

WISCONSIN HORSESHOES

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 4 AUGUST — SEPTEMBER 2008 CIRCULATION: 328

2008 WORLD TOURNAMENT REPORT

Sue Snyder and Alan Francis Repeat as World Champions



2008 World Champions

Women	Sue Snyder (KY)	19-1	86.30%
Men	Alan Francis (OH)	19-0	89.35%
Junior Girls	Abby Green (OH)	5-0	59.89%
Senior Women	Rivers Prewette (NC)	5-0	80.97%
Junior Boys	Michael Bowman (MO)	10-1	72.60%
Senior Men	Ron Deckard (FL)	10-1	65.95%
Elders	Herschel E Walters (IN)	10-1	77.37%
Cadets (not pictured)	Brian Knupp (PA)	6-1	39.92%

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GEORGE MORAZA, CLASS CHAMP



The only World Class Champ from Wisconsin is **George Moraza**, who took the honors in Class I-1, going 11-4 and pitching 31.33%, followed by five other pitchers with a 10-5 record. Included in the 10-5 group was **Dick Hansen**, who finished fifth on ringer percentage.

(Continued on p.4)

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New!

UPCOMING EVENTS

		Entry	D/L	Contact Person
Aug 2	Arkdale Doubles (110 cap %) (28-08-033)	TBA	7/18	Marv Bennett
Aug 9-10	Little Bull Falls Log Jam Festival (28-08-036)	\$15	7/26	Randy Rein
Aug 16	Green Bay Open (28-08-037)	\$16	8/2	Steve Wiegert
Aug 16-17	Platteville Open (28-08-038)	\$16	8/2	Norm Mauthe
Aug 30-Sep 1	State Tournament @ Mosinee (28-08-045, 46)	\$25	7/31	John Secord
Sep 6-7	Wet 'n Wild (28-08-047)	\$10	8/25	Jane Smith
Sep 6-7	VFW Doubles Combined Locks (Unsanct.)	\$25/ team	8/30	Don Navarrete
Sep 21	Beloit Doubles (Unsanct.)	\$24	9/12	Earl Paulson
Sep 20-21	The No Reason @ Arena (28-08-048)	\$18	9/9	Ed Wheeler
Oct ?	Marengo Doubles & Singles (28-08-049, 50)			Steve Stevens
Oct 11-12	Fall Singles @ Beloit (28-08-0??)	\$18	10/1	Earl Paulson
Oct 18	Fall Meeting @ 1:00pm at the Delton Sportsman's Club, 9602 Berry Rd, Lake Delton			
Oct 25-26	Deansville Singles (28-08-0??)	\$15	10/1	Rudy Van Fleet
Nov 1-2	Autumn Harvest @ Beloit (28-08-0??)	\$18	10/22	Earl Paulson
Nov 8-9	Fall Classic @ Arena (28-08-0??)	\$18	10/28	Ed Wheeler
Dec 6-7	Deansville Open (28-08-0??)	\$15	11/29	Rudy Van Fleet
Dec 6-7	Snowflake @ Beloit (28-08-0??)	\$18	11/27	Earl Paulson
Dec 13-14	Santa's Singles @ Arena (28-08-0??)	\$18	12/3	Ed Wheeler

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Please notify
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of all changes
and/or
corrections.

**Advertise
your
tournament!**

Contact
Jane Smith
for details.

Deadline to enter the horseshoe pitching competition for the Wisconsin Senior Olympics is August 10th. See page 6 for details.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

- by Tom Steinke



Back in May, Penny Steinke talked with me about setting up horseshoe pits at a New Berlin grade school. At first, I didn't know what to think about it. When the day finally came, I took off of work, went to the school and set up the pits. I used flags for the 20', 30', and 40' foul lines. At about 9:30am, 15 to 20 kids came out, all 9 year olds, except one 8 and one 10 year old. Penny started out by giving a presentation on horseshoes and the rules. After that, she pitched two shoes, a double. The kids just stood there quiet and watched the shoes fly through the air. Then they jumped up and down, applauding and cheering. After that, all kids pitched two shoes from 20'. They were cheering each other on, and were so excited about trying. After the kids were all done, they wanted to see shoes thrown from 40'. I wasn't sure how I was going to do, but here goes. I had both shoes in the pit, one being a ringer. The kids cheered, jumped, and applauded. To them I was the greatest pitcher ever (it shows that you can fool some of the people some of the time). We were there about 3-1/2 hours, holding eight classes for about 150 kids.

I know most of you will never have a chance to do this, but it was a really fun day. Just seeing all the kids and how excited they were was worth the trip. About half-way through, a little girl walked up to me and gave me a thank you card from her class and a large Kit Kat candy bar. They really appreciated the demonstration, and who knows? Maybe some day we will see some of those kids pitching.

I forgot to mention that all teachers had to pitch two shoes also. Even my wife was forced to throw a couple. The kids loved it!

See you all at State in Mosinee.

Good Pitching,
Tom 



WORLD TOURNAMENT (CONT.)

Mens Championship

Alan Francis won the Mens division again this year. Former champ, Brian Simmons (RI) gave him a run. Going into the last game, they faced each other, neither had lost a game. Francis was gentle but firm as he bested Simmons 42 to 16 in just 56 shoes with an 88% game. This is number 14 for Francis, and he did it in style, breaking the record for an entire World Tournament average, held by Elmer Hohl since 1968. The new record is now a stunning 89.35%.

Ken Heinritz was the only Wisconsin participant in this division. He jumped in the ring swinging, knocking off Walter Ray Williams Jr. in the first game, pitching 70%. Was the excitement too much? From there, he went into a dive winning only two of the remaining 18 games. He finished 19th, but he was IN the Championship class of the World!

Womens Championship

Sue Snyder (KY) and Sylvianne Moisan (Quebec) pitched themselves into a corner. Moisan upset the leader in the last game forcing a play-off. Snyder came back to win in 124 shoes, pitching 88.7%. For the entire tournament, Snyder marked up 86.3%.

Yes, Wisconsin's Gert Wilcziek was right there, placing fifth in the World with a 12-7 record and 73.6%.

Senior Mens Championship

Ron Deckhard (FL) was beat once by runner-up Bobby Fields (TN) in the final game. His record was 10-1, pitching 65.95%. NHPA President Paul Stewart (NC) finished seventh place with an over-average showing of 60.21%.

Junior Cadets Championship



This division was won by Brian Knupp (PA), losing just one of seven games pitching 39.92%.

Probably the only pitcher in the entire event to exceed his entering average by such extremes was our own Gunnar David. Although his 5-2 record was only good for runner-up, his percentage was 41.62%, better than Knupp's and better than his own entering average of 8.07% by more than four times! He had one game of 62.5%, and he should have won the day.

WORLD TOURNAMENT (CONT)**Wisconsin Placements in Championship Class Play**

Mens	19th	Ken Heinritz	3-16	55.24
Womens	5th	Gert Wilcziek	12-7	73.60
Junior Girls	3rd	Aleena Cook	2-3	41.23
Junior Cadets	2nd	Gunnar David	5-2	41.67

Wisconsin Placements in Class Play

Mens A-1	16th	Mark Mauthe	3-12	51.17
Mens B-1	4th	Ken Heinritz*	10.5-4.5	63.17
Mens C-1	9th	Kerry Morris	7.5-7.5	39.67
Mens C-2	15th	Ken Jaeger Sr	3-12	27.50
Mens C-3	7th	Ray Groskinsky	8-7	42.17
Mens D-2	3rd	Bruce McLinn	9-4	39.62
Mens E-3	11th	Ralph Marthaler	6.5-8.5	36.00
Mens F-1	11th	Norm Beckius	7-8	27.83
Mens G-2	3rd	Terry Sternberg*	11-4	41.00
Mens I-1	1st	George Moraza*	11-4	31.33
Mens I-1	5th	Dick Hansen	10-5	30.50
Mens L-1	2nd	Jim Ganther	11-4	20.83
Mens N-3	2nd	Steve Wallin*	11.5-3.5	19.17
Mens O-1	8th	Randy Ganther	7-8	9.50
Mens O-2	6th	Jay Ganther*	8.5-4.5	13.46
Womens A	6th	Gert Wilcziek	9-6	76.50
Womens D	9th	Edie McKinney	8-7	47.50
Womens G	6th	Gloria Smith	9.5-5.5	40.83
Womens G	14th	Elaine Troullier	4-11	29.67
Elder Mens B	5th	Gene Mason	9-4	58.27
Elder Mens E	4th	Bill Matey	10.5-4.5	49.83
Elder Mens G	13th	John Brugger	5-10	36.17
Elder Mens J	10th	Cliff Troullier	7-8	25.67
Elder Mens K	8th	Russ Burns	7-6	23.85
Junior Girls C	3th	Aleena Cook*	8-6	42.14
Senior Mens E	8th	Jim Tollefson	9-6	33.33
Senior Mens F	2nd	Al Huizenga*	11-4	38.83

* pitched above entering average ☺

BYE, BYE TOURNAMENTS

Here it is the month of July, - by Jim Haupt
and there are no tournaments—

no tournaments (exception: last week)!

The World Tournament has the effect that no tournament director wants to schedule during that period. Why? Only 20 Wisconsin pitchers entered the World. Are the rest of us going to sit and wait? I guess so.

My only association with the World Tournament is to go online for the "World Report," which is fun, but all theirs.

May I suggest that the occurrence of the World is not a good reason to interrupt our WHPA schedule with a couple of blank weekends? We are here, they are there. *Only 20 of 500 pitchers are missing. That's only 4%.* Not a good reason to defer what could be good tournament occasion. Tournament directors, take note. We depend on you to schedule events every week of the year.

Some tournaments are linked with others occurring on the same weekend. This is an opportunity to advertise a couple of those events as a single stand-alone event, although during the World. You are not throwing rocks at the NHPA when you schedule an event during the two weeks of the World, you are providing an outing for the other 480 Wisconsin pitchers who are not traveling on those weekends.

I sincerely hope that next year when the World is in Springfield, Illinois that our tournament directors, the people who drive our game, do not shy away from the World dates. "They also serve who stand and wait." - by poet John Milton, (1608-1674) ☺

EAU CLAIRE MOURNS THE PASSING OF AL LONNING - by Jane Smith

AL Lonning, a founding member of the Eau Claire HSC, passed away in February. He was an avid horseshoe pitcher and promoter, playing a vital role in advertising with the 1987 EC WT and serving on the 2003 WT committee. He was known for his "uff da" comments when things went awry. He also enjoyed woodworking and fishing, and could tell a wonderful fishing tale. Our condolences to his wife, Elaine. ☺

SONIA COOK RUNNING FOR RE-ELECTION

Please accept this as my announcement to run for another term as 3rd Vice President-Junior Scholarship Director this fall. I enjoy this role and monitoring the junior pitchers across the state.

Thank you,
Sonia Cook ☺

PITCHER OF THE YEAR LEADER BOARD

With 43 of 50 events recorded, the race for POY competition for 2008 is nearly complete. Seven events held in June and July still need to be recorded before the winners can be determined.

Listed in alphabetical order:

Awards Ceremony

Winners will be recognized at the State Tournament in Mosinee.

The awards will be presented during the Hall of Fame ceremony, where **John Udelhofen** will be inducted.

Be at the courts at 12:00 noon, Sunday August 31st.

Division A
(averages > 50%)
Mark Mauthe
John Molling
Randy Rein
Penny Steinke
Gert Wilcziek

Division B
(averages between 35% and 49.99%)
John Garvan
Ed Hack
Kerry Morris
Terry Sternberg
Rowen Swick

Division C
(averages < 35%)
Kevin Brekke
Don Goldsmith
Jim Haupt
Al Huizenga
Al Johnson
Mike Rousseau
Gene Satterstrom
Ed Wheeler

CONGRATS, TOM!



Paying homage to **Tom Costa**, a runaway to Nevada, also took first in his class, M-3, at the World Tournament in York with a record of 15-0 and pitching 39.83%.

CLOSE DOESN'T COUNT (CDC) JUNIOR LEAGUE

- by League Director Jane Smith



The CDC junior league, 16 members strong, pitch in Centuria, WI every Tuesday evening. They are the recipients of a donation by the **Youth Sports Unlimited** organization. This donation bought them league hats and each family received a copy of Penny Steinke's *The ABC's of Horseshoes*. **Julie Larsen** received a \$175 scholarship from the NHPA for her excellent grades and dedicated horseshoe pitching.



PITCHERS WANTED FOR WISCONSIN SENIOR OLYMPICS

- by Jim Haupt

The **Wisconsin Senior Olympics** will be played on Thursday, September 4th, rain date, Friday. Each participant will play five games of 20-shoe count-all in a round robin format, which is about an hour and thirty minutes of easy pitching. The Washington Park Club will be hosting the event.

Gold, silver and bronze medals are awarded in three divisions; Mens, (40') Womens, and Elders (30'). Scheduled pitching times will be mailed.

Should one desire to enter the Senior Olympics, there are also many other events in which to compete. The cost is \$30 for general entry, horseshoes included, extra for events like bowling and golf. After the July 31st, it's \$35, after August 10th, \$50. Includes the T-shirt of the year and the opportunity to attend the banquet. You must be over 50 years old. Contact WI Sr. Olympics by phone, 262-821-4444 or email info@wiseniorolympics.com. Do it soon to avoid late fees.

BELOIT ENCORE

- by Jim Haupt

The most impressive thing about the Encore tournament is the building, the court layout, and the fact that the host Beloit Club leases Telfer for a solid month.

Look it over. It's a World-class setup, and won't be equaled even at some World tournaments. It must be that green carpeting making it look so nice, providing good separation of courts, too. Yes, its similar to a World Tournament only not so crowded and not as expensive to boot.

We saw a few Team World pitchers working out for their forthcoming contest. With 18 teams this year, it will be a treat to see the pros again.

Seems that all Beloit tournament stats are done on the computer. More than a few can handle the job. Fortunately, **Jimmy Paulson** has developed programs for team tournaments as well.

Put the Encore on your list of tournaments to pitch. It is possible to accommodate well over 200 pitchers over the two day weekend.

A real surprise arose while stopping for gas. When we left Milwaukee, the price posted was \$3.79/gal. The Super America station in Beloit was pumping at \$3.45/gal. Wow! That's 34 cents per gallon, \$5 saving for a fill-up.

The Beloit Club, known for a great concession stand, has upgraded the simple hamburger. **Dan "The Hockey Puck" Lessman** says he no longer buys the ready-made variety and now makes his own. Cooked on the grill, they are delicious. ☺

Jim Haupt says:

Do not be reluctant to express your opinions on these pages. We have never hired a hit-man, as yet.



BELOIT ENCORE RESULTS MAY 3-4, 2008

- by Jimmy Paulson

Walt Houck won Class A with his highest percentage, breaking the four-way tie for first place.

Championship Class

Randy Rein	5-0	71.20
Jesse Garza	4-1	62.80
Penny Steinke	3-2	60.00

Class A

Walt Houck	3-2	47.60
Jeff Gustafson	3-2	46.80
Don Goldsmith	3-2	42.80
Dutch Rittweger	3-2	55.33

Class B

Lawrence Fettes	7-0	45.00
Rowen Swick	6-1	32.14
Kerry Morris	4-3	41.07

Class C

Daniel Lessman	6-1	43.93
Marvin Robers	5-2	31.07
Norm Beckius	4-3	28.93

Class D

Mike Rousseau	6-1	34.64
Ed Wheeler	5-2	30.71
Augie Potter	4-3	35.36

Class E

George Moraza	5-0	31.60
Guy Modde	3-2	27.20
Steve Kampmeier	3-2	26.40

Class F

Danielle Rakstad	5-2	26.43
Scott Linhart	5-2	24.64
Tom McGavock	4-3	19.64

Class G

James Gaspers	6-1	33.21
Ann Murray	5-2	21.79
Rick Borgwardt	4.5-2.5	32.50

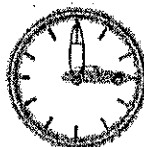
Class H

John Gordon	5-2	21.43
Jim Mazan	5-2	20.00
Pete Rockers	4-3	21.07

Class I

Rondi Mengelt	5-0	9.60
Barb Ramquist	3-2	8.40
Ron Ramquist	2-3	12.80

For complete results and photos, go to teamworldhorseshoe.com ☺



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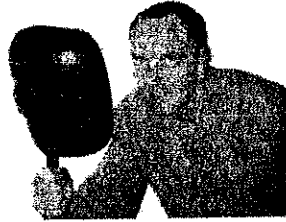
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BEHIND THE MASK WITH KEN HEINRIZ

The year was 2001. The place was Hibbing, MN. The event was the World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament. At the practice courts, excited to try out my newly purchased red



Original Imperials, I bound for the courts to warm up for the five matches that ensued later in the day. With shovel in hand, the dry clay was worked into an ideal soft condition. Out of the corner of my eye peers a colorful figure, decked out in what looked like a bumblebee suit, yellow and black. This classy individual parked his dolly containing four horseshoe carrying boxes on the court right next to me. Peculiar as this sight was, a stranger thing happened as my new red shoes caught his eye. Down and back I went with this unusual onlooker fixing his eyes on my shoes. Without a word, he steps over to my court and bends way over to get a better look at what I was pitching. After enduring two innings of this, I introduced myself to this fellow, hoping he would give me some time to practice without distraction. It was not to be, as he desired to try my shoes in exchange for his. I never heard of his brand "Tyson Swingers," and I really didn't care for them, since I didn't get a ringer in eight tries. He, on the other hand, was enthralled with my Imperials and offered his pair of Tyson Swingers in a trade for my brand new shoes. I quickly stated, "No deal, I really don't care for your shoes." He said "Too bad," and told me the offer for a trade would stand until evening when he pitches.

Later, enjoying a bite to eat at a picnic table with my family (including Shady, our black Lab) and **Jim Haupt**, I mentioned to Jim the unusual event that happened earlier. No sooner had I finished the story when I see this guy get out of his car. Elbowing Jim to know who he was, Jim says, "Are you kidding, everybody knows **Art Tyson**. He is one of the top pitchers year after year. You should have made the deal." While kicking myself, Art notices me and yells over, "Ken, the deal is still on, one last chance." Believe it or not, I made the trade for his horseshoes, bearing his name. As he happily walked away, he turned back stating that if he makes the championship class, he gets that black dog.


Sure enough, he made the class for the 21st time in his previous 24 years. Did he get my dog? My wife told him "Over my dead body."

In the Championship round, after completing a match against our very own **Randy Rein**, he sees me in the crowd and grabs a brand new pair of Tyson Swingers, carries them to the bleachers and hands them to me, saying again, thank you. Two pair now of his Tyson Swingers.

The enjoyment gained at a World Tournament, both in competition and experiences are memories to be carried forever.

As I gear up for this years World, would you believe that the number one seeded guy in my class is Art Tyson? I can't wait to play this unforgettable fellow.

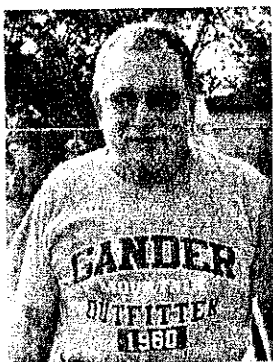
God's Word states, "Do not boast about tomorrow, For you do not know what a day may bring forth."

Proverbs 27:1 

NEW & OLD FRIENDS IN OAK CREEK TAVERN LEAGUE - by Jim Haupt

When subbing in a Thursday night league at Legion Post 434 in

Oak Creek, I met or re-met some pitchers I recalled from years past. The first was **Ron Kmiecik** from the Pitchin' Palace days and he's in good shape now




after undergoing a few body alterations. He said that **Frank Look**, who built these six courts, is in bad shape, without further explanation.

Hank Zeisse was there, still pitching ringers at the age of 92. I saw **Joe Lipperer**, a former Washington Park Pitcher, still pitching from 40 feet. **George Moraza**, who pitches on **Ray Lopez's** team, came toting his first place trophy from the York World. **Mark Nord**, former Goldendale Member, was throwing his good-looking 1-3/4.

He's in the wine business now with a couple of outlets on the South end of Milwaukee. There are a few women in the league, including, **Pam Aiken**, undoubtedly the cream of the league. **Dave Palmershiem**, a WHPA pitcher, plays with the Lopez team.

They play team doubles, six on a team, 21 point games and six games a night.

These pitchers are no slouches, I think I will put my bid in to join them. 

EAU CLAIRE EARLYBIRD RESULTS MAY 10, 2008

- by John Dolezel, ECHSC Publicity Man

After a cool start, the day warmed to provide decent weather for the tournament. Forty-six pitchers competed one six-person and five eight-person classes.

Doesn't that woman ever lose? **Gert Wilcziek** claimed first place in Class A, winning all seven games with a 77.9% average. Four pitchers finished with 4-3 records. **Vince Jakel**, 54.6%, edged out **Bert Logsdon** (MN), 52.9% for second place.

Harold Bischel, 39.6%, narrowly missed a sweep in Class B with a 6.5-0.5 record, followed closely by **James Sheehan's** 47.9%, 6-1. **Gloria Smith** claimed third at 4-3, 36.4%.

Lonny Trangsrud, a new Eau Claire Club member, took first in Class C at 6-1, 31.4%. **Les Karpziel**, who had high ringer average in the class at 42.5%, came in second at 5-2, while **Dean Chaffee**, another new Eau Claire Club member took third at 4.5-2.5, 29.6%.

In Class D, **Jerry Schroeder** easily took first at 7-0, 37.5%. **Robin Constance** came in second at 5-2, 28.9%, while our own **Elly McCarn** edged out **David Paul** for third by ringer percent at 4-3, 26.1%.

Ryan Anderson, grandson of the veteran left-hander Bob Anderson, returned to the courts with a bang after several years off, sweeping Class E at 7-0, 31.4%. **Ron Wiese**, (Club President **Paul Wiese's** dad) won second place by ringer percent, 23.2%, over **Ted Rohde's** 18.2%. Both had 4-3 records.

In the six-person Class F, **Phil Roeser** took first place at 4-1, 12%. **John Ranzenberger**, also at 4-1, 9.6%, took second place. The two agreed not to play off for first. **Jay Ganther** came in third, 3-2, 10.4%.

It was nice to see a good sized group of our friends from Minnesota participating in the tournament. ☺

Check out the WHPA online!

<http://members.tripod.com/whpa>

WALTER RAY WILLIAMS JR. A VISITS GOLDENDALE CLUB

- by Goldendale Club President Jenny McTavish



Goldendale Club President Jenny McTavish

Six-time World Champion **Walter Ray Williams Jr.** visited the Goldendale Horseshoe Club in Germantown on Monday, June 9, 2008.

He had called **Dick Hansen**, NHPA secretary, looking for nearest clay-court setup.

After warmly greeting **Susie Priztlaff**, his everlasting fan and owner/operator of the Lone Star Tavern (home of the Goldendale courts), Williams headed outside to practice.

Lorraine Sternberg, NHPA 3rd Vice President, along with various Goldendale Club members were on hand to greet and watch the talented pitcher. Williams pitched 100 shoes with what spectators called "amazing accuracy."

Was he practicing for the World? Rumor has it he again pitched left-handed. Serious business it was. He was unwilling to stop and pose for a picture. ☺

OBSERVATIONS FROM THE WOLF RIVER OPEN MAY 31, 2008 - by Jim Haupt

Used to be we went to the Wolf River in spring for the wall-eye run, now it's for horseshoes. Not to be missed, it's one of the best tournaments on the circuit. Tournament Director **Ken Jaeger** makes sure visitors, win or lose, have a good time.

Saw some new faces, along with the old familiar crew. **John Meyer** of Fond du Lac says his local paper had a nice article on horseshoes and it had some effect. More pitchers have turned out at the Fond du Lac courts. Eagle River's tournament director **Cliff Erickson**, along with **Art Collien**, also showed up.

Kenny Jaeger Jr. also made an appearance, proving he retains some interest in the game. **Kathy Jaeger** did not make the scene but her work did. We enjoyed the ham and brats from the Nescos.

You know it's a laid-back tournament when you don't know who will accept your score slip. Sometimes other pitchers, like **Cliff** or **Ray Groskinsky** may be marking the board.

Take note of the performance turned in by **Darryl Hintz** of Merrill, 41%! For sure he won't pitch in that lower class again.

Where the heck is New London anyway? One old timer put on a bunch of extra miles getting there. Found the route home to be shorter by 25 miles. Gotta watch for the right exits. ☺

KEN KOSKY MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT

With a name like that, how could you go wrong? Little Bull Falls Park was the place. Four nice courts in a grove of trees. Worth the trip to Mosinee.

The club showed their versatility with **John Molling** and **Ivan Ruzic** aptly taking over the reins of tournament directors. Saturday morning when the low class played, we had a rain shower. No worry, we sat down for a half hour and let it rain. The sand courts were not affected. The full concrete walkways were a welcome sight after the rain. Hope the rest of the day was fair.

The city must have been digging in the area, as there was a layer of sand fill throughout woodlands. Beautiful grounds, only wish there were four more courts.

The top seed in "A" class came a day early. Former Wisconsinite, **Bert Logsdon**, now of Minnesota, got a little mixed up and arrived a day early from 175 miles away. He stuck around anyway, looking forward to some practice shoes with Molling. Hope he found a bunk for the night.

The advent of these new courts has attracted some new blood. Great to meet a few pitchers new to the game and apparently mostly local. They are interested!

There is no permanent horseshoe structure on site, only the modern rest rooms. The (mostly) guys of Little Bull Falls set up a tent-like shelter to house tournament operations.

One other nice feature was that hot dogs and burgers were served on a donation basis. Satisfied most, even made it taste better to do your bit. ☺



Two-For-Two
Ivan Ruzic repeats as winner of the 2nd Annual Ken Kosky Memorial (with Bill Matey, left, and Bert Logsdon, right)

- Stats by Randy Rein, Story by Jim Haupt

Class A

Ivan Ruzic	6-1	56.4
Bill Matey	6-1	55.7
Bert Logsdon	4-3	51.7

Class B

Mark Stevens	5-2	43.9
Dave Ninnemann	5-2	41.07
Jerry Niemuth	4-3	45.0

Class C

Bob Gregorich	7-0	54.28
Willis David	5.5-1.5	42.85
Art Collien	4-3	41.78

Class D

Terry Schaeetzke	7-0	35.3
Dennis Wegner	5-2	32.1
Ken Davison	4-3	31.4

Class E

Dennis Wegner	6-1	31.7
Sylvia David	5-2	27.1
Thomas Dudenhoefer	5-2	23.9

KEN HEINRITZ... ON DEFEATING WALTER RAY WILLIAMS JR.

"How about that! Game One of the Championship Class, I get pitted against **Walter Ray Williams Jr.** With a big crowd on hand, I was shaking in my boots. When I started the game with two doubles matched up to his singles, I decided that I could take him. All the other games of round one finished, so the crowd had escalated. I believe the game lasted 70 shoes and while WRW was fit to be tied, he did sincerely congratulate me after the game.

After the entire tournament was over, he razed me about pitching 55% while I pitched a 70% against him. I enjoyed every moment of that experience, believe me! ☺

The Little Bull Falls HSC
Courts at River Park
in Mosinee



EAU CLAIRE OPEN RESULTS JUN 8, 2008

- by ECHSC Publicity Man John Dolezel

It was almost like Hillary Clinton dodging bullets as she ran for cover! I called Tournament Director **Paul Wiese** at 7:30 Sunday morning and with a steady rain falling, we agreed the tournament would have to be cancelled, so I went to church at 8:00 a.m. Upon leaving church an hour later the rain had about stopped so I went to the courts to see what was happening. Much to my surprise all pitchers scheduled to pitch were there, many from out of town. When Paul asked what they wanted to do, all said "Let's pitch!"

Of course the pits were full of water so everyone grabbed sponges, shovels and dry clay. The group scheduled to pitch at 9:00am had the courts in playable condition and pitching began at 10:00am. The rain held off so both shifts were able to complete all games. Less than one-half hour after the last shoe was thrown, the rain began again. Somebody Up There likes us!

Some highlights: Class A played 40-point games, and to no one's surprise **Gert Wilcziek** won all 5 games with a 79.2% average. Also, I was told that this was **Vince's Sheehan's** 29th consecutive year of pitching in Eau Claire's Open Tournament! **Laurie Dolezel** continues to improve with each tournament, taking first place in Class D.



**Tournament Officials
Rob Rehm and Paul Wiese**



**Steve Stevens and his sister
watching brother Mark
Stevens on the courts.**

Class A

Gert Wilcziek	5-0	79.2
Crystal Sheehan	4-1	64.3
Dick Dvorak	2-3	57.3

Class B

Dave Schorbahn	5-0	49.6
Vince Jakel	3-2	56.3
James Sheehan	3-2	46.4

Class C

Mark Stevens	5-0	54.0
Gloria Smith	3-2	46.8
Dave Ninnemann	3-2	42.0

Class D

Laurie Dolezel	4-1	39.2
Del Karsjens	3-2	34.0
Dean Chaffee	3-2	27.2

Class E

George Eckstrom	5-0	23.0
Robin Constance	4-1	25.0
Tom Dudenhoefter	3-2	16.5

Class F

Ron Wiese	5-0	38.5
Jim Ganther	4-1	22.0
Katie Sheehan	3-2	19.0

Class G

Steve Wallin	5-0	18.5
Paul Wiese	3.5-1.5	18.0
Charles Roeser	3-2	11.5

Class H

Jay Ganther	3-0	10.0
Jeff Jakel	2-1	4.7
Caryn Davis	1-2	2.0

It was great to see families pitching in the Eau Claire Open:

- **Jim Ganther** and sons **Rod, Randy** and **Jay**, plus grandson **Brady Reetz**, and in-laws **Steve Wallin** and **Caryn Davis**.
- **Mary Ann** and **James Sheehan** and their daughters **Katie** and **Crystal**.
- **Paul Wiese** and his dad **Ron**.
- **Dave Semingson** and his dad **Merrill**.
- **John Dolezel** and his daughter **Laurie**.
- **Jeff Jakel** and his dad **Vince**.
- Are **Jim Heim** and **John Brophy** really brothers??

We would like to express our appreciation to all who worked so hard to get the courts in playable condition so the tournament could be held. ♪



BELOIT SPRING SINGLES RESULTS JUN 7-8, 2008

- Stats by Jimmy Paulson, Story by Jim Haupt

Beloit and the Downpour

Beloit opened their outdoor season spring event by shifting the games to inside. It looked like rain, smelled like rain, but never did. Throughout the day Saturday we heard sirens and weather warnings. Barometric pressure? Who knows, but it was muggy.

Someone mopped the tile floor, and it never dried, just stayed constantly wet. The inside weather at Red's Palace was warm. The sirens kept sounding, and finally the lights went out. Good thing the computer was on battery backup.

Dan Lessman and John Garvan pitched their final shoes in the dark, with the only light coming from the open overhead door (which had to be raised manually). Lessman out-pointed Garvan for his last win, taking first place.

The real excitement of the day for me came on the drive home. Thunder showers of pelting rain made for poor visibility. At times, standing water made for a wake. And then the freeway was closed due to an underpass lake. Traveling by car was treacherous. Southern Wisconsin was experiencing some of the heaviest rain ever. Flashflood warnings were issued.

Arriving home we found 4.5 inches in the rain gauge and it wasn't over. The entire weekend was rainy.

Good thing that Beloit has an alternate choice of courts. ☹

Class A

Mark Mauthe	5-0	63.20
Jesse Garza	4-1	58.40
Paul Wilson	3-2	47.60

Class B

John Koepp III	4-1	49.20
Kerry Morris	4-1	39.20
Rowen Swick	3-2	44.00

Class C

Daniel Lessman	6-0	36.25
Jim Tollefson	4-2	41.25
LaVere Roesslein	4-2	29.58

Class D

Steve Kampmeier	5-1	36.25
Russ Burns	5-1	35.00
Mike Rousseau	5-1	34.17

Class E

Larry Fettes	6-0	32.08
Danielle Rakstad	5-1	29.58
Kevin Brekke	3-3	16.67

Class F

Jerry Smith	5.5-0.533	33
Allen Johnson	5-1	31.25
Tom Steinke	4-2	20.83

Class G

Jim Haupt	4-1	24.00
William Wordel	4-1	23.20
Chuck Wells	3-2	15.20

EAGLE RIVER OPEN RESULTS JUN 7-8, 2008

This was the eighth year of the Eagle - by Susie Erickson

River Open, held the Vilas County Fairgrounds, with 28 players in four classes. The tournament director, **Cliff Erickson**, was stressing about who was going to play in what class. Even though the entry date passed, he needed more players. The week before the tournament, he went down to New London and recruited a few more.

On Saturday morning, it looked like the skies were going to open up on this tournament. But like it has for most of the year, it blew right on by. Not so lucky south of here though. Everyone coming up from the south drove through the rain, but by the 9:00 start time, it was all gone and let's git 'er done.

Class A

Randy Rein	6-1
Ray Groskinsky	5-2
Art Collien	4.5-2.5

Class B

Jerry Niemuth	6-1
Ken Schumann	6-1
Gary Wegner	5-2

Class C

Art Collien	7-0
Bernie Sopinski	5-2
Jim O'Loughlin	4-3

Class D

Susie Erickson	5-0
Randy Benaszkeski	4-1
Dustin Duerr	3-2

All 28 players braved the high price of gas to come play in our Northwoods tournament and a great time was had by all. Thanks to all who participated in our tournament and a sincere thanks to all who helped out.

P.S. Maybe Dick Hansen (Susie's cousin) will come next year?? ☹

Did You Know? The Rock and Crawfish rivers were still above flood stage in Jefferson and Rock counties into mid-July 2008.

MUSKEGO OPEN RESULTS JUN 14, 2008

The New Muskego Moose

- Stats by Pam Aiken, Story by Jim Haupt

The Muskego Moose Lodge is new. A country-club atmosphere infects the horseshoe tournament. The new Moose Lodge building is a gem.



Dave Palmersheim releases his shoe, with Wayne Franzen

Through the windows, we could see the elegant dining room set up for a wedding reception. Gone are the falling down buildings, replaced with an asphalt parking lot. The full rear deck is a veranda from which to run the stats and observe all of the first six courts. Six games are easy to watch in detail.

The court area remains the same, 13 in a row, sand and running north-south, and neatly groomed. The courtside bar was replaced with two wandering waitresses taking orders for food as well as beverages of all sorts.

Many of the pitchers, being club members, were wearing their official, lettered club t-shirts. The calm morning turned a little windy for the upper classes in the afternoon. By and large, it was a fair day at Muskego.

Along with their NHPA patch, class champions received an engraved brass medallion as an added reward.

Tournament champion, **Pam Aiken**, treated the deck crowd to an extra game, a playoff with **Jesse Garza**. As we recall, she won in a walk.

Things were a little different on Crowbar Road this year - Impressive.



Class C Champion Glenn Bogenschneider with Tony Scrima

Class A

Pam Aiken	7-1	60.00
Jesse Garza	6-2	52.50

Class B

Glenn Wicklund	4-3	53.57
John Koëpp	2.5-4.5	42.14

Class C

G. Bogenschneider	6-1	35.00
Augie Potter	5.5-1.5	36.79
Jim Tollefson	5-2	37.50

Class D

Dick Hansen	6-1	38.57
David Hansen	5-2	33.21
George Moraza	5-2	32.86

Class E

Debby Schell-Kotnik	6-2	23.75
Karen Henkel	5-3	25.94
Jim Hückabee	4.5-2.5	31.43

Class F

Jim Haupt	7-0	30.36
Steven Grisius	6-1	20.00
David Palmersheim	4.5-2.5	19.29

Juniors

Mary Ann Aiken	3-0	2.85
Abby Aiken	0-3	0.00

ARKDALE RESULTS JUN 21, '08

- Stats by Ray Groskinsky, Story by Jim Haupt

This burg, Arkdale, is near the Adams-Friendship area on Hwy 21, a little west of 13. The courts are located in a Lions Park on the main drag, which also included a ball field. The eight courts, built by the Lions, have the best sand a pitcher will ever encounter. It's a little chalky, like bedding sand. The pitching area is surrounded by a four-foot cyclone-type fence with mature trees on the north side.


I liked the score devices they begged, borrowed, or stole from **Francis Schalk**. They were all metal, so that every move is with a magnet and easy to operate correctly. Only problem was the way the scoreboards faced the courts, not the audience. However, as usual, the audience was minimal. I was glad someone saw that "four dead" we lucked onto.

Ray Groskinsky and **Karen** ran this one without a hitch and it was a nice day.

My class, those with the lowest averages, may have been the toughest class of the one day event. Every pitcher preformed over-average. Ending in a tie, the title went to the best over average-pitcher, **Jarroed Bisch**, presumably a local flipper.

One pitcher, a fellow turn-shoe artist, posed the question, "What would happen if the flip were outlawed?" My reply, "We would miss a hell of a lot of competition."

Groskinsky was right on the mark when he sent out the results over the internet the day after the competition.

Put Arkdale on your list of new places to go. You will enjoy it. 



<u>Class A</u>	
Randy Rein	66.4
Gene Mason	64.8
Ivan Ruzic	54.0
<u>Class B</u>	
Ray Groskinsky	46.8
Jerry Niemuth	40.4
Joe Ellinger	42.0
<u>Class C</u>	
Art Collien	37.2
Joe Peterson	27.9
Marv Bennett	20.8
<u>Class D</u>	
Jarroed Bisch	36.4
Jim Haupt	34.0
Rick Weller	37.2

DOWN & BACK

WITH JIM HAUPT

NHPA historian, **Gary Kline**, passed away March 6, 2008 at Kettering Medical Center in Dayton, Ohio at the age of 60. His death occurred during a medical procedure and was totally unexpected.

Gary will always be remembered as horseshoe pitching's foremost historian. He was personally responsible for uncovering many unknown facts about the early history of our sport. To many of us, his greatest accomplishment was the publication of the book relating the golden years of horseshoe, *The Official N.H.P.A. History of the World Tournament 1909-1980*. Treasure it. - As reported in "The Double Ringer."

Harold Wendorf sends this for you to cogitate upon: a lot of people can't understand how we came to have an oil shortage in this country.


Well, there's a very simple answer. Nobody bothered to check the oil. We just didn't know we were getting low. The reason for that is purely geographical.

Our oil is located in; Alaska, California, coastal Florida, coastal Louisiana, Wyoming, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania and Texas.

Our dipsticks are located in D.C. Any questions? No? Didn't think so.

Milt Larson of West Allis, a short-distance pitcher of Washington Park, suffered small stroke the 28th of May.

After a short round of speech therapy, the good news is he's back on the courts again scoring like nothing ever happened. Rewarding to see an old friend beat the odds.

To any and everybody who has admonished this old man for his refusal to step up to the shorter distance, may I say — *I haven't yet perfected my game at 40 feet.* — So there you have it. 

GOLDENDALE OPEN RESULTS - by Terry Sternberg

JUN 21-22, 2008

It was another beautiful weekend for a horseshoe tournament, even though the entries were down from last year.

Saturday proved to be their day, for some of the pitchers. **Jim Poquette, Cliff Troullier and John Koepf** went undefeated in their respective classes.

On Sunday, **Wayne Franzen**, moving up to thirty feet, won Class F with a 5-0 record. The majority of the class was made up of Golden-dale's league members, pitching in their very first tournament. **Barb Peters** had one great game of 13 ringers and the win, against none other than her hubby, **Lance**.

This year we were honored to have four Junior girls sign up. **Bethany Heinritz** won in a double round robin with a 6-0 record. Bethany received a trophy and **Nicole, Heather and Christina** each got a medallion.

In Class A, **Ken Heinritz** had a great day, winning in a three way tie of 4-1 record, by pitching high average of 57.98 %. **Penny Steinke** and **Mark Mauthe** got their games in before the rain came, while the others had 10 shoes left when the tournament was called.

The raffle on the Golf Ball game BOLO was won by **Karen Henkel**.

Thanks to everyone for entering and hope you all had a good time. ☺

Class A

Ken Heinritz	4-1	57.98
Mark Mauthe	4-1	57.20
Lorraine Sternberg	4-1	53.39

Class B

John Knopp	5-0	47.20
Glenn Bogenschneider	4-1	41.20
Steve Wiegert	3-2	33.20

Class C

Cliff Troullier	6-0	31.67
Dick Hansen	4-2	30.83
Terry Sternberg	3-3	29.58

Class D

Debby Schell-Kotnik	5-0	30.80
John Secord	3-2	27.60
Tom Steinke	3-2	26.00

Class E

Jim Poquette	5-0	22.00
Jenny McTavish	3-2	24.00
Tricia Ryan-Tellier	2-3	22.00

Class F

Wayne Franzen	5-0	28.00
Jim Haupt	4-1	23.20
Steven Schwartz	3-2	11.20

Class Jr. Girls

Bethany Heinritz	6-0	11.11
Nicole Feavel	3-3	5.00
Heather Feavel	2-4	6.11
Christina Heinritz	1-5	3.89

WOW!

John Secord shoed-up for the event, making this the 27th time he's pitched the Goldendale Open, every one since the beginning.

MARSHFIELD OPEN RESULTS

JUN 14, 2008

- by TDs Dan and Sylvia David

This tournament boasts that five of seven current State Champions: **Gene Mason, Gert Wilcziek, Randy Rein, Aleena Cook and Gunnar David**. Everyone enjoyed good pitching in Marshfield.

Class A

Gert Wilcziek	5-0	67.6
Gene Mason	3.5-1.5	64.8
Vince Jakel	3-2	57.6

Class B

Bun Carley	6-0	49.1
Mark Stevens	4-2	42.5
Bob Gregorich	3-3	40.8

Class C

Kiri Cook	7-0	41.78
Sonia Cook	6-1	34.28
Aleena Cook	5-2	34.28

Class D

Mitch Littlegeorge	6-1	32.1
Tava Cook	5-2	34.3
Shorty Wolf	4-3	26.8

Class E

Gunnar David	6-1	26.07
Paul Wiese	5.5-1.5	18.57
Craig David	5-2	15.35

Usually plagued by ties to force play-offs, this year there were none. However, there was an interesting "tie" in other ways. Three members of the **Cook** family, **Sonia, Tava and Aleena**, each pitched 34.28%.

There was laughter and smiles among friends all day long. Hope to see you all back next year. ☺

COMING IN THE NEXT ISSUE:

- State Tournament Results from Mosinee, WI
- Indoor Pitching Schedule
- Outline of Proposals for the Fall State Meeting
- Your contributions!

Visit <http://wihorseshoes.com> for full tournament results.

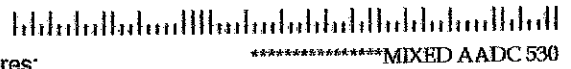
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Here's a glance at upcoming events, through October 2008:

Date	Event	D/L
Aug 9-10	Little Bull Falls Log Jam Festival	7/26
Aug 16	Green Bay Open	8/2
Aug 16-17	Platteville Open	8/2
Aug 30-Sep 1	State Tournament @ Mosinee	7/31
Sep 6-7	Wet 'n Wild	8/25
Sep 6-7	VFW Doubles Combined Locks	8/30
Sep 21	Beloit Doubles (unsanctioned)	9/12
Sep 20-21	The No Reason @ Arena	9/9
Oct ?	Marengo Doubles & Singles	?
Oct 11-12	Fall Singles @ Beloit	10-1
Oct 18	Fall Meeting @ Delton Sportsman's Club	
Oct 25-26	Deansville Singles	10/18



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