Mitchellville in October.

"We meet every Thursday at 6 p.m. and might try to start playing on Tuesday nights, too," he said.

"When Glenn moved to town he went down to the park and saw that we had some horseshoe courts, and he came and asked if it would be alright if he revived it, did some work on it and rejuvenated it," Dave Wieslander said. "We said sure and he's just run with it since then.

"He's played a lot of horseshoes and likes doing it. He's on the Parks and Rec board, so it's been a good project for him."

Warden, who has been playing professional horseshoes since 1990 and is vice-president and chaplain of the Iowa Hawkeye Horseshoe Pitchers Association (IHHPA), offers up his coaching services to anyone who wants to learn or relearn the game.

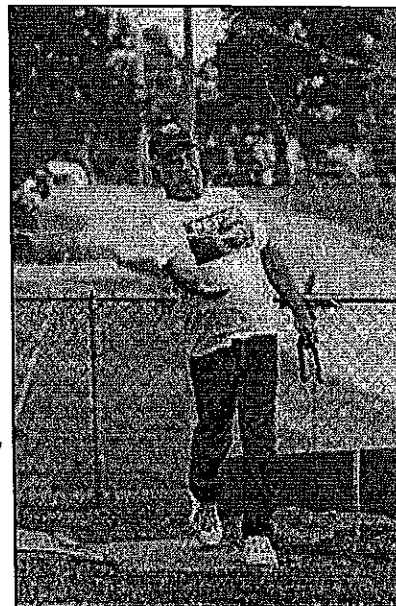
"Call me ahead of time and we can go out any night of the week," he said. "We'll get the shoes, I'll teach them how to hold it, where to stand, how to stand, and what all the rules are."

People interested in playing in the Thursday games or looking for help with their game can call Warden at 967-1861 or show up at 6 p.m. every Thursday.

"We're looking for Glenn to make this the horseshoe capital of Iowa," Wieslander joked.

"He wants to get tournaments in here and he's got people playing once a week now. That might turn into twice a week, so he's just done great.

"We have a lot of horseshoe players in this area. Now they just need to get involved and come out and play."



ADAM WILSON/Herald-Index

Glenn Warden of Mitchellville, with help from local volunteers, has renovated the horseshoe courts at Mitchellville City Park and holds friendly games every Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

SUMNER, May 27, 2006

CLASS (A)				
Joe Smith	Gladbrook	1 st	5-0	55.5
Vern Kollasch	Iowa City	2 nd	4-1	49.5
Mike Fishnick	Dubuque	3 rd	3-2	48.0
Robert Card	Dumont	4 th	2-3	40.5
Marv Engstler	Garner	5 th	1-4	35.5

CLASS (B)				
Will Foelske	Waverly	1 st	5-0	42.0
Leo Buell	Iowa City	2 nd	3-2	42.5
Russ Martin	Clarksville	3 rd	3-2	36.5
Rick Evenson	Clermont	4 th	2-3	33.5
Fred Martin	Washington	5 th	2-3	30.0

CLASS (C)				
Lee Drewelow	Independence	1 st	5-0	16.0
Vern McGrath	Dubuque	2 nd	4-1	22.5
Leonard Mullnix	Mt. Auburn	3 rd	2-3	20.0
Mike Fishnick, Jr.	Dubuque	4 th	2-3	10.0
Nathan Duffy	Dubuque	5 th	1-4	3.5

DUBUQUE, June 3, 2006

CLASS (A)				
Marv Kramer	Illinois	1 st	7-0	74.60
Mark Mauthe	Wisconsin	2 nd	5-2	70.39
Kelley Russell	Illinois	3 rd	5-2	65.33
Bob Schaver	Illinois	4 th	4-3	63.48
Joe Smith	Gladbrook	5 th	4-3	62.00
Norm Mauthe	Wisconsin	6 th	2-5	46.00
Pat Simon	Waterloo	7 th	1-6	46.33

CLASS (B)				
Bob McKee	Marshalltown	1 st	6-1	47.36
Mike Fishnick	Dubuque	2 nd	5-2	48.00
Bill Grobstick	Dubuque	3 rd	5-2	42.66
Ken Schaver	Illinois	4 th	4-3	50.65
Larry Purchell	Cedar Rapids	5 th	4-3	44.00
LeRoy Law	West Des Moines	6 th	3-4	38.00
Don Marx	Marion	7 th	1-6	32.66

CLASS (C)				
Russ Martin	Clarksville	1 st	5-2	38.66
Charlie Phipps	Grimes	2 nd	5-2	36.66
Dennis Simler	Illinois	3 rd	5-2	34.33
Carl Kaiser	Des Moines	4 th	5-2	34.00
Leo Lamperak	Cedar Rapids	5 th	4-3	27.66
Bob Hardy	New London	6 th	3-4	30.66
Marion McKee	Marshalltown	7 th	1-6	26.66

Dubuque (cont'd)

CLASS (D)				
Deb Davis	Ankeny	1 st	4-1	37.20
Leonard Mullnix	Mt. Auburn	2 nd	4-1	25.60
Ken Cook	Cedar Rapids	3 rd	3-2	28.00
Dale Bull	Illinois	4 th	2-3	25.20
Fred Martin	Washington	5 th	1-4	22.00
Leonard Mauthe	Illinois	6 th	1-4	21.20

CLASS (E)				
Roger Tope	Marion	1 st	4-1	29.60
Lavern Schroeder	Illinois	2 nd	3-2	32.80
Jason Clark	Monticello	3 rd	3-2	32.00
Bob Rounds	Perry	4 th	3-2	28.40
John Brugger	Wisconsin	5 th	2-3	26.00
Richard Timmer	Illinois	6 th	1-4	29.20

CLASS (F)				
Ken Brandt	Arizona	1 st	5-0	32.00
Jason Smith	Tipton	2 nd	4-1	29.20
Dale Feye	Cedar Rapids	3 rd	3-2	30.40
Roger Doering	Illinois	4 th	2-3	22.80
Danny Sease	Des Moines	5 th	1-4	18.40
Vern McGrath	Dubuque	6 th	0-5	26.40

CLASS (G)				
Charles Kinney	Illinois	1 st	4-1	27.55
Tim Fisher	Illinois	2 nd	4-1	26.37
John Bentz	Wisconsin	3 rd	2-3	25.19
Ralph Davis	Ankeny	4 th	2-3	19.60
Bob Walters	Eldora	5 th	2-3	13.38
John Peterson	Coralville	6 th	1-4	17.20

CLASS (H)				
Harold Anderson	Illinois	1 st	6-1	21.25
Leona Gaines	Mt. Vernon	2 nd	6-1	12.08
Alan Duffy	Dubuque	3 rd	5-2	13.33
Mike Fishnick Jr	Dubuque	4 th	3-4	7.08
Paul Clark	Marshalltown	5 th	3-4	4.16
Harold Barker	West Des Moines	6 th	2-5	11.25
Nathan Duffy	Dubuque	7 th	2-5	5.83

<p>SW IOWA HORSESHOE "COME PLAY WITH US" Sanctioned Tournaments - Register by 12:30 PM May 7th - June 14th - July 2nd - August 6th Sunset Park - Council Bluffs 16th Ave & 10th St Jan Flemming 712-483-2029</p>

COUNCIL BLUFFS, June 4, 2006

CLASS (A)

Lorin Mills	Nebraska	1 st	3-2	54.0
Cathy Carter	Council Bluffs	2 nd	3-2	53.0
Jan Flemming	Avoca	3 rd	3-2	50.5
Terry Shea	Council Bluffs	4 th	2-3	46.0
Emery Brandt	Nebraska	5 th	2-3	45.5
Mike Thomsen	Nebraska	6 th	2-3	44.0

CLASS (B)

Gary Berg	Nebraska	1 st	3-1	33.3
Steve Ronk	Council Bluffs	2 nd	3-1	28.0
Rick Vannausdle	Elliott	3 rd	2-2	24.0
Marv Dirks	Fonda	4 th	1-3	27.0
Dennis Hopkins	Missouri Valley	5 th	1-3	25.0

CLASS (C)

Bill Vogt	Council Bluffs	1 st	4-0	32.5
Kent McCance	Nebraska	2 nd	3-1	28.5
Mike Albright	Council Bluffs	3 rd	1-3	13.0
Jake Berg	Nebraska	4 th	1-3	11.0
Tom Berg	Nebraska	5 th	1-3	10.5

CHARLES CITY, June 10, 2006

Bob McKee	Marshalltown	1 st	5-0	40.80
Charles Phipps	Grimes	2 nd	4-1	38.56
Marv Engstler	Garner	3 rd	3-2	36.09
Carl Kaiser	Des Moines	4 th	3-2	33.34
Russ Martin	Clarksville	5 th	3-2	27.32
Dick Walker	Cambridge	6 th	2-3	19.00
Marian McKee	Marshalltown	7 th	0-5	22.04

CLASS (B)

Deb Davis	Ankeny	1 st	4-0	19.36
Bob Walters	Eldora	2 nd	3-1	15.70
Ralph Davis	Ankeny	3 rd	3-1	17.17
Dean Fortune	Des Moines	4 th	3-1	16.13
George Christiansen	Nora Springs	5 th	2-2	8.80
Danny Sease	Des Moines	6 th	2-2	8.00
Roger Gaulke	Dows	7 th	0-4	4.70

FAIRGOUNDS OPEN, June 15, 2006

CLASS (A)

Carl Kaiser	Des Moines	1 st	3-0	38.33
LeRoy Law	W.Des Moines	2 nd	2-1	32.50
Keith Baker	Clive	3 rd	1-2	34.17
Charles Phipps	Grimes	4 th	0-3	34.17

Fairgrounds Open (cont'd)

CLASS (B)

Chuck McFadden	Des Moines	1 st	2-1	35.83
Deb Davis	Ankeny	2 nd	2-1	35.83
Clair Strohn	Des Moines	3 rd	1-2	27.50
Jan Warwick	Boone	4 th	1-2	26.67

CLASS (C)

Steve Hylar	Winterset	1 st	3-0	25.00
Dean Fortune	Des Moines	2 nd	2-1	20.00
Ralph Davis	Ankeny	3 rd	1-2	17.50
Dick Huitt	Des Moines	4 th	0-3	12.50

CLASS (D)

Royal Hedgecock	W.Des Moines	1 st	3-0	12.50
John Ghrist	Des Moines	2 nd	2-1	8.33
Harold Barker	W.Des Moines	3 rd	1-2	10.83
Craig Overton	Pleasant Hill	4 th	0-3	5.00

RUSSELL OPEN, June 17, 2006

CLASS (A)

Keith Baker	Clive	1 st	3-0	48.70
Tom Chambers	Exira	2 nd	3-0	44.00
Darwin Mott	Hartford	3 rd	1-1	30.00
Harold Garner	Melrose	4 th	0-2	32.00
Delbert Pettyjohn		5 th	0-3	29.30

CLASS (B)

Gerald Weeks	Indianola	1 st	3-0	31.67
James Bown	Delta	2 nd	3-0	19.17
Eric Ohnemus	Melcher	3 rd	1-2	24.17
Jerry Dunkin	New Virginia	4 th	1-2	15.00
Walter Martin	Ottumwa	5 th	1-2	13.33
Ron Moon	Indianola	6 th	0-3	15.00

CLASS (C)

Cameron Chambers	Exira	1 st	3-0	28.67
Raymond Rains	Murray	2 nd	2-1	22.67
Vince Goemat		3 rd	1-2	9.33
Ron Utley	Des Moines	4 th	0-3	8.67

**RUSS
MARTIN**

Clarksville, Iowa

"LOVING EVERY MOMENT"

A FRIEND OF NHPA AND IHHPA

HORSESHOES

CLASS (A)

Walter Behnke	Marion	1 st	3-0	62.66
Jim Jackson	New London	2 nd	3-0	54.66
Vern Kollasch	Iowa City	3 rd	1-2	55.71
Mike Fishnick	Dubuque	4 th	1-2	54.66
Larry Purcell	Cedar Rapids	5 th	1-2	52.14
Ron Burgess	Cedar Rapids	6 th	0-3	35.33

CLASS (B)

LeRoy Law	W. Des Moines	1 st	2-1	53.33
Betty McGregor	Lone Tree	2 nd	2-1	43.33
Don Marx	Marion	3 rd	2-1	42.00
C. Leo Buell	Iowa City	4 th	2-1	35.33
Stoney Jackson	Burlington	5 th	1-2	39.33
Bob Hardy	New London	6 th	0-3	35.33

CLASS (C)

Deb Davis	Ankeny	1 st	4-1	33.20
Charles Phipps	Grimes	2 nd	3-2	42.80
Larry Bolt	Mt. Auburn	3 rd	3-2	40.00
Leo Lamparek	Cedar Rapids	4 th	3-2	38.80
Tom Cranston	Parnell	5 th	1-4	28.40
Dick Timmer	Illinois	6 th	1-4	27.20

CLASS (D)

Jason Smith	Tipton	1 st	4-1	26.40
Jason Clark	Monticello	2 nd	3-2	36.40
Sheryl Mason	Grinnell	3 rd	3-2	21.20
Ken Cook	Cedar Rapids	4 th	2-3	34.40
Richard Shepardson	Iowa City	5 th	2-3	28.80
Danny Sease	Des Moines	6 th	1-4	16.40

CLASS (E)

Vern McGrath	Dubuque	1 st	4-1	14.80
John Peterson	Coralville	2 nd	3-2	27.60
Dean Fortune	Des Moines	3 rd	3-2	26.80
Steve Jackson	Grandview	4 th	3-2	21.60
Ralph Davis	Ankeny	5 th	2-3	23.60
Ron Swartzendruber	Iowa City	6 th	0-5	14.80

CLASS (F)

Leona Gaines	Mt. Vernon	1 st	5-0	15.20
Lee Drewelow	Independence	2 nd	4-1	15.60
Alan Duffy	Dubuque	3 rd	3-2	16.00
Paul Clark	Marshalltown	4 th	2-3	10.00
Nathan Duffy	Dubuque	5 th	1-4	7.60
Mike Fishnick Jr.	Dubuque	6 th	0-5	6.40

Clinton *From Rollie & Phyllis Von Thun:*

Phyllis pulled a rain-out again for the Clinton tournament. The rain was badly needed, but it was too bad. This would have been Phyllis' 20th year of either helping or putting on the tournaments. Whether there will be anymore, we will have to see. It is not as much fun if you can't go to the other tournaments and play. We miss seeing everyone.

p.s. We have a portable court set for sale. 563/259-8072 or cell 563/212-8072.

Charles City *From Russ Martin:*

I want to thank the pitchers for doing all my after tournament chores in the rain while I'm sitting in the back seat of the car getting the results of our almost-finished tournament. That is the first time I ever did the book work in the car, but there wasn't much choice. This sure makes the indoor tournaments look very inviting. I had the table set up behind the building out of the wind for Izzy to work but it was still too cold and windy. She moved to the car to continue her work. When the rains came, there was nowhere to go but the back seat.

I want to thank Izzy for her work and also Faith Walters for helping Iz. I have always made jokes about living so far North that we wear winter underwear year around. Now I'm afraid you are going to believe me. Danny, the sun really does shine some times - - this year we had knee-high corn the 6th of June.

I thank all of you for coming so far on a cold rainy day. You came from Des Moines, Ankeny, Marshalltown, Nevada, Eldora, Dows, Garner and Nora Springs. We had a total of fourteen pitchers. Years ago this was one of the biggest tournaments in the State along with Mason City (60 -70 pitchers every year). Now Mason City is history.

The 14 players brought to mind how I came to be hosting this tournament 20 miles from home. In 1983, I got a league together in my town and we had 14 players and had a very fun year. The next Spring I called a meeting and I was the only one that showed. Believe me, that doesn't give a guy much confidence. So I started going to Charles City and have been there every year since.

Thanks again all you folks. You're a great bunch of friends!

- - your 2" short of a ringer friend, Russ Martin