

## Taylor/French Win Taz Country 12-Week "Crunch" Tournament Finals

By Lynda French

Ron and Debbie Bowers hosted a 12-week "Crunch" at Taz Country, Pflugerville, Texas, which started on Saturday, April 29, with qualified player playoffs/finals on Saturday, Aug. 12. The 16 players who accumulated the most points during this time frame were qualified to play in the Aug. 12 final champion playoffs. Teams were determined by open draw of the 16 qualified players and teams were: Lynda French and Kevin Arifa of Austin, Don Valk and Ron Bowers of Austin, Tina Wade, Austin, and Ronnie McMahan, Canyon Lake, Glen Bennight and Tony Howard of Austin, Randy Rogers of Austin and Rick McFarland of Canyon Lake, Debbie Bowers and Holly Nance of Austin, Gene Criminger and Larry Nance of Austin.

Team winners were: Mike Taylor and Tom French (sponsored by Gene Criminger), 1st; Lynda French and Kevin Arifa (sponsored by Tony Howard), 2nd; and Randy Rogers and Rick McFarland (sponsored by Lynda French), 3rd.

Many thanks to tournament directors Ron and Debbie Bowers, and Taz Country owners Gene and Sarah Criminger, for another wonderful Texas shuffleboard event!

The Crunch tournaments encourage all players, regardless of ratings, to participate in the 12 events that lead up to the point qualification to play the finals. Each Saturday of play added \$50 to the final pot, plus the sponsor sales and entry fees. Players get 1 point for each Saturday of play; 2 points if they play and take second place; 3 points if they play and take first place. So, points determine the qualification for the final event and this encourages players of all skill levels to participate.

The details of how this type of event is scheduled can be viewed at:

<http://www.jump.net/~ronbowers/tazcrunch2000.htm>.

*(Editor's Note: Congratulations to Taz Country, and the three Michigan shuffleboard establishments -- Stober's Cocktail Lounge in Lansing, Majestic Cafe in Pontiac, and Club Car Lounge in Durand [see Page 12] -- for hosting events that encourage players of all skill levels to compete. A special Board Talk salute to directors Ron and Debbie Bowers in Texas and Dennis Bittner in Michigan for developing the formats.)*

## Pinkston/Walden Win in Arkansas

Out-of-state visitors took top dollars in a round robin hosted by the Razorback Inn, Pocahontas, Arkansas, in June.



*In the first round robin, Dean Pinkston (left) of Houston, Missouri, took top honors, with Manny Lane in second place.*

Steve Lindsey took third place.



*In the second round robin, Harvey Walden (the guy with the money) of Memphis, Tennessee, was first. Manny Lane (the guy without the money) took second again.*

"As you can see, I'm still a pretty good second-rate player," said Manny, who was an active shuffleboard promoter in Michigan for many years before he "retired" to Arkansas (see Shufflers' Notebook).

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