

# Schaefer Long Famous Name in Cue Game

[This is the sixth of a series of sketches on the entrants in the world's three cushion championship billiards tournament, opening next Monday at Bonsinger's, 131 South Wabash avenue, and continuing thru April 4.]

Jake Schaefer Jr., one of the two native born Chicagobans in the tournament [Art Thurnblad is the other], carries one of the most famous names in sports, one that has been synonymous with billiards for generations. Young Jake, who was born here 45 years ago, is recognized as the greatest balkline player of history and in all around play ranks second only to Willie Hoppe.



Jake's father, the late wizard, attempted early to interest his son in billiards, but the boy would work at it only spasmodically. He played enough as a youngster, however, to develop a sidéarm stroke, made necessary by his inability to reach the table with the orthodox pendulum motion, and to learn the A B C's of the game so well that eventually he broke every balkline record.

#### He Dethroned Hoppe.

Hoppe had dominated billiards from 1907 until 1921, in which year Schaefer did the then impossible—took the 18.2 crown away from the New Yorker. Hoppe regained the title the following year and held it thru 1924, but 1925 saw young Jake win again, and still again in 1928 and 1929.

During this span, Schaefer set every world balkline record in the book, including the high run of 432; high single average of 400; high grand average of 93% at match play, all at 18.2, and the 18.1 high run mark of 212. In setting the single average mark of 400, Jake ran out his string without ever permitting his opponent, Eric Hagenlacher, to leave his chair.

#### He's Getting Ready.

Schaefer's only other world three cushion appearance was in 1932. He finished sixth after having entered at the last moment without any angle practice whatsoever. For the last several weeks, however, Jake has been training in Cleveland, working on nothing but the three cushion game.