

The Board Talk

The Board Talk is published by George & Donna Wilber, 421 E. Sheridan Road, Lansing, Michigan 48906; phone 517-371-2538.

Vol. 4 No. 7 July 1987

THE HAMMER

We usually print letters we receive in the Shuffler's Notebook, but this particular one from "A Group of Concerned Players" is an exception to the rule.

The reason we're making an exception is: (1) the letter deals with a subject that we're all concerned about — the national organization of the sport of shuffleboard; (2) it deals with some misconceptions about efforts to accomplish that goal; (3) it provides us with an opportunity to call for some accountability from a national committee and the people they represent; and (4) it gives us a chance to explain some editorial guidelines for this publication.

An editorial policy that permits unsigned letters gives free license to those who have personal gripes or axes to grind but aren't willing to take the feedback that their letters stimulate. Writers should have the courage of their convictions and sign their names with pride. This is to serve notice that this letter from "Concerned Players" will be the last unsigned letter we will publish.

Let's Work Together From Coast to Coast

We are avid readers of *The Board Talk* and look forward to its arrival each month. But we are disappointed and aggravated that the Northern California players receive so little, if any, recognition.

Let's give credit where credit is due! The rules listed in the April Board Talk were assembled by PeeWee Ramos of San Jose, Calif., constructed, printed and given to each player by Fred Thumann of Auburn, Calif., at a tournament held by Jerry and Sharon Miller at the Ace of Clubs, Marysville, Calif. We totally agree that there should be uniform rules for tournaments. For years Bill Melton, PeeWee Ramos, Gene and Shirley Johnson from the Black Cat Tavern in Portland, Oregon, Fred Thumann, Jerry and Sharon Miller, along with others from the West Coast have worked to promote the game, but no one listened.

Those who would say that Northern Californians have not participated are now attempting to take credit for all the years of hard work done by those mentioned above. It is not our intention to take away from those now trying to improve the game — John McDermott, Bill Melton, Dave Williams, Glen Davidson, to mention a few. The Board Talk is doing a great job of getting the news to players.

We love the game, too, but money, time involved with no one caring finally took its toll. Twenty years of unrecognized effort can break anyone's spirit.

Let's ALL work together from coast to coast on making the game of shuffleboard a professional sport.

A Group of Concerned Players

(continued on page 12)

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TOURNEY TALK

Waters/George Win "Masters" in Tacoma

Mike Waters and Gary George took first place in the "Show of Masters" tournament at Larry and Ray's, Tacoma, Wash. on April 25-26. Fred Johns and Garry Singer finished second with Dave Ardnt and Al Pease in third.

McDermott/Nelson/Collins Big Winners at Michigan Open

Darroll Nelson of Oregon and John McDermott of Michigan took first place in the doubles event at the Michigan Playfair Open in Dearborn over the Memorial Day weekend. Glen Davidson of Oklahoma and Billy Chiles of California finished second, with Chris Monahan, California, and Diana Hagen, Texas, taking third place honors.

In the open singles, John McDermott finished first, with Bill Melton, Oklahoma, in second place, and Bobby Voorhis of Indiana in third spot.

Cheryl Collins of Michigan took on a formidable women's field of contenders to take first place in the women's singles. Chris Monahan of California took second place honors with Georjean Monnarrez of Oregon making her long trip worthwhile by taking third place.



Bill Moore (left) of Texas was recognized at the Michigan Open for his many contributions to *The World of Shuffleboard*, and Sol Lipkin of the American Shuffleboard Company received honors as a pioneer for the sport.

Ledford/Cox Lead Field at Ace of Clubs

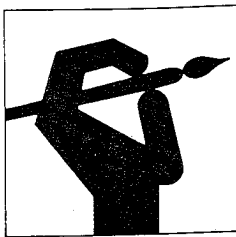
Leroy Ledford and Don Cox teamed up to take top honors in the Ace of Clubs Memorial Day doubles in Marysville, Calif. Karl Spickelmier and Eric Waldman finished second with Jerry Miller and Leon Benton in third place.

Leroy also topped the field of 21 players in the singles. Joe Lavin finished second with Don Cox in third place.

McDermott/Nelson/Slack Top Winners in Colorado

Michigan's John McDermott repeated his winning ways at the Colorado Coors Open at Bliner's Sports Bar in Denver

(continued on page 4)



Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views
from The World
of Shuffleboard

Sport Needs Women's Support

Congratulations to John McDermott and Cheryl Collins for their singles wins in the Michigan Open — and thanks to John and Phil (Skover) for a great tourney. I think it ran smoothly and I had a great time.

A message to all the women players out there in The World of Shuffleboard: We need all the support we can get for these women's tournaments so organizers will keep having them. Let's see how many women we can get in the Austin Aqua-Festival Open in Austin, Texas, on Aug. 7-9. Bill Melton made a special effort to add a women's tourney to this big event.

I know there's a lot of women players we don't know about who are very good, so come on out and win some money! Janet from Amarillo is a very good player and it sounds like Peggy Richards is real good, too.

As for Bobby Riggs (Ron), Chris and I just might let you walk the board on us — if you have enough money!

Diana Hagen, Houston, Texas

The women's singles at the Michigan Open was a real crowd-pleaser and the gals who participated really made people sit up and take notice of their talent. We never saw "Bobby" play, but we're sure any one of the participants in that event would give him more than he bargained for!

The Fairest of All!

While we're patting the women players on the back, let me salute the fairest of them all. With only two-and-a-half years of experience, she's become the number one women's player in the world. With more strong showings in Tulsa and Michigan, she's surely a Midwest Division Top Player.

That's Diana Hagen and I love her!

Kelly (Spooker) Cameron, Houston, Texas

We've gotten to know Diana and we can see why she's so special to you, Spooker, and to The World of Shuffleboard. Be sure to read the commentary with this month's ratings.

She's "Hooked" on Shuffleboard

As a person who had no idea shuffleboard was the sport that it is — I'm amazed! I attended, as a fan, the Memorial Day Tournament at the Ace of Clubs in Marysville, Calif., and I loved it! I met a lot of beautiful people and also had a great time.

I want to thank everyone for letting me be me even though there's so much I need to learn about the game. If everyone I meet at other tournaments in the future are as beautiful as the people from the Ace of Clubs, I will feel privileged.

I love it!

Loretta Peterson (soon to be Harralson), San Jose, Calif.

Welcome to the ranks of those "hooked" on this great sport, Loretta! We know the people at the Ace of Clubs are special and we can guarantee that at 99.9 percent of the tournaments you attend in the future, the people you meet will be beautiful. We've had reports that there are a very small minority in The World of Shuffleboard who like their

little cliques and welcome only local players. But they're so few and far between that you're not likely to meet them anyway, so just look for a future that's bright and beautiful — in shuffleboard and in your marriage! Congratulations!

Ideas for Michigan Open Organizers

Congratulations, John McDermott, on your fine play in the Michigan Playfair Open, doubles and singles. You definitely showed you should regain the number one ranking in the Mid-East Division and number one in the U.S.A. Congratulations also go to Cheryl Collins for her victory in the women's singles. She's also number one in the U.S.A.

I think the tournament, as a whole, was a success. There were world-class players, quality games, and the surroundings were set up well. There is room for improvement in the area of officiating. A list of officials and tournament rules should be available. I feel these officials should be called upon at any time to make a decision, regardless if they're playing in a game.

The Michigan Open would have been a better success if these two improvements had been applied to the protest situation. When the protest was lodged, the officials should have handled it immediately — no waiting! It disrupted the order of play to wait for a decision. Players were called early to play and others were forced to wait.

Now a suggestion about the auction times. Each auction should be held right before each event, because all players and bidders would be present.

Thanks to John McDermott and Phil Skover for a nice tournament and I'm looking forward to more.

Jerry Siebert, Lansing, Mich.

Before the Michigan Open, John and Phil said they welcomed everyone "to share their thoughts with us, both the things we are doing right and suggestions on the areas we can improve" (May 1987 issue). We're sure they will take your ideas seriously and appreciate your input.

"Masters" Show Their Stuff

We only had 19 teams enter our Show of Masters at Larry and Ray's this year, but the field of players were definitely masters and they came to play! We had people from all over the state and Canada (see Tourney Talk for results).

Mel Currey from British Columbia played with Frank Monnarrez from Portland. These two guys just didn't have it this week-end. Good players, but couldn't buy a match.

Clark Kenney and Jim Foran auctioned off the players and did a fantastic job. Auction and entry fee was almost \$3,000.

I can't leave out the four women players who had the courage to stand up to the guys — Rose White, Spokane; Kathy Selberg, Puyallup; Diana Fisher, Tacoma; and myself.

Great players make a great tournament!

Clara Kenney, Tacoma, Wash.

Sounds like a "masterful" event, Clara. Congratulations to the hosts and the winners and all the participants who made it happen.

Another Great Canada Connection!

I am so sorry I haven't subscribed to *The Board Talk* a long time ago. My friend, Neval Currie, used to tell me all about Board Talk. I listened with interest, but never thought any more about it until one day, he came by my home and left me the December 1986 issue. I am really impressed with what you people are doing.

I was one of the hardest workers for shuffleboard in B.C. for over 10 years. It's only this year that I've finally gotten out of it. I love the game and am one of the top women players in Vancouver. I won the Canadian Championship eight times — 5 times mixed doubles, twice ladies' singles and once ladies' doubles — all since 1976. As you know, Canadian Championship is held on short board; my real love is long board. I won the B.C. ladies' singles eight times, six mixed doubles and four ladies' doubles. Neval Currie calls me the "Queen of Shuffleboard."

I just love the game, but unfortunately, for us to go to any of your tournaments, we would need to win the 649. I am going to buy my 649 ticket today. Maybe it will be my lucky day to win \$6.5 million, then I'll come see you folks for sure.

We took three teams down to Bellingham in March and played the Americans. They beat us, but not by a lot. They came up and played us in Vancouver in May and we beat them but good!

I see in this December copy a picture of Mike Jacoby and Harvey Groleau. I know both of them very well. They always make the Canadians as they are both excellent players.

I am really very happy to see my good friend, Billy Mays, at the top of the list again. I haven't heard from him for a long, long time. Would you please give him my address and tell him to please write to me.

I'm leaving to go to Ireland on June 22 for a holiday. It's been nine years since I was home, so am looking forward to it. I will be back on July 3. Maybe you could have it printed in your next issue of *The Board Talk*. Just say Crazy Irish Joanie Millar would like to hear from Billy Mays.

Keep up the good work and hopefully some day I will get to meet you.

Joanie Millar, #10-8691 Cook Road, Richmond, B.C., V6A 1V8

You sound like our kind of people, Joanie, and we would love to have you come to our tournament. We're hoping that Mike and Harvey will be at our 4th of July tournament. They made a lot of fans last year. We can honestly say we've never met a Canadian shuffler we didn't like. Couldn't you come back from Ireland by way of Michigan?

New Oklahoma League Sanctions Players

The Arbuckle Shuffleboard league was founded this past year by Alan Primrose of Davis, Okla. The league consisted of six teams with six members per team, representing four taverns in the Sulphur/Davis area of southern Oklahoma. A total of 56 sanctioned players (regulars and substitutes) played nine games to 15 points, short line/switch hammer, every Thursday night.

Players put up \$2 each per week, which went into the prize fund, paying three places at the end of the season. A \$5 sanction fee was assessed each player, from which bulletin boards and chalk boards were purchased for each house.

At the end of the season, the league had a picnic, paid for from the sanction fees, at the winner's house. A trophy (donated to the league by Bill Melton) was presented to the

winners where it will remain until someone else wins the league.

The winners were SandBox, captain, Jamie Hearell, 1st; My Place 1, captain, Richard Johnson, 2nd; Chuckwagon 1, captain, Alan Primrose, 3rd. Other participating teams were Midway, captain, Mike Melton; Chuckwagon 2, captain, Marvin Anglin; and My Place 2, captain, Ken McDonald.

From all indications, the league will have at least 10 teams next season and we are all looking forward to the 2nd Annual Arbuckle Open Tournament next year (see *Tourney Talk* for results), which we plan to advertise in *The Board Talk*.

The Arbuckle Shuffleboard League

Congratulations on your successful first year as a league, and on your 1st annual open tournament. We look forward to helping you promote it.

Looking for Action in Dixie

Does anyone know where they play down here in Dixie? Please let me know.

Jerry Lane, Lake Park, Georgia

In March, we received our very first subscribers from Georgia, Len and Lori Lockerby of Atlanta. They, too, were looking for shuffleboard action in that area, having moved
(continued on page 11)

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Tourney Talk *(continued from page 1)*

on June 10-14. John took first place honors in the singles and shared first in the doubles with his partner, Darrol Nelson of Oregon.

Darrol took second place in the singles, with Billy Mays of Texas in third place and John Myles of Michigan in fourth. Second place honors in the doubles event went to Travis Anderson and Grady McGovern of Colorado, with Karl Spickelmier and Eric Waldman of California finishing third.

In the draw partner doubles, Darrol Nelson and Jody Slack of Colorado took first place. John McDermott and John Myles finished second with Travis Anderson and Fred Compean of Colorado in third place.

Casula/Lukas Win at Ours & Yours

Don Casula and John Lukas took first place at a draw partner tournament at the Ours & Yours Tavern, Sudlersville, Maryland, on June 14.

Chuck King and Larry Jewell finished second with Sue King and Ruth Ann J. in third place.

Shuffler's Choice on 4th of July — Calif. or Mich.

Shuffleboarders have a choice of how to celebrate the 4th of July — at Ted Z's Best Little Wherehouse in Temecula, Calif., or at The Board Talk's 3rd annual tourney in Howell, Mich. Both are July 3-5.

At Ted's, entry fees are \$50 per team for the doubles; \$125 for the singles. Both are single elimination events. If you haven't made your reservation yet, call Ted at 714-676-3770, or Karl Spickelmier, 213-456-8906.

At the Log Cabin Inn in Howell, entry fees are \$50 per team for the mixed doubles, \$75 per player for the open singles, \$50 per player for the women's singles, and \$100 per team for the open doubles.

Call 517-371-2538 for information.

Texas Amateur Open, Corporate Image, July 17-19

The Corporate Image, 5418 Brentwood Stair Rd., Fort Worth, Texas, will host the Texas Amateur Open on July 17-18-19. Entry fees are \$50 per player for the singles,

\$100 per team for the doubles. Pays three places with trophies and added money. Deadline for entries is 7 p.m. on Friday night, July 17, with the auction starting at 7:30 p.m.

For further information, call manager Linda Cooper, 817-451-0607. See ad in this issue.

2nd Annual U.S. Open, Austin, Texas, Aug. 5-9

Due to popular demand, a women's singles has been added to the agenda at the second annual U.S. Open in Austin, Texas, on Aug. 5-9. Site of the event, held in conjunction with the Austin Aqua Festival (lots of family fun!), is the Gondolier Hotel, 1001 South I.H. 35.

The women's event will start at 8 p.m. on Aug. 5. Entry fee is \$50 per player, single game, double elimination. The singles will start at 8 p.m. on Aug. 6 and the doubles on Aug. 7. Auction schedule is 6 p.m. on Aug. 5 for the women's singles, and 6 p.m. on Aug. 6 for the open events.

Special room rates are available at the tourney site for players, friends and families. Call the Gondolier Hotel: 512-444-3611.

For information on the tournament, call Don Valk, 512-388-7767, or Bill Melton, 405-369-2448.

See ad in this issue and please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard establishment. Note the Armadillo cowboy playing shuffleboard in the ad. Co-sponsor T-shirts with that emblem are available at \$100 each.

(continued on page 6)

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**August 5-9
Gondolier Hotel
101 South I.H. 35
Austin, Texas**



Open Singles — \$300 / person

Open Doubles — \$400 / team

Best 2 of 3 match, Double Elimination

Women's Singles — \$50 / person

Single Game — Double Elimination

Women's Auction 6 p.m., Aug. 5

Open Auction 6 p.m., Aug. 6

Women's Start 8 p.m. Aug. 5

Singles Start 8 p.m. Aug. 6

Doubles Start Aug. 7



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1986 Winners: Darrol Nelson, Singles

Rick Boyer & Glen Davidson, Doubles

Diane Hagen, Women's Event

Bring the Family — AQUA Festival Fun!

Special room rates for players, friends and families.

Call the Gondolier Hotel: 512-444-3611

**For Information, Call Don Valk, Director, 512-388-7767
or Bill Melton, 405-369-2448**

Greetings From — The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc.

We would like to take this opportunity to say hello to all of you who read *The Board Talk*, and share our love for the game of shuffleboard. The Shuffleboard Federation is a Michigan-based company, founded by Phil Skover and John McDermott, whose goals are to promote, and increase public awareness of, both amateur and professional shuffleboard for both men and women.

One of the best things that ever happened concerning the game of shuffleboard is *The Board Talk* and we feel that its continued growth is vital to the advancement of the game. Therefore, we have committed ourselves to taking out a full-page ad every month. This space will be used to inform you on a month-to-month basis of our goals and progress.

The first annual Michigan-Playfair Open was our first tournament and we would like to bring everyone up to date on the highs and lows.

First of all, we have a long list of people to say "Thank You!" to. As far as the players go, thanks to the 13 women, 48 doubles players and the 26 singles players who competed.

Next, a big thank you to Brian Crowl and Playfair Shuffleboard Company. Brian not only provided the boards, but also delivery, set-up, and picking them up after the tournament.

There is a small town in west Texas named Big Spring (there is no "s" at the end of Big Spring because, as the locals will quickly inform you, there is only one spring in Big Spring). And we want to thank all the people who were responsible for Big Spring having the most participants, per capita, of any city in the country. So thank you to Bill and Cindy Moore, Pat Porter (who handled all the announcements, award presentations, and auctions for the week, in addition to keeping us laughing all week), Cheryl Walker, Debra Watkins, Ray Sneed and Burt Fannin.

Special thanks to Bill Moore for donating approximately 60 monogrammed shirts for the players.

We had a special guest for a couple of days, Mr. Sol Lipkin, sales manager for American Shuffleboard Company, who also donated the tournament weights and asked us to relay a message to the Playfair Company and tell them what a nice table they build. The United States Shuffleboard Association in Dallas, Texas, donated the wax and we found it to be a very good product and recommend it highly.

All the way from Fort Worth, Texas, came Linda Cooper, manager of the Corporate Image, to run the bar for us and it is difficult to imagine where we would have been without her help. We also want to join Linda in thanking Bud Cooksey of Lake Orion, Michigan, who made numerous trips to the store for

supplies, brought food back for the bartenders and waitresses and did virtually everything that no one else had time for.

As usual, Bill Melton was ready, willing, and able to lend a hand and did a good job of handling the entry fees for us. While we're on the subject of handling money, Rozanna Melton, Madge Goff and Sharon Summers should be acknowledged for keeping track of the auctions, and a special thanks to Madge who always does a good job organizing the round robins wherever she goes.

One of the toughest things we had to do was carpet the floor in the gym where the event took place, but thanks to Neil Fetter for the way he took that burden from our shoulders. Probably the most thankless job of all at a tournament is taking care of the boards and everyone appreciated the way Joe Kowaleski and Gordie Collins managed to do that so smoothly.

Last, but not least, thank you Jamie Kay of Wayne Distributing, the players who came early and stayed late to help — Rick Boyer, Billy Chiles, John Tischler, Cass Grubbs, Darrol Nelson and Glen Davidson — and to Mary D., Mary M., Eileen, Paula, Lori, Toni, Patty,

and Heidi who made sure nobody went thirsty. On behalf of all the players, we appreciated your efforts.

A few words about the tournament. . . We thought that overall it went very well. Of course, there are always things that you find you would have done differently. When the tournament was in the planning stages, we set a goal to make things as comfortable as possible for both players and spectators and we feel that we did a pretty good job in that area.

In the future, as the Shuffleboard Federation becomes involved in more tournaments, we want to make them more and more professional. In order to accomplish this, we will be sending questionnaires to all the participants asking them to tell us both the things they liked as well as those they did not. We do want to say that as a player, you can expect quality boards and weights, as well as reserved tables and chairs, and a "players only" playing area, as well as a donation to the prize money. If you are a spectator, we guarantee that there will be an adequate amount of quality seating with an unobstructed view of the playing area.

If anyone reading this is interested in having the Federation run a tournament with them in their area, get in touch with us at:

The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc.

91761 Onaway
Northville, MI 48167
Phone: 313-348-1214



**Phil Skover and John McDermott,
founders of the Shuffleboard Federation,
Inc.**

Tourney Talk *(continued from page 4)*

Springfield, Oregon, "Broiler Fest," July 31-Aug. 2

This is another "bring your family" event for shuffleboarders. While your family enjoys Springfield's annual Broiler Fest which includes a carnival, live entertainment, children's activities, parade and other activities, you can participate in the Palm Tavern's shuffleboard tournament.

Promotional round robins from \$10 to \$50. A two-man team event, double elimination, with \$25 per player entry fee, pays 60-30-10 with entry fee reimbursed for fourth place.

For information, contact Evie Wechter, 503-342-4196, or tournament directors Sam Gott, 503-747-9348, and Sparky Williams, 503-688-5037.

Hostess Joni Jones recommends the Pacific 9 Motor Inn for lodging. Rates are \$17.07 for single, \$24.56 for double. Call 503-726-9266 to make your reservation.

Summer Tournaments in Indiana

Summer shuffleboard tournaments are scheduled in Indiana in July and August with \$20 per player entry fees, paying four places. Tourneys will be held at the Town Tavern in Summitville on July 11 and Aug. 15. Call 371-536-2150 for information. In Portland at the American Bar, tournaments are scheduled for July 25 and Aug. 29. Call 219-726-9252 for information.

Open at Harrington Moose, Aug. 22-23

An open doubles and singels tournament will be held at the Harrington Moose, Harrington, Delaware, on Aug.

22-23. Best of three games, 15 points, double elimination, three boards. The doubles drawing is scheduled for 11 a.m. on Aug. 22, singles drawing at 11 a.m. on the 23rd.

For further information, call John Lukas, 301-928-3025.

The Masters, Ace of Clubs, Sept. 4-7

"The most prestigious tournament ever held" is the way organizers are billing The Masters tournament scheduled for the Ace of Clubs, 328 I Street, Marysville, Calif. on Sept. 4-5-6-7.

Watch for details in the next issue. In the meantime, mark your calendars. See ad in this issue.

Arbuckle League Co-Hosts Tourney

The Arbuckle Shuffleboard League co-hosted a four-day tournament with the Midway Bar, located between Sulphur and Davis, Okla., on May 15-17. The winners of this first annual open tournament were:

Draw partners — Richard Johnson, Davis, and Buck Simmons, Ada, 1st; Kenney Mumford, Davis, and Cliff Goff, Tulsa, 2nd; Eddie Imotiche, Davis, and Erly Courtney, Wynnewood, 3rd.

Women's singles — Sheila Brubaker, Davis, 1st; Berniece Wood, Sulphur, 2nd; Nita Lapine, Sulphur, 3rd.

Men's singles — Sam Sweatt, Tulsa, 1st; Mike Melton, Davis, 2nd; Charlie Gooch, Davis, 3rd;

Open doubles — Jim Brubaker and Mike Melton of Davis, 1st; Alan and Joe Primrose of Davis, 2nd; Bernice Wood, Sulphur, and LeeRoy Elliott, Tulsa, 3rd.

Tournament director Mike Melton and Midway owners Harry and Marge Bland said the tournament was a success, generating over \$3,500 in auctions and entry fees during the three-day event.

Texas Amateur Open July 17-18-19

Singles — \$50 per player

Doubles — \$100 per team

Double Elimination

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Auction at 7:30 p.m., Friday, July 17

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Special room rates for players, friends and families.

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The Board Talks's Top 50 Players in the U.S.A.

Top Players Commentary:

In the January 1987 issue, Gary A. Moore from Tulsa, Okla., had this to say about our rating of players:

"For several reasons, I disagree with your Top 20 ratings. Have you considered all the options? How about a Top 50 rating? Or an Honorable Mention list? Or a men's and women's Top 50 list?"

"(1) How can a person be declared No. 1 and then drop 14 places in two months? If a person is No. 1, shouldn't they hold that position for a year? Or at least six months?"

"(2) I don't like to see rankings based only on the number of tournaments that a person might attend. Not many players can afford to spend \$500 to \$1,000 to attend a tournament — and take a week off. There are many players who have competed well with those ranked in the Top 20. Let's not forget them just because they don't have the money to travel and compete; therefore the Honorable Mention list."

"(3) Or a ballot distributed to the players in each state for their ranking of players within that state, a comparison with your rankings. Let the players vote on the Top 20 or 50 or Honorable Mention list."

Ironically, we changed our format before we received his letter. However, the questions he posed will get top billing here:

(1) In our desire to have the very best players represented in their divisions, and because we are in our infancy, it won't be unusual to see a player drop out of the ratings from one month to another. Some players are so evenly matched that it's only fair to raise or lower them in the rating depending on how they do from one tournament to another, and we'll allow more recognition for winning a singles event than for a doubles.

(2) If a person doesn't attend tournaments, how can we rank them? Possibly there is some very deserving players out there and it's a shame they can't afford the tournaments because small local tournaments won't get them the recognition. We've had phone calls, letters and been "cornered" personally by players who have won local tournaments of 12 teams or less while playing on their favorite board against local players. An Honorable Mention list? We've never seen it done in this type of rating. Perhaps if we were compiling the best in the nation once a year, it would be good.

(3) A ballot might be a great idea. Maybe we'll try one in The Board Talk monthly and see if we get better feedback on players than we have been getting. We probably couldn't talk Jimmy the Greek into having his staff scour the countryside and send in a monthly report.

We're scratching our heads over a comment Shirley Robertson of Tulsa made in the April 1987 issue. She said she noticed that when Diana Hagen's name showed up on the national list, the method for determining top players changed. That method was changed by popular demand to have a Top Ten Women Players list. However, we believe we do have a problem after watching some of these women "kick — — —" in the open tournaments. Is it right to have a separate women's listing and still rate them in the other

ratings, where some of them certainly deserve to be? What we're saying is, we'll leave it up to you to help us decide whether to continue with the women's listing or drop it. We'll need your feedback.

George and Donna Wilber, Publishers

ATLANTIC DIVISION: Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia, Virginia, North and South Carolinas, Georgia, Florida

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2. John Lukas, Md.
3. Chuck King
4. Rick Niblett
5. Dick Gorman, Del.
6. Stosh Chmielewski, Pa.
7. Mickey Mickens, N.J.
8. Jerry Herrmann, Pa.
9. Larry Kirk, Md.
10. Jim Yank, Pa.

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2. Leroy Ledford, Calif.
3. Billy Chiles, Calif.
4. Don Cox, Calif.
5. Karl Spickelmier, Calif.
6. Eric Waldman, Calif.
7. Ted Z. Calif.
8. Joe Lavin, Calif.
9. Frank Monnarrez, Oregon
10. Jim Allis, Wash.

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2. Bobby Voorhis, Ind.
3. Larry Massie, Ind.
4. Lee McDonald, Mich.
5. Greg Broka, Ohio
6. Dave Boaz, Ind.
7. J.R. Lopez, Mich.
8. Tom Vordran, Ind.
9. Bud Broka, Ohio
10. Ron Wilburn, Ind.

MID-WEST DIVISION: North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana

1. Bill Melton, Okla.
2. Billy Mayes, Texas
3. Sam Summers, Okla.
4. Glen Davidson, Okla.
5. Howard Mouton, Texas
6. Rick Boyer, Texas
7. Earl Kelly, Texas
8. Dave Williams, Texas
9. Ken Howard, Colo.
10. Sam Sweatt, Okla.

TOP 10 WOMEN PLAYERS IN THE U.S.A.

NOTE: Ratings in this category are based on limited information. Your input is invited.

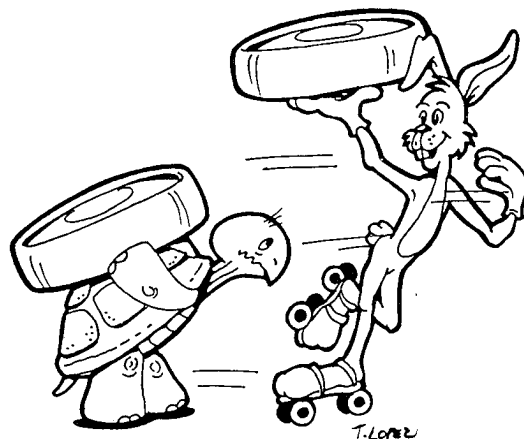
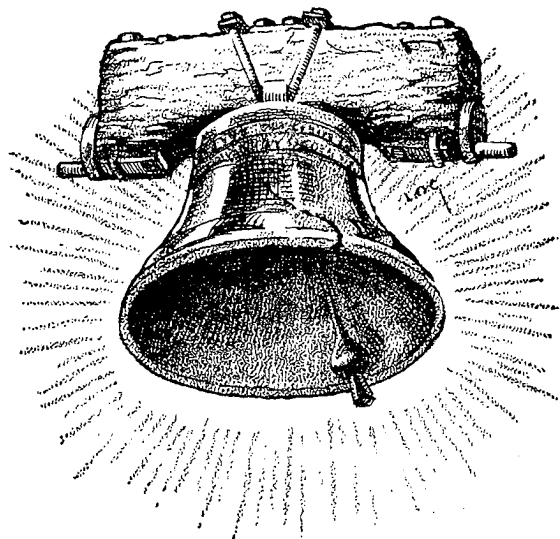
- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Cheryl Collins, Mich. | 6. Young Stocker, Ind. |
| 2. Chris Monahan, Calif. | 7. Evelyn Harris, Texas |
| 3. Diane Hagen, Texas | 8. Marie Sweeney, Mich. |
| 4. Georjean Monnarrez, Ore. | 9. Rita Yank, Pa. |
| 5. Peggy Richards, Arz. | 10. Gail Crane, Mich. |

Missing!

Was news of shuffleboard action in your state missing in this issue of The Board Talk? Become a part of a national communications system for shuffleboarders. Send notice of tournaments, results of tournaments, news and views about the sport to: The Board Talk, 421 E. Sheridan Road, Lansing, Mich. 48906, by the 15th of each month.

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Howell, Michigan



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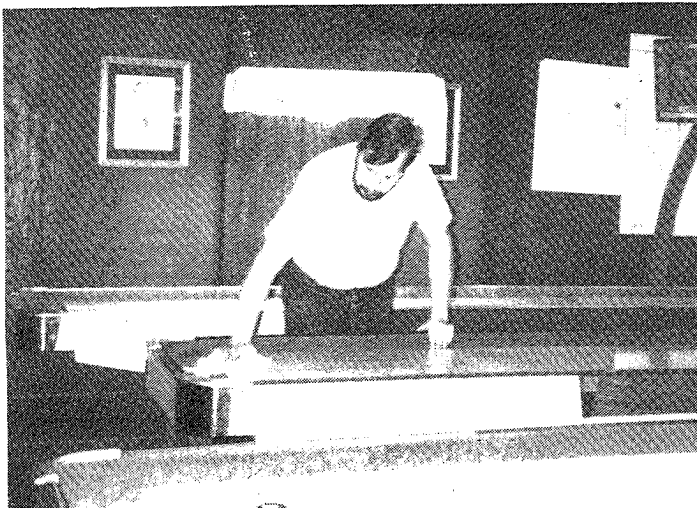
News and views from The World of Shuffleboard



Pro Player Profile

By
Bill Moore
Big Spring, Texas

One of Colorado's best shuffleboard players is a 33 year old printer — Jody Slack. Jody has been playing the game



Jody Slack

for 13 years, lately being in the promotional part of the sport. He has helped organize and direct major tournaments for several years. Jody has played in most of the big ones and always fares well.

He is a big booster of our sport and says he would like to see the better players help weaker players.

Jody is single and lives in Denver.

Good luck, Jody, from The World of Shuffleboard!

1987 National Shuffleboard Calendar

July 3-5

Ted Z's 2nd Annual July 4th Tournament
Best Little Warehouse, Temecula, Calif.

July 3-5

3rd Annual Board Talk Tournament
Log Cabin Bar, Howell, Michigan

July 17-19

Texas Amateur Tournament
Corporate Image, Fort Worth, Texas

July 31-Aug. 2

"Broiler Fest" Tournament
Palm Tavern, Springfield, Oregon

August 7-9

2nd Annual Aqua-Festival U.S. Open
Gondolier Hotel, Austin, Texas

Sept. 4-7

Labor Day Tournament
Ace of Clubs, Marysville, California

Oct. 9

2nd Annual Mega-Bucks Tournament
P.T.'s Shuffleboard Alley, Houston, Texas

Nov. 26-29

2nd Annual Turkey Day Tournament
Stagger Inn, Bellflower, California

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Notebook *(continued from page 3)*

from Canada where they were active players. They found a short board at a bar called Scrooges and a long board at a neighborhood pub called the Brass Lantern where they hold tournaments each week. Perhaps you folks could get together and get some action going. In the meantime, we ask readers to pass along any information they may have about the location of boards in Dixie.

Central Indiana Action

The Central Indiana Shuffleboard League has finished its sixth successful season with the Consolation Tournament being held at The Palace Bar in Fairmount on April 18. This tournament was for qualified league members who had never placed first or second in regular season play. Ten teams competed for \$2190 with first going to Dan Smith and Phil Crowder of Summitville, second to Emory Eccles and Tony Avery of Fairmount, third to Randy LeMaster and Chuck Caster of Portland, and fourth to Phil Rowles and Deb Pickett of Portland.

The final tournament was held at The Triangle Bar in Anderson on April 24-25. Seventeen teams competed for \$7100. First place went to Jerry Warr and Bob Voorhis of Fairmount, second to Rick Stocker of Redkey and Mel Sanders of Portland, third to Ron Welborn and Larry Massie of Summitville, fourth to Emmett Wilcox of Anderson and Bruce Pennington of Noblesville, fifth to Deb Somers of Fairmount and Deb Pickett of Portland, and sixth to Dave Boaz of Anderson and Jim DeWitt of Redkey.

This was the first year we used the double elimination for-

mat for our final tournaments. Things ran smoothly, thanks to the excellent job of our league manager, Glenn "Red" Newland of Portland.

In Grant County Indiana League action, The Palace Bar women's team of Fairmount successfully defended their league and tournament championships for the fourth year in a row.

Deb Somers, Fairmount, Indiana



Palace Bar Women's Team — league and tournament champs.

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The Hammer *(continued from page 1)*

You'll note, "Concerned Players," that when we published the proposed rules, we did indicate that they were known as the "Ramos Rules" and it should be a real tribute to PeeWee that a national organization would use them as the basis for establishing national uniform shuffleboard rules.

The "Concerned Players" are unhappy because after 20 years of effort, some new kids on the block are in the spotlight. We remind them that some of those "new kids" have no idea in the world that somebody before them tried to accomplish what they're trying to do today. We admit that when we started *The Board Talk*, we didn't know anyone in Northern California played shuffleboard, let alone tried to initiate uniform tournament rules nationwide. We had no recorded history to refer to then.

We've learned that was a misconception and the "Concerned Players" need to accept the fact that *The World of Shuffleboard* (east, west, north and south) is full of people who just joined yesterday or today. They don't mean to take anything away from the 20-year veterans; they just operated under the assumption that their ideas were original.

As for the fact that "no one listened," perhaps that was because there was no vehicle through which promoters of the game could communicate nationwide. We hope *The Board Talk* fills that void. We'll certainly try! Its pages are open to the viewpoints of those who have invested 20 years of effort into getting the sport recognized, as well as those who are new to the game.

"Concerned Players" do raise a question of accountability. At the Corporate Image in Fort Worth, Texas, last February, eight people accepted the responsibility of serving on a committee to develop a plan to organize a national shuffleboard organization. Four months later, any meeting of, or communications between, members of that committee have not been reported to *The Board Talk*.

We are going to print the names and addresses of those committee members here and urge you to contact your representative(s) with your ideas. Check the Top Player listing for division splits to determine your representative.

Mid-East: John McDermott, chairperson, 25683 Hickory Hill, Southfield, MI 48034;

Mid-West: Bill Melton, 309 E. Freeman, Davis, OK 73030, or Jody Slack, 4660 S. Queen St., Littleton, CO 80127;

Pacific: Darroll Nelson, 39226 Jasper-Lowell Rd., Lowell, OR 97452, or Karl Spickelmier, 23901 Civic Center Way #123, Malibu, CA 90265;

Atlantic: Don Casula, 54 Garden Quarter #2B, Newark, DE 19711, or Dick Gorman, 138 Glen Oak Rd., Wilmington, DE 19805;

The Board Talk: George Wilber, 421 E. Sheridan Rd., Lansing, MI 48906.

We're pleased with the "Concerned Players" conclusion: "Let's all work together from coast to coast on making the game of shuffleboard a professional sport."

We're delighted with the response to our 3rd Annual Board Talk Tournament in July! We know it's not possible to attend all tournaments and we're grateful to those of you who have selected ours. We look forward to seeing old friends and meeting new people from *The World of Shuffleboard*.

A tip of the editorial hat to:

- Tournament organizers such as Don Valk and Joni Jones, who plan their events around community activities that have something to offer to the families of diehard shuffleboarders. Let's face it — the chances of the entire family being enamored by our sport is slim. Spending day and night in a shuffleboard establishment watching a tournament is not at the top of every family member's priority list. Dedication to the sport can (and in some cases has) created some family conflicts. What better solution than having some alternatives for the non-players and non-fans of the game, such as the Aqua Festival and the Broiler Fest? Who needs the guilt of leaving the family behind? Make them part of the action!

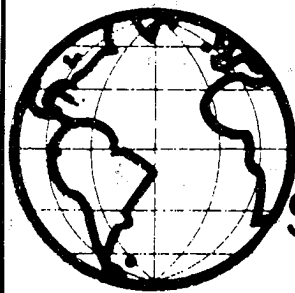
- Billy Mays, a real professional, and his sister, Evelyn Harris, for lending their expertise to expand *The World of Shuffleboard*. Their projects to give amateurs the opportunity to gain experience and skill and hope for entering the exclusive circle of professionals is admirable. Every shuffleboard community needs people like Billy and Evelyn to build a heritage that will keep the sport going.

- John McDermott and Phil Skover for their efforts to hold the "ideal" tournament for players and spectators. While they may have fallen a bit short of their lofty goal, they did blaze a new trail and will be a step closer on the next effort.

- John Myles, who has faith in himself and his abilities. Nobody told him that he couldn't beat the great Billy Mays with one arm!

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From the Sidelines . . .

While the action on the boards at the Michigan Playfair Open over the Memorial Day weekend was super-exciting, there were also some noteworthy happenings on the sidelines in the Dearborn Athletic Club.

Buss Voorhis of Indiana was so anxious to get there to watch son Bobby play that he forgot his suitcase. It was mighty hot and everyone was glad when Deb and Robin arrived with a clean shirt for him.

Wolf Bartholomew Broka was the youngest — and best behaved — spectator on the sidelines. He's bound to follow in the footsteps of his parents, Bud

and Fritz, so look for that unforgettable name in *The Board Talk* in about 2005!

Bill and Cindy Moore of Texas brought along a beautifully-bound collection of all *The Board Talk* issues since it was born 3 years and 6 months ago. A friend created the cover for them — a colorful painting of *The Board Talk's* turtle and hare logo.

One spry guy from New Jersey — Sol Lipkin of the American Shuffleboard Company — held court on the sidelines. Everyone enjoys hearing Sol's pioneer stories and he's such a good listener, too. The World of Shuffleboard sends best wishes to his wife for a speedy recovery.

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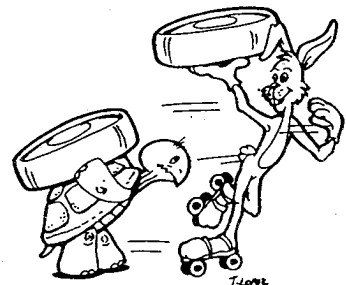
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**John Lukas
Maryland**



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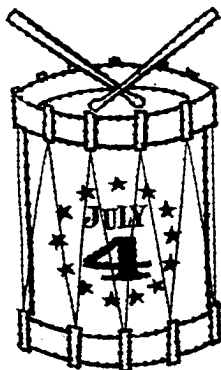
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