

# Savannah Sports Monthly

## Craftsmanship & Quality are Trademarks of Josey's Cue Repair

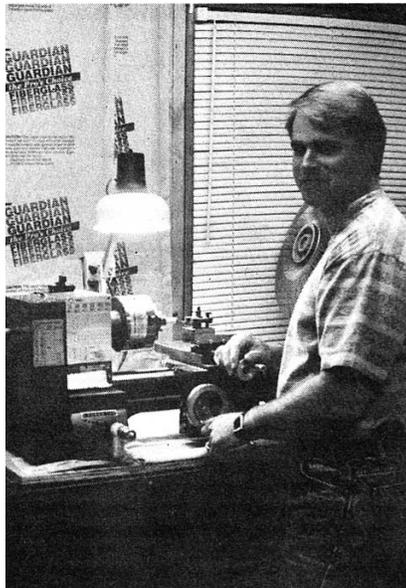
They say that when you participate in a sport or activity, that you are only as good as your equipment. It doesn't matter how long you've done something or how much you may have practiced, if the materials your working with are of good quality, then your efforts are wasted.

Keith Josey agrees with that philosophy, and it shows in the work he does for Josey's

Cue Repair. His work is so impressive, in fact, that he has been complimented by world-known players for his craftsmanship and attention to detail. It was this attention to detail that sparked him to first begin working on cues.

"I had had some repair work done on a stick that I had just bough," explained Josey, "and

I wasn't happy with the way that it had been fixed. The fer-



*Keith Josey of Josey's Cue Repair.*

rule had been cut and I just wasn't happy with the way it turned out. I just realized that I could have done a better job myself."

"I went out and bought a little kit to repair my cue, and that was it," said Josey. "People started seeing my work and asking me if I would fix their sticks for them"

Pretty soon, the workload Josey was being asked to do had outgrown the small kit that Josey had, and he discovered a need for other types of cue repair and construction. He realized that he needed more equipment and a better understanding of his craft. With

sticks piling up for him to work on, as Josey himself puts it, fate stepped in.

“My wife Sherry’s from Tampa,” said Josey, “so this one weekend we went to Tampa. I asked her father if there were any pool halls in the area and he pointed out a couple to me. I called this one and went by and told the fella what I was doing with my business, and he told me that they had this one guy who made all of their sticks, and that he was right across the street.”

Josey went across the street and met Wayne Gunn from Brunswick, Georgia, who listened to him as he explained his situation. Gunn agreed to help Josey and teach him everything he needed to know, but only on one condition.

“He told me that he would help me if I promised

to do good work, to stand behind my work and treat people right,” said Josey. “I’ve always been a perfectionist, so that was no problem for me.” Gunn then told Josey that if he was seriously interested in learning the craft, to come back to Tampa and spend some time with him. In the meantime, he told Josey how to go about buying a Lathe, the principle piece of machinery involved for cue repair and construction. The Lathe cost around \$1000 dollars, and Josey borrowed the money, took a weeks vacation from his job, and returned to Tampa to receive his instruction.

“He was surprised that I had come back,” Josey said. “I guess he thought that he wouldn’t see me again. But I spent a week with him and he taught me everything I needed. To this day we keep in touch. If there’s something I don’t

know, I call him.”

That all took place roughly three and a half years ago, and since then the name of Josey in association with cue repair, has been getting quite a reputation.

“His work is superlative,” said Joe Laufenburg of Players’ Place in Savannah. “He does the work for us here and I’ve never had any problems nor have I had anyone else have a problem. The work he does is just excellent.”

A pool player himself, Josey enjoys participating in pool tournaments and events himself, but now when he goes he is recognized and praised more for his work on a cue than his work with one. That suits him just fine.

“A week or two ago. I was in a tournament in

South Carolina,” recalled Josey, “and this guy I’ve never seen before come up to me and says, ‘Aren’t you Josey of Josey’s Cue Repair?’ and I told him yes and asked why. He told me he was from Statesboro and had heard about my work. He needed some repair done and he didn’t want to send it back to that factory. He told me he wanted me to do it. That makes me feel real good. People that I’ve never seen or heard of will come up to me anywhere and compliment me on my work. It really makes you feel good when you put out good work.”

At this point, Josey is looking to purchase another piece of equipment that he needs to construct sticks, as opposed to just repairing them. When he gets that, he knows that he will be busy.

“The work that he does is so thorough because he does it all by hand,” said Laufenberg. “Everything he does is polished and perfect. There are a lot of people that want him to make sticks for them. When he gets his last piece of equipment, he’ll be very busy, and a lot of people will be very happy.”