Millstadt Horseshoe League

By Kevin Carbery Staff writer

1990 keeps pitchers busy MILLSTADT — The horseshoe pits at Millstadt Village Park buzz with activity every Tuesday evening over the summer

That is when the Millstadt Horseshoe League, with eight teams and around 75 pitchers, draws players from far and wide to toss iron and enjoy them-

"We're up here for the fun of it," said Dave Shreve, who is president of the league, as well as of the Illinois State Horseshoe Pitchers Association. "We get people from Millstadt, Fairview Heights, Cahokia, Freeburg and Columbia."

Each team, with about nine players per squad, plays 20 games a night. Shreve, who captains the Gary's Body Shop team, said team leaders try to evenly match pairs of players in

"I try to get everybody on my team a minimum of four games," he said. "That's what most captains do. There are a lot of good throwers here. Even if you're not so good, there are people here who you can match their level. The teams try to match the level of players in each game."

Shreve, a Cahokia resident, said each team carries players who range in skill level from mediocre to outstanding.

"We've got all different lev-

els," he said. "There are 10 percenters (who hit that percentage of ringers) on up to guys who throw 55 percent."

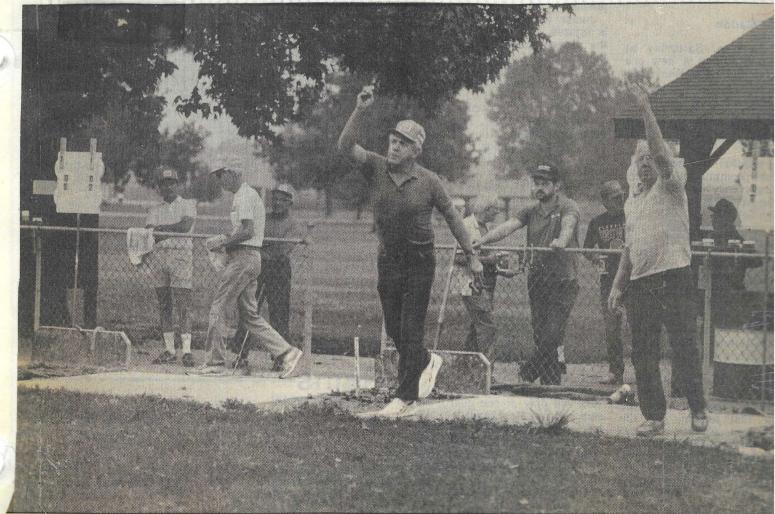
The league started its season May 1 and will finish up Sept. 25. The team with the most wins at the end of that night's pitching will be the league champion.

Teams are formed each year in April, Shreve said. The league annually holds a "draft night," in which the league captains pick their players in a series of

"You need to join before the season starts," Shreve said. "To join, you need to contact someone in the league, or come to the pre-season draft meeting. It's better to come to the draft meet-

Pitchers are shuffled around from team to team each year, said Shreve.

This season, the PPG and Schubert's teams have been battling it out for first. Trophy Case and Handy Feed & Grain have been in the three and four positions, while Gas N Grab, Reamer Glass, Borg Warner and Gary's Body Shop have been jockeying for position.



FOLLOWING THROUGH: Elmer Sandheinrich of Millstadt (on left) and Red Fesser of Columbia watch the results of their tosses at a recent Millstadt Horseshoe League (Staff photo by Kevin Carb

match. More than 70 pitchers from around the region me at Millstadt for matches every Tuesday over the summer.