



### **PROMOTER-PLAYER**

Ken Nixon was born in Avon, New York , May 6th, 1913. He moved to Linwood , New York at the age of 13 to a dairy farm with his family. He graduated from LeRoy High School in 1932. He worked on his fathers farm and neighboring farms until 1936. He then started working at the Niagara Alkali in Niagara Falls, which later on merged with Hooker Chemical. He retired from Hooker Chemical in 1975 with 39 years as a shift supervisor.

Ken married Alice Hamilton in 1937 and they

celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on May 22nd , 1987 with their children and 150 guests at a dinner and dance.

Ken and Alice have three children, Beverly Nixon Jordon, Duane Nixon and Dale Nixon , also seven grandchildren.

Ken started pitching in league competition in 1976, in Lockport , N.Y. He also sponsored a team and played . In 1986, he helped the Wheatfield Post #1451 install five professional courts at which he now plays and sponsors a team.

Ken has taken part in eight world tournaments, twice in Alabama , also North Carolina , Minnesota , Wisconsin (2nd place in his class), Indiana also 2nd place). Stone Mt. Georgia , where he was the Champion in Class C Elders at 40 feet, also World Class Champion at Columbus, Ohio 1992 Class F Elders 40 feet.. Ken has participated in many New York State Tournaments as well as tournaments in Canada and Erie, Pennsylvania.

As of 1992 he has a total of 55 trophies and plaques.

The part about Ken Nixon that amazes us is that he didn't pitch in organized leagues until he was 63 years old, and the fact that at the age of 79 he is still going strong and getting better. Ken is one who is always promoting and supporting junior horseshoe pitcher.

He was very instrumental in encouraging several junior pitchers to take part in world competition.

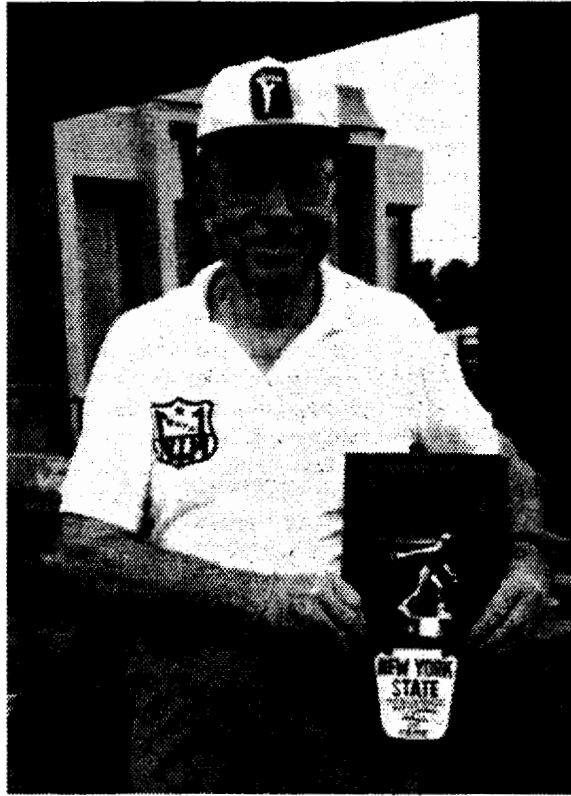
These include Traci Warters Hastings, Robert

Pike , Robert Scott , Chris Jackson and Kip Brody. He was responsible for seeing that the juniors were recognized for their accomplishments by donating awards and plaques, and also has been known to give a little financial aid to several clubs to go toward the betterment of junior horseshoe pitchers.

In 1990 Ken was responsible for starting the Ernie Graham-Dave Scott Memorial Award. This award will go to a New York State Horseshoe Pitchers Association member who has done the most to support and promote junior horseshoe pitchers..

Ken Nixon's attitude toward the sport of horseshoe pitching and towards the people involved in this game is what this game is all about. We really need more pitchers like Ken Nixon.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dawn Warters and  
Dutch Graham



**Ken Nixon of Bergholz received New York State's highest horseshoe award at the New York State Horseshoe Championships held in Camden on Labor Day Weekend. The New York State Horseshoe Pitchers Association, which has a membership of 500, inducted 80 year old Nixon into the New York State Horseshoe Pitching Hall of Fame Saturday, September 4. Nixon has only been pitching horseshoes since he retired from Occidental Chemical Corporation in 1976. At the championships, Nixon ended in a three-way tie for first place. In a double pitch-off, he defeated both of the other two pitchers to win the State Class Championship for the fourth time.**