

NEW
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BILLIARD NEWS

THE FULL SERVICE PUBLICATION OF THE BILLIARD INDUSTRY

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PUHKA SEZ . . .

A tip of the Puhka Pool Cue to Andy Tobin of PRSN, whose tireless efforts for Billiards produce such great stuff as the Plimpton Pool Party.

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Plimpton Throws A Pool Party



It's too bad we can't duplicate the voice in print, as Howard Cosell exclaims "What a shot — what a shot. I can't believe he executed such a difficult test of dexterity and coordination with

such poise and perfection." From the look on Mizerak's face, he's not so sure he did. — Photo by Jill Krementz.

A National Billiard News Special from Public Relations Sports Network

NEW YORK, N.Y. — Last month the ancient sport of pool made it big on New York City's fashionable East Side. Thanks to the matchless skill of world champions Steve Mizerak and Willie Mosconi, some 50 members of the "beautiful people" watched enthralled in author George Plimpton's apartment as Steve and Willie took to the pool table.

Among the guests to challenge the pool pros were

Roone Arledge, ABC-TV sports executive producer and Howard Cosell, that man of few words. A few others matched shots with Steve and Willie, then sat back while the champions entertained the party with a dazzling exhibition of billiard skill.

Before the evening had ended it was plain that Roone Arledge had made up his mind: ABC sports should do something **BIG** on pool. Deferring to Willie's seniority no

doubt, Arledge promptly scheduled a black-tie party for the posh New York Athletic Club on Jan. 17, and ordered out the TV cameras.

The result: "Willie Mosconi's Billiard Wizardry" ran on ABC "Wide World of Sports" (180 stations, and 13,000,000 viewers) Sunday afternoon, Feb. 16.

That TV show is a stunning result from just one party, but many be just one of a succession of good things that will

happen because of George Plimpton's pool party for his friends.

Imagine the word-of-mouth created by the Plimpton guest list. Besides Howard and Roone at the affair, were best selling authors Kurt Vonnegut ("Slaughter House Five") and Gay Talese ("Honor Thy Father"), actress Julie Newmar, actors Peter Boyle, Martin Gabel, and Kevin McCarthy, and a wide cross sec-

tion of Fun City's most sophisticated people.

What's the story behind the pool breakout in New York City?

One day last July, Andy Tobin of Chicago's Public Relations Sports Network was in New York City for the Billiard Congress of America. He had made an appointment with Ira Berkow of NEA (who writes a column for 800 newspapers) to meet Steve

(Continued on Page 3)

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Marcellus Tops In South Jersey Handicap Tourney

By **IZZY ESPOSITO**

Woodbury Heights, N.J. — Jack Marcellus won the Third South Jersey Handicap Pocket Billiards Tournament, held at Izzy's Billiards in Woodbury Heights.

The Gloucester lefty posted a record of 18-1, in a field of 20 players. In one of the dramatic moments of the series, he trailed Rick Boyle, 18-70, but came back to win the 100 point game. In winning the top prize of \$100 and a trophy, he lost only to Dave D'Annolfo, and held the high run mark of 44.

Runnerup was Gloria Walker, the only woman player in the match, who holds the Pennsylvania and Empire State women's titles. She and Boyle finished with identical 17-2 records. Down 62-82 in the playoff game of second place, she came back strong to win 100-87. In one the best performances in the tournament, against Don Heverly, she ran 30, 28, 14, and 16 in a single game (88 balls in 4. innings).

Whitey Gaspari and Sandy Bundy tied for fourth place with 15-4 records. Gaspari won the playoff in a tense 100-96 duel.

Playoffs were held to establish rankings for the five top places for which prizes and two trophies were given. Cue sticks were awarded to the 10th and 15th place finishers and, in a unique feature, a cue stick was "Won" by David Miller, of Woodbury Heights, for coming in last. Mayor Donald G. Ley, Jr., presented the prizes and awards.

The tournament began in mid-November and ended January 30. Izzy Esposito characterized his handicapping system as similar to that used in bowling and pointed to the high number of close games as a test of its soundness. He plans to bring another top billiard star to his room soom for an exhibition. The last headliner was former World's and U.S. Open champion Jimmy Caras.

BULL SHOTS

By **BOB MULLEN**



Big things are happening in billiard promotion. In another section of this paper you will read of the George Plimpton Pool Party and of the many famous people who are hypnotized by the balls. An outgrowth of this billiard bash is the presentation of "Willie Mosconi's Billiard Wizardry" on ABC-TV "Wide World of Sports". To quote a press release of the BCA, "The directors of BCA are pleased to announce another opportunity to highlight the sport of pool as it is professionally played via a "Wide World of Sports" program. This program has huge audience appeal, excellent ratings and is directed into homes as well as away from home premises. If you like what you see on TV write ABC-TV and tell them to air more professional pool tournaments and pool programs."

The subtitle is "Willie gives a lesson to Howard Cossell in the fine points of professional pool." Aired Sunday, February 16th at 4:30 Eastern Standard Time. This demonstration of the Great Mosconi's skill and talents was seen on more than 180 stations all across the nation.

This has to be a source of satisfaction to all concerned because of the industries efforts in past to have the U.S. Open televised and the BCA's frustrations after so many disappointments. This is a nation of recreation minded citizens, over 60 million of whom play pool in one form or another. I do want to emphasize the last line of the BCA blurb. **WRITE YOUR LOCAL ABC OUTLET AND TELL THEM HOW MUCH YOU ENJOY THE PROGRAM AND WANT TO SEE MORE POOL AND BILLIARDS ON THE TUBE.**

We received a left handed written letter from Bobby Goff of Biloxi, Miss. Bobby announces a DEEP SOUTH 9 BALL CHAMPIONSHIP, March 31st thru April 4th. With \$2,000.00 in prize money and an entry fee of \$50.00. The games will be played on 3 1/2 x 7 bar tables. For more information contact Mr. Goff, (A/C 601) 432-8288.

I don't make it a practice of plugging many tournaments in this column but I wanted to use the Deep South 9 Ball Tourney to prove a point. Organized billiards and I mean the Billiard Congress of America is missing a very large boat. Bar Pool is not only big in this country but probably has the greatest number of players actively engaged in league type play. In the Detroit area alone there are 6 active bar leagues with a total of 5,700 players, men and women. There may be others that we don't know about but using the Detroit Metro League as an example this is a sample of the scope of what we are not dealing with: There is a total of 450 players, 120 women in-

(Continued on Page 19)

Special Thanks

to New York Photographer

Jill Krementz

for her courtesy in allowing us to reproduce her superb photos of the George Plimpton Pool Party.

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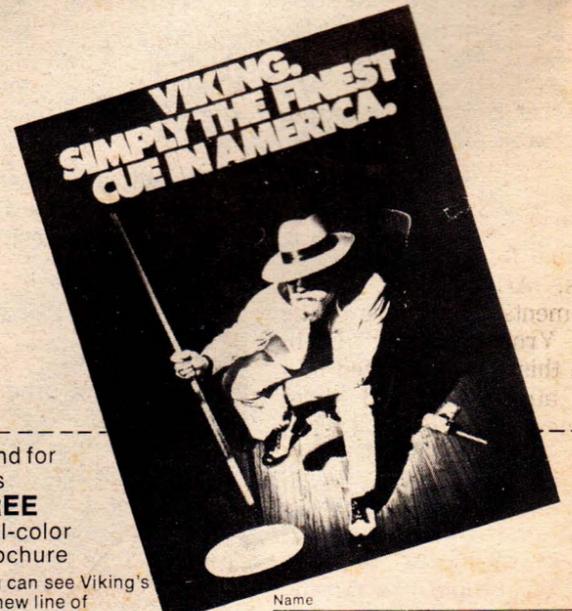
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Plimpton's Posh Pool Party

(Continued from Page 1)

Mizerak and was looking for a Manhattan home with a pool table to stage an exhibition-type interview. There didn't seem to be such a place.

Finally, it was suggested that George Plimpton, who admires sports champions and is a billiards enthusiast with a table in his home, might lend his table to the project. When phoned, Plimpton was immediately enthusiastic about meeting Steve and did not hesitate to offer his apartment and table as the site for the interview.

The meeting was successful and George found it a good opportunity to pick up some timely tips from Steve. The entire incident sparked a party idea for Plimpton who mentioned to Tobin the possibility of having a "pool party for my friends." "Would it be possible for Steve to come, and what about Willie Mosconi — could he possibly be there?" After continuing discussions with Steve and Willie and their sponsors, Brunswick and Ebonite, all persons were agreeable and the party was planned.

January 6, 1975 George Plimpton's apartment was the scene for many of the continent's "Beautiful People" who were intrigued by the unusual party idea. George served his favorite beef stew as a prelude to the pool party.

Even though Willie and Steve did not compete head to head the guests had ample opportunities to observe each play and to talk with the champions.

The national break for billiards was spearheaded by Billiard Congress of America board member Jack Phillips of Ebonite who discussed the sport in depth with Arledge and Cosell and assured the ABC people that the industry would cooperate in anything the network would like to do. Once assured that Willie Mosconi (the living pool legend to millions) would be available for "Wide World of Sports," Arledge made the arrangements for the use of the New York Athletic Club. Again this was conducted in a party atmosphere and about 150 guests arrived in formal attire. It might be added that Willie Mosconi again completely captivated the viewing audience.

When Plimpton greeted Tobin that evening at the NYAC, he looked around the elegant room at the TV trappings and successful turnout, and remarked, "Andy, isn't it wonderful what one phone call will do?"



Checking out the scene, Willie Mosconi surveys the surroundings as he is greeted by host George Plimpton, center, and Howard Cosell,

right, at Plimpton's apartment. Photo by Jill Kremetz

Venzke's View from the Bleachers

By BRUCE VENZKE



Here lies Selma Becker,
For 20 years she preserved her virginity.
A very good record
For this vicinity.

That epitaph has nothing to do with billiards. Not directly at least.

But to me it is an example of the kind of rationalizing and pseudo-progress that we in the world of billiards too often accept routinely. In fact, most of us are probably guilty ourselves of that sort of thinking at one time or another.

Have you ever said: "Well, it's rough, but that's the way it is." Or, "It's far from a good situation, but there isn't anything I can do about it."?

If you have, you are doubtless guilty, too. Because if we really think about it and work at it, there probably are quite a few things we can do about the shortcomings, problems, or failings in and about billiards.

Whoever wrote Selma's epitaph certainly could have thought of something a bit more profound if they had really worked on it. After all, anyone who could do what she did certainly must have accomplished something of note in all the time she saved over the years.

Anyway, the writer may have been guilty of taking the easy way out, and then trying to make it sound good. In some situations, the results may be amusing; in others, very aggravating. Either way, very little is generally gained through taking such a short cut.

It reminds me of those Bad News-Good News stories of a while back. You know: transoceanic flight is 5,000 miles from any land; Captain gets on the mike and says "I have bad news and good news. The bad news is that our fuel is leaking out and we'll ditch in very rough water in 4 minutes. The good news is that we have a strong tail wind and are making excellent time."

Or the Army platoon that's been hung up in the swamp for three weeks with nothing but C-rations, water, and the clothes on their backs. With 90-plus temperatures, everybody has a very distinct odor that's developed about them.

The lieutenant says: "Boys, I have good news and bad news for you. The good news is that you're all getting a change of underwear today. The bad news is that Jones changes with Murphy, Thomas changes with Kowalski. . ."

Anyway, the point is that we must be realistic about what is good, what is bad, and what can be done about things we think need change.

We cannot accept shortcomings through rationalization that it's "not so bad — and not only that, what can I do about it?" Nor can we make unrealistic demands for improvements without contributing our own constructive capabilities and work if necessary.

I refer especially to the plight of the pro pool player; as tough as things may be, no one is going to just rush in with more money and more tournaments on a silver platter.

The promoters can use some help, I'm sure. I'm no Asch, Whalen, or Gerni, but I do know that this game needs all the PR it can get to put it in front of more people, and keep it there. Maybe the players can do a bit more in the way of appearances, interviews, and the like before tournaments to help give a boost. Again, I'd welcome the views of experienced promoters as to what the players can do to help.

Maybe some challenge matches between players, with a bit of leg-work to hype up plenty of attendant hoopla? Or a brief TV spot before a tourney? (With a little pushing, most TV stations will cooperate, especially if a local is involved.) Perhaps the best golfing poolplayer could challenge the best pool-playing golfer to a double match.

In any event, those who are promoters in the game must have ideas. . . perhaps with a bit of urging and some help from players and others, their ideas can become events.

If you've been either rationalizing or demanding, and getting nowhere, give a little of your time and effort to help. This game can grow if enough people work at it. Be one of them; you'll enjoy the game more than even.

Next month we'll explore your responses to the poll in January's issue. Meet me again, up in the bleachers . . . I'll save you a seat.

Brunswick Advisors Say Women Athletes Will Be One in Three By 1980

HOUSTON, Texas — Women's bowling champ Judy Soutar, Kansas City, and billiard star Palmer Byrd, Detroit, said that equality in the school curriculum would make one in three athletes women by 1980.

Young girls are setting the pace for the larger role women will play in sports, according to Brunswick Corporation sports advisors Soutar and Byrd.

"Girls see they can have a career in sports," says Soutar, winner of the 1974 Women's International Bowling Congress Queens Tournament in Houston last June.

"From the court decision allowing our daughters to participate in Little League to Title IX before Congress, little girls are paving the way for equality in sports for their mothers, too," says Soutar.

Title IX, the controversial sex discrimination legislation aimed at schools, is expected to pass in 1975. The Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIW) has assisted in developing the HEW guidelines for the athletics and physical education area of the bill.

Palmer Byrd, 23, who travels around the country giving billiard exhibitions, says women billiard players are on the increase and are getting younger.

"The U.S. Open Women's

Billiard Champion is only 15 years old, and she played in her first Open at age 7," says Ms. Byrd, who sees kids carrying boxes around the table to stand on so they can reach.

"As the kids get interested, people are adding pool tables to game rooms and dens as a matter of course," says Byrd, who didn't take up billiards until her first year in college.

Brunswick led in the design of home billiard tables with women in mind when they introduced tables to match room decor in the early Sixties.

Soutar, who started bowling when she was a moppet of four and appeared in her first WIBC tourney at age nine, says six or seven is the right age for children to start bowling.

Kids are exposed to bowling at a very early age because of television and the baby sitting services in the neighborhood bowling centers, says Soutar. "Youngsters are frequently out of the nursery and onto the lanes at five years of age."

Both Soutar and Byrd are encouraged that more girls will pursue sports as careers because of expanded sports facilities in schools for girls, college tours (like the Pro College Billiard Tour Brunswick sponsored last year), junior tournaments on television, and

the freedom in all areas which women are embracing.

"When I first started playing there were only about two dozen women billiard competitors in the country; now there are more than 50, which means many more hobbists than ever before," says Byrd.

Soutar pointed out that bowling is said to be America's most popular indoor participant sport enjoyed each year by some 52 million people and millions of these are girls and women. Women's International Bowling Congress now has 3.5 million members.

Brunswick, along with other manufacturers of sporting goods, is noting the trend of more — and younger — women in sports by offering a wider variety of athletic clothing for "sportspersons," including body protective apparatus. There is a new line of baseball gloves, golf clubs and other equipment being designed specifically for women, not just scaled-down versions of male equipment.

Brunswick stars Soutar and Byrd, though long on feminine charms, aren't sure how the National Organization for Women will react to one manufacturer whose slogan for its new girls' bat is, "A girl needs to bat more than her eyelashes."

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SOUTHEASTERN OPEN

Stigall Wins 9-Ball Meet



Buddy Hall sits and watches as Bill Stigall drops another 9-ball on his way to the tournament title. Stigall downed Hall and then defeated Howard Barrett to capture 1st place. — Photo, Bill Stigall

By BILL STIGALL

TAMPA, FLA. — The Southeastern Open Nine Ball Tournament got started on Monday, Jan. 6, 1975, with a blind draw.

Buddy Hall — 1974 World's Nine Ball and All-Around Champion was co-favorite along with **Mike Seigel** of Syracuse, New York.

As the draw progressed it was evident that the meet was going to be difficult for one of them. With the players' names placed on the Tournament Board, it was obvious to all present that Bud and Mike would have to meet in their second match.

However, never take anything for granted when playing in a Nine Ball Tournament with loser breaking and one foul, cue ball in hand.

In the first round, with Mike Seigel vs. Steve Carter, a minor upset did take place. Carter defeated Seigel and eliminated the possible match between Hall and Seigel. This

definitely made Hall the favorite.

As Hall progressed along with wins over **Frank Healy**, of Tampa, **Steve Carter** of Arlington, Va., **Gene (The Glove) Catron** of Ind., yours truly was working his way through a rough field. Stigall defeated **Tony (One Eyed Tony) Howard**, 1973 Mississippi Open Nine Ball Champion and runner up here in 1974 to **Steve Cook**, who was not present this year, in a very close match all the way, Stigall winning 11 to 10. Stigall then went on to defeat **Ray St. Laurent** of Ft. Myers, 11 to 5 and **Bob Ogborne** of Arlington, Va. 11 to 7 to set up a match between himself and Buddy Hall.

This match was scheduled for 10:30 Saturday night. The local press and **Walter Tevis**, author of the book, "The Hustler," and writer for **Sports Illustrated**, **Playboy**, and **Atlantic** magazines, were present. The match got started slow with Hall taking an

early lead of 6 to 4. Stigall came back and tied the match at 8 to 8, and went on to win the match 11 to 8 in what I, (Bill Stigall) would call a minor upset.

On the top half of the board some very interesting matches took place. **Richie (Mr. Nine Ball) Ambrose** from Detroit had defeated local player **Joe Smith** from Tampa, and **Randy Brown** from Clearwater, while the eventual 2nd place finisher, **Howard Barrett** was defeating **Tom Cyr** of Orlando and **Pete Motelone** of Tampa. This brought Ambrose and Barrett together with the score 10 for Ambrose, 7 for Barrett, Ambrose overcut the Nine Ball. Ambrose eventually lost the match to Mr. Barrett, 11 to 10.

Barrett defeated **Joey Spaeth (Cincinnati Kid)** to get to the semifinals against Stigall.

On Sunday afternoon, Barrett lost to Stigall sending

(Continued on Page 7)

★ FINAL STANDINGS ★

1st Place — Bill Stigall	\$1,200.00
2nd Place — Howard Barrett	\$ 600.00
3rd Place — Buddy Hall	\$ 250.00
4th Place — Joey Spaeth	\$ 150.00
5th Place — Tom Cyr & Tony Howard	\$ 100.00
6th Place — Mike Seigel & Richie Ambrose	\$ 75.00

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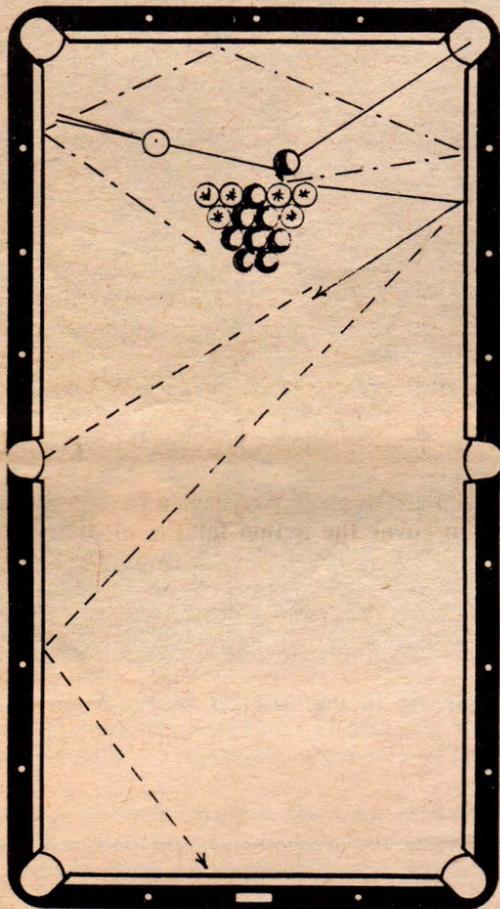


By JOHNNY HOLIDAY

This month's Pro Tip is the second in a series of correcting diagrams as to their accuracy. The dots and dashes indicate the diagram as received by me. The solid line shows the proper method of executing this break shot.

When the cue ball carom off the object ball is approximately at a 45 degree angle, and only three balls of the rack are to be contacted, there is no need to apply left english. As shown by the dots and dashes, this causes the cue ball to travel three rails to gain favorable position for other object balls.

By striking the cue ball with 1/2 tip of right center english, and using a follow stroke, the cue ball will force its path as the track (solid line) continues to track arrow.



The type of break shot presented in this diagram does not require a hard stroke, though many players make the error of applying force when confronted with this particular shot.

The insertion of dashes indicates what may occur when a player has applied force to the stroke. The possibility of a scratch in the side pocket, or the cue ball track ending at the bottom rail, must be avoided.

Break shots require deep concentration as to the type of stroke needed to execute them properly. The stroke needed to follow through three balls of a rack . . . marked with asterisks . . . from any break shot position close to the rack need not be a forceful one.

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The Story of A Billiard Room



A typical day at Marie's finds plenty of action on the tables. In addition to open play, an Open-Handicapped Tournament is held every Monday night, culminating in two semi-annual Handicapped Double-Elimination Tournaments. — Photo, Marie's Golden Cue.

By MITCHEL A. WOLTERS DORF

CHICAGO, Ill. — To the casual observer, the purchase of a pool hall at 3241 West Montrose by an enthusiastic, young family way back in November of 1970 appeared rather unpretentious and

typical of many of the people aspiring to open their own businesses. At that time few realized, perhaps oblivious to the young family themselves, that this acquisition would prove to be a haven for top quality shooters, a place of learning for novices, and a stepping stone for the in-

creasing number of women entering the exciting sport of pocket billiards.

Owned by the mother, Marie Page, and operated by her son and son-in-law, Nick Page and Wayne Steljes, they all desired to forever extinguish the myth of the "dark, smoky pool (Continued on Page 13)

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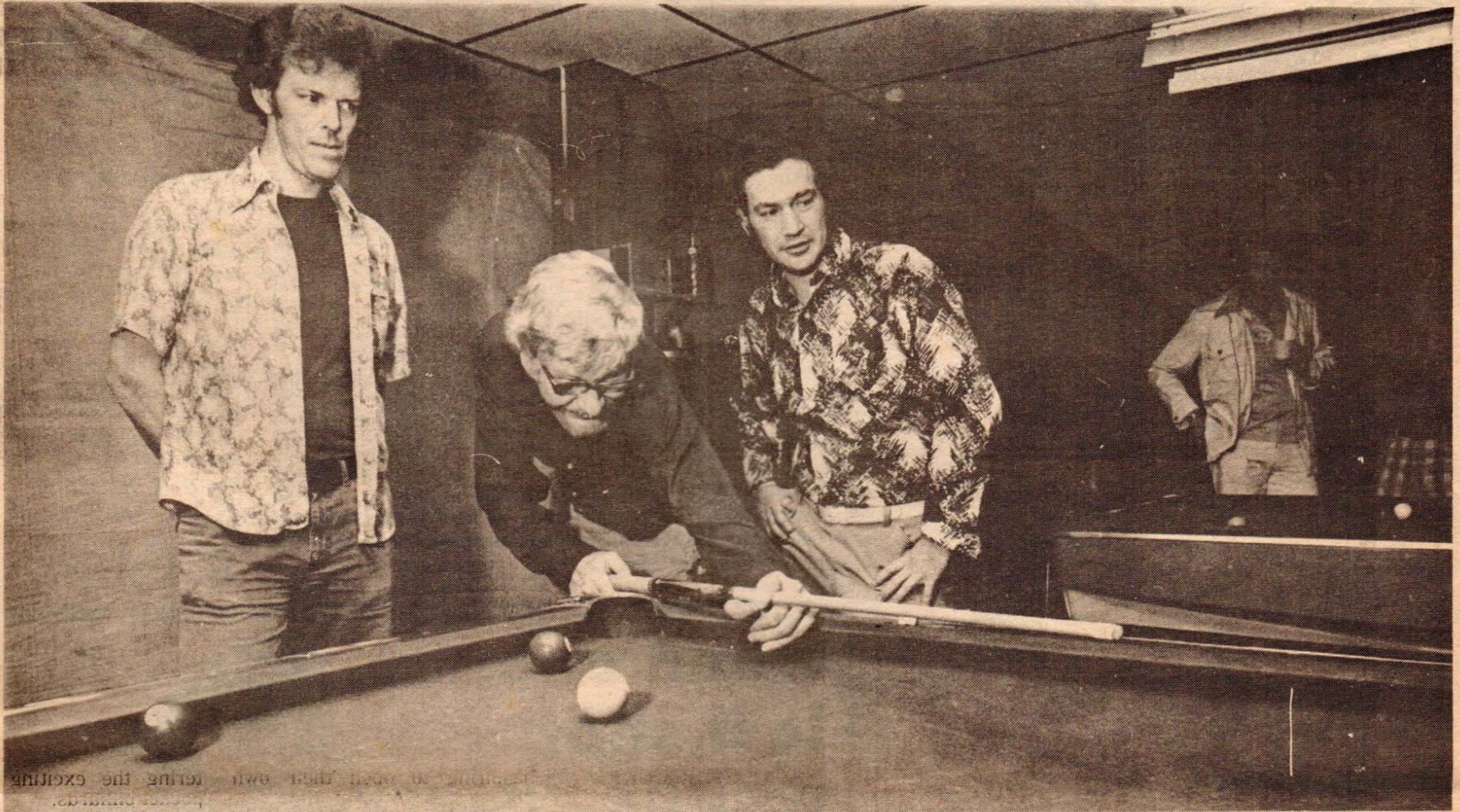
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Barrett 2nd, Hall 3rd In Southeastern Open 9-Ball Tourney



3rd Place Finisher Buddy Hall, left, and Southeastern Open Champion Bill Stigall, right, look on as writer Walter Tevis drills one down the rail. Tevis, author of "The Hustler," and

free lance writer for Sports Illustrated, Playboy, and Atlantic Magazines, was on hand to cover the action for the media. — Photo, Bill Stigall.

(Cont'd. from Page 5)

him to the loser's side where he had to play Hall, who had defeated Spaeth.

On Sunday night at 8:00, Barrett defeated Hall and won the chance to play Stigall again. Since Barrett had one loss, it would be necessary for him to defeat Stigall twice, as Stigall had not been defeated yet. Barrett came on very strong in the first match to win 11 to 5. Now that Stigall had one loss, there would have to be another match to determine the winner of the 1975 Southeastern Open Nine Ball Tournament.

Stigall, looking like he had lost his last friend, started the second match very fast, taking the lead 6 to 0. Stigall never lost the lead and went on to win 11 to 6 and \$1,200.00 with a paid entry into the 1975 World's Nine Ball Tournament.

Stigall said the tournament which he has promoted every year since it started in 1973, was a very big success. It will be held next year on Jan. 16 through 25th.

Thanks to all the players and referees who made the tournament a success. Thanks till next year.

Other Players:

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Joe Smith | Tampa, Florida | Ronnie Guess | Tampa, Florida | Louie Roberts | St. Lewis, Mo. |
| Jimmie Redd | Tampa, Florida | Butch McEniry | Tampa, Florida | Steve Carter | Arlington, Va. |
| Pete Motelone | Tampa, Florida | Mike Carella | Miami, Florida | Marty Loring | Olympia, Wash. |
| Randy Brown | Clearwater, Florida | Bob Ogborne | Arlington, Va. | Larry Knox | Tallahassee, Florida |
| Ray St. Laurent | Ft. Myers, Florida | Detroit Whitey | Detroit, Mich. | Don Smoot | Lexington, Ky. |
| Gene Catron | Indianapolis, Ind. | John Chapman | Chicago, Ill. | Harly Bryan | Jacksonville, Florida |
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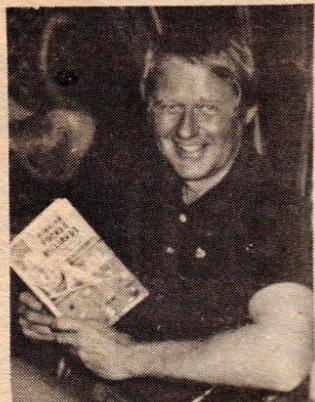
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Practice Strategies In Pocket Billiards



By DEL THIESSEN

Willy Mosconi, and practically all players for that matter, maintain that the cue ball should be struck on the center vertical axis for about 90% of all shots. I doubt if Mosconi has ever taken the time to actually record how he strikes the ball, but in all probability, he is absolutely correct.

I did record how the cue ball was encountered on 510 shots during 14.1 play. The results are presented in the accompanying table. For these same shots the type of object ball hit was also

THE FREQUENCY OF VARIOUS CUE BALL ENCOUNTERS AND OBJECT BALL HITS *

Cue Ball Encounter			Object Ball Hit		
Rank	Order	Percent	Rank	Order	Percent
1	Center	40	1	1/2	34
2	Draw	25	2	3/4	16
3	Stop	14	3	7/8	16
4	Follow	12	4	1/4	13
5	Center English	6	5	Full	10
6	Draw English	2	6	1/8	7
7	Follow English	1	7	Feather	4
		100			100

* Based on 510 shots during game play

noted. The most common cue ball encounters are center, draw, stop and follow, in that order. All these depend on hitting the cue ball on the center vertical axis. These four types of shots account for 91% of all the shots! English was only applied in 9% of the shots.

Object balls are hit 1/2, 3/4 and 7/8 with the greatest frequency (total of 66%). Interestingly, full ball hits are only used 10% of the time. An obvious reason for this is that straight-in shots are often avoided in favor of angles that will allow cushion encounters for position play. Moreover, because of the size of the pocket straight-in shots still allow some cut for a follow to a cushion or a draw to the left or right.

In summary, the most common shot is a mid-center encounter on the cue ball with a 1/2 cut on the object ball. No doubt individual players will differ somewhat in the frequencies with which each is used, but the relative percentages should be about the same. It is important to note that a 1/2 ball cut is the easiest to judge and should be used when possible. An imaginary line drawn through the center of the cue ball and aimed at the distinct edge of the object ball results in a 1/2 ball cut. This is the only cut that provides a clear point of aim. Again, because the width of the pocket is substantial, a 1/2 cut can often be used. Whatever the cut, a center cue ball encounter can almost always be used.

Each player is somewhat predictable in terms of his ability to pocket any particular ball. Naturally the predictability will differ depending on the difficulty of the shot, but overall there will be an average probability. Thus, one player may pocket a ball 9 out of 10 times (90%), whereas another may only pocket a ball 5 out of 10 times (50%). Knowing the general average allows one to estimate the likelihood of making runs of various lengths.

For example, if a player makes on the average 5 balls an inning he will on the average miss number 6. Thus, his probability of making any particular shot is 5 out of 6, or 83.3%. Since each shot is assumed to be independent of any other, the probability of making any specified number is the combined probability of making each separately. Therefore, the chances of making two balls in succession is 83.3% x 83.3%, or 69.4%, and the chances of making three balls in succession is 83.3% x 83.3% x 83.3%, or 57.8%, and so on. Therefore, the probability that the player will actually make his overall average of 5 balls in any particular inning is around 40%, while the probability that he will double

(Continued on Page 18)

College Billiard League Forms

By CHARLES WALKER

Cheyney, PA. — An intercollegiate pocket billiard league has been formed in the Philadelphia area, initially with four teams. It was organized last fall by Mark Spinrad and Charles Walker, of Haverford College, and is moving into the second round of the schedule in February.

Founding teams are Cheyney State, Haverford, Swarthmore and Villanova. Other teams, whose interest has been stimulated by the new venture, will form a second division of the league to begin in the fall term.

Eight players from each school compete in 75-point games, under BCA rules of play (except for unintentional scratches on the object ball). Games between the No. 1

players are scored as 2 points, for No. 2 players 1 1/2 points (to avoid a tie), and the rest as one point per game. So far, matches have taken about five hours to complete.

The first game of the new league was held at Cheyney State College on November 10, where the host team won over Haverford by 5 1/2 points to 4. To mark the occasion of the founding meeting for the association on October 16, World's Champion Ray Martin played exhibition games at Haverford and Villanova.

The group is called the Delaware Valley Intercollegiate Picket Billiards League. According to its spokesman, it will encourage participation in local, regional and national intercollegiate play, and promote the sport on the campus scene.

... AND A NOTE TO OUR READERS FROM MR. WALKER

An intercollegiate pocket billiard league has been established in the Philadelphia area. I have been trying to find out whether other such leagues have ever functioned. Tournaments and matches have often been held, but information about a league with regular scheduling is hard to come by. Perhaps some News readers will know. Write me at Box 92, Cheyney, PA. 19319 — and let News readers know too.

Sincerely,
CHARLES WALKER
Cheyney, PA.

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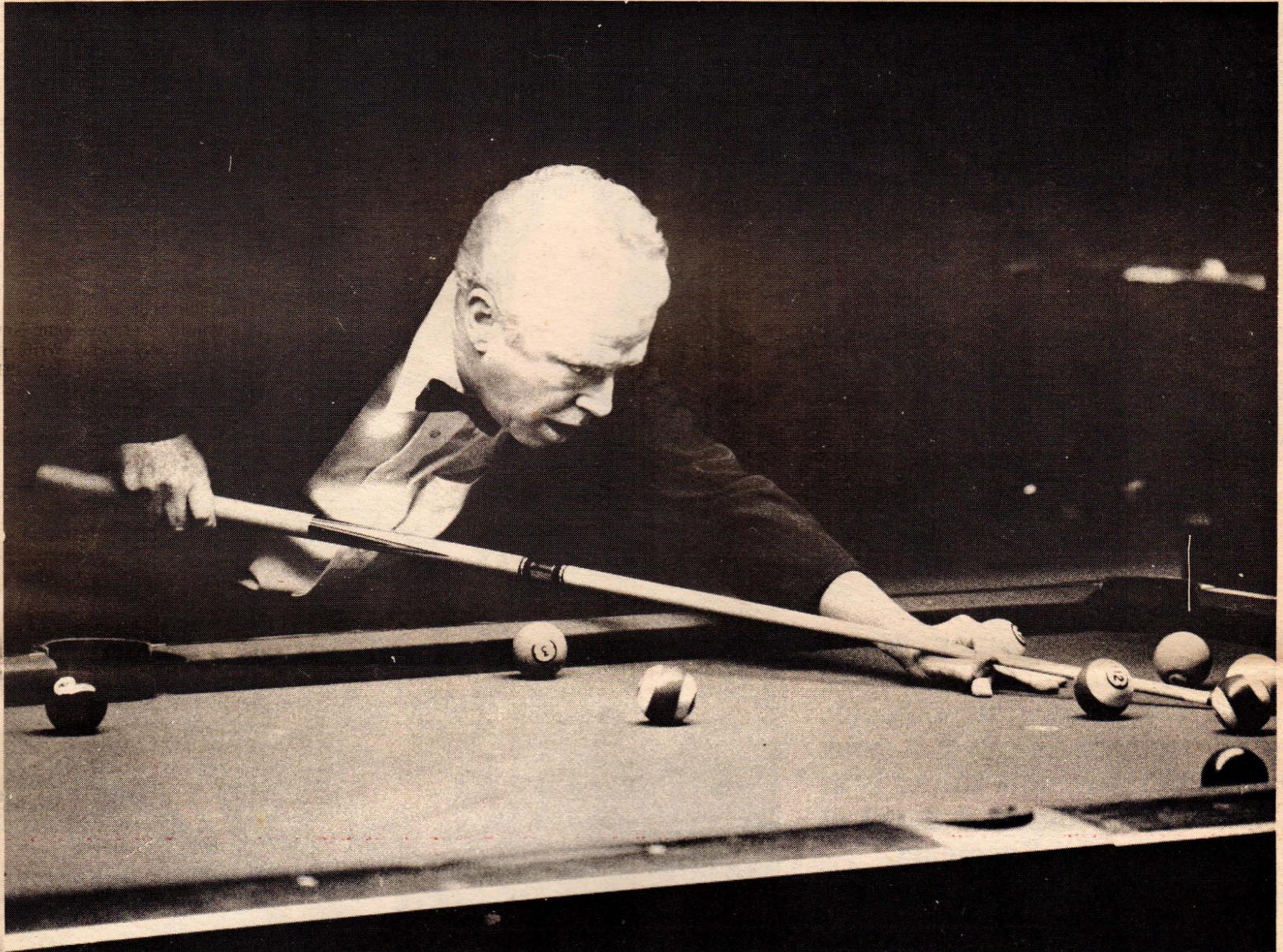
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THE LEE BOYAR PORTRAIT GALLERY

Player of The Month



★ LUTHER "WIMPY" LASSITER ★

Luther "Wimpy" Lassiter began playing pool at the age of 13 on a homemade table with only four pockets. A year later he graduated to the tables at the local YMCA, and at 15 began sneaking into pool rooms.

Always a favorite of the fans, the easy-going Lassiter is a constant threat in any competition he enters. He has won 22 major titles and 5 world titles over his career, including the Johnston City All Around in 1962, 1963,

and 1967; the Long Beach Open in 1967; the Billiard Room Proprietor's Association of America Championships in 1963, 1964, 1966, 1967; the 1969 World's 9-Ball Crown; the 1971 Stardust All Around; and the U.S.

Open in 1969.

Luther acquired his nickname "Wimpy" in the 6th or 7th grade when a janitor noticed how many hot dogs he consumed at school football games and naturally tagged him with the name of

the Popeye cartoon character.

Lassiter was recently named to the Advisory Staff of Gibbs' Billiard Supply and Service in Virginia Beach, Va., and now makes his home there where he manages the business.

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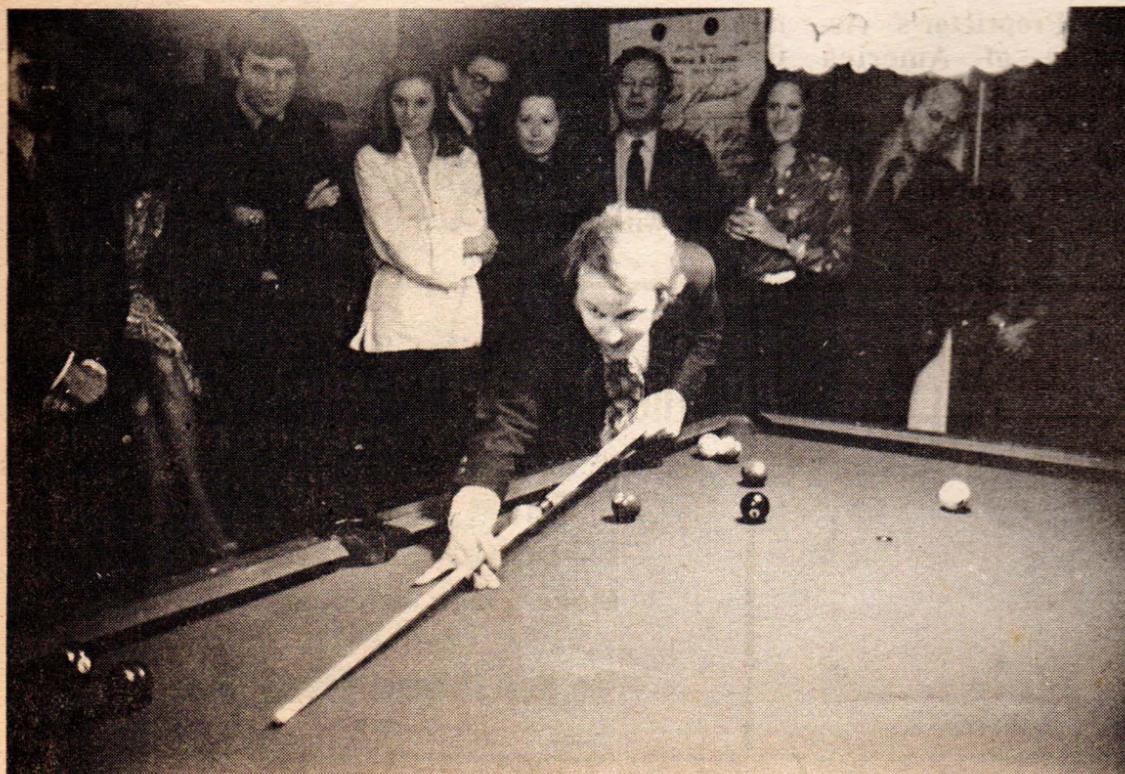
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PLIMPTON'S POOL



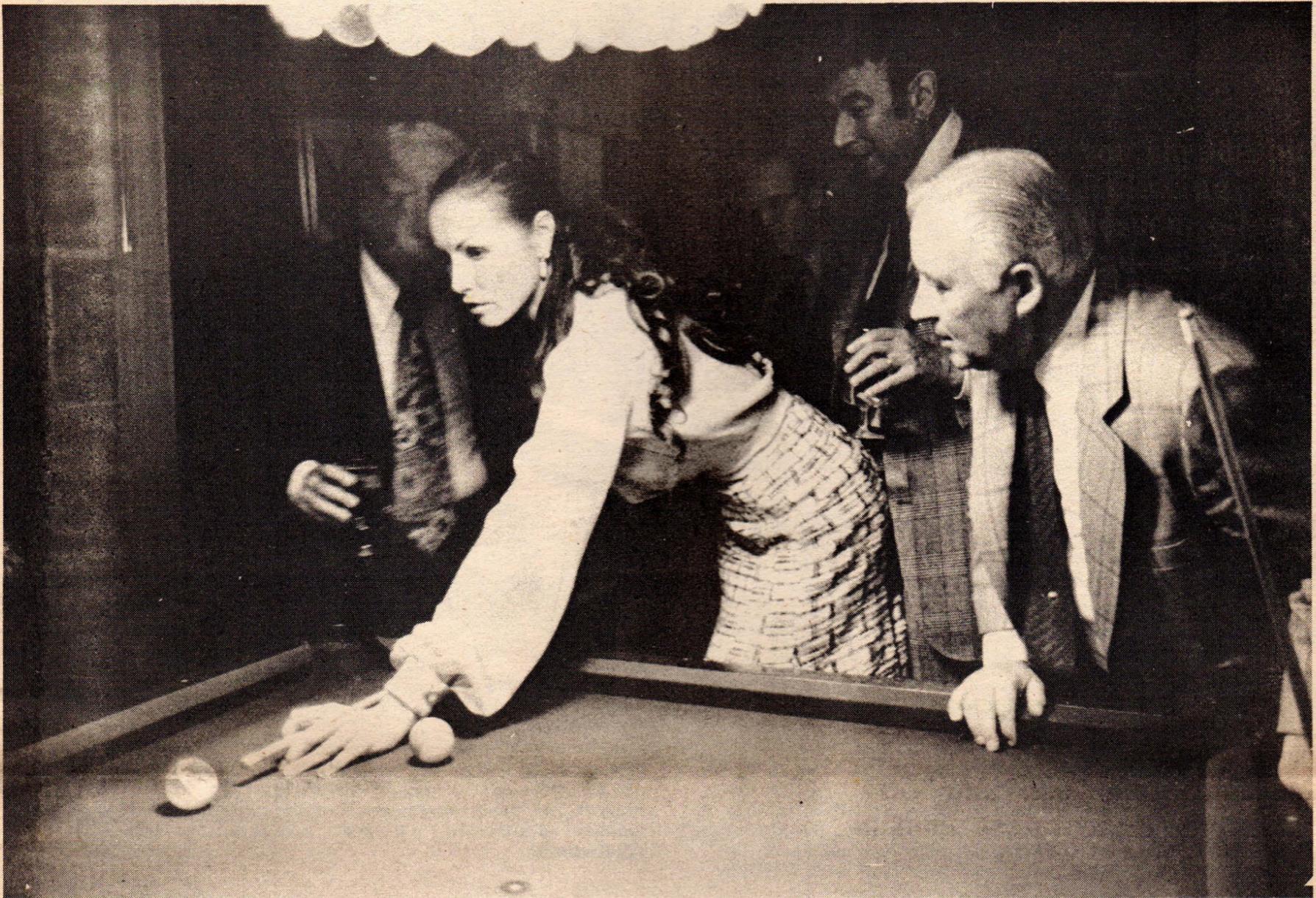
“Steve, you shudda hit the ball harder.” Relaxing after the exhibition, Mosconi offers Mizerak some technical advice on...golf. Both Willie and Steve are fanatical golfers. —Photo by Jill Krementz.

Actress Julie Newmar listens in while Plimpton, left, and Gay Talese discuss their latest books. Plimpton has just finished a book on Muhammed Ali, and Talese is at work on a new, unnamed novel of love. —Photo by Jill Krementz.



Four-time U.S. Open Champion Steve Mizerak shows how the game can really be played. Here Steve demonstrates position play for some 50 of Plimpton's guests. —Photo by Jill Krementz.

PARTY PICTURES



Under the watchful eye of Mosconi, Julie Newmar tries a shot on George Plimpton's pool table. Behind Julie, Howard Cosell watches carefully, hoping to pick up a point or two. —Photo by Jill Krementz.

Actor Kevin McCarthy, left, who you probably recognize as the Firestone Tire TV spokesman, and Kurt Vonnegut, author of "Slaughterhouse Five," take time out from the festivities to pose for the camera. —Photo by Jill Krementz.



Cosell Takes to the Tables



Discovering that there's more to life than Monday Night Football and Muhammed Ali, Howard Cosell takes to the pool table like Puhka to Pumpkin Pie. Says Howard, "The fact that the playing area is a geometrical figure, namely a rectangle with the length twice that of the width; and given that the implements of the game are triangular, spherical, and linear; the inescapable conclusion is that pool lends itself to a veritable

plethora of mathematical probabilities, possibilities, and permutations, allowing one to unerringly calculate the angles, arcs, and points of contact necessary to achieve the desired result of removing the multi-colored orbs from the green baize." "And besides," adds Howard, "it's a hell of a lot of fun." — Photo by Jill Kremetz.

Waldman Wins Hi-Cue Metro II

no.	player's name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	W	L	Pts.	H/R	Stg.
1	Marvin Waldman		35	35	35	35	34	35	35	35	35	8	1	314		1st
2	Art Simons	34		35	34	26	28	35	30	31	28	2	7	281	7	8th
3	Dick Sikorski	24	25		35	21	33	35	24	20	21	2	7	238		9th
4	Vince Sbarbati	21	35	25		35	35	35	35	35	35	7	2	291	7	2nd
5	Richie Minkoff	17	35	35	32		29	24	35	35	34	4	5	276		6th
6	Milt Goldring	35	35	35	34	35		35	26	35	32	6	3	302		4th
7	Dave Hirsch	34	22	14	26	35	29		32	24	29	1	8	245		10th
8	Dan Gartner	35	35	35	32	30	35	35		35	35	6	3	305		3rd
9	Harry Green	30	35	35	31	9	20	35	22		20	3	6	231		7th
10	Gene Levy	15	35	35	19	35	35	35	20	35		6	3	264		5th

Elizabeth, N.J. — The Hi-Cue Metro II 3-Cushion Billiard Championship, a ten man single round robin tournament, was held February 1 & 2 at Mike Asch's Hi-Cue Billiard Lounge in Elizabeth.

Marvin Waldman of New York, N.Y., took top honors and \$100, finishing the meet with a record of 8 wins and 1 loss. 2nd place and \$50 went to Vince Sbarbati, also from New York, who finished with 7 wins and 2 losses.

The next three finishers were all tied with records of 6 wins and 3 losses, and by virtue of ball count the two that got the cash were Dan Gartner, Newark, N.J., 3rd place and \$40, and Milt Goldring, East Brunswick, N.J., 4th place and \$30.

The tournament was staged in afternoon and evening sessions, with the competitors playing three games on Saturday afternoon, then two games each on Saturday Night, Sunday Afternoon, and Sunday

Evening. Matches were to 35 points.

High run for the event was 7, shared by Vince Sbarbati and Art Simons of Cornwell Heights, Penn.

Other participants were: Gene Levy, New York, N.Y., 5th; Harry Green, Bronx, N.Y., 7th; Dave Hirsch, Bronx, N.Y., 10th; Richie Minkoff, Parsippany, N.J., 6th; Dick Sikorski, Bronx, N.Y., 9th.

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Marie's Golden Cue

(Continued from Page 6)

room." Over the years they have established and developed one of the finest, if not the finest, billiard rooms in the Chicagoland area. Fine, not merely from the standpoint of size or cleanliness, but from the standpoint of effort and dedication poured into the formation of a completely entertaining service.

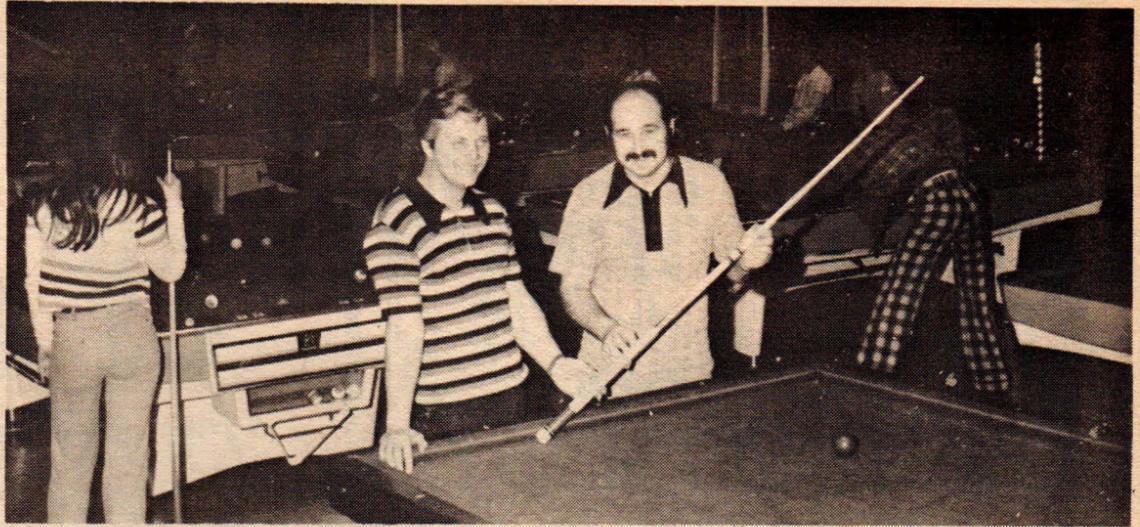
As you walk through the door into the waiting area and front desk, a crystal chandelier hangs overhead to brighten the environment for all those who enter. For those having to wait for a table, and on weekends this is the usual rule, a full array of electronic games ranging from Air Hockey to Ping Pong are available to lessen the boredom of the unfortunate. For the few who must wait an unusually long time, and never more than twenty minutes, there are beverages and snacks available from highly maintained vending machines.

From the front desk one can survey the entire gleaming operation. Twenty Gold Crown pocket tables and a vintage 1917 Billiard table, acquired

thru popular demand, squat under their own individual lighting systems accompanied by individual padded benches. Everything is cleaned and washed daily for maintenance of the excellent condition Nick demands. Along the paneled walls are numerous racks replenished with hand-picked house cues available for the patrons, maintained and repaired by Nick and Wayne to allow for full enjoyment of the game.

However, the real contributions of this family establishment are apparent when you look through the appearance and focus on service. A member of the BCA since their inauguration, they have undoubtedly given more to the sport of their choice than they have taken.

On every Monday night of the year both men and women can be found pitting their skills against one another in Open-Handicapped Tournaments that are so expertly and fairly handicapped that many novice players have won the cash prizes given since these tournaments were initiated. Twice a year the weekly tournament players



Nick and Wayne check out a newly arrived cue. Besides handling several major lines of cue sticks, Nick and Wayne operate a cue repair and reconditioning shop on the premises. — Photo, Marie's Golden Cue.

that qualify are eligible to play against one another in an excellent Semi-annual Handicapped Double Elimination Tournament that has brought the excitement of large scale competition to the delight of all concerned.

Recently, state lines were crossed when Nick organized a highly professional tournament between Marie's Golden Cue and the Golden Eight Ball of Holland, Michigan to help quench the thirst of the resident shooters for the ultimate test of their skills.

For those who are unaware of their abilities or feel that they need to improve the finer points of their game there is a

qualified instructor available in Leon Leadford, on an appointment basis, every Monday through Friday. The new shooters have really found this an invaluable service due to the inherent frustration encountered in learning the necessary skills.

Also, to meet the increasing demands for Custom Cues and the maintenance of fine workmanship, Nick initiated a distributorship for Viking, Davis-Spain, and Valley Cues, with a full selection and display on hand for immediate sales. And, as an added service to customers and others seeking needed work, Nick and Wayne trained themselves and established an on-

premise Custom Cue Repair and Reconditioning Service that is now receiving orders nationwide.

It was because of this complete involvement in the game that the lack of women representation was obvious to Nick, and after investigating the problem he arrived at one solution that would facilitate an increased number of women at the U.S. Open. Due to late scheduling of Qualifying Rounds many women were unable to attend and Nick's solution was a U.S. Open-Womens Qualifying Tournament on March 22-23, 1975, allowing for substantial elapsed time prior to the actual U.S. Open.

(Continued on Page 16)



GOLD CROWN BILLIARD CLUB

Announces The

1975 NEW ENGLAND OPEN

A MAJOR WOMEN'S QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT

MAY 2, 3, 4, 1975

★ PRIZES WORTH \$1165.00 ★

★ 1st Place = U.S. Open Entry + \$500.00 + New England Championship Trophy ★

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• MEN'S NEW ENGLAND OPEN—MAY 9, 10, 11, 1975—ENTRY FEE = \$50.00 •

Puhka's ? Pool Problems



Compiled and Edited by
Palmer Byrd & Larry Miller

Answers To Last Month's Puzzles

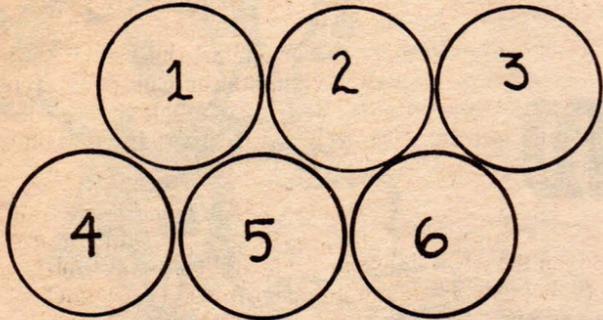
...will not appear in this issue. Because there were only twelve days between the publication of last month's and this month's issue, we have decided that it would only be fair to wait until the next issue to publish last month's answers. The answers to this month's problems will also appear then.

The people who submit the most correct answers to this month's problems will receive a copy of Johnny Holiday's "Position Play for Hi-Runs."

(1) After every editorial meeting, Conrad, Palmer, and Larry have dinner together. On these occasions, each orders either meat or fish. (a) If Conrad orders meat, Palmer orders fish. (b) Either Conrad or Larry orders meat, but not both. (c) Palmer and Larry do not both order fish.

Who could have ordered meat yesterday and fish today?

(2) Place six balls on the table, laid out the way shown. The object is to move only one ball at a time, without disturbing the others. In only three moves, change the two columns of balls into a ring of six balls. When a ball is moved, it must touch two other balls.



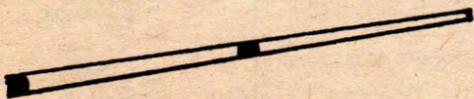
(3) "Charlie the Choke" has gone tap-city again. In fact, he's so broke that he's taken to collecting cigarette butts. And, he discovered that tobacco from six butts is sufficient to make one cigarette.

On his best day he found 41 butts. Spacing out his smoking, he was able to begin a new cigarette every hour, starting at 8 a.m.

At what time did he start smoking his last cigarette?

(Continued on Page 15)

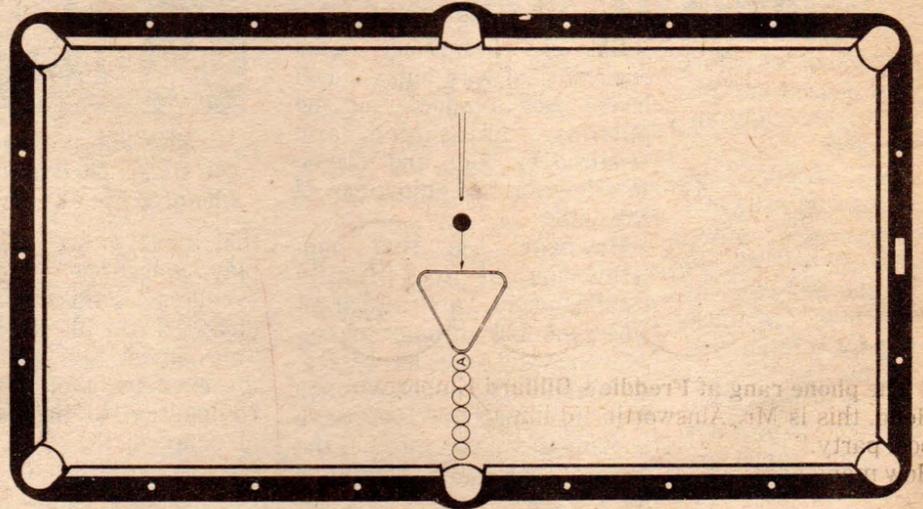
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Trick Shot of the Month



6 Balls in One Pocket Shot

Place tip of triangle against object ball "A." Hit cue ball in center with a hard stroke and you will pocket all six balls in side pocket.

Paul Gerni Presents

A Major Women's Qualifying Tournament

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April 3rd thru April 6th, 1975

★ PRIZE FUND ★

1st = \$1,000 + Trophy + U.S. Open Entry

2nd = \$750 + Trophy

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5th = \$300

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PRIZE FUND BASED ON FULL FIELD OF 32 ENTRIES

Entry Fee = \$125 — Double Elimination — 75 Points
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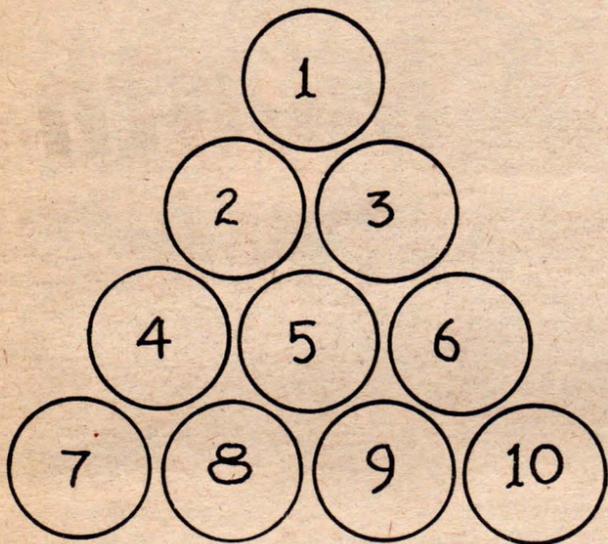
Tournament Site:

Athletic & Convocations Center
Notre Dame University
South Bend, Indiana

Puhka's Pool Problems Gums Captures Jersey State Title

(Continued from Page 14)

(4) Here's a rack set up for ten-ball. Can you reverse it so that it points the opposite way by changing only three balls?



Elizabeth, N.J. — **Bonnie Gums of Chicago, Ill.**, won the 1975 Ladies New Jersey State Championship held January 24, 25 & 26, and along with the title she received \$150 in cash and an entry into the 1975 U.S. Open.

The tournament, one of several women's qualifiers held by **Mike Asch** at his **Hi-Cue Billiard Lounge** in Elizabeth, drew twelve participants from the eastern states.

The field was divided into two preliminary rounds of six players each, with the top two finishers in each flite advancing to a four women final.

In flite "A" **Gloria Walker** of Cheyney, Penn., and **Lori Ackerman** of Staten Island, N.Y., finished 1st and 2nd respectively. Gloria emerged with only one loss, to Ackerman, 75-52, while defeating **Debbie Smith**, Union City, N.J., 75-26; **Bev Sakaran**, Chittenango, N.Y., 75-32; **Nancy Ogonowski**, Garwood, N.J., 75-35; and **Billie Billings**, New York, N.Y., 75-72.

Ackerman and Billings would up with identical won/loss of 3/2 and in the playoff game for 2nd spot, Ackerman defeated Billings, 75-66.

In flite "B" it was **Bonnie Gums** in the top spot, tied with **Chanel Motley** of Cincinnati, Ohio, with identical records of 4/1. Both players advanced to the finals, although Gums officially took 1st on ball count, 371 to 355.

In that flite Gums defeated **Nancy Warren**, Endicott, N.Y., 75-40; **Barbara Beck**, West Orange, N.J., 75-30; **Wendy Moher**, New London, Conn., 75-44; and **Sandy Patarino**, West Linden, N.J., 75-48. Her only loss being to Motley, 71-75.

Motley defeated Warren, 75-61; Beck, 75-60; Moher, 75-37; Gums, 75-71; and lost to Patarino, 55-75.

In the finals it was **Bonnie Gums** all the way as she **downed Walker, 75-45; Motley 75-17; and squeaked by Ackerman, 75-74.**

Gloria Walker finished second for \$150, defeating Ackerman, 75-45, and Motley, 75-61. Motley's victory over Ackerman, 75-53, earned her \$100 for third, and Ackerman won \$100 for fourth.

CAROM CORNER

By **BOB MULLEN**

A few weeks ago I received a package from Europe with two tapes secreted inside. These were not the inner office tapes of the goings on in the Kremlin or even the London Palladium before a rock show. **Carl Conlon**, Billiard's international ambassador, sent us some play by play commentary on the European Three Cushion Championships held in Holland in December of last year. **Mr. Cuelemans** won but with a challenge from **Laurent Boulanger**. The hypnotising effect the play had on Carl Conlon was obvious to any listener. One could hear the faint clicking of 61.5mm billiard balls in the background and an occasional smattering of applause. It made me want to be there . . . A detailed account of the tournament will appear next month.

A few days after the tapes arrived, the "Conlon" arrived in person. It is great to discuss billiards with a fellow enthusiast and Carl Conlon's memory for detail is such that I listen with pen in hand. Carl told me of a series of shots that **Cuelemans** executed, reversing the cue ball off the side rail to the third rail (head) moving the balls a total of 1 diamond. The former World's Champion scored 5 billiards missing the sixth by inch position. It was an exhibition of skill that a carom player would nurse the balls down a rail only in this case the player picked up three rails with each shot. A remarkable demonstration of ball control. Carl also told us of **Cueleman's** new tack of giving away the break to his opponents. In **UMB** play the player who does not break gets an opportunity to run from the break if his opponent reaches 60 points before he does. The great **RC** averages 6.2 billiards from the break and because he feels the competition is getting tougher he gives away the break in case he needs 5 to ten billiards to tie or defeat his opponent after the 60 mark has been reached.

Another item of interest to me was Mr. Conlon's report on the comparative prices for the use of tables all over the world. In **Belgium**, 85c an hour per table, **Denmark**, \$1.50, **Holland**, 90c, **France**, \$1.25, **Sweden**, \$1.00 an hour per table. All of the billiards in the above listed countries are generally in clubs or restaurants. The billiard table usage is an adjunct to a more profitable department. In the **United States** and **Japan** billiard rooms are solely for the usage of billiard players and therefore the cost is much higher. When you think that the rates are too high in your local room think of the **Japanese . . . \$3.00 per hour per player.**

Carl reminisced about **Fernandez**, the **Fancy Shot** champion of the world trying a **Dick Helmstetter** European style cue for a super masse and liking the cue so much that he just held his hand out with the cash and said, "Just help yourself, but I want the cue."

Enough about the other side . . . we have our own star line-up. **Yousri**, **Strange**, **Donnelly**, **Hawkins**, **Campos**, **Larry "Boston Shorty" Johnson**, **Gene Johnson** and **Bob Johnson** (Oak Park has cornered the Johnson market), **Melnichuk**, **Letherby**, **Walter Martin**. All these and others will be appearing in concert at the **Cushion and Cue**, Oak Park, February 21st in the **National Billiard News Three Cushion Open**. **Bob Letherby**, **Don Brink**, **Joe Ameriquian**, **Joe Diaz**, **Bob Ameen** and a guy named **Jones** from St. Paul, Minn. (he was national Amateur Champ) **Ashby** and **McClelland** from Illinois. Below and **Stan Hardy** from the South, **Bud Nagel** from Toledo and **Ron Hanselman** from hunger. **Milt Goldring** and **Minkhoff** from the East, **Harvey Chernin** from Wisconsin, and the local contingent led by former U.S. Open Champion, **Bob Ameen**. Representing the local area are such stalwarts as **A. Kaminsky**, **Lou Goldsmith**, **Leonard Rosenthal**, **Frank Davis**, **John Scripps** and **D. Gross**.

Iwan Simonis Cloth Company in Belgium is an American Billiard Association angel. This was an announcement from ABA headquarters and Secretary-General **Gale Johnson**. Great work, **Gale**, there is more where that came from because there is support somewhere out there for the three cushion game. It would be nice to see a combination promotion of three cushion along with an out of industry sponsor such as the **Pabst-Brunswick** or the **Gandy-Hueblen** promotional tours throughout the country. It is not too far out to imagine an interesting three cushion tour that would expose the great game to an over ripe public . . . But just a word to any billiard tournament promoters . . . take five minutes before the game starts and explain the game to the uninitiated spectators. The idea of promoting the game is to make an "eye-baller" out of a slightly interested spectator.

Well, I have these tapes that Carl Conlon sent from Holland in front of me and a Tournament book written in Flemish with details of the tourney . . .

(5) The phone rang at Freddie's Billiard Emporium.

"Hello, this is Mr. Ainsworth. I'd like to make reservations for a pool party."

"How many are there in the party?" asked Freddie.

"Well," answered Mr. Ainsworth, "there's a father, a mother, an uncle, an aunt, a sister, a brother, a nephew, a niece, and two cousins."

"Okay," replied Freddie, "then you'll want enough tables for ten people."

"Oh no," said Mr. Ainsworth, "we're actually much fewer."

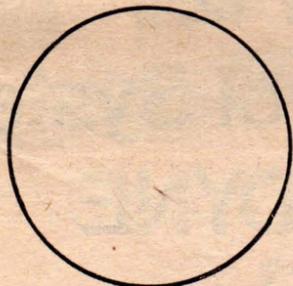
What is the minimum number of people who could be related in such a way?

(6) Nine players are about to play a round-robin match. As is customary, they all shake hands with each other.

How many handshakes in all?

(7) Below is a circle, but since these problems are supposed to be about billiards, we'll call it a billiard ball.

Into how many different pieces can it be cut (assuming it is a one dimensional circle) by drawing only four straight lines through it?

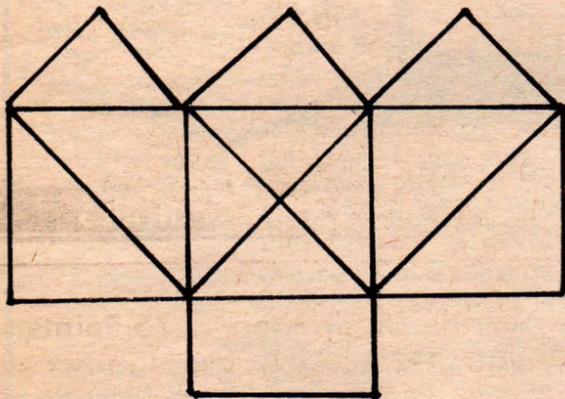


(8) Now take the same billiard ball (circle) and use six straight lines instead of four. How many pieces can it be cut into now?

(9) Getting away from billiards for a moment, here's a little diversion that should prove quite perplexing.

Draw the figure shown below using one continuous line without having the line cross another line at any point.

There is more than one possible solution, we will accept any correct one.



(10) Two women, **Anna** and **Cathy**, and two men, **Bob** and **Don**, are all involved in billiards. One is a 3-cushion player, one is a nine-ball player, one is a straight pool player, and one is a snooker player. They are all seated around a square table.

(a) The 3-cushion player sat on **Anna's** left; (b) The straight pool player sat across from **Bob**; (c) **Cathy** and **Don** sat next to each other; (d) A woman sat on the nine-ball player's left.

Who is the snooker player?

GUEST EDITORIAL**BCA:
HOLD THAT
\$ LINE**

By D. SILVA FAHKS

U.S. Open qualifying is in full swing for 1975. And that's good. But I wonder how many years it will continue to go full speed if the present trend in regard to sanction fees is continued in the future.

What are those fees? Let's look at the 1974 tourney.

The B.C.A. in 1974 charged as follows for its men's U.S. Open entrants: the 1973 winner and runner-up, no fee; previous years' winners (4 picked up the option), \$250; major qualifying tournaments (3 or 4 if memory serves), \$250; regular qualifying tournaments, \$500. With such a schedule of sanction and entry fees, and the added money, the men's prize fund totalled \$29,600. Pretty decent.

But an ominous cloud hovers over the regular tournament sanction fee, the \$500 fee from the above list. This fee has escalated considerably over the last few years. And even though the prize fund has also been raised substantially, the sanction fee may well have reached very near its practical limit if we are to continue to enjoy room-oriented qualifiers. And tournaments should be held in the fooms.

Why are room-held qualifiers threatened? Let's look at it first from the view of the billiard room operator who would like to hold a qualifier to keep interest high.

His costs might stack up as follows: \$500 for the sanction fee; \$300 for an advertisement, mailing, and local promotion; \$250 for referees, scorekeepers, extra help, and other miscellaneous costs. So we have a pre-tourney outlay of \$1,050. And we're assuming (perhaps boldly) that table recovering, ball and equipment replacement, and special room preparation and clean-up can be considered part of normal operations that would be necessary anyway.

In a tourney of this type, it is generally necessary to offer a total of at least \$600-\$800 in prize money in most cases to draw any kind of quantity and/or quality in the field.

Adding an \$800 prize fund to the initial expenses listed above, we can see that this tournament is going to cost our room owner-promoter about \$1,800 to run.

If the tourney draws 24 players (a reasonable average in many areas) at \$50 each as entry fee, there is a \$1,200 kitty to draw from.

In other words, our room owner is stuck for \$600 or so.

It's true that this is not the case in all areas and for all tournaments. But most of them in rooms cost the promoter some cash, though the amount certainly varies.

Is this spending a smart move for the room owner, as a promotion? Obviously not for all of them, since they certainly aren't knocking down the doors of the BCA to get sanctions. And if the sanction fees continue to rise, we may end up with a U.S. Open of 10 past champions, along with Mike Asch and Joe Farhat running 11 qualifiers apiece.

The natural result of the increase in sanction fees to the promoters is an increase in tourney entry fees to the players. A few years ago, a \$50 entry fee meant a pretty high class affair. This year, \$50 will be the "low standard" for regular qualifiers.

As was mentioned some months back, we must not let it get to be oppressively expensive for the hundreds of players who will soon face the spectre of spending small fortunes each time they try to grab one of the perhaps two dozen Open slots available. (After the 32 is reduced by a Japanese champ, perhaps a junior champ, and all previous winners as the options are picked up.)

As non-U.S. Open qualifying tournaments become more numerous, while the qualifiers get more and more expensive, players might just start giving up on the qualifiers.

It's not my intention to be an alarmist. Nor am I slinging mud at the BCA, which has raised its prize fund and puts on an excellent tournament.

But I do urge the BCA and all promoters to leave no stone unturned to elicit commercial support ("outstate money") for the Open, as well as all pocket billiard tournaments ... and yesterday is none too soon.

And in the meantime, hold that \$\$\$ line on sanction fees — before the U.S. Open qualifiers price themselves right out of the market.

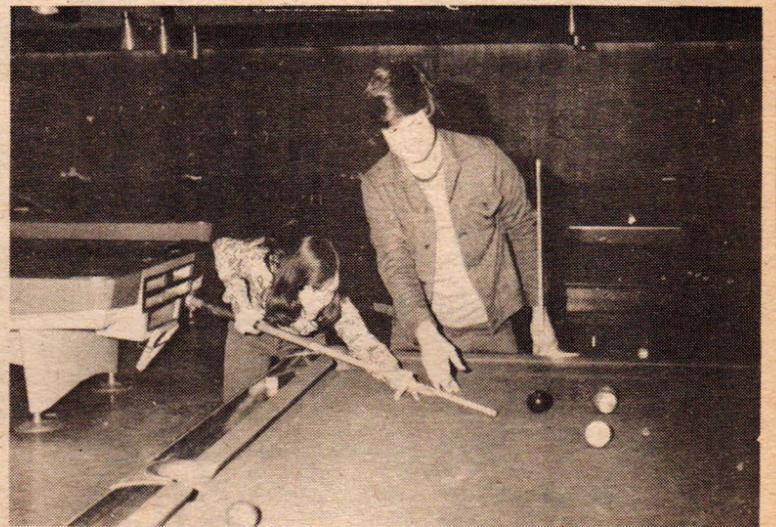
Marie's Golden Cue

(Continued from Page 13)

Ironically, it's on this final point that the uniqueness of the entire operation is magnified. Unique, not in the large scale it has taken on its own, but, the entire escapade is becoming increasingly integrated with women. The number of women in the tournaments has increased steadily, more men are bringing their wives and dates in for an evening of relaxation, and the number of unescorted women has gone up instead of down.

of many long time shooters that if pool was to ever reach the popularity and numbers it once boasted, it would be up to the women to achieve this. Obviously, Nick also believed this and has attempted to administer the much needed booster shot.

There can be no doubt in anyone's mind that the "dark, smoky pool room" myth inhabited by hustlers and vagabonds has been completely shattered by the owners and patrons of Marie's



Resident instructor Leon Ledford gives a few pointers to his favorite student Sandy, who just happens to be his wife. — Photo, Marie's Golden Cue.

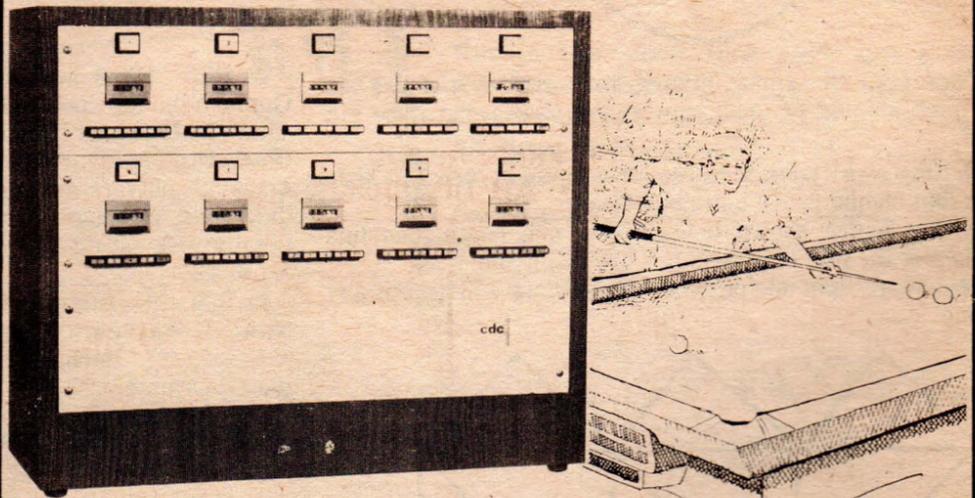
Golden Cue. Just stop or drive by one night and look through the large wall-to-wall picture window in front of the hall.

If you were a steady customer of the Golden Cue you would be able to marvel at the vocational and social melting pot contained within the walls. Doctors, physical therapists, students, lawyers, mechanics, engineers, truck

drivers, rock musicians and more are all there on equal terms striving to outwit, outmaneuver, and out-shoot their opponents on a field of green where all are peers until the last ball is driven home.

But, the most important part is that all are having fun and learning; thanks to that enthusiastic, young family at Marie's Golden Cue, circa 1970.

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This revolutionary new, low-cost, solid-state computer

- Eliminates problems and performs like a perfect employee
- It operates in full view of the cashier and the customer and renders its totals in units of five cents.
- A remote table light control so that it is not possible to turn on the table lights unless the computer is operating. This permits no practice time, free play or favoritism.
- Master totalizer which may be read and reset only by the proprietor.

There is no reason to round-off the charges due to extra minutes of play or for "dropping pennies". Projected over one year's play, these two factors will total a substantial amount significantly affecting gross profit.

For further information: call or write

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— IT'S TOURNAMENT TIME —

BEING A LIST OF U.S. OPEN QUALIFYING AND OTHER SUCH EVENTS TO TAKE PLACE

WOMEN'S DIVISION			
March 11-14	ACUI National Championship Un. of Maryland	April 11-13	Empire State Championship Rack-em-Up Billiards Richmond Hills, N.Y.
March 22-23	Women's Open Qualifier Marie's Golden Cue Chicago, Illinois	May 2-4	10th Annual Midwest Open State and Madison Recreation Rockford, Illinois
April 3-6	1975 Women's Pocket Billiard Classic Notre Dame Athletic Center South Bend, Indiana	May 2-4	Hi-Q Qualifier #2 Hi-Q Billiard Lounge Elizabeth, New Jersey
May 2-4	B C A Women's New England Open Gold Crown Billiard Club New London, Conn.	May 9-11	B C A New England Men's Open Gold Crown Billiards New London, Conn.
May 23-26	Billiard News National Open Cushion-N-Cue Family Recreation Center Livonia, Michigan	May 16-18	Midwest Qualifier Hall of Fame Billiard Lounge Lansing, Michigan
May 31-June 1	B C A Midwest Open Women's Qualifier Hall of Fame Billiard Lounge Lansing, Michigan	May 23-26	Billiard News National Open Cushion-N-Cue Family Recreation Center Livonia, Michigan
June 27-29	Ladies' Eastern Open Hi Cue Billiard Lounge Elizabeth, New Jersey	May 30-June 1	Hi Q Masters Hi Q Billiard Lounge Elizabeth, New Jersey
July 4-6	Women's Capital City Open Velvet Rail Billiard Lounge Lansing, Michigan	June 6-8	Family Billiards B C A June Open Qualifier B & A Family Billiards Scarborough, Maine
MEN'S DIVISION			
March 7-9	Alaska State Billiard State Championship Crown Cue Billiard Lounge Anchorage, Alaska	June 18-22	California Straight Pool Open Jointed Cue Billiards Sacramento, California
March 11-14	ACUI National Championship Un. of Maryland	June 21-22	National Junion Championship Hi Q Billiard Lounge Elizabeth, New Jersey
March 28-30 (tentative)	Missouri State Men's Qualifier Columbia Billiards Center Columbia, Missouri	EASTERN	WESTERN
April 4-6	Chicago Open - Men's U.S. Open Qualifier 6556 Milwaukee Chicago, Ill.	June 23-25 (tentative)	4th Annual Mississippi State Championship Club and Cue Billiards Gulfport, Mississippi
April 5-6	B C A New England Championship New England Residents Only Cue and Billiard Lounge Salem, Mass.	OTHER TOURNAMENTS:	
April 18-26	U.S. Masters Classic High Q Billiard Lounge Toledo, Ohio	March 31-April 1	Deep South 9-Ball Championship Stage Nite Club 3311 W. Beach Biloxi, Mississippi 8 Coin Operated Tables \$2,000.00 Prize Fund

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- ALL DIVISIONS ARE DOUBLE ELIMINATION FORMATS •

Men's Pocket Billiards

April 11, 12, 13, 1975

\$2,500.00 in Prizes

U.S. Open Entry

32 Players — \$75.00 Entry Fee

1st = \$1,000.00 + U.S. Open Entry

PAYING 8 PLACES

+

HIGH RUN

Women's Pocket Billiards

May 16, 17, 18, 1975

\$800.00 in Prizes +

U.S. Open Entry

16 players — \$50.00 Entry Fee

1st = \$300.00 + U.S. Open Entry

PAYING 8 PLACES

+

HIGH RUN

3-Cushion Billiards

June 6, 7, 8, 1975

\$1,000.00 In Prizes

A.B.A. Sanctioned

16 Players — \$50.00 Entry Fee

1st = \$500.00

PAYING 6 PLACES

+

HIGH RUN

For Information
Contact:

BOB SIEBER
RACK-EM-UP BILLIARDS

102-14 Jamaica Ave.
Richmond Hill, N.Y. 11418

Phone:
(212) 441-8340

Practice Strategies In Pocket Billiards

(Continued from Page 8)

that is only about 16%. Obviously, long runs are exceedingly rare when the inning average is low. In fact, the probability of running 100 is almost infinitely small.

The number of balls made per game is positively correlated with high runs and average balls per inning and negatively correlated with the number of innings in which no ball is scored.

That is, the total score of a game is determined by the inning average, the length of runs and the number of zero innings. If one is scoring nearly every inning, the overall average will be relatively high, and there will be at least one or two substantial runs.

The accompanying table gives a summary of probabilities of making various lengths of runs, given different probabilities

PROBABILITY OF HAVING
VARIOUS LENGTH RUNS*

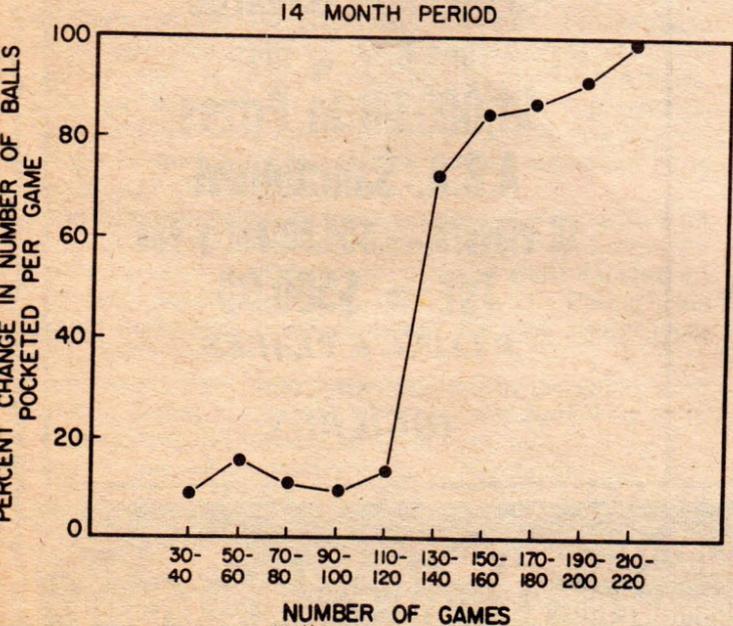
Length of Run	Average Score in Balls per Inning				
	3	5	10	15	20
1	.750	.833	.909	.938	.952
5	.238	.401	.621	.726	.782
10	.056	.161	.386	.527	.612
15	.013	.065	.239	.383	.479
20	.003	.026	.148	.278	.374
25	.001	.010	.092	.202	.293
30	.000	.004	.057	.146	.229
40	.000	.001	.022	.077	.140
50	.000	.000	.008	.041	.086
75	.000	.000	.001	.008	.025
100	.000	.000	.000	.002	.007

1 Chance in 100 of Running	16	25	48	72	94
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Note: you have about one chance in a hundred of running five times your average.

for making any one ball. As can be seen, even with an inning average of 20 a run of 100 occurs only less than 1% of the time. One must remember, however, that inning averages also include safety shots where it is not intended to pocket a ball. Hence, averages are not perfect reflections of overall ability.

A great deal can be accomplished to increase one's average with systematic practice. The figure below gives one example.



This shows a learning curve of one player during a 14-month period. The results are based on 220 games, each of which was

(Continued on Page 19)



Pondering a perplexing position, Hall sights down the table hoping to find enough room to sneak by an obstructing ball. Sorry to say, we don't know if he made this shot or not. — Photo, Bill Stigall

Corner Pocket Billiards

presents the

1975 CHICAGO OPEN

MEN'S U.S. OPEN QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT

APRIL 4, 5, 6, 1975

★ PRIZE FUND ★

1st = U.S. OPEN ENTRY + CASH

Ca\$h for 2nd, 3rd, 4th and High Run

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Entry Fee = \$100.00

- Double Elimination
- 125 Point Matches
- Final Match 150 Points

— Player's Meeting April 4, 1975 at 5:00 P.M. —

Entries & Information:

Larry Schwartz
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Chicago, Illinois 60618
Phone: (312) 251-0518

Tournament Site:

Corner Pocket Billiards
6556 Milwaukee
Chicago, Illinois

Practice Strategies

(Continued from Page 18)

20 innings in length. In short, what this record shows is an overall increase in the number of balls per game of nearly 100%. This is a substantial gain, but not unexpected with repeated practice.

It should be noted that the first half of the curve shows almost no gain at all. No doubt things were being learned during this period but they were not reflected in performance. Nearly all the gain occurred after half of the games had been played, and about 60% of the improvement was extremely rapid. Apparently after a long period of learning individual aspects of the game, several elements were put together in an integrated cluster and a rapid gain in performance followed. Following this, gain progress was again slow. It can be anticipated that more "clustering" of learned elements would occur at a later time. More than likely other students of the game will show periods of little or no gain followed by rapid surges of improvement and once again slow progress.

If this single case is an index of what can be expected with persistent practice, then the average player can expect to increase his performance about 100% in little over a year. Actually the numerical results do not reflect the true increases in ability or knowledge of the game. Balls can be made sloppily or with finesse, and a good player does the latter. Similarly, a successful stroke can be jerky or smooth, and the player can feel the difference. Moreover, as skill increases, the player moves from simply making balls to playing patterns and working toward a break ball. Thus skill leads to more complex strategies which are the more difficult phases of the game. Little wonder that there is no limit to how good a player can become — there is just so much to learn.

Missoula Over Bozeman in Montana

Missoula, Mt. — Saturday, January 25th, 16 men and women from Missoula braved a Montana snow storm to appear at the Bozeman Corner Pocket Men's and Women's Division Eight-Ball Tourney.

Sponsored by Corner Pockets of America, this first challenge tourney between Corner Pocket Billiard Lounges entitles the Missoula Corner Pocket to display the trophies for both divisions until either is defeated by another Corner Pocket challenge team.

The best 33 of 64 match was won by the sharpshooting men from Missoula, 33-27.

The Missoula women's team completely dominated the Bozeman gals, winning it easily with a 33-7 score.

Future challenge attempts to dethrone the winning Missoula teams will be played at the Corner Pocket in Missoula in the near future.

Corner Pockets of America is a national franchisor of plush billiard lounges and is headquartered in Billings, Montana.

BULL SHOTS

(Continued from Page 2)

cluded. There are 10 players on a team, 5 regulars and 5 alternates and each player contributes \$5.00 per week. 20 games are played per night, 4 games limit per table and a total of 19,500 games total in a season.

The Detroit Metro League has an annual jackpot to cut up at their yearly banquet of over \$11,000.00. President Pete Hamling has been the vital organizer of the league and an undertaking of this magnitude constitutes a great deal of work on the part of the league officers. The organization operates like the baseball leagues with teams and divisions and has playoffs to determine champions. There is also an all star game with one of the ladies chosen All Star Champion and one of the male players with a like title. A standings sheet is distributed weekly with any roster corrections and all disputes are settled by a special players committee and the President. This is a league with constant growth and in years to come will supply the billiard industry with many potential consumers.

This is only one of many in the Detroit area. Tampa, Florida has a league with over 900 players, Wisconsin has many bar leagues and these are only three out of the entire country. Why isn't the BCA on to what is happening? The bar league uses the bar table (naturally) and several of the paying members of the BCA manufacture Bar Tables. The coin table uses the same cloth from the same cloth manufacturers that the straight pool playing tables use and without being too cute, the tale of this dog is too obvious. I believe that it is safe to assume that millions of people throughout this country have had their first indoctrination to the game of pool in some tavern and honestly believe that the coin table is the only kind used commercially. Let's not fight the situation and try to use this to the advantage of the game of pool.

The National Billiard News will do everything in its power to acquaint the powers that be of the magnitude of bar table play. If you are part of a league, anywhere, please contact us and tell us a little about it so that we can feed the fire.

... This is the start of our third year and we are proud of our accomplishments. Our circulation has reached an all time high and our future looks bright. Billiard's and Pool's future looks bright and that is the star we are hitched to, like it or not. We like it. And that's no Bull Shot!



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(Continued on Page 19)

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