

The National **BILLIARD NEWS**

THE FULL SERVICE PUBLICATION OF THE BILLIARD WORLD

PUHKA SEZ

Never argue with anyone: remember,
they too have a right to their own
stupid opinion.

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FIRST ANNUAL TURKEY OF THE YEAR AWARD

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commentary



by LARRY MILLER
Managing Editor

For People Who Get Bumped In the Night

(And in the Daytime, Too)

The beginning of the tournament season means traveling from here to there, and then to someplace else. Some of us drive and some of us fly, and once in a while those of us who fly get "bumped" when an airlines overbooks.

For those of us who have suffered the frustration and aggravation of losing our reservation, it's nice to know there is recourse. But you have to play by the rules, and the rules change from airline to airline.

For example:

If there is a warning to have your tickets paid for or picked up by a certain time, be sure they are. If you don't, you can lose your reservation if the flight is overbooked.

Be on time. This can mean up to an hour early so you can check in and get on the passenger list.

Don't leave the boarding area, and be at the boarding gate with time to spare (10-15 minutes).

If you don't dog it and still find yourself without a plane, you've got some rights and the Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) is out there, waiting to help you if you holler.

If you get bumped you are entitled to a refund of your fare plus an additional penalty sum of up to \$200, even if they can put you on a later flight! And if your missing the flight causes you extra expenses as well (hotel bills, cab fare, meals) the airlines should pay for these.

To substantiate your claim, keep receipts, notes, and your check(s) from the airline (to prove you were bumped). Normally the airlines will honor your claim; if they don't, your receipts and notes will serve as evidence if you wish to press the matter in a small claims court.

I hope that this information will save some players enough money to pay their hotel bills before they leave town.

Publisher's Preview

by CONRAD BURKMAN
Publisher



Several interesting stories appear in this issue of your National Billiard News.

Tom Jennings writes an open letter about his return home after winning the U.S. Open PAGE 4.

Venzke interviews Richard Lane during the U.S. Open PAGE 5.

Probably the hottest story of the year appears on PAGE 7 "EQUAL OFFENSE", read it, it could save our industry.

George Fels weaves an interesting story titled the "Kid & I" PAGE 11.

3-C Buffs see stories on PAGE 3 and 10.

Another new columnist begins contributing in the Broken Cue section. Sheila King, Canada's top female snooker pro will begin with this issue, a series on women in snooker PAGE 15.

Next month, more on EQUAL OFFENSE, WPBA 6-Ball Masters, the Tournament of Champs, Women's National Amateur, BCA Hall of Fame, and much more!



To the Editor:

In the September issue of Billiard News I read page after page of criticism regarding the scheduling of the PPPA Tournament and the U.S. Open. I believe the players and spectators should not forget the extra money this put into the industry. \$70,000 in prize money, distributed to 64 of the top players in the world has to be better for the industry than, \$25,000, or even, \$50,000, distributed to only 32 players.

Both tournaments were a success in my judgement. It may be unfortunate that the tournaments were held at the same time, but the "poor" scheduling does not out-weigh the good of an additional major tournament. Both tournaments had top-ranked World Champions with room for more Short Stops to gain the experience needed to become top players.

I would like to wish the promoters of both tournaments the best of luck on many more years of successful tournaments. It is my hope that in the near future there will be two major tournaments held weekly from which players may choose to participate.

ROBERT L. OWEN
Wichita, Kansas

To the Editor:

I am a great fan of pool and am writing because I am concerned about many of the things happening right now which are not in the best interests of our game.

The National Billiard News, the only pipeline many of us have, carries a great responsibility to bring us the news factually and fairly.

Lately I've heard some things through the grapevine which for some reason I have not read about in the Billiard News. For example, that the PPPA didn't come anywhere near to the \$50,000 prize fund they advertised (in your paper) in their New Jersey Tournament.

I saw the latest PPPA newsletter and they didn't

mention the prize money either. Does anyone know how much they actually paid out? The Billiard News should report the figures or at least the reason they are being withheld. I can only guess that they fell very short of the expected \$50,000 and are too embarrassed to say anything.

Apparently they thought nobody would notice. Some of us did, but it looks like everybody at the Billiard News didn't, or wouldn't comment.

Larry Miller was pretty quick to criticize the BCA (and there were more subtle criticisms by other writers too), but he didn't have one word to say about the PPPA not releasing their prize fund figures. How about a story on

"Bucks For PPPA" players.

I also heard that the winner of the Burlington Tournament didn't even get paid. That tournament was in August and this is October and your paper hasn't even published the story.

I realize that these topics are somewhat "sensitive" where the various interest groups are concerned, however, aren't YOU supposed to keep US informed of the FACTS?

I'll be interested to see if you print this letter and how you respond.

Sincerely,
RICHARD RUSTIN
Chicago Heights, Ill

Yes, we are supposed to keep you informed of the
Please turn to page 9

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Not responsible for unsolicited material. If you wish material returned, please enclose stamped, self-addressed envelope.

All letters must bear the signature and address of the writer. Names will be withheld for good reason only. The National Billiard News reserves the right to edit all letters for the purpose of brevity and clarity.

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1962

The National BILLIARD NEWS

—THE SECOND FRONT PAGE—

MEMBER

B B I A

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Semi-Annual Tourney Provides Upset

Sowa over Favorites at Marie's Golden Cue

by Ryan Elliott

Chicago, IL—

On October 2 & 3, many of Chicago's finest players competed in the Marie's Golden Cue Semi-Annual Handicapped Straight Pool Tournament. The reward was a guaranteed \$1000.00 with \$400.00 going to First, \$200.00 to second, \$100.00 to third and fourth, and \$50.00 to fifth through eighth. The entry fee of \$25.00 and the first eight paid places provided ample

incentive to capture the attention of three of this year's U.S. Open players who are Chicagoland residents. Marshall Boelter, Tom Spencer, Wendell Weir and twenty-six other players comprised the field. The result was an upset and surprise to many.

Shot down, the favorites were, Boelter, Spencer, and Weir lost although Spencer remained in competition, undefeated until he met Bob Sowa, the winner, in the

finals. Sowa, (a 65 handicap) took first place defeating the rampaging Spencer (a 140 handicap) in the A bracket; then he met Bob Schneider (a 110 handicap) in the B bracket defeating him by a small margin. Sowa lost his first game and then he knocked out both Spencer and Schneider who were undefeated until they came up against SOWA. And so, it turned out to be an upset with Sowa first, Schneider second and Spencer third. In a

handicapped tournament, almost anything can happen.

This semi-annual tournament is the culmination of the preceding six months weekly handicapped tournaments. In order for a player to compete in the semi-annual, he has to have played in at least ten of the weeklies. The weekly tourney is similar to the bi-yearly except that it is single-elimination and the entry fee is a mere \$6.00. Also, it takes

place every Monday night beginning at 7:30. Consequently, all of the players who competed in the semi-annual had to play in the weekly. Now this fact alone prevents anyone who hasn't been seen to take away that four hundred Nick offers for first. Nick Page is the manager of Marie's. He is the one who sets the handicaps while overseen by a committee of players in the

Please turn to page 20

Cattrano '76 N.Y. Champ

By Milt Goldring

New York, NY—

A field of 16 players assembled on Saturday Sept. 11, 1976 at the McGirr's Billiard Academy located at 709-8th Ave, New York City, Stan Hirsch owner, to vie for the 1976 N.Y. State Championship in Three Cushion Billiards. Each player put up \$60.00 entry fee, the house \$210.00, making a total prize fund of \$1,170.00.

After a blind draw the field was divided into 4 Flights of 4 men, taking best 2 of each flight into a semi-final of 8 men, drawing again for 2 flights of 4 and the eventual winners of each semi-final flight to play for the championship.

Play started at 1 p.m., was continuous all day, and was resumed on Sunday Sept. 12th at 1 p.m. and was only interrupted with a break for dinner. Preliminary games went to 35 points, semis to 40 and final game to 50. A.B.A. rules were in effect.

Most of the players were from the N.Y. area but a small but strong out of town contingent headed by Paul Melnichuk, a U.S. ranking player, was much in evidence.

After the preliminary matches were over, the semi-finals were headed by 3 who went undefeated, Paul Melnichuk, Jimmy Cattrano and Marvin Waldman. Jimmy Cattrano reached the

finals defeating in his flight Chris Bartsoz 40-27, Murray Shapiro 40-30 and just getting by Carlos Hallon of Lawrence, Mass. 40-35 in a somewhat see-saw affair. The other semi-final flight was won by Marvin Waldman who defeated Paul Melnichuk 40-32, Juan Rosenfried 40-32 and squeaked by fellow New Yorker Frank Diamond 40-37.

The final game for the championship was refereed by Abe Rosen, 3 cushion billiard great and the Director of this tournament and keeping the official score, Milt Goldring. After a somewhat slow start Jimmy Cattrano proved his right to the championship by not losing a game in this tournament beating Marvin Waldman 50-39 in a very strong 59 innings.

This game was featured by a reverse cross table shot executed by Jimmy Cattrano that has seldom been seen on a billiard table and he received a standing ovation from the crowd.

The order of finish with approximate prize money was:

- 1—Jimmy Cattrano, ...35 percent of total money.
- 2—Marvin Waldman, ...22 percent of total money.
- 3—Paul Melnichuk, ...15 percent of total money.
- 4—Chris Bartsoz, ...5 percent of total money.
- 5—Carlos Hallon, ...5 percent of total money.
- 6—Juan Rosenfried, ...5 percent of total money.
- 7—Frank Diamond, ...\$20.00
- 8—Murray Shapiro, ...\$20.00

High run money totaling \$120.00 was shared by numerous ties and some individual winners of \$20.00. Paul Melnichuk had the high run of the tournament with a 9.

This tournament was very well conducted under the supervision of Abe Rosen and the general manager Bill "Pizzaz" and all the fans who turned out to witness this event will be looking ahead to another great tournament as this one was.



Nick Page, manager of Marie's Golden Cue, presents the check to the smiling winner, Bob Sowa.

Photo by Eddie Laube

Brunt, Mathis Finish 1-2

By Bruce Venzke

Milwaukee, WI—

George Brunt, a familiar face when it comes to the finals of Midwestern nineball tournaments, added the 3rd Hayloft Nineball Open championship to his list of victories on September 25-26 in Milwaukee.

Brunt fought his way through this one the tough way, losing in his first match of the eight-man double elimination finals to the young but tough Kevin Stanelle, 11-6. He then took the next three matches quite handily, only to come up against Stanelle again in the loser's side final game; this time it was George's turn, but only by a 11-10 score.

That win earned him the right to tackle Ed Mathis,

who had romped through three straight matches with a combined score of 33-16, and was the winner's side top dog. Brunt needed to win twice while a single win by Mathis would do the job.

In the first match, it was Brunt again by 11-10, and so a final showdown would decide the title. Brunt made it six in a row when he defeated Mathis 11-7, and the \$400 first prize had found a home in George's pocket. Mathis, who's always a big factor when the nineball is under fire, settled for the \$225 second place payoff.

Both Brunt and Mathis had been 2nd in their 5-man preliminary brackets (20 players in 4 brackets of 5, with the top two making the finals after a round robin), but they got into the right gears at the right times to finish up where they belonged.

Only Bill Mielke and Stanelle went undefeated in their prelim brackets, with the other finalists posting 3-1 marks. Tim Mlachnik was also 3-1 in bracket III, but lost out in a playoff with Mathis.

The \$700 in players' entry fees was augmented by Jerry and Danny Hay pitching in \$180, as well as a \$60 contribution from the Trans American Billiard Association, a Milwaukee organization devoted to the promotion of billiards in the area. So tournament director Dan McCann was able to break up \$940 in cash prizes as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------|
| 1. George Brunt | \$400 |
| 2. Edgar Mathis | 225 |
| 3. Kevin Stanelle | 100 |
| 4. Bill Mielke | 75 |
| 5. E. Skenandore | 35 |
| 6. Larry Tenor | 35 |
| 7. Chuck Olla | 35 |
| 8. Terry Romine | 35 |

BULL SHOTS

by BOB MULLEN
Executive Editor



As Promised.....THE TURKEY OF THE YEAR
Prefacing our unscientific poll of nominations for the "TURKEY" of the year we reported in last month's issue the nominees thus far: **Ronnie Allen** for the Burlington Bungle, **Courtney and Coffey** for the Burlington Boonedoggle and **Bob Goodwin** of BCA for the submarining of the National Billiard News booth at the Open. Well, Goodwin was scratched because the committee decided that he did not have the experience in the field at the time to do differently.

Other nominees, sent in by mail in the past month, are: **Conrad Burkman** co-publisher of the Billiard News, nominated by **Lou Butera** and **Lou Butera** nominated by **Conrad Burkman**. Explanation: This Feud developed when Butera claimed he lost a game due to the officiating at the BCA Open; Burkman is the head referee and responsible for the quality of officiating at the Open and besides all that Conrad was the referee at the time of the dispute. **D. Silvah Fahks**, one of our investigative reporters, was nominated by **Nick Page** of Chicago's Golden Cue for obvious reasons. **Bruce Christopher's** name was put in the list by the Book of the Month Club for his humble tome, "The God-Player", and "old Bull Shots" was placed in the field by **Pete Margo & The PPPA**. We hope that the final selection met with your approval

NOW ON TO BIGGER AND BETTER.....The staff at NBN was amazed at the demand built up for the custom-molded pewter Belt Buckles that we have offered for the past few months. The sales were so great we had to have some more made. There was a slight misunderstanding about the leather belt being included in with the price of the buckle, not so. Due to a typo the line explaining that the belt was extra was deleted by a crazed printer hung up on S-M.

A MIND BOGGLING MIND.....**GEORGE FELS** is a recent contributor to our publication and his presence should be well noted. I find his piece in this month's issue shows that George is a perceptive observer of the pool scene. I can hardly wait for his forthcoming book to be published so that students of the game and its psychological implications will have something to study.

UP-AND-COMING PLAYER, LUTHER LIPSCHITZ, has turned into a philosopher. In addition to having the world's record of sinking eight straight balls in the wrong pocket, Mr. Lipschitz is rhapsodizing that pool is a game that requires a head for the same reason a pin has a head; to keep the player from going too far and getting in too deep.

If "Baretta" can run the rack in nine ball why is he wasting his time as a cop? If Belgian Balls are so good why is their birth rate on the decline? If all the tournaments named "Tournament of Champions" were laid end to end would they form the word "poozl". (The 'z' is for the possible detour that may be present at payoff time.) If a player finished a game as a loser and did not complain about the equipment and/or the officiating would he or she be nominated for sainthood? If the pool tourney promoter would sweeten the payoff pot with enough bucks to make it all worthwhile would the earth stop rotating with right hand english?

CANADA IS COMING ON IN POOL.....With the opening of the Canadian area for the play of coin-op tables a short time ago, is it not in the foreseeable future that "Boston" or pool will grab a strong foothold in the land of snooker? The players coming up today in the States are not that serious about the game and are just killing time on the smaller tables. Most of them find it interesting to play a game without the strategy necessary in snooker or straight pool.

DANNY JANES

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AN OPEN LETTER From TOM JENNINGS

Winning the U.S. Open in 1976 was undoubtedly one of the most exciting experiences in my life. However, since I have returned home to New Jersey, the situation has not been very pleasant for me.

As most of the readers probably know, the New Jersey, New York area is the home of the new "aspiring" organization, the P.P.P.A. Although I decided to play in Chicago and not Asbury Park, I had felt enthusiasm towards the P.P.P.A. and the goals to which they aspired. Unfortunately, my enthusiasm has since turned to disappointment.

I was recently asked to play in a "King Of The Hill" event in Philadelphia. After having accepted the offer, I was informed several days later by a member of the Board of Directors of the P.P.P.A. that I would not be permitted to play the exhibition. I was perplexed by this decision and as the conversation continued I became increasingly dismayed. I was informed the reason I would not be permitted to play was because I was not a member of the P.P.P.A. I was also told that, in my case, since I had played in the U.S. Open, there would be an additional substantial "penalty fee", which would be attached to the original membership fee of \$300. Accordingly, there would be a penalty fee

initiated towards "any player seeking membership in the P.P.P.A. who had played in the 1976 U.S. Open". It was clear to me at that point, that I could not submit to membership in the P.P.P.A. under these unreasonable conditions, since I was proud to have played in the U.S. Open and to have won.

Can we conclude objectively that this type of administration is in the best interest of the sport and the players? I think not! Should the other U.S. Open players find the imposition of a penalty fee unreasonable, the P.P.P.A. would not have their support, and we are talking about the likes of Joe Balsis, Dallas West, Danny DiLiberto, Mark Beilfuss, and many other great players. The P.P.P.A. is acting in a stubborn, short-sighted fashion which is not only hurting themselves but also the players and the sport.

As Herman Ullsit so expertly pointed out in his article in the September issue of the *Billiard News*; what was really gained by those thoughtless and reckless remarks made by Peter Margo, which appeared in *Sports Illustrated*, August 30, 1976, which not only attacked the U.S. Open and the players but also my caliber of play as a professional player and winner of the tournament? Oddly enough the "never-

open, never World-Champion" Peter Margo has not found it in his heart to challenge me in a public match, nor has the P.P.P.A. had the promotional insight to promote a match between myself and their champion, Larry Liscioti, whom I respect as a player.

As Danny DiLiberto put it, over a cup of coffee after the U.S. Open; "they seem confused. It takes more than a room filled with hundred ball runners to effectively run an organization like the P.P.P.A. What pool needs is colorful players, players who can reach out to the public and capture the interest of the average person. Peter Margo, by referring to Tom as a "shortstop" and the Open players as "a host of unknowns", owes Tom and the players an apology."

I think we all agree that properly governed, the P.P.P.A. has tremendous potential to offer the world of billiards, but their attitudes must become more professional and objective and less personal and prejudiced. By working with the B.C.A. and not against, both organizations can grow and promote the sport so that the players and the fans can get the most out of the great sport of billiards.

Thank you,

Tom Jennings
1976 U.S. Open Champion

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Venzke's View from the Bleachers

DICK LANE—

A PLAYER'S PERSPECTIVE

By **BRUCE VENZKE**
Chief Correspondent

During the 1976 U.S. Open in Chicago, I interviewed the fine young professional pocket billiard player **Dick Lane**, now of Tulsa, Oklahoma. Here are some views of one of the most astute players making a go of it as a full-time pool player.

NBN: Dick, there's been a lot of talk about a change, perhaps drastic, in the game of 14.1 to try to make it a more attractive vehicle for public (TV) consumption. As a full-time player who's given the current status of the game and its participants a good deal of thought, what change(s) do you feel would be in the best interests of all involved?

LANE: Well, I'm really only in favor of a change if network television comes along and requests changes; if that occurs, then I think that in the course of negotiations, we'll have to make some changes to accommodate them. But I don't think we should make any such changes without the network television package right there asking for it. Most importantly though, I'm confident that the players as a whole would make any reasonable change of format or even change games completely if the result would be a network television arrangement (and thus increased dollars).

NBN: That's fine, but most people seem to be accepting the principle that TV will not become interested until and unless we do make a change; after all, even ABC lost interest (apparently). Can you refute that argument?

LANE: I don't think that the problem of getting TV rests on the nature of the game; I think it rests elsewhere, although I'm not exactly sure just where. Perhaps promotion alone is the simple answer, but I'm not real assertive on that point because I don't know that area real well.

NBN: Let's presume that the best possible job of selling the present game to TV has been done, and has still failed to be accepted as the vehicle that will "make it." If you were then asked to step forward with a solution, what would it be?

LANE: There are many possibilities; the game of Jerry Briesath's just demonstrated (Equal Offense) could be good, or even something radically different like the TV game used in Milwaukee might work. But I personally would like to see a little more of the traditional 14.1 game retained, such as head-to-head matches, long runs, etc., although I'll also be the first to admit that some new or untraditional game and-or format might indeed be the answer.

However, first I'd like to see one modification tried that's

been successful in other games such as nineball and eightball: that is to play 14.1 with cue ball in hand after any foul, intentional or otherwise. That would in essence reduce the amount of safety play and make the game much more offensive.

NBN: One criticism of 14.1 that is easy to agree with is that the game is too analytical, too complicated and too subtle to appeal to a mass audience. Even the best commentators available can't do a super job on TV because the amount of innovation and variety available to the players makes the task extremely difficult. How do you respond to that argument against 14.1 as a TV game?

LANE: I agree basically with those points, but I do feel that 14.1 on TV could still be successful if proper editing, good viewer education features, careful commentating, and utilization of special techniques such as slow motion replays, close-ups of certain strokes, etc., are incorporated into the programming. Then I feel that interest could be maintained, and in fact, generated among those unfamiliar with the game.

Take the West-Hubbart game last night here in the Open; Hubbart was leading 143-59 while at an open table. His missing that combination shot and then Dallas running 91-and-out is typical of the kind of spectacular culmination that no game other than 14.1 provides.

To me, and I think to the spectators as well, that game had more entertainment value than any other conceivable game or format that could be devised.

NBN: You and I, along with all the 14.1 lovers, would certainly agree on that. But consider these arguments: (1) A game like that West-Hubbart battle comes along maybe once every 25-30 matches; and (2) The average victory margin in U.S. Open games is about 70 points. The average Joe watching TV probably would have turned off the West-Hubbart match when Hubbart got a 60-70 point lead. Those factors would chill the enthusiasm of a television producer.

LANE: True perhaps, but I rest my case on the presentation factors I mentioned earlier; the person doing the commentary, given the right technological tools, can put life into it when needed, and it would stand very well on its own most of the time.

Of course, the other games are perhaps a little bit easier to

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Thorburn Repeats as Champion

Ottawa — Cliff Thorburn of Victoria defeated North American Champion, Bill Werbeniuk of Vancouver, 9-2 in the best of 17 finals Saturday, October 3rd. He retained his title as the

Canadian Snooker Champion with some spectacular play.

Thorburn had amazing runs of 117, 125, 127 and 135 in his one sided victory.

The Champion collected \$1500.00, while Werbeniuk received \$700.00. The west coast pair advanced to the finals after eliminating all the other top Canadian players.

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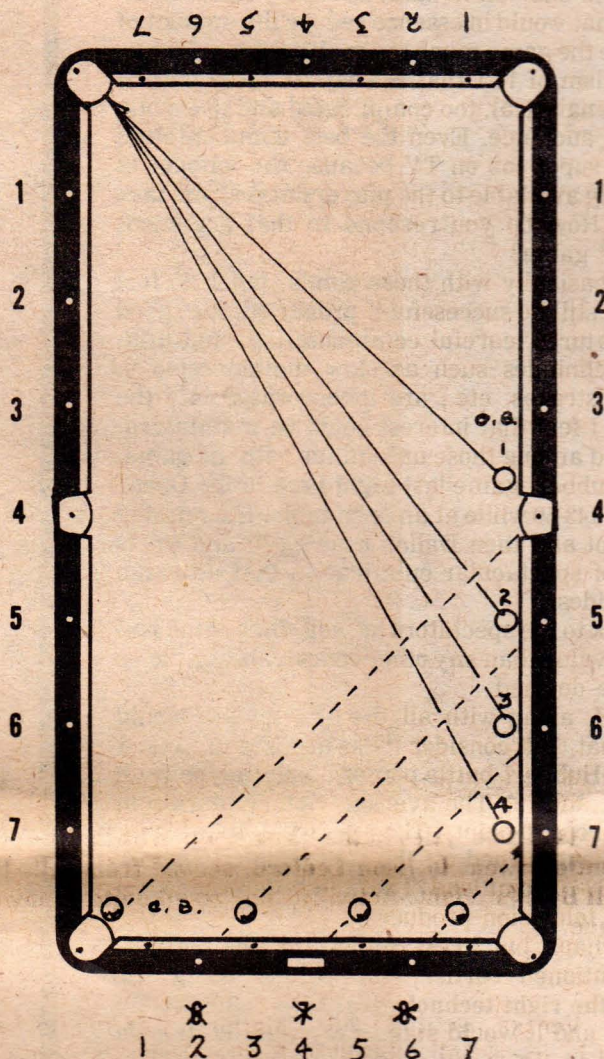
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PRO TIPS



By JOHNNY HOLIDAY

Many players have written to me inquiring as to the manner in which long cross banks can be thought out with the use of the diamonds. To simplify the procedure I devised a system of renumbering the short rails to conform with the long rails.



HOW TO: Play 1 — When counting diamonds, corners are included and the diamond by the object ball is omitted. Begin by placing the cue ball on a direct line towards diamond 4; the cue ball is to travel a straight line towards the object ball.

Count the diamonds from the top corner to diamond 3 on the long rail; the total is 4. Now count off 4 diamonds below the object ball. With an equal number of diamonds above and below the object ball the bisecting point is established and you are ready to play the shot.

Play 2 — By omitting diamond 5 at the object ball location, the number of diamonds, including the top corner pocket, totals 5. Then, by counting the 3 diamonds below the object ball on the left long rail, and adding diamonds 1 & 2 on the bottom short rail, the total is 5. This forms the angle needed and determines the bisecting point of the cross corner bank. All cross banks can be thought out with this method.

Plays 3 & 4 — These are thought out similarly. Remember, the sight remains constant, no matter the cue ball location.

To all bank shots apply at least 1/2 cue tip english right. A phrase worth remembering goes this way: Right goes left, and left goes right.

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World Billiard Association's Bill Pierce, pictured here with (l to r) Mary Carrilo, Kathy Denny, Donna Braun, Peggy Grantano and Teri McLaughlin, told our reporter that the five finalists in the "Miss International Billiards of 1976" contest are not included in the tournament prize fund.

Photo by John Dooley

Hot Springs, ARK—

The Velda Rose Tower Hotel's Grand Ballroom (Trojan Hall) in Hot Springs, Arkansas, will be the site of the largest pocket billiard (pool) championship tournament ever held in the history of the game.

The tournament starts Friday, November 26th,

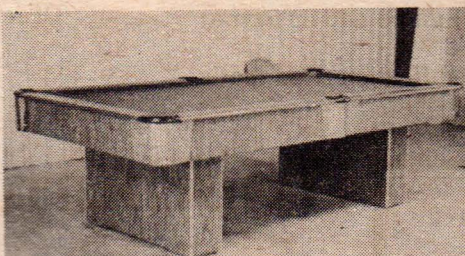
running continuous matches, afternoon and evening sessions, for seventeen consecutive days, with the finals and champion being crowned on Sunday, December 12th.

There will be \$60,000 in prize money, with \$17,000 to the overall winner, and 49 separate cash prizes and trophies will be awarded.

This tournament is sanctioned by the Billiard Congress of America.

The people behind the tournament are Bill Pierce and Paullie Jansco, who promoted the famous "Hustlers" tournament for 14 years and the "Stardust

Please turn to page 10



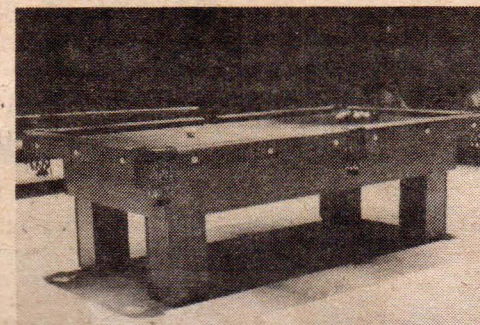
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EQUAL OFFENSE: *Is It The Answer?*

by Conrad Burkman

Equal Offense... the game of the future?

For proprietors this may be the salvation for leagues, beginners, and school groups at all proficiency levels.

Madison, WI—

Sunday Oct. 17 the first advertised Equal Offense tournament was held at Cue-Nique Billiards. — What is Equal Offense? What can it do for the Proprietor, the player, and the fans? All of these questions and more will be answered by this and several successive articles on the subject.

Equal offense may be played with two players head to head, partners, or teams. This concept will lend itself to league play. With this game there are an infinite number of ways to play. The object is always the same, to pocket as many balls as possible in a predetermined number of innings.

The game works like this. The balls are racked by the shooter. For a tournament the table is marked as it is for any Straight Pool tournament. Balls are broken by the shooter as he would for Eight Ball. The break is free and all balls pocketed are respotted. If the player scratches on the break there is no penalty. After the break is complete, shooter gets cue ball in hand behind the line. The object then is to begin pocketing balls over the line, calling the shot as in 14.1. The tournament was set up for the players to pocket a maximum of twenty balls, forcing them thru a break shot. Each player played the innings. The inning was played until a player ran twenty balls, missed a called shot, or scratched. Therefore a perfect game was 200 (10 innings at 20 balls each). This may sound simple for the pro's, but don't be fooled, it isn't as easy as it sounds.

Scoring at the tournament was done on individual score cards and a large screen which held the totals for all

players. Each player was given a large cardboard name plate with his name printed in bold letters on top. Below the name there were ten double boxes across the bottom. When it was your turn to shoot you hung your card from a hanger clip on the overhead light fixture, so everyone would know who was playing at each table.

Let's go through a frame; you rack the balls, then break, respot all balls pocketed on the break, take cue ball in hand behind the head string and prepare to shoot your first called ball. When your run reaches fourteen, the referee steps forward and reracks the balls. The break ball goes, and you break two balls out of the pack. You miss on your second attempt to break the cluster after pocketing two more balls. Again the referee steps forward removes your card posts 17 in the top box under inning number one and your total cumulative score in the bottom box, in this case 17. You initial your score as accurate and take your card to the master scorer, who will post it on the large board for the players and fans to follow. Now you move to the next table for inning number two. The table rotation was predetermined before play began.

By this time you can see there is no defense involved in the game. All the super stars will throw up their hands in horror and claim defense is a large part of the game. But to Mr. Proprietor, the super stars don't put money in their pockets every day. It's the millions who are learning to play and playing for enjoyment, these are the people who make the cash register ring. To them the name of the game is to pocket balls. The average player now can have a gauge to test his skill. He doesn't have to be able to run 150 or 200 balls, he only needs twenty, this is what the pro's run.

Again from the proprietors stand point, this game can be played at any level of proficiency. The basic format needs no change, only the

totals. (For instance the novice game could be played 15 balls to the inning, and if that is too hard, give him or her two misses.) As the player progresses in skill take away one miss then both misses, etc. The possibilities are endless.

This game can be geared around a very predictable

time element which is a must if we are going to sell the game to tv. It is such a simple game to explain that anyone can understand it and follow its easily. During a regular tournament, the worse you play the longer the game takes. Here however the worse you play the quicker it's over.

This should be the ideal game for the professional women, if played to 15 as with only a couple of exceptions, none of them can run over that number.

For Proprietors this may be the salvation for leagues, beginners, and school groups at all proficiency levels.

New Game Debuts

Unique Cues at Cue-Nique



Jerry Briesath, center, inventor of "Equal Offense", ties in the "You Know Who Smile Contest" with Eddie Mathis, left. Honorable mentions went to Leon Ledford, second from left, Randy Lamar, second from right, and Marshall Boelter, right. Actually, they're all quite happy about the results of two days of pool at Cue-Nique.

Madison, WI—

Lamar and Ledford all the way in Madison.

It was quite a weekend in Madison as Leon Ledford and Randy Lamar swept the field in both the Cue-Nique 9-Ball Open and the Equal Offense Open which followed.

You could tell you were in Wisconsin as every player had either a Sailor, Viking, or McDermott cue. With all the cue makers present including foreigner Danny Janes (Joss East) it was almost like a convention.

Leon Ledford grabbed 1st money of \$250.00, with Randy Lamar getting 2nd, Eddie Mathis 3rd (playing with a brand new McDermott Cue. He also sells them), and

Ky. "Regular"

Killed in Detroit

Lexington, KY—

"One-Eye" Tony Howard, a regular at Campus Billiards in Lexington, was killed in an auto accident outside of Detroit, Michigan in late September. His body was shipped back to Brodhead, Kentucky where he was buried following services at the Brodhead Funeral Home.

No other details were available.

Bruce Venzke getting 4th honors in the 9-Ball tourney on Saturday.

In the Equal Offense on Sunday it was Lamar 1st, Ledford 2nd, Boelter 3rd and

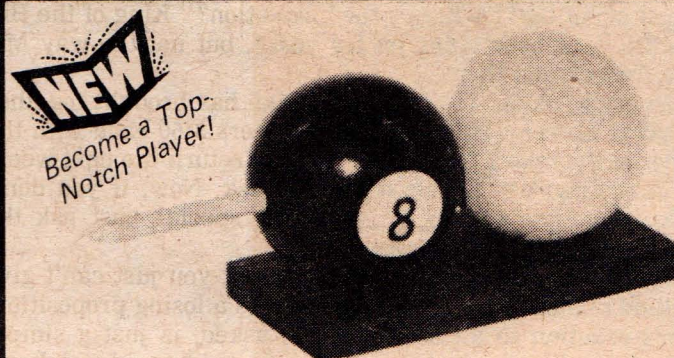
Mathis 4th. In the final round Boelter blew his first shot in the side pocket one inning and got 0 or he could have finished 1st or 2nd. In Equal Offense 1 error can be costly.

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1977 WORLD OPEN:

Plans are under way for the 1977 World Open Pocket Billiard Championship, tentative dates are August 8th through 14th, 1977, at the Convention Hall in Asbury Park, New Jersey. The tournament will have a guaranteed prize fund and, hopefully, the Women's Professional Billiard Alliance will be playing alongside the men.

The first PPPA qualifiers for this tournament go on sale as of November, 1, 1976. Twelve qualifiers have already been pledged by fellow room members, with the winner of each qualifier receiving a free entry into the 1977 World Open.

To obtain a qualifier, call or write the PPPA headquarters. Prices are: Minor Qualifier — \$500, Major Qualifier — \$300.

All players must be members or registered as members to participate in these tournaments. We will also be accepting at-large entries, which means that any player who does not qualify, can buy his way in for the sum of \$300.

HALL OF FAME:

The PPPA will host a special "Hall of Fame Dinner" on December 4, 1976, at the Colonia Country Club, Colonia, New Jersey. This affair will be held in honor of inducting three of the greatest players of all time into the newly-formed Hall of Fame.

JIMMY CARAS, IRVING CRANE, and LUTHER LASSITER, have graciously accepted the invitation, and will be on hand to receive their special Hall of Fame awards.

These three great champions, who challenged the Kingdom of Pool and conquered it, are champions both on and off the table. They represent the epitome of winning and the spirit of pool.

The temporary headquarters for the PPPA Hall of Fame will be at the Palmer Billiard Corporation, 37 Westfield Ave., Elizabeth, New Jersey.

So, if you are in the neighborhood, drop in and say hello, show off your membership card (get a discount), and see some of the things that made these great players so famous.

The PPPA will adopt the policy of honoring the living as well as the deceased, and will honor all individuals associated with pool who, judged by their peers, have achieved a proficiency of excellence.

All PPPA members will be receiving an invitation to attend this special historic dinner and dance. Any other parties interested in attending this affair should write or call the PPPA.

INNOVATION:

Every Tuesday night in Philadelphia a fellow named Mike Fusco runs a "King of the Hill" match between two of the world's leading players. "So what?" you may say, "What's so special about that? Where's the innovation?" King of the Hill matches have been going on for years, but not the way Mr. Mike Fusco runs them.

Every week for the past year Mike has brought together two great players. He gives these players \$150 each with the winner of the match having the right to return the next week.

That's right — 300 smackers a week. Now, if you don't think what Mike's doing is something special, just ask the PPPA players how they feel.

Many people have said Mike's crazy, you just can't give this kind of money away every week, it's a losing proposition. Mike's reaction to all of this, when asked, is just a simple laugh, and a "Come on down on Tuesday night and watch my room fill up with customers at \$3 a head."

The present King of the Hill is Steve Mizerak, who has gone undefeated in 14 matches, including two 150-ball runs.

The PPPA is proud that Mike is a fellow Pro Member, and

Please turn to page 22

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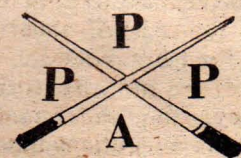
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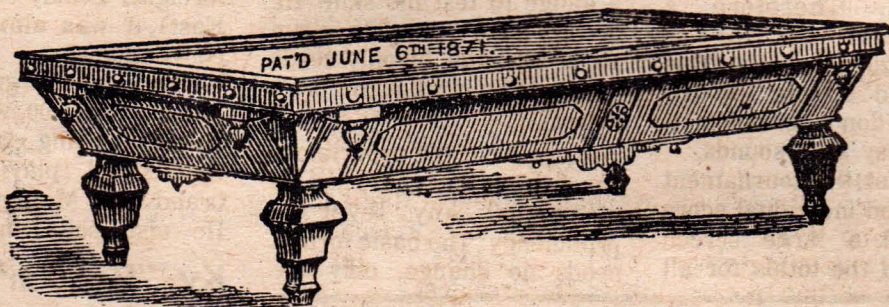
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— LETTERS TO THE EDITORS —

received, and we have no details as to when it is supposed to be staged.

★★★

For some time now I have been reading and listening to everyone's comments and suggestions on how to improve the present situation of our sport. I would like to add my viewpoint, not as a professional player, or room owner, or manufacturer, but as one of the millions of average players throughout the country.

When I attend golf, bowling, or tennis tournaments, capacity crowds are generally the rule, but when I attend billiard tournaments I find they are generally the exception. I believe the reason for this is that in those successful sports the spectators are involved competitively on a local level. They compete in either leagues or tournaments and can identify with the pro players more readily.

The average pool player, on the other hand, feels far removed from the pro. He or she needs involvement under competitive and tournament conditions, which in turn will satisfy the need for fulfillment and recognition of his or her individual ability.

If the amateur player can feel the thrill of achievement at their own level, they can better identify with the

players at the top. This will in turn promote a greater understanding between all players, and will serve to enhance spectator appeal. Bowling didn't start with 30 bowling centers around the country holding 30 pro tournaments. It started with 3000 bowling centers and 3,000,000 bowlers competing against each other. The same has to be done in billiards.

The second point of consideration is the game being played. Personally, I truly enjoy straight pool over all others. But let's face it, the average player has never played the game; nine ball and eight ball are where it's at for pro tournaments with spectator appeal. Nine ball is easy to understand and has climactic points frequently throughout a session. Eight ball is universally familiar; it's the first game practically anyone learns. Maybe when a good deal of the 30,000,000 amateurs become involved locally as mentioned earlier, we can then introduce them to straight pool and expand 14.1 tournaments.

Another thing. Nobody has to put in long hours over many years to become proficient enough to enjoy the game and enter competition. Anybody who can hold a cue has the potential to compete professionally, if they put that potential to work.

Of course, most of us will never reach the level of Mosconi or Mizerak, but that doesn't mean we can't enjoy the thrill of competition and of winning. In straight pool, for instance, you don't have to be able to run hundreds. If you can work up to 30's or 40's you'll come out alright. Sure, someone is going to pop an 80 or 120 on you once in a while, but these are the players who play all day, every day. It's to be expected.

I started playing pool a year and a half ago. Each time I practiced, I improved a little bit more. But I couldn't understand why, if I could run 14 and set up a break shot, I couldn't do the same for seven racks (100 balls). Now I realize the difference is simply

experience, which means practice.

Since I've started playing I've entered a professional tournament and got blown out the door so fast I hardly saw what the tables looked like. But I've also placed fifth in one tournament and won another. I'm nowhere near the caliber of your pro player, but I can win matches here and there and finish in the money once in a while. And so can anybody.

Practice, play people better than you, take lessons from a professional if one is available, and realize that the top players are human too. Nobody is born running 100 balls, and world tournaments have been won with a high run of 53.

Thanks for your space and time. Keep up the excellent work your paper has done in reporting for the billiard world.

Regards,

RUEHL V. LEE
Davenport, Iowa

Concluded from page 2

facts. However, establishing just what the facts are is sometimes very difficult when you have several reliable sources who can't agree.

Regarding the PPPA prize fund, a PPPA spokesperson informed a member of our staff that we "could print that Larry Lisciotti walked off with a check for \$10,000." However, an equally reliable source close to the matter informed us that Mr. Lisciotti "received a check for only \$2,500" with a promise of more to follow.

As of the date of publication we have received no further official oral or written word from the PPPA about the prize fund breakdown.

As for the Burlington tourney, our understanding about the allegations that the winner was not paid is the same as yours. We have been informed that some players did receive some money, but that for the most part promissory notes were issued for the monies due. These notes were to be redeemed at the WOENA tournament in Kansas City, we were told, but no information on that tournament has been

Micro-Logic "48-6" Unveiled

MADISON, WISCONSIN

Designed by a billiard room operator for those in the industry, Cue-Nique Micro-Logic Mfg., Ltd., today unveiled its 48-6, fully computerized, programmable time machine, with a capability of handling as many as 48 tables or lanes.

The 48-6 computer provides the owner with a wide range of options, including day-night rates, table light control, and employee time keeping. Of solid state construction, the reliable, compact unit operates on 110 volt. A.C. with a built-in battery back-up system to retain memory up to 18 hours in the event of line power

failure & many other new features.

Jerry Briesath, Micro-Logic president, stated that "finally we offer a unit designed by a guy on the owner's side of the counter with features the owner needs and wants."

Briesath, former Midwest Champion and currently one of the nation's leading instructors of the game, has owned and/or operated his own 23-table room for more than 8 years.

For more information, call or write Cue-Nique Micro-Logic Mfg., Ltd., at 317 West Gorham Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53703 — Telephone (608) 251-1134, Jerry Briesath, President.

THE NATIONAL BILLIARD NEWS

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Hot Springs Gears Up for \$60,000 Tourney

Continued from page 6

Tournament" in Las Vegas for 9 years.

The Velda Rose Tournament is the second tournament scheduled on an annual circuit which will include projected tournaments in Los Angeles, Las Vegas, Kansas City, Baltimore, Toronto, Atlanta, New Orleans, and Memphis. The "Tournament of Champions" being held November 5th thru November 21st at the Western Skies Hotel in Albuquerque, New Mexico, is the first World Billiard Association tournament on the circuit. (See enclosed fact sheet, Tournament of Champions.)

The Velda Rose Tournament is open to anyone who plays pool and wishes to enter and will attract the greatest array of pool players the world has ever known, such as: St. Louie "Louie" (Louie Roberts), Captain Hook (Mike Sigal), Fast Eddie (Ronnie Allen), Champagne Ed (Ed Kelly), Machine Gun Lou (Lou Butera), Harry the Horse (Harry McConnell), Popcorn (John Miller), Weenie Beenie (Bill Staton), Harpo (Jim Rempe), Buffalo Danny (Danny DiLiberto), Cornbread Red (Bill Berge), Toupee Jay (Jay Helfert), Boston Shorty (Larry Johnson), Knoxville Bear (Eddie Taylor), Springfield

Rifle (Jimmy Relihan), Sir Lancelot (Jim Marino), Cannonball (John Chapman), Cowboy Jimmy Moore (Jimmy Moore), Handsome Danny (Danny Jones), Daddy Warbucks (Hubert Cokes), and numerous others.

These are not only the greatest players but they are the most colorful breed of people, right out of the Damon Runyan world, and guaranteed to capture the imagination of all who watch them play.

Pocket billiards (pool) is now rated number six among all participating sports. The top ten participating sports, according to the 1976 A. C. Nielsen Company survey, shows swimming as number

one. Number two is bicycling, third is fishing, fourth is camping, fifth is bowling, sixth is pocket billiards (pool), seventh is table tennis, eighth is tennis, ninth is softball and basketball was tenth. Golf was listed 14th, baseball 15th, and football was 16th.

The vast popularity of pool has now been recognized by the collective media. This is evidenced by extensive coverage provided by the

newspapers (NEW YORK TIMES, LOS ANGELES TIMES, CHICAGO TRIBUNE, WASHINGTON POST, etc.) and television networks (CBS and ABC for the most recent tournaments: The Hustler's Tournament, Johnson City, Illinois; The Stardust Open, Las Vegas, Nevada).

Although these two tournaments will attract all

Please turn to page 14

Cattrano Captures Eastern Title

By Milt Goldring

Rego Park, NY—

Jimmy Cattrano continued his winning ways by capturing his second title in as many weeks demonstrating that he is back into competition in an earnest fashion. In a curtailed field, due to last minute cancellations, Jimmy bested 6 opponents without a loss in the 1976 Eastern U.S. Three Cushion Championship Tournament held at Jacy's Billiard Academy, 96-42 Queens Blvd., Rego Park, N.Y.

The event was a round robin affair, 50 point games. Entry fee was \$100.00 with the house putting in \$50.00 and 3 trophies. The Henry Mali Co.

donated billiard cloth and a cue stick to the winner.

Play started on Fri. night Sept. 17th and continued through to conclusion on Sat. night, Sept. 18th, with the climactic final game between Carlos Hallon of Lawrence, Mass. and Jimmy Cattrano. Both men were undefeated and put on a great display of billiard prowess. Jimmy after 25 innings had a 10-point lead but in the next 25 innings Hallon narrowed the lead to 4 points and the score was 45-41 in favor of Cattrano. Cattrano finally achieved his victory in 56 innings 50-45 after Hallon made some great shots that were "tissue paper misses". Hallon, in the opinion of this writer, is a coming star and will certainly make his presence felt in any future event. He is young, talented

and really "keeps his cool" and has a fine gentlemanly demeanor at the table.

The final standing with prizes resulted thusly:

1. Jimmy Cattrano — \$300.00 + trophy and cue
2. Carlos Hallon — \$187.50 + trophy
3. Vince Sbarbati — \$112.50
4. Abel Calderone — \$75.00 plus \$37.50 high run money 2nd day and trophy

Chris Bartzos achieved \$37.50 and a trophy for high run of 7 for the first day of competition. Sal Zito and Dave Hirsch accredited themselves nobly to round out the field.

The Cattrano family have located themselves in a fine roomy establishment with first rate equipment and the billiard world wishes them every success in the future.

Philadelphia, PA—

On Tuesday night, Sept. 21st, Mike Fusco opened the fall season with his popular Weekly Exhibition series of presentation of the stars at the Boulevard Social and Athletic Club in Philadelphia, Penns.

Sort of like a top gun "King of the Hill", the winner of the previous week is challenged by a new contender. On the first night Steve Mizerak of New Jersey was challenged by Jimmy Fusco from Philadelphia. Steve easily retained his championship with a score of 150 to 92. Everything that was expected came off with Mizerak confidently running his 50 or 60 balls with ease. It reminded one spectator of a ball making machine but underneath that relaxed and confident facade is a player with the utmost concentration and skill.

The following week Mizerak was challenged by Jim Rempe. The nineball king ran 28 balls on his first shot and Steve followed with a run of 42. Unfortunately

Rempe missed his next shot and the big "M" came up with 108 and out.

Mike Fusco is the man to

Please turn to page 18

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THE KID AND I

By George Fels

G. B. Shaw has given us timeless words to the effect that it is a shame to waste youth upon the young. Which explains partially why all we ancient geezers knock ourselves out habitually in pursuit of what you would normally call a kid's game. Pool is a noble endeavor, and only maturity can do it justice.

So I do not feel wildly out of place in a room where I am old enough to have fathered every other player in the joint, and there are such rooms. I was in one not long ago, a suburban bowling alley adjunct that is upright and uptight enough to card me for proper proof of age before they allowed me a table. (Not an altogether unpleasant nor unflattering experience when you are 38 and largely bald, as I am.) Having passed the first level of security, I am now required to post the same I.D. and \$2 in cash before play begins. At long last I am cleared, and given a table with more rolls to it than a delicatessen on a weekend.

After ten minutes of watching object balls travel in various arcs, my enthusiasm is on the wane. It takes the local king of the hill

to restore my energies. He has a look of unsavory leadership about him; I can see him in another twenty years, a cigar in his beefy red face, picking up girls' dresses at conventions.

The house underdog asks him to play, a young Woody Allen-type without any of the fun, the kind on whom others play "Ditch him" before they are old enough to get into poolrooms.

"How much?" his highness asks impatiently.

"Fifty cents."

"Nah. You know my lessons cost more than that."

'Uh, play a game ... sir?'

The more things change, the more they stay the same. I heard the same words, spoken with almost the same inflection, twenty-plus years ago. I heard it a lot, too, usually just before dutifully surrendering my allowance. Life presents one with very few opportunities for revenge as juicy as this one; and I decide that even though I am in the neighborhood on business, with only an hour to

kill, I must have this yokel for mine own. I resume play, adding for effect a foolproof open-thumb bridge, and the fly steps into the spider's parlor.

"Uh, play a game?" he says. "Sir?"

"Yes," I say, geezer-like, stifling a wheeze. "I'd like that."

"For money?"

"That too."

I let him make the terms: fifty points, two dollars, loser pays. I've played for lots more than that in my time, but remember that I am playing this one mostly on principle. Besides, stakes a thousand times that high could not draw a more unanimous audience; every game in the place stops as though somebody had hit an invisible switch. They even jostle one another to get a better view.

Like most bullies, he folds early when challenged, in the first rack, to be precise. He screws up his face, looking already like the imagined conventioneer, and says through a suitable squint and wince, "Hooda — is this?" I have posted an intimidating run of eight.

Nothing is worth doing unless done well, especially revenge, so I set about the

delicious task of carrying him. I want his confidence to return before I beat him, because that will help me beat him again.

So I begin to move between shots while trailing the tip of my house-cue in the carpet behind me. This communicates inexperience. To salvage something of the tip, I have a special chalking technique for the occasion too, a carefully choreographed process wherein I hold both chalk and cue aloft, as though the two formed some kind of prize trout, and wiggle my wrists alternately until they are both about to herniate. I can hack the physical effort involved here, but keeping a straight face is a real bitch.

The tables, if you can call them that, are of the sort where you keep score on plastic dials imbedded in the rails, and I use this technology to advantage too. I add 12 to my score of 28 and come up with 30 (virtually impossible to do on the old overhead scoring wires). I leave my New Math for my opponent to see as he racks. The expression on his face is well worth the missing ten balls.

And for my *piece de resistance*, I achieve true

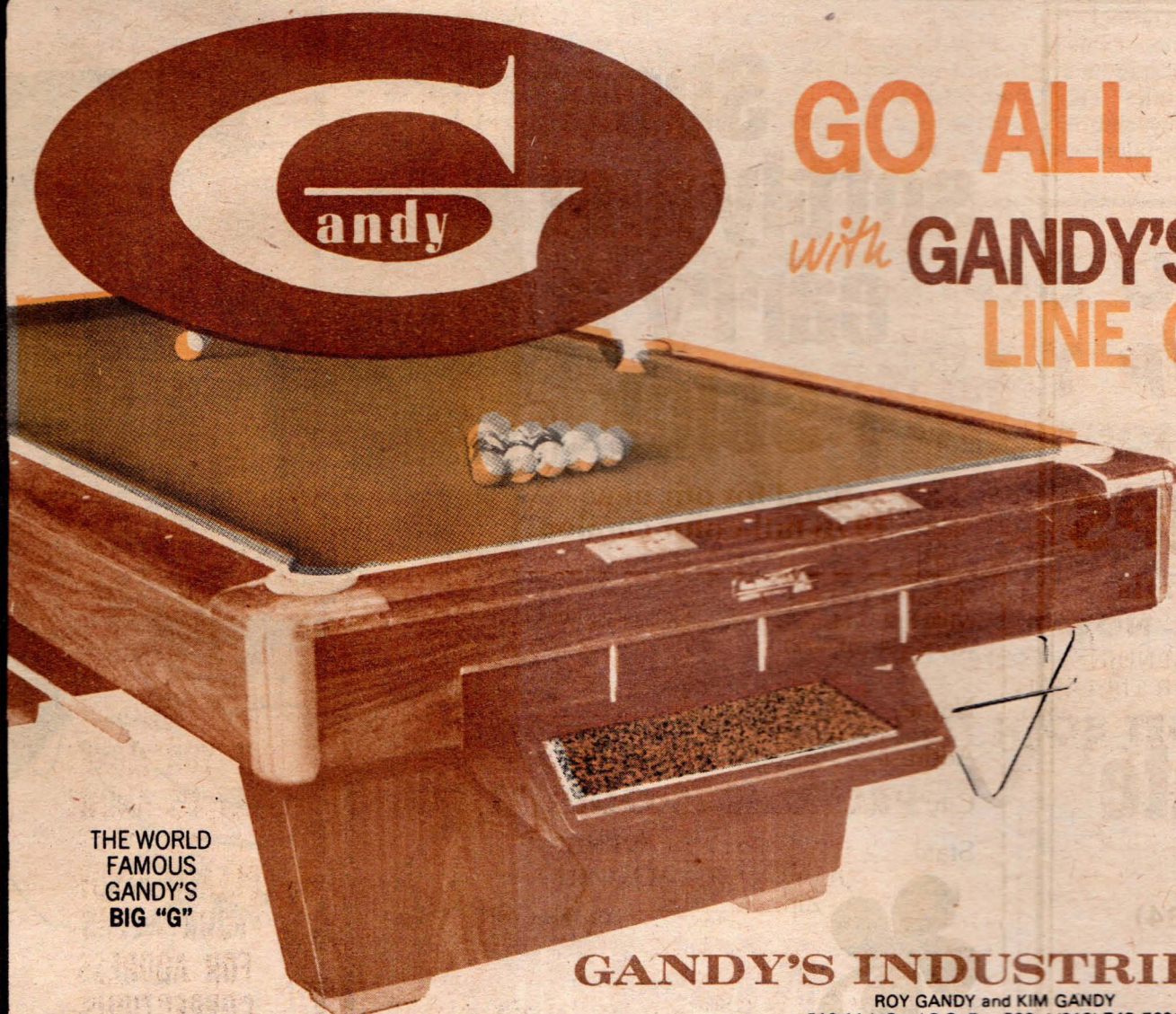
mastery. I am at once Tiny Archibald in the backcourt, Dr. J. on the baseline, Mick Jagger on Centerstage as I launch a psychotic slip-stroke, one ambitious undertaking when you are playing open-thumb. My rear hand whooshes past the rubber bumper and into oblivion. My cue sails like Bruce Jenner's javelin, fouling six object balls, puzzling fuzzy-cheeked sweaters. (This exotic ploy has heretofore been seen only in the Detroit area, where it is known as The Whitlow Woops.)

I end the charade in time for the sweetest dessert of all, a chance to utter the loveliest single word in all pocket billiards, a word that rolls off the tongue as fluidly as bluegrass banjo. "Another?" It feels almost orgasmic.

"I, uh, wish I coulda played better," he says.

"Yeah, but you got your own cue," I say, and the *non sequitur* throws him off track. I am no amateur. And at this point he casts his first thundercloud on my horizon. He searches a pocket for my deuce, comes up empty, and goes to the other pocket. This is a gesture I have learned to

Please turn to page 14



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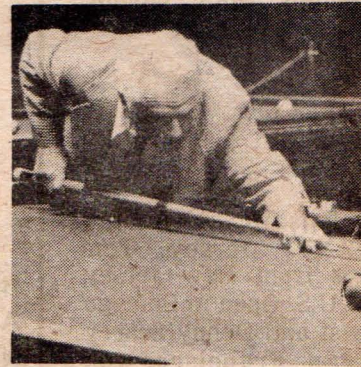
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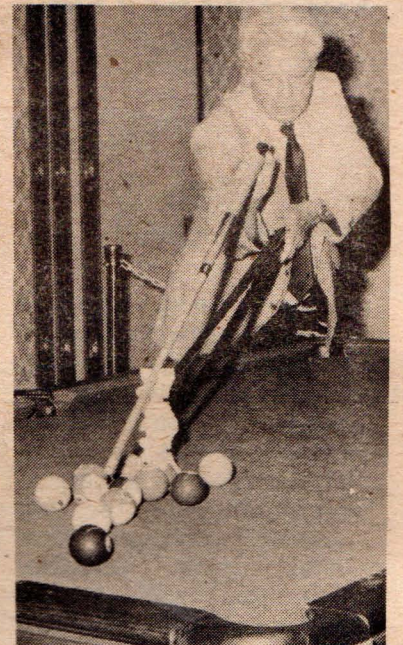
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ING
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LUTHER
LASSITER

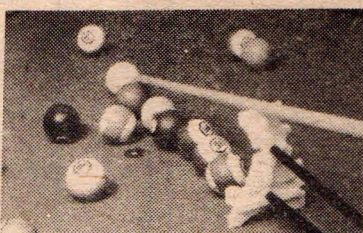


in his first World Championship
enleaf but lost the playoff game.
on the World's Title 7 times, the
S. National (twice) and the
s. In 1966, he won the first U.S.
ut in the final game.

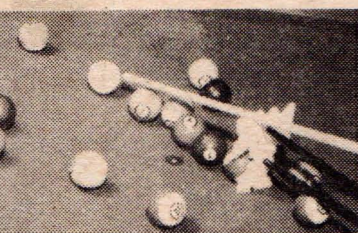
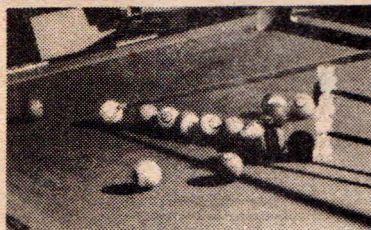
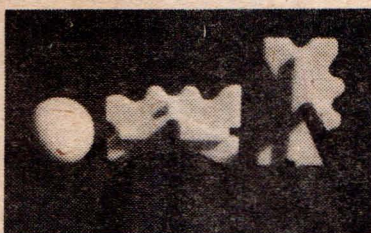
LUTHER LASSITER has won practically every major
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THE KID AND I

Concluded from page 11

observe with deep foreboding.

His next move is even gloomier: He comes up with something unknown and turns his back on me to count it. He finally breaks his silence, but with the ultimate death knell: "Would it be awright if I owed you thirty cents?"

"Bull," I respond, in the true Christian spirit, "I would've paid you if I lost."

"Gimme a buck," he says to the same kid that asked him to play before. The order is obeyed with a promptness that few Marines could match. "Better make it two," he adds, "I gotta pay the time." And that is forthcoming too.

I have now succeeded in heisting the very cherub whose honor I had originally sought to defend. He looks at me, with the expression of a cocker spaniel bound for the city pound, and shrugs

politely. A tidal wave of guilt washes me out of the room at once, leaving behind my

driver's license and \$2 deposit which will eventually cause me all kinds of grief. But

there is poetic justice in that. You can't always get what you want. Or so I've heard.

Velda Rose

Concluded from page 10

the big-name professional players throughout the world, we want to emphasize that anyone can enter and is eligible to win the big money (\$17,000 to overall winner). In fact, there have been several newcomers win the big tournaments recently. Dan Louie from Seattle, Washington, won the 1st world open 8-ball and 9-ball tournament in Bend, Oregon, in April. Larry Lisciotti from Connecticut won the Professional Pool Players

Championship at Asbury Park, New Jersey. Tom Jennings from New Jersey won the U.S. Open in Chicago in August and Denny Searcy from San Francisco won W.O.E.N.A. championship at Burlington, Iowa, last month. These players are new to professional tournaments.

There are 49 cash prizes in each tournament and new talent is placing high in all these tournaments.

So chalk up your cue, send in your entry, and surprise Santa Claus with a pocketful of money this Christmas. You, too, can be a winner.

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ON PAGE 21



COLLISION OF IMPERFECT ELASTIC(e), ROUGH(μ) SPHERES

IMPACT PARAMETERS

A = DISTANCE BETWEEN CENTERS

e = COEFFICIENT OF ELASTICITY = 0.85

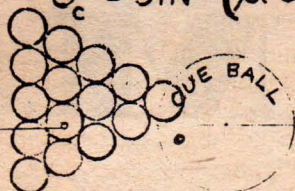
μ = COEFFICIENT OF FRICTION = +0.2 TO -0.2

$$\sin \theta = \frac{A}{2R}$$

$$\sin \theta_c = \mu \sin \theta$$

$$\theta_c = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{2 \tan \theta}{1 - e} \right)$$

$$\theta_c = \sin^{-1} (\mu \sin(\theta - \theta_c))$$



$$I = \frac{2}{5} MR^2$$

CONSERVATION OF MOMENTUM

$$MV_c = MV_c \cos(\theta - \theta_c) + MV_c \cos(\theta_c + \theta - \theta)$$

CONSERVATION OF ENERGY

$$\frac{1}{2} MV_c^2 = \frac{1}{2} M(V_c \cos \theta)^2 \left(\frac{1 - e^2}{2} \right) + \frac{1}{2} MV_c^2 + \frac{1}{2} I \omega_c^2 + \dots$$

$$M = 173 \text{ GRAMS}$$

$$R = 1.125 \text{ INCH}$$



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DOUG MacDONALD — EDITOR

THE BROKEN CUE NEWS



Pepsi-Cola — Canadian Snooker Championship

For the third consecutive year The Broken Cue News hosted the Pepsi Cola Canadian Snooker Championships to be held in the Civic Centre at Lansdowne Park. The tournament took place from Monday, September 27 to Saturday, October 2 with two sessions daily commencing at 1:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Each session consisted of two series of matches played simultaneously with each

series being a best of 11 game set. This system allowed spectators to watch any of 4 top Canadian players in action at any one time.

His Worship, Mayor Lorry Greenberg officially opened the Championships on Monday, September 27 at 7:30 p.m. at the Civic Centre. A Media Reception followed immediately the Official Opening. Mayor Greenberg competed in the Media-Celebrity Tournament held at

various Broken Cue Lounges during the week. Prizes for this fun event were a pool table for the winner and weekend accommodation for two at the Chateau Laurier

for the runner up. Prizes are compliments of Broken Cue and the Chateau Laurier.

The 20 competitors, all Regional or Provincial Champions come from across

Canada from Victoria, B.C. to Halifax, N.S. and are led by Cliff Thorburn, the current Canadian Champion and

Please turn to page 17

Top Seeded Players

CLIFF THORBURN



Cliff is the present reigning Canadian Snooker Champion and has held this title for the last 2 years. He is the holder of the world's record for perfect games having 13 to his credit. Cliff is well known to the general public through

his appearance on the O'Keefe commercials. In the 1976 Professional Snooker Championships in Manchester Cliff was narrowly defeated 15-14 by the former world champion Alex Higgins. He is one of 14 professionals to receive free entry into the 1977 Professional Championships. Cliff also won the 1974 Australian T.V. Masters Pro Tournament. He has also played extensively throughout Great Britain. He is 28 years of age and comes from Victoria. He presently resides in Toronto and is one of Canada's two professional snooker players.

BERNIE MIKKELSEN

Within the past 6 months Bernie has really come into

Please turn to page 17



Bill Werbeniuk, right, Runner-up for the 3rd year in a row, could be saying "Just lemme touch it... please" as he reaches for the trophy in winner Cliff Thorburn's hands. Helping keep the trophy away from Werbeniuk is Ervin Budge of the Broken Cue.

Photo by Bill Olson

Basic Snooker for Ladies



By Sheila King

Ladies, there is no reason why we cannot be just as good snooker players as men.

The game requires confidence, determination and patience. You cannot learn this game overnight.

The choice of a good cue is most important to your game. Most professionals suggest a cue to be 17 oz., 4 ft. 10 in. long

and taper down to 10 or 11 mm. at the tip. I find a cue with a slimmer butt a lot more comfortable to hold. The cue therefore must feel comfortable in your hands when stroking. Now put your cue on the table and pick it up, gripping the cue 2 or 3 inches from the end. This is the correct length at which you should grip the cue.

A steady stance is very important, so ladies, those high heel shoes have to go. The left leg should be slightly bent and the right leg should be straight. The left leg being in front of the right leg and approximately a foot apart. Your balance forward and over left knee.

Place your left hand on the table forming a bridge. To

form a steady bridge place your hand on the table with fingers spread wide apart. Then grip the cloth firmly with finger pads, arching your hand and bringing your

Please turn to page 16

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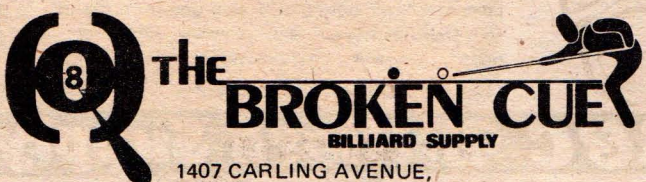
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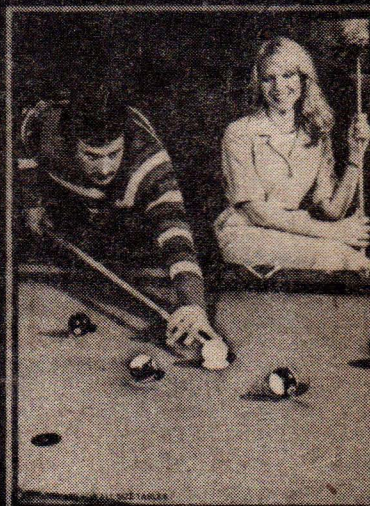
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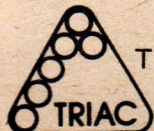
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— SNOOKER NOSTALGIA —

Many theories have been put forth on the beginnings of billiards and we have no intention of going into the matter of the billiards table that belonged to Mary, Queen of Scots. The introduction of the man in the street into Billiards history may well mark the birth of the game. The first public billiard room was opened in England, it is recorded, in the early part of the 19th century. It was the Piazza Covent Garden, owned by Mr. Abraham Carter. Today there are over 2000 billiard rooms and at least 20,000 tables.

Long after the English began the game a man named Rhodes opened a billiard house with 4 public rooms in Gotham, America. Four years later public rooms numbered about 20 in America. Not all tables were 12 feet by 6 feet as the British know them. In a big country they wanted big tables and a 14 feet by 7 feet production was utilized. It had eight legs and the cushions were stuffed with curled hair. (With the innovator of British billiard rooms named Rhodes, should we refer to these early pool room habitués who learned

their trade at the rectangular tables as "Rhodes Scholars"?)

Edwin (Jonathan) Kentfield was the champion of the game about 1825 and kept the title of champion for 24 years. His influence on the accessories of the game probably was greater than that of any other man. Kentfield's part in bringing about the improvement in tables, cushions, balls and cues was supreme. His place

in Billiard history is assured in that alone. Discovery of "Side english" effects is commonly attributed to John Car who first used "twist" in 1825. But 20 years prior to that an unnamed amateur had explored and explained "side" in a treatise.

Slate beds were first used in 1827 and in 1835 rubber cushions were introduced. The slate bed and rubber cushions may be attributed partly to the rapid

development of billiards as a popular game in Great Britain.

In the year 1823, at Liverpool, the elder John Roberts was born. He was 26 years old when he became the Napoleon of the game, a master undisputed anywhere. For twenty years Roberts was Billiards in England. The real beginning of big match play at Billiards was the John Roberts, Senior vs. William

Please turn to page 17

Sheila King on Snooker

Concluded from page 15

thumb up to rest upon your first finger, thus causing a natural groove, for straight stroking of the cue.

The bridge arm may be straight or slightly bent at the elbow, whichever feels more comfortable. I find that since I am applying pressure with my bridge hand, having a straight arm as well, applies too much tension. Therefore I personally feel more relaxed and comfortable with a slightly bent arm.

As you get down on your shot, the cue should be brushing your chin. I have seen a lot of ladies afraid to take the proper stance because this causes the cue to

run across their bosoms. Nothing to worry about! You may find it easier, however, to play snooker bra-less.

Your right arm should be perpendicular to the cue with the elbow acting as a hinge and the arm as a pendulum.

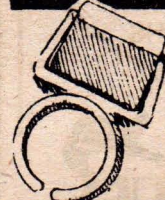
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Top Seeded Players

Continued from page 15

his own running 2 perfect games and defeating John Pulman 9-8 in last month's \$10,000 CNE tournament. Pulman held the World Professional Snooker Championship for 10 straight years. This victory by Bernie was considered to be the major upset of the tournament. In last year's Canadian Snooker Championship he won the high run price of \$100 with a 119 run. Bernie is ranked as Canada's number 2 amateur player and will be joining Robert Paquette as Canada's representatives in the October World Amateur

Snooker Championships. He has approximately 200 centuries runs to his credit. Bernie is 25 years of age and is presently living in Winnipeg although he hails from B.C.

BILL WERBENIUK

Bill is the current North American Snooker Champion having defeated Cliff Thorburn 16-14 in a Televised TV series held this year in Toronto. He has held this title for 2 years. Bill is 27 years of age and one of Canada's 2 professional snooker players. Bill has played extensively in

Please turn to page 22

Thorburn Shows Nerve

Snooker is a game of nerves and pressure.

Cliff Thorburn of Victoria, proved Friday night that his nerves are steely, and raw pressure is of little consequence to him.

Thorburn trailed his best-of-11 Canadian snooker championships semi-final 4-1 but bore down and eventually nipped Winnipeg's Bernie Mikkelsen 6-5.

Thorburn now meets Bill Werbeniuk of Winnipeg who handily disposed of Montreal's Robert Paquette in six straight games.

But, Mikkelsen nearly gave Thorburn more than he could handle. Mikkelsen came out charging and Erwin Budge, organiser of the event said: "The way he was playing no one could beat him."

However, the North American champ came roaring back to take a 5-4 edge. And just to make it more interesting, Mikkelsen had a great game and tied it before Thorburn asserted his cool authority to grab the final game and the match.

The victories set up what promises to be a super-match today at Lansdowne Park's Coliseum.

Werbeniuk is the Canadian champion and he and Thorburn are Canada's only professionals. They meet

head-to-head in a best-of-17 which was scheduled to start at 1 p.m. with eight games. The balance of the games will be played tonight starting at 7:30.

"These fellows (Thorburn and Werbeniuk) get to play in England," Budge added, "and let's face it, that's where the best players are."

SNOOKER NOSTALGIA

Concluded from page 16

Cook Championship match in 1870, which Cook won. Two months later Cook lost the Champions title to John Roberts, Junior. The history of billiards from this point to nearly 30 years on is the history of John Roberts, Junior. He dominated all.

John Roberts and his father led to the movement for the establishment of organized billiards. Both may be said to have played the leading parts in making the modern Billiards the game that it is.

(The above information was garnered from the "Handbook and Rules" Book published and distributed by the Billiards and Snooker Control Council, the worldwide governing body of English style game.)

Pepsi's Snooker Showcase

Concluded from page 15

World Record Holder of 13 perfect games. Also competing were Bill Werbeniuk the current North

American Champion, Robert Paquette, the current Canadian Amateur Champ and Bernie Mikkelsen (2

perfect games this year) who will be representing Canada in the World Amateur Championships.



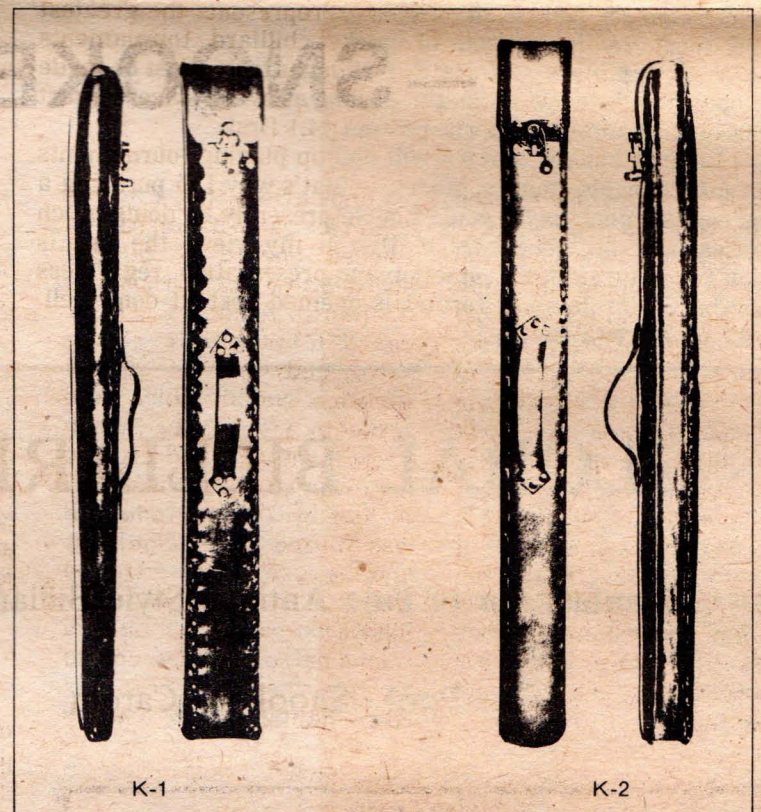
Top Row — Doug Macdonald, Neil Powell, Dave Ridge, Tony Lemay. Middle Row — John Jorgensen, Gerry Kapchinsky, Bill Werbeniuk, Cliff Thorburn, Bernie Mikkelsen, Ed Smith. Bottom Row — Paul Carle, Len Homenchuk, Ron Brown, Orv Porteous. Photo by Bill Olson

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VENZKE

Concluded from page 5

grasp, and they have keen entertainment value, too. But 14.1, with the proposed change of ball in hand after every foul, still gets my vote.

NBN: What about the complaint that 14.1 is virtually the only game where you may never have a chance to win; where you may never shoot an offensive shot, or perhaps even never shoot a shot at all?

LANE: This kind of change could be interesting: where we'd play a field event, as in golf, playing the scope of the game instead of head-to-head eliminations. That should be well received, too, because in my opinion the superior players in the current mode of 14.1 competition would also prevail in a field-type format. And of course the superior players always want to keep the skill element as prominent as possible, which is as it should be. Yes, I think such a version of 14.1 tournament formatting has plenty of merit.

NBN: Merit of such a degree that the average viewer sitting in front of his TV set will buy it?

LANE: Yes. Though the majority of people may not currently play 14.1 primarily, that's mostly because of coin-op tables and bar leagues that are not well suited for 14.1. And that doesn't mean that the viewer, whether he plays pool at all or not, won't adapt to and enjoy a well-presented 14.1 format on TV.

If public awareness and consciousness of the present form of straight pool can be expanded, the game will achieve great acceptance.

NBN: Let's jump to this hypothetical situation: In 1977, a promoter puts together a package for a rich tournament tour across the country, culminating in a national championship; this includes weekly TV coverage and the works. But in order to do so, he had to go with a radically different new game-format such as Briesath's 'Equal Offense'. Will the players go along with it?

LANE: They'll be forced to go along with it.

NBN: Didn't we find out this year that they don't have to go along with things if they don't like the way they're being done?

LANE: Well, yes, there will doubtless be holdouts on the matter, and there'll even be those who will choose to go down on a sinking ship. But in the end, wherever the money is, the players will be; eventually they'll play whatever game the money is up for.

I personally like the game of 14.1 just as it is, but the time-predictability requirements and promotion costs of TV must be considered. Television, of course, represents the greatest and most realistic hope of pocket billiard tournaments becoming big-money affairs. So if changes truly must be made to accommodate TV, so be it — as long as every sincere effort has been made to properly present 14.1 first.

I firmly believe that we will end up playing tournaments for considerable sums of money — that's why I'm pursuing a career as a pool player when I could presently be doing much better in a business career. But in my view, the key is energetic and skillful promotion and presentation, regardless of what exact game or format is deemed best. If done well, pool on TV will succeed.

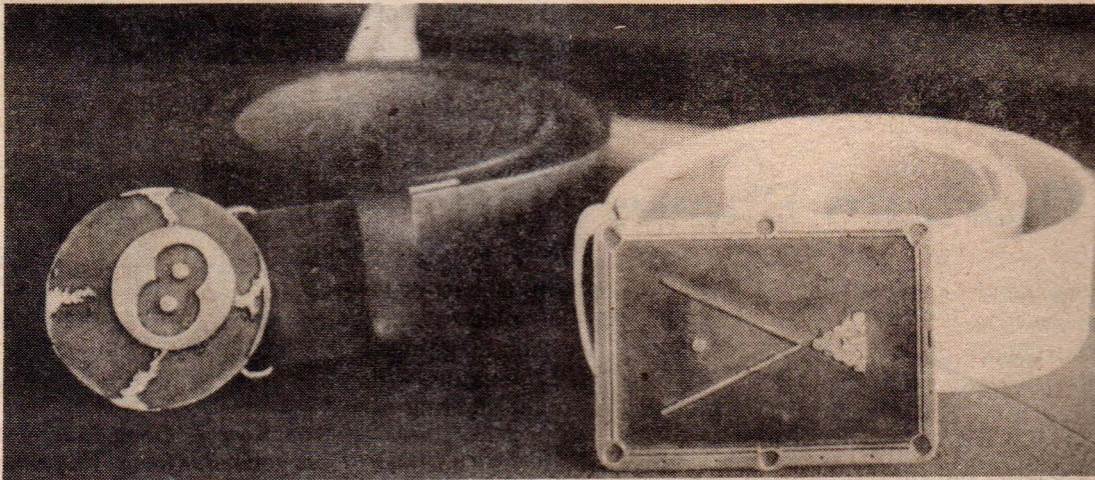
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Philly's "King of the Hill"

Concluded from page 10

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Hubbard, Tom Jennings, Pete Margo, Ray Martin, and Pete Fusco, the "challengers can be confident that whoever they face will truly test their game. Call Mike F. at (215) PI3-9564 and remember that all players are rewarded for their efforts. Big plans are in store for the habitués of the Boulevard and Social Club for Mike plans to have Mosconi return as well as all the other greats previously mentioned. A good way to spend Tuesday night in Philadelphia.

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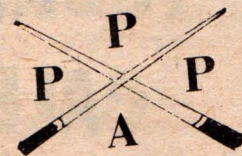
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It's Sims and Knoerr in Annual Elks Event

Decatur, IL-

Tozer's Arcade in Decatur was the place and Harry Sims played host to the State's 3-Cushion players from the Elks organization. Harry Sims' capabilities as a player have not been reached for he seems to come off on top of these tourneys. In this one Sims was undefeated and that's no way to host a party

but it is good billiards. Jack Knoerr of Lawrenceville finished 2nd with Bill Hawkins of Decatur finishing third. Jim Parish of Decatur played in his 1st state tourney and showed flashes of brilliance but finished fourth.

There were many exciting matches and moments throughout the games but on Sunday morn, Jack Knoerr

was leading Sims 49 to 41 to take a command of the game but Sims "the gracious host", came up with a 7 and a 2 back-

to-back and swept to victory. This part of Illinois is a hotbed of three-cushion activity and, with the players

that participate in this annual Elks tourney, Harry Sims can feel proud to be the new State Champion.

Nashville 3-Cushion Team Moving into Competition

Nashville TN-

Lewie Little, director and coach of three-rail billiards at Vanderbilt University here, announced that his Commodore cue team is moving into competition this fall and winter.

Little, who inaugurated the three-rail program two years ago after a brief trial run at the Student Center, has booked home-and-home contests with the University of Kentucky and Georgia Tech of Atlanta.

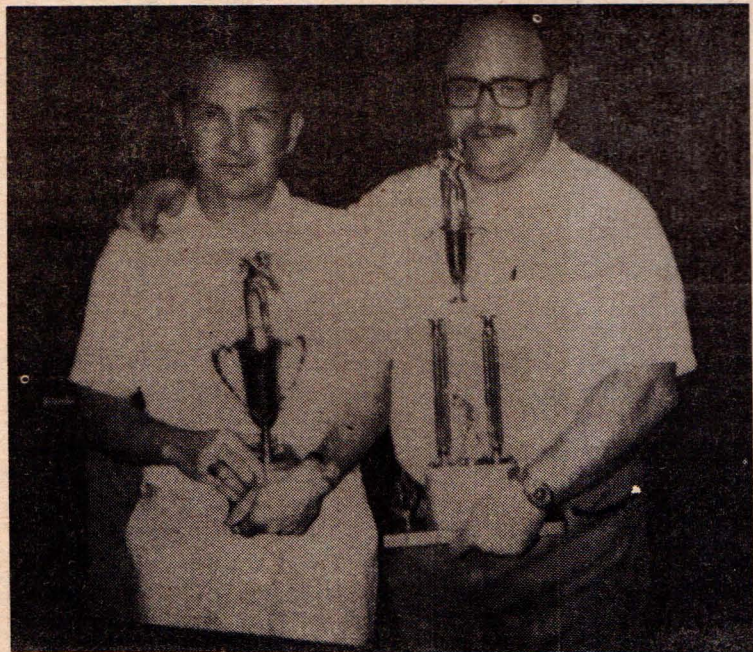
Vanderbilt's first competition in history in billiards will be against the Kentucky Wildcats at Lexington, Ky., on Saturday, Oct. 30. The five-man teams will play a round robin and will, if necessary, play into Sunday afternoon

before the Commodores return to Nashville later that day. The Vandy team will go to Kentucky on Friday afternoon after regular classes are finished.

Vanderbilt's first home matches will be against Georgia Tech at Nashville on the weekend of Friday, November 19th. Play will be

on the same schedule as that between Vanderbilt and Kentucky - going on into Sunday matches if necessary to decide a winner in the round-robin contest.

Vanderbilt will travel to Atlanta to take on the Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets on their home tables in February or March of 1977.



Harry Sims, right, and Jack Knoerr, hanging onto their trophies like there's no tomorrow.

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contact the promotor to veri-
fy dates.

— 3•CUSHION —

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Tozer's Arcade
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SILVER QUE OPEN
November 13th-14th
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411 E. Front St.
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ROCKFORD OPEN
November 27th-28th
State & Madison Rec
300 E. State St.
Rockford, Ill.

CUE CLUB No. 2
November 27th-28th
Cue Club
South Bend, Ind.

MARK TWAIN OPEN
December 4th-5th
Illinois Billiard Club
Chicago, Ill.

BENSINGER'S OPEN
December 11th-12th
Bensinger's
Chicago, Ill.

Bob Sowa Upsets Boelter, Weir & Spencer in Chicago

Concluded from page 3

event he errs. On the average
most players feel their
handicap is fair, yet like most
things, not everyone is
always satisfied.

The number of players who
show up for the weekly
tournament varies from
about twenty to fifty all of
whom have handicaps
ranging between 45 and 150. A
new player may enter with a
handicap of 75, assuming of
course that he isn't a known
champion or top player. In
that circumstance, the player
would be evaluated by Nick
and the other players and
given a fair handicap
equivalent to that of his
speed.

Out of the entry fee, two-
thirds goes back to the
players and one-third goes to
the house. Only first and
second are paid and the
winners decide how the
money is to be divided; for

example, the two winners
may decide to play for it all,
the winner takes all and
second place gets nothing.
Moreover, what usually
happens is that a compromise
is reached whereby both
players get something.
However, there have been
times when disagreements
arise and Nick sets the
precedent where the first
place gets two-thirds and
second place gets one-third.
This playoff isn't the only
option open. There is another
option where the players can
split the cash and not play the
deciding game. If this
happens, both players'
handicaps go up five points.
Normally, only the winner's
handicap goes up the five
points. Also, if a player takes
a second three times, his
handicap is raised five points.
By following these rules, Nick
has almost every eventuality
covered.

The semi-annual
tournament adheres to the
same rules as does the weekly

concerning handicaps. The
variance is the double
elimination and the
distribution of the cash. Nick
sets the prize money. I asked
Nick why he guaranteed a
thousand when he probably
wouldn't get back enough
from the entry fees to cover
his costs. (Remember, only
29 players participated and
Nick needed forty to break
even.) What he told me was
this, "When I've got these
regular players playing in my
room all year and competing
in the Monday tournaments,
I've got to give something
back to them."

MOVING?



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THE 'PEPSI CHALLENGE'

Winner of the "Pepsi Challenge" VIP-Press Snooker Tournament, His Worship Mayor Lorry Greenberg, (right) of Ottawa, accepts congratulations from Dave Brown of the Ottawa Journal.

Photo by Bill Olson



Thorburn Reaches Finals

For the third year in a row, Cliff Thorburn of Victoria, B.C. will be in the finals of the Canadian Snooker Championship, sponsored by Pepsi-Cola. Thorburn won the title the last two years and yesterday defeated the number two amateur seed, Bernie Mikkelsen of Vancouver in a cliff-hanger of a match.

Mikkelsen pulled ahead four games to one in the best-of-11 series but Thorburn won the next four games to lead 5-4. The Vancouver amateur tied the match and Thorburn

won the 11th game.

Thorburn will meet the North American Snooker champ, Bill Werbeniuk, who

yesterday disposed of top amateur seed, Robert Paquette of Montreal six games to none.

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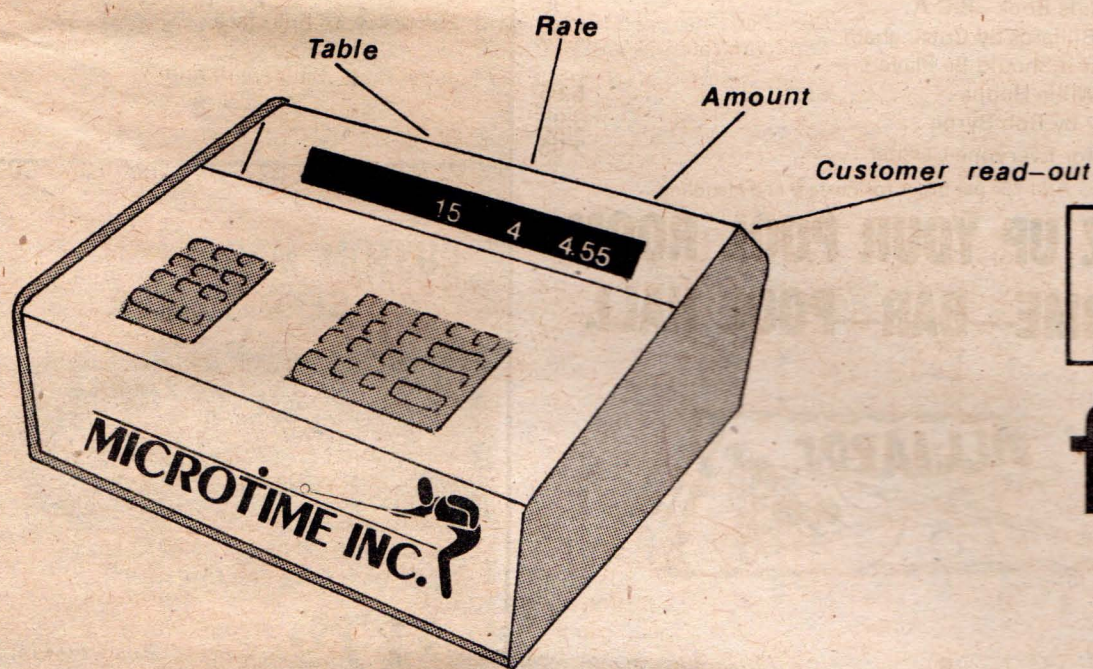
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PPPA News

Concluded from page 8

Boulevard Social & Athletic Club is a PPPA Room Member. We all take our hats off to Mike Fusco, a super guy, a super promoter, and a super room owner.

TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS:

On August 9, 1976, 32 players attended a special meeting prior to the 1976 World Open Pocket Billiard Championship. The PPPA was a newly-formed organization, but it had the foresight to predict what would happen in Burlington, Iowa, the week that followed. The PPPA advised its players not to attend this tournament because it was not sanctioned by our organization, all of the players were not PPPA members, and the money was not held in an escrow account. The rest is history.

We are advising our players not to attend the Tournament of Champions in Albuquerque, New Mexico. This tournament is not sanctioned by the PPPA, and the players in it are not PPPA members. If this is not enough reason to stay home, take the following into consideration:

The tournament is 17 days long without extra days for travel — at \$25 a day for lodging and \$25 for food, your cost is \$900 plus \$450 entry fee, which adds up to \$1,350 before hitting your first ball. Now add on your travel money and the money you lost being away from home for nearly three weeks, and the \$1,350 figure could very easily be doubled.

This type of tournament is ten years behind the times — no self-respecting Professional Pool Player could endure this kind of nonsense, so do yourself and the PPPA a favor by staying away from this type of tourney, and let's discourage the promotion of this type of fiasco in the future.

Canada's Top Seeds

Concluded from page 17

Great Britain against the world's greatest players. Within the last year he has won several open tournaments in Western Canada defeating Cliff Thorburn. Bill has 2 perfect games to his credit and is considered the best long ball potter in Canada. He comes from Winnipeg and is presently residing in Vancouver.

ROBERT PAQUETTE



Robert is the current Canadian Amateur Snooker

Champion winning this title last year by defeating Julien St. Denis 9-8. He is well known to the Ottawa-Hull area fans having competed in all the major tournaments held in the area in the last 4 years. Of the last 12 tournaments (other than the Canadian Championships) he has lost only once and that was to Julien St. Denis at last year's CCEA tournament. Immediately following this year's Canadian Championship he'll be leaving to compete for Canada in the World Amateur Snooker Championship to be held from October 10, to October 29th. Bob is 34 years

of age, married and comes from Montreal. He has 2 perfect games to his credit.

GERRY KAPCHINSKY

Gerry hails from Vancouver and must be considered a real threat to knock off any of the top 4 seeds. His play this year has been remarkable winning 3 major Western Canada tournaments. He was upset in the \$10,000 CNE by Denis McColgan of Scarboro. Gerry is 28 years of age and single. His high run is 142 and he has well over 200 centuries to his credit.

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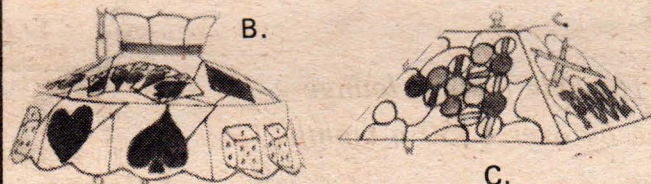
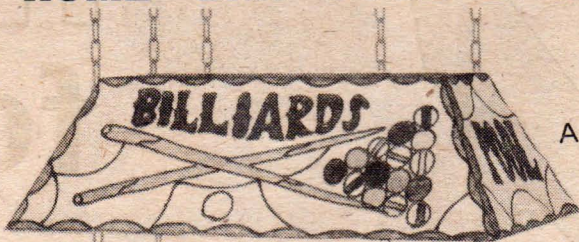


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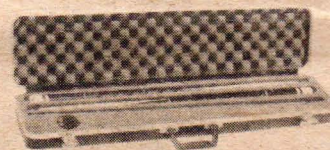
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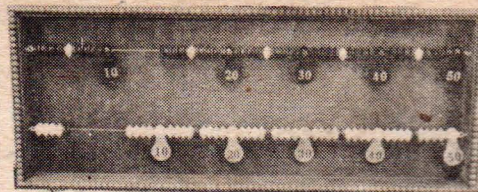


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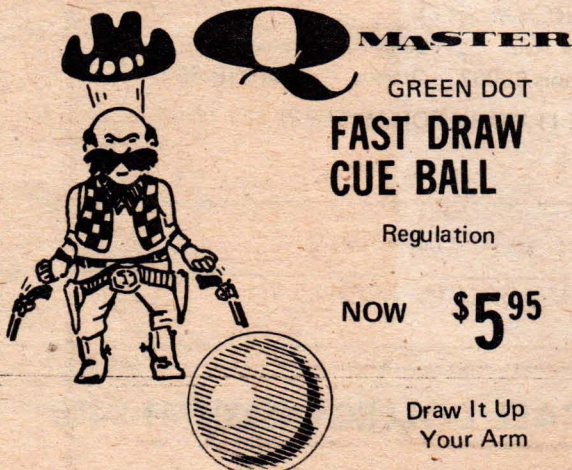
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