

Don 'Mitch' Mitchell enters Hall

by Jim Manders, publisher

QUILCENE, Wa. — Sliced, diced, and roasted for being the ham that he is, Donald E. "Mitch" Mitchell, winner of more than 60 tournaments and major table shuffleboard events, was inducted to the Evergreen Shuffleboard Ass'n./Pacific Northwest Shuffleboard Hall of Fame Saturday, July 31.

The honor came during the 15th Annual Grand Masters Tournament at the Whistling Oyster as Hall of Fame members Darrol Nelson, Frank Mako, Tommy Campbell, Mike Waters, Clark and Clara Kenney looked on.

"This is the most important thing that's happened in my (shuffleboard) life," Mitchell said as he received his commemorative plaque from Mako, PNW Hall of Fame President.

Laughter was the order of the day, though, as table shuffleboard players recalled the fun that Mitchell has brought to the game.

Karaoke singer, piano player and jokester.

One after another, tales of Mitchell's exploits were told.

Piano playing in Kent that emptied Jim Foran's car when he was ready to give everyone a ride home; karaoke that helped improve foreign relations with



Donald E. 'Mitch' Mitchell receives his plaque from Pacific Northwest Hall of Fame President Frank Mako during his induction into the Hall of Fame on Saturday, July 31 at the Whistling Oyster in Quilcene. Mitchell's wife, Ruby, is in the foreground.

Canada; kicking a chair out the front door of the Whistling Oyster after a particularly galling loss; memorable calcutta events with him as auctioneer.

But, Mitchell wasn't named to the Hall of Fame because he

can sing, play the piano, tell a joke or for his wit during calcuttas.

What people didn't talk much about was Don Mitchell the player. Maybe because it's often painful to play him.

His resume lists a World's Singles Championship among his more than 60 overall titles. He's a fierce competitor who's proven he knows how to play and how to win.