

The Board Talk

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

Vol. 11, No. 8

August 1994

The Hammer

It's big stress time at the Wilber household (which is also the headquarters for this publication) as we try to get this issue out before we head for Quilcene, Washington, and the 5th Annual Grand Masters Plus/10th Annual Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion. We got a big kick out of one of the letters we received last month addressed to: George and Donna and Staff. Staff? If we had "staff," we could just head West and say, take care of this while we're gone. Since there is no such thing, we're writing, pounding on the computer, laying out, getting to the printer, packing, looking for a vehicle that will get us to our destination....

Therefore, let us use this space for some very personal messages this month:

To the family of Sue Spack, a Michigan shuffler who died of a heart attack while still a young woman, we extend our deepest sympathies and a donation to the benefit tournament that will be held because Sue had no insurance....

To Judy Iseman of Maryland, whose father was severely beaten in a robbery and left for dead and now lies in a coma, we extend our prayers for your strength to deal with this terrible trauma....

To Freddie Thumann of California, who had to cancel his participation in the Quilcene tournament because of a death in his family, our thoughts are with you....

To Betty Parrish of Michigan, a real tough lady totally committed to the sport of shuffleboard and always willing to be there when needed, who suffered a heart attack recently but is not giving up -- give it your best, Betty!

To Louise Freer of Pennsylvania, who is trying so hard to spread the word about *The Board Talk* to those who don't know it exists, our heartfelt thanks....

To Beef, who put up with the travelling companion and roommate during the Southwest Open Tourney that only Donna has the compassion to deal with, she extends her "medal of honor" for having survived that experience.....

To all the shufflers who have signed up for the Quilcene tournament, and all the supporters of our printed program, we look forward to seeing you all in a place we have never been before....

George and Donna Wilber, Publishers

Tourney Talk

Bring Partner Open at Rome's Saloon, Denver, Colorado, August 19-21

By popular demand, Rome's Saloon, 785 W. Mississippi, Denver, Colorado, will host a bring your own partner open on August 19-21, \$50 per team entry fee. It will be a 2 out of 3, double elimination event, played on two boards, 15 point games, with 20-team limit. Shuffleboard Federation rules will be used. Sign-up money must be in before 8 p.m. on Friday, August 19. The bar will be adding \$300 to the pot this time!

The sponsor sale will be held at 8 p.m. on August 19, with \$10 blind draws following. On August 20 and 21, tournament action will begin at 9 a.m. sharp each day.

For information, call Rome's at 303-778-9976.

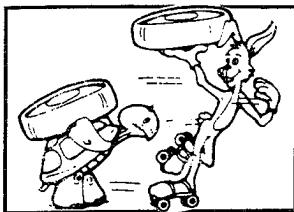
4th Annual Skip's/Board Talk Fall Tournament, Houghton Lake, Michigan, Sept. 10-11



Will this scene be repeated for the third year in a row? Or will someone knock Hoosier Larry Creakbaum off his throne at the upcoming 4th Annual Skip's/Board Talk Fall Tournament in Houghton Lake, Michigan, Sept. 10-11?

It's not the biggest money tournament on the schedule (but it's not too skimpy, either!), but we guarantee it's one of the most fun events. It takes place at Skip's Lounge in Houghton Lake, in the heart of Michigan's Water Wonderland on Sept. 10-11. Tournament action will start at noon on Saturday with a draw partner event,

(continued on Page 4)



Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views
from The World
of Shuffleboard

A Salute to Alan Primrose

The 8th Annual Arbuckle Open at Wynnewood, Oklahoma, was another success. There were shufflers from Indiana, Colorado, Nebraska, Texas, and Oklahoma. Actually, Texas did quite well this year (yes, Earl Kelly beat me -- again!). It was a really great, well-organized, fun tournament. Alan does a super job!

I know you cannot make them all, but would sure like to see you there next year. I've made it seven out of eight years. There were 86 entries in the open draw Friday night. Quite a success, don't you think? Somebody is doing something right!

I'm addicted; shuffleboard gets in your blood, pockets, shoes, and everywhere else....

Dee Ross, Dallas, Texas

When it's all over, and you're wondering if you really want to do it again, it's words of encouragement from shufflers like you, Dee, that convince tournament directors like Alan, that the long hours, backbreaking work, and the almost impossible task of pleasing everyone, may just be worthwhile and they start planning next year's event. If it were not for that encouragement, there would be far less tournaments on our calendar, and we wish more people would take just a few minutes out of their busy lives to say "thanks" to them, like you have done.

You're right -- we can't make them all, but we're a step closer to being able to cover more of those events. Both of us will be retiring Dec. 1 of this year and if retirement and social security benefits, a more frugal life style, and a growing Board Talk business allow, we'll be at the 9th Annual Arbuckle Open! We've already promised John McDermott that we will be at next year's Shuffleboard Federation North American Championships (because Donna had no vacation time left, she had to send her daughter with

— ATTENTION —

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with her Dad in 1992 to collect our highly-treasured Sol Lipkin Award). It's tough having to "work" for a living! We look forward to meeting many of the people on our mailing list in the years ahead.

Shuffleboard dust in your pockets! We can relate to that and we have a new rule in our house now: Before George puts his pants in the clothes hamper, he must turn his pockets inside out! It's one rule he hasn't broken during our 45 years together (a "slight" exaggeration; otherwise we wouldn't have made it to 45!) because there's something very uncomfortable about reaching in your pants pocket for change and coming out with all that "gunky" stuff that wasn't made to go through the wash and dry cycles. And shuffleboard coin boxes don't take kindly to "gunky" quarters!

Memories are Made of This....

As I was going through some pictures, I came across this one of John Lucas. He is wearing Jim's sombrero from Mexico. Cute! It fits him well, huh?

Jim and Brenda Wallace, Port Deposit, Maryland



He may not look like a shuffleboard powerhouse, but John Lucas of Maryland is always a contender in East Coast events. We had a photo of his "buns" (voted best at the 1993 Bourbon Indiana tourney) and now, we have the rest of his body. Thank you, Brenda, for providing the missing parts!

A Welcome Word From an Old Friend

Many, many thanks for The Board Talk! I, for one, recognize the true dedication and love for the game y'all have. This old Texan truly appreciates everything you do. Thanks for letting me and Pat Porter write about the Pro Players (Pro Player Profile) and play a small part in The World of Shuffleboard.

I bid you peace. Your friend and subscriber since '84...

Bill Moore, Big Spring, Texas

(continued on Page 7)

1994-95 Calendar of Shuffleboard Events

AUGUST

Aug. 3-7

5th Annual Grand Masters Plus
10th Annual Board Talk
Shuffler's Reunion
Whistling Oyster Tavern
Quilcene, Washington

Aug. 12-14

3 Day/3-Event Tourney
Bay Country Moose 831
Queenstown, Maryland

Aug. 12-14

Texas Open Qualifier
Sticks Billiards
Austin, Texas

Aug. 19-21

Bring Partner Open
Rome's Saloon
Denver, Colorado

Aug. 26-28

Summer Tournament
Glenn's Tavern
Funkstown, Maryland

SEPTEMBER

Aug. 31-Sept. 5

Labor Day Texas Open
Texas Mist
Austin, Texas

Aug. 28-Sept. 5

Labor Day Tournament
Blinky's Sports Cafe
Santa Clara, California

Sept. 1-4

Crazy Canucks Annual
Labor Day Tournament
AN & AF Unit 68
Vancouver, B.C., Canada

Sept. 2-5

6th Annual Labor Day
Weekend Tournament
Full House
Wynnewood, Oklahoma

Sept. 3-5

Labor Day Tournament
Mickey's Place
Henderson, Maryland

Sept. 9-11

Fall Tournament
Sherburne American Legion 876
Sherburne, New York

Sept. 17-18

4th Annual Draw Partners
Old Edison Inn
Edison, Washington

Sept. 24-25

Bring Partner Doubles
Stober's Lounge
Lansing, Michigan

Sept. 30-Oct. 2

3rd Annual Doubles
Shamrock Tavern
Longview, Washington

OCTOBER

Oct. 1

27th Annual Fall Doubles
American Legion Post 424
Bourbon, Indiana

Oct. 8-9

1st Annual Open Doubles
Tim's Timber Tavern
Kelso, Washington

NOVEMBER

Nov. 24-27

Annual Thanksgiving Weekend
Tournament
Pasquale's Bar
Lansing, Michigan

Nov. 25-27

Frank Hepler 55 & Older
Draw Partner Tournament
Shamrock Tavern
Longview, Washington

DECEMBER

Dec. 10-11

Annual Christmas Tournament
Harrington Moose
Harrington, Delaware

JAN./FEB. 1995

Jan. 31-Feb. 5

PSCA Extravaganza VII
Alladin Hotel/Casino
Las Vegas, Nevada

JUNE 1995

June 17-18

Everett Invitational Tourney
Shotze's Rock-N-Roll
Everett, Washington

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THE BOARD TALK

421 E. Sheridan Rd., Lansing, MI 48906; Phone: 517-371-2538

Tourney Talk *(continued from Page 1)*

(pros and 1 and 2 rated players will draw from the remaining registered players), \$20 per player entry fee. An open singles, \$40 per player, will be held on Sunday. Sponsor sales are scheduled for noon on each day.

There will be round robins on Friday night, so plan to come early.

For information regarding the tournament, call George at *The Board Talk*, 517-371-2538. For lodging recommendations, call Skip at 517-422-5422.

This tournament has been growing every year, so better use the enclosed flyer to save your spot.

1st Annual Open Doubles at Tim's Timber Tavern, Kelso, Washington, Oct. 8-9

Tim's Timber Tavern, 213 Allen St., Kelso, Washington, will host its first annual open doubles on Oct. 8-9, \$50 per team entry, double elimination, with sponsor sale at 11 a.m. Saturday. \$20 draw partners will start at 7 p.m. on Friday. Tournament directors will be Kevin Larkin and Doug Debois.

A feed is scheduled for Saturday night.

For further information, call 206-636-2627. Recommended lodging is the Kelso Inn, 206-636-4610.

Mark your calendars now for this first!

4th Annual Labor Day Week Shuffleboard Tournament at Blinky's, Aug. 28-Sept. 5

There are six-- yes, six! -- events on the schedule for the 4th Annual Labor Day Week Shuffleboard Tournament at Blinky's Sports Cafe, 3145 El Camino Real, Santa Clara, California, Aug. 28-Sept. 5.

Those events include a Ladies' Only singles on Sunday, Aug. 28, \$20 entry; an amateur doubles draw on Tuesday, Aug. 30, \$10 entry; an amateur singles on Wednesday, Aug. 31, \$20 entry; a pro-am draw on Thursday, Sept. 1, \$20 entry; a pro doubles on Saturday, Sept. 3, \$200 entry fee; and a pro singles on Sunday and Monday, Sept. 4-5, \$100 entry fee.

Play will be on four A.Z. Turnbo boards and wax and sprays will be provided by The Shuffleboard Federation. Motel accommodations are nearby and Blinky's has ample parking and good food. Advance registration for this tournament is suggested and must be accompanied by entry fee. Post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site. For information, call tournament director Rick Thomas, 408-578-0822.

\$2000 Added to Crazy Canucks Pro Tourney, Sept. 1-4, AN & AF Club, Vancouver, Canada

There will be \$2,000 added to the pot of the Crazy Canucks Pro Tournament on Sept. 1-4 at the AN & AF Club, 1837 Main St., Vancouver, Canada.



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\$200 of that added money will be in the "Winston Jim" open draw partners event on Thursday, Sept. 1. Entry fee is \$20 per person and will pay 3 places.

\$600 will be added to the singles tournament, scheduled for Friday, Sept. 2. Entry fee (NO late entries accepted after Aug. 26) is \$50 and payout is six places.

\$1200 will be added to the doubles, which starts Saturday afternoon, \$100 per team, and paying six places.

Check the flyer in the June issue for sponsor sale and starting times. Mail your entries (Canadian funds only) to: Marg Okum, 4103 Welwyn St., Vancouver, B.C. Canada V5N-3Z1; phone 604-872-5373.

Suggested lodging is at the Centre Motor Hotel, 2111 Main St. (at 6th Ave.), Vancouver, phone 604-876-7166. When you make your reservation, mention the Crazy Canucks Shuffleboard Tournament to receive special room rates.

6th Annual Labor Day Tournament at Full House, Wynnewood, Oklahoma, Sept. 2-5

There are six events on the agenda for this year's Labor Day weekend tournament at the Full House, 111 W. Robert S. Kerr St., Wynnewood, Oklahoma, on Sept. 2-5. Action starts on Friday with a women's singles, \$10 entry, followed by a men's singles on Saturday, \$20 entry.

Also on Saturday's schedule is a sweetheart draw, \$20 entry fee, with an open draw on Sunday, \$20 entry. Anyone who shows up on Sunday by 10 a.m. may also play in the Division II singles or doubles, \$30 entry.

The final event will be a bring your own partner event, \$50 per team entry, on Monday, Sept. 5.

Payouts for each event will be determined by the number of entries. A \$5 registration fee will be charged and early sign-ups are encouraged.

Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site. For information, call Don or Pat Kinard, 405-665-2275, or 405-665-2715.

Texas Open, Texas Mist, Austin, Aug. 31-Sept. 5

There are nine events on the schedule for this year's Texas Open Tournament, Aug. 31-Sept. 5, hosted by the Texas Mist, 9063 Research Blvd., Austin, Texas. Check the enclosed flyer for complete details and use the registration form to save your spot. There will be a limit of 32 players in many of the events, and a limit of 12 teams in the team event.

There will be a \$10 registration fee, except for sponsors who purchase a classy Texas Open shirt for \$75 or \$120 for two shirts (order form on enclosed flyer).

Suggested lodging is at the Ramada Limited (next door to the Texas Mist), 512-835-7070, or the Comfort Inn,

512-339-7311. For additional information, contact tournament director Ron or Debbie Bowers, 512-835-7256 or 512-459-1264.

4th Annual Draw Partners, Sept. 17-18, Old Edison Inn, Edison, Washington

The Old Edison Inn, Edison, Washington, will host its 4th Annual Draw Partners Tournament on Sept. 17-18. Play gets underway immediately following the draw and sponsor sale at 11 a.m. on Saturday.

The event is a double elimination, two out of three, 15 point games in the winner's bracket; single game of 17 in the loser's bracket. Entry fee is \$25 per person.

The usual door prizes (who will win the oysters?), complimentary feed Saturday, and Board Talk subscription giveaways will add to the pleasure of the last weekend of summer in the beautiful Skagit River Valley.

Last year's winners were Mike Waters and Larry Sawyer.

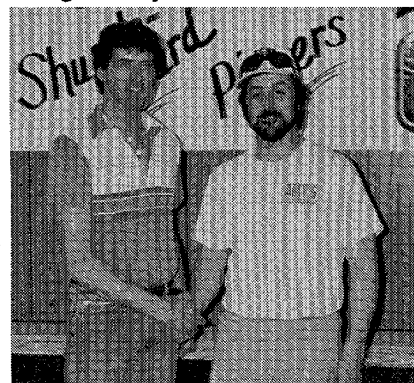
Some RV space (no hook-ups) is available and motels are plentiful in nearby Burlington and Mount Vernon.

Call tournament director Phil DePree (206-766-5301) or the Old Edison (766-6266) for information or to pre-register.

Bennett/Smith/Freer/White Big Winners at Sherburne, New York, American Legion

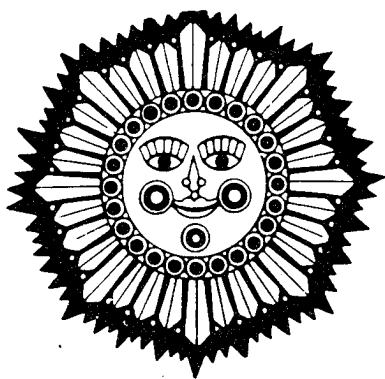
Another successful tournament was held at the American Legion in Sherburne, New York, on April 22-24, hosted by Milt Benedict and his hard-working family. In addition to players from all parts of New York, several other states -- Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania -- were represented. "Word is starting to spread that Milt's tournaments are among the best on the East Coast," reports Louise Freer.

Friday night's draw partner event had over \$2,000 in the pot and the winners were the very tough team of Steve Bennett and Marv Smith. Second place was taken by Dick Losee and Fred Tomkins (his first-time ever place in a tournament), with third taken by Jane Johnson and Doug Fridley Jr.



Marv Smith and Steve Bennett congratulate each other for taking first place in the draw partner. Steve also took first place in the singles at the Sherburne tourney.

(continued on Page 12)



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Notebook *(continued from Page 2)*

You are one of a very select circle of supporters who have been with us since the beginning, Bill. Your Pro Player Profile column was a much-appreciated contribution to our pages. Thanks VERY much for your kind words. We need those every once in awhile!

In Memory of Frank Hepler

We recently lost one of our own to a heart attack. Frank Hepler was not a world beater, although he had his moments. He was always ready to gamble, but never hustled anyone in his life. No, Frank, was not a legend.

To those of us who knew Frank, he was a better than average player who loved the game as much as anyone who ever picked up a weight. He was also one of the most generous and caring men I've ever been lucky enough to know.

We, the players of the Northwest, will truly miss Frank. He was the kind of man we could ill afford to lose.

Kevin Larkin, Longview, Washington

We're sorry to hear of this loss, Kevin. It was just last month that we published a photo of Frank and his partner, Chuck Norris, who were winners of the Shamrock Tavern's 4th Annual Draw Partner tournament in May. Frank was one of our subscribers; we hope he received that issue before his untimely death.

Louise Gives "New Life" to Shuffleboard Network in New Jersey!

I had thought when I took a summer job in Wildwood on the New Jersey shore that I would have to travel the two hours to Philadelphia in order to play shuffleboard. Not so! There are quite a few establishments on the Jersey shore that have shuffleboard, including Grande's in Wildwood, the Fisherman's Club in the Villas, the Ocean Drive in Sea Isle, and just about every Moose, Elk's Lodge, VFW, and American Legion in the area.

Recently, Wildwood hosted the New Jersey VFW convention and there was a fun bunch of shuffleboard players staying at The Pink Champagne Motel, where I work. While they play to 15 on fast boards, sprinkle the rails, etc., they had never heard of *The Board Talk*. So, it is my pleasure to sign up the first two of many future subscribers from Colonia, New Jersey -- Fred Daum and George Taylor. Enclosed is their money, as well as a picture of them I'm hoping you will publish. What a kick it would be for them if their picture was in the first issue they receive.

Can they shoot shuffleboard? You bet! George, Fred, Richard, Joe and I went to Grande's and managed to stop the challenge of a group of young men from Southwest Philadelphia. And, as I can attest, these guys can party with the best of them!



Welcome George Taylor and Fred Daum, new subscribers from New Jersey, signed up by Board Talk ambassador Louise Freer (center). We're glad to have you as part of our national shuffleboard network.

What's going on in Philly?

In my shuffleboard travels, I have often been asked: "Whatever happened to all the shooters from Philly -- the Herrmann brothers, Stash, Meatball, etc.?" While it is true they don't get to many out-of-state tournaments lately, I'm happy to say that they are still playing lots of shuffleboard, and doing their part to keep the game flourishing in Northeast Philadelphia.

For years, Peggy Herin and Jerry Herrmann have organized summer money leagues and this year was their most successful yet. The league is played at Kelli's Bar & Grille at Cheltenham and Erdrick Avenues in Philadelphia. The format is very fair, with the "best" players as captains, a draft system, game minimums/maximums, and clearly defined rules and regulations. There is a good mix of experienced and new shooters. The format eliminates team stacking, and the result is close standings throughout the season.



Peggy Herin, Rocky, Jerry Herrmann, and JoAnn Ware.

(continued on Page 14)

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Southwest Open Another Big Success!

By Ron Huddleston

Thanks to all of you who participated in the Southwest Open Shuffleboard Tournament at the American Legion 73 in Del City, Oklahoma, July 1-4. Sharon and I hope each of you enjoyed your stay and play as much as we enjoyed hosting the event.

The enclosed flyer and photos show several of the players taken just prior to the start of the draft team event. It also lists those who finished in the money in the different events. You may just want to keep or post this flyer as it shows some of the better players in the sport today, as well as some up and coming players you will be seeing in *The Board Talk* over the next few years.

Once again, over \$30,000 was up for grabs and almost half of the players finished in the money in one event or another. We presented 35 plaques to 31 different players. The diversity of winners and comments gives us a positive feedback that we are on the right track in trying to present a tournament format that gives every player, regardless of skill level, a chance to participate, to win, and to be involved in a successful tournament.

The draft team event turned out to be the most fun and even event of the year. It was 3/5 games and I am only aware of one session that did not go down to the wire in the fifth and deciding game. We will be improving the format before next year, but it is definitely a "keeper" event. Although several players were unable to participate, we still had 72 entries for 12 teams. The cheering was loud, the razzing in good taste, and competition fierce. My compliments and thanks to the team captains.

AND THE WINNERS WERE (for those of you who lose your flyers):

In the Open Singles, it was Bill Melton, 1st; Ron Huddleston, 2nd, and Sam Summers, 3rd.

In the Beginners/Just Pretty Good Draw: Slick and Rodney Hollis, 1st; Jerry Henson and Betty Brantley, 2nd; and Chuck Jones and Betty Baumgardner, 3rd.

In the Open Draw: Bobby Voorhis and Gwyn Orsi, 1st; Sam Summers and Steve Burkett, 2nd; C.W. Walker and Tom Hendrix, 3rd.

In the Amateur Doubles: Johnny Wayne and Janet Weidner, 1st; Rena Hendrix and Brenda Watts, 2nd; and Rick Jones and D.G. Lane, 3rd.

In the Beginners/Pretty Good Singles: Jerry Henson, 1st; Tom McBurnett, 2nd; and Slick, 3rd.

In the Pro-Draft Team: Billy Melton, Brenda Watts, Dick Smedberg, Harry Cradduck, Joe Dickerson, and Lisa Melton, 1st; Bobby Voorhis, Zane Porter, Steve

Blue, Kenny Hawks, E.T., and Tom Johnson, 2nd; Sam Summers, Kay Wells, J.B. McBride, Ken Storck, Debbie Voorhis, and Shari Foust, 3rd.

NOTABLE QUOTES:

Dick Smedberg, New York -- As good as everyone lags down here, why do they throw those little short weights?

Larry Creakbaum, Indiana -- I would have been here sooner, but I had trouble with my airplane and had to drive down.

Gwyn Orsi, Nebraska -- Whose calcutta am I bidding on?

Tom McBurnett, Texas -- I never knew people played shuffleboard at 10:00 in the morning!

Fran Mears, Oklahoma -- I want to meet some of those Pretty Good Singles!

Charlie Riley, Missouri -- Wake me up when it's my shot.

Sam Summers, Oklahoma -- J.B., wake up; it's your shot again.

Harry Cradduck, Texas -- I'm not good enough to play in a tournament (first place in the Draft Team event).

George Wilber, Michigan -- This is great and Donna will be here next year.

Beef Camp, Indiana -- This is great and Marge will be here next year.

Bill Melton, Oklahoma -- With all the other tournaments going on in July, you may not get as good a turnout as last year. (Thanks, players!)

Gene McLeod, Missouri -- I wish more of the players in Missouri could see this. They just don't know what they are missing. (Maybe with your help, Gene, and Charlie's help, more players from the Show-Me state will show up next year.)

Bill Holley, Oklahoma -- Can you believe it? I won 2/3 with Bobby Voorhis!

Jody Slack, Colorado -- Such a great tournament! Great turnout, boards and facility...you just hate to see one like this end!

Thanks to one and all. Sharon and I appreciated your suggestions and comments and look forward to seeing you again next year.

(Editor's Note: We appreciate your great report and the purchase of a flyer to salute the players who participated in your tournament. That's pretty special when you could get it for free. Shuffleboard supporters like Don Crall and the American Legion 73, and good reporters like you and Sharon, are what keep us going and growing, Ron).

(Addendum: Donna and Marge are happy to have it public knowledge and, therefore irrevocable, that they will be at next year's tournament. They've already started packing!)



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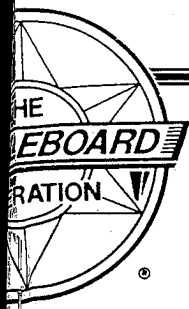
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Tourney Talk *(continued from Page 5)*

Saturday's mixed doubles event was won by Louise Freer and Marv Smith, with second place going to Doug Fridley Jr. and Rita Truax, who played strong shuffleboard to run the loser's bracket to get a shot at first place.



Louise Freer and Marv Smith were winners of the mixed doubles event at the Sherburne American Legion in New York.

Saturday's double elimination bring partner event saw some very tough competition, reports Louise. After sending Ed Galke and Don Perry (a couple of awesome veterans) down to the loser's bracket in a come-from-behind to win game (at one point, the score was 10-5), Louise Freer and Bob White beat them again to remain undefeated and take first place. Third place went to Dick Gorman and Buddy Brammer.



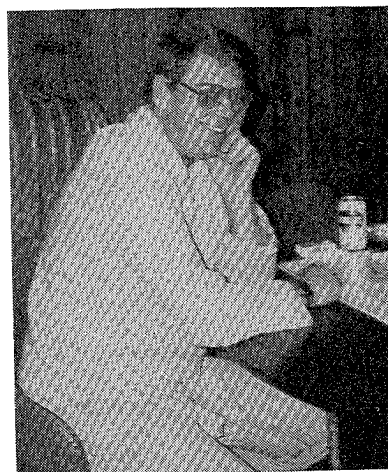
Bob White and Louise Freer were winners of the bring partner event.

Sunday turned out to be the most beautiful day and it must have drawn shuffleboard players outside onto the golf course, the parks, and anywhere but inside, reports Louise, because the turnout for the singles was a tad less

than the other events. However, those who came to the American Legion that day were there to play serious shuffleboard. In the end, Steve Bennett took first place after battling through the winner's bracket and winning his second game against Marv Smith.

Fall Tournament at Sherburne American Legion, Sherburne, New York, Sept. 9-11

The American Legion in Sherburne, New York, will host a fall tournament on Sept. 9-11. Last year, this event attracted about 30 teams in both the draw partner and bring partner events and even more are expected this year. There will be five boards for tournament play, with a sixth available if needed.



Tournament Director Milt Benedict takes an infrequent break at the American Legion Spring Tournament and already is making plans for the Fall Tourney at Sherburne, New York.

"The American Legion in Sherburne is a great place for tournaments: large (two floors) with plenty of comfortable seating; food and drinks are pretty cheap, with a free buffet for tournament players on Saturday and Sunday," says Louise Freer. "There's plenty of parking (especially since Buddy ran over that pesky sign last September). Plus, this region of New York has some of the most beautiful fall foliage in the country. There are several types of lodging fairly close by -- motels, hotels, and bed and breakfast places. There's even a public golf course nearby."

Advance sign-ups for this event are strongly recommended. Call Milt Benedict at 607-674-4571 for information and mail your entries to Milt at RD #1, Box 99A, Sherburne, NY 13460.

Annual Labor Day Tournament at Mickey's Place, Henderson, Maryland, Sept. 3-4

Consider travelling East early for the Sherburne tournament and participating in the doubles tournament at Mickey's Place in Henderson, Maryland, on Sept. 3-4. It will be a draw partner event on Saturday and a bring partner tournament on Sunday.

This is a great shuffleboard location; try it -- you'll like it!

(continued on Page 18)

BIEDERMAN DESIGN LABS

PRESENTS

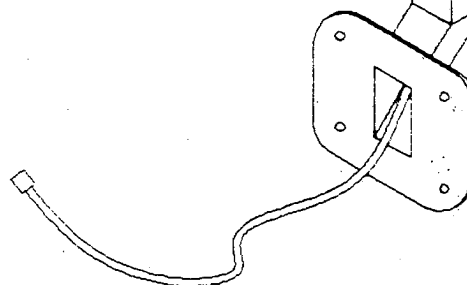
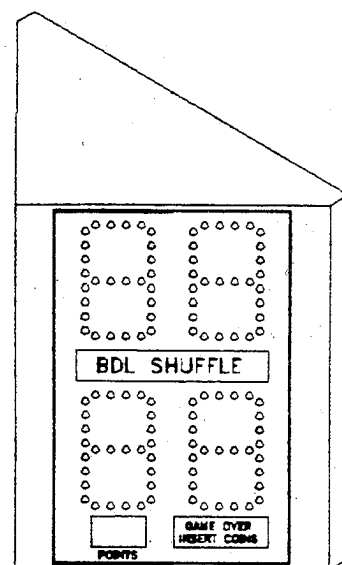
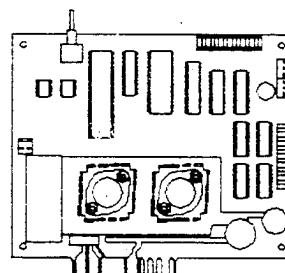
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Notebook *(continued from Page 7)*

Kelli's is a great place to play shuffleboard. The board is like lightning; the atmosphere is friendly and pleasant; and the food is terrific. The word is that there will be a fall money league at Kelli's, too.

As for the rest of them, show up at the Polonia Club at Orthodox Avenue and Belgrade St., Philadelphia, on any Friday night and chances are you will find any or all of the well-known Philly shooters. Stash has organized round robins on Friday nights and works very hard to ensure everything runs as smoothly as possible. If anyone is looking for some serious shuffleboard competition, you'll find it at the Polonia Club. The club itself is very spacious and comfortable, with lots to do other than shuffleboard, including pool and several full-sized bowling lanes. Steamed crabs are available on Friday nights during the summer months, too.

Stash is working on getting several more shuffleboard tables in place by September and plans to hold tournaments there in the future. For information, call the Polonia Club at 4431-37 Belgrade St., Philadelphia, PA, 215-744-2767.

There is plenty of action on the other side of town, too. In Delaware County, west of Philadelphia, Regina Smith, president of the Delco League, and Jim Wolf, have organized round robins on Wednesday nights. Two very nice local establishments, Gambols Cafe (610-259-2702)

and the Knights of Columbus Club (610-446-1986) host round robins simultaneously every Wednesday night, with approximately 16 to 20 players playing at each place.



Ron Herrmann, "Meatball," the long-suffering Claire Mickins, Joe, and Micky Mickens.

Louise Freer, Lansdale, Philadelphia

Thank you, Louise, for expanding our network in New Jersey, once known as a "hotbed" of shuffleboard action, but very low on our subscriber list. We hope our new subscribers there will help spread the word that

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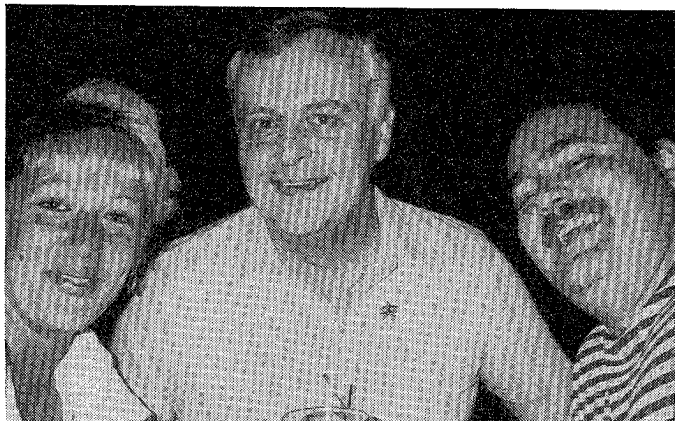
SHUFFLEBOARD AND TEXAS BAR-B-Q!

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there is a newsletter devoted exclusively to their sport.

Thanks, too, for letting us know that some of our old and valued friends have not dropped out of the shuffleboard scene, even though they're not on our mailing list any longer. Please let them know that the local action they are stimulating is just as noteworthy as any "out-of-town" tournaments and our pages are open to news of that action.

Enclosed in this issue is the "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." quarterly listing. The locations you mention might want to consider being a part of this network.



Mary Buckley, Jim Wolf, organizer of shuffleboard action in Philadelphia, and local player Danny Licalli.

Don't forget!

***27th Annual
Fall Bourbon
Doubles
Oct. 1, 1994***

DETAILS COMING NEXT MONTH

News From the Dixie Belle

What a wonderful summer we are having in Sunny Southern California. We just had a great 2nd Annual 4th of July Weekend Tournament (see Tourney Talk for results) and it was a real happening. We had shooting stars and stars shooting!

The Dixie Belle would like to thank Amato's for a great time at their tournament. Congratulations to two of our Dixie Belles, Joanie Swenson and Susie Jones. Their teams came in second and third respectively in the standings. Our own Wes was sorry he couldn't make it to the tournament as was Dorthy Counterman. They were doing some vital remodeling to the Dixie Belle. I'm sure you men will be appreciating their efforts now and for a long time to come. Eileen, Wes' better half, did attend, however, and had a fine time.

Updating Dixie Belle League news: It was Tim O'Brien's team, all the way. Tim would like to thank team members Tanqueray Dick, Big Chris Bonner, Little Gary ones, Mike and Mary. Coming in second was Joe Muniz's team consisting of Viking Alert Ben, Peanut Jack, Peanut Johnna, Bob Flake and Eileen Eades. They, along with all the players, were honored (roasted) at a banquet held June 25. We are all looking forward to the fall-winter league. New, as well as experienced players, are welcome. Come join us; we'll make you feel right at home.

All players are cordially invited to the Dixie Belle's

(continued on Page 19)

CLASSIFIED ADS

SHUFFLEBOARD FOR SALE: Classic Rock-Ola carriage with rare antique 10-cent National scoreboard. Interested parties contact Joe Spielman, 402-556-8654 or 402-895-9987.

I'M STILL LOOKING for pre-1993 American Shuffleboard Weights -- no response. What's a girl got to do to get some attention around here? Call Louise Freer at 215-661-0108.

WANTED: Do you have a special message to deliver, a product or service to sell? If so, it only costs \$5 for 25 words or less in *The Board Talk's* classified section. Send your ads so we receive them by the 15th of the month.

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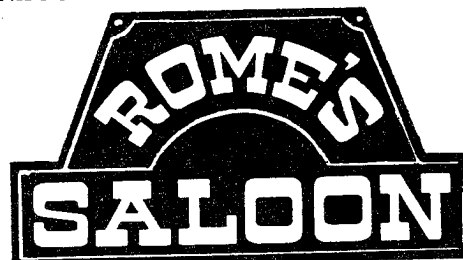
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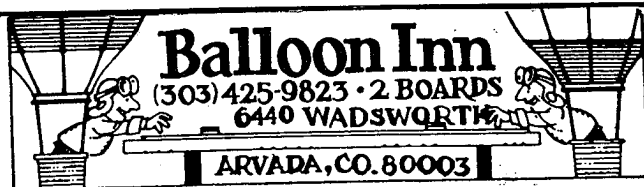
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Frisco Eddie's Revenge: The Return

*A series by Balboa Ron Schweikert
Las Vegas, Nevada*

(Editor's Note: In last month's issue, Lil had told her story about the man who "died" playing shuffleboard. Now, she was ready to tell Eddie the "real" reason she was in the Blue Moon Lounge...Eddie's girlfriend, Shelli, wasn't all that sure she liked that reason.)

Eddie's mind was starting to get "jacked-up" trying to figure Long Beach Lil's statement...that she was about to tell him the REAL reason she came into the Blue Moon Lounge. If it wasn't to try and take his money -- what could it be? He kept his gaze on her as she began her story. Shelli and Bob were also listening intently.

Lil began, "Eddie, I pretty much knew when I came in here that we'd be fairly evenly matched. I know for sure what you can do now, and also what you could be capable of -- with my help."

Eddie thought, "I'll be damned. She's offering me some kind of a proposition!"

Lil continued, "I can take you over to that board and in 10 minutes show you how, under certain conditions, you can double your shuffleboard winnings. Look, man, you've got a lot of skills, but not a lot of 'hustling' know-how. I know how to hustle, Eddie. I know the physical tricks, and psychological 'mind games' that could turn your present interest in the game into a money-making trade."

Shelli was taking all this in -- and she didn't like what she was hearing. She gave Lil an icy stare. She decided to let it go at that for now and listen some more. After all, she had her pride and, as a lady, she didn't want to make a public scene.

Lil went on: "What I'm really getting at here, Eddie, is that if we teamed up, we could make some serious money. We'd be a natural! We'd have an automatic upper-hand. Check this out: what they'd see out there is a 'woman' -- coupled with an unknown, young-faced kid! If we worked it my way, we'd have their money in our pockets before they even had a chance to figure out what was happening. The only problem we might have is maybe tripping over our bankrolls on the way out the door!"

Then she went on further: "What I'm getting at is that we take this show on the road for, say, one year. Then, after our 'cover' is blown, we could go for the big tournaments, and let the chips fall where they may. By that time, we'd be rolling along as smooth as a Rolls

Royce...and might even have the money to buy one!"

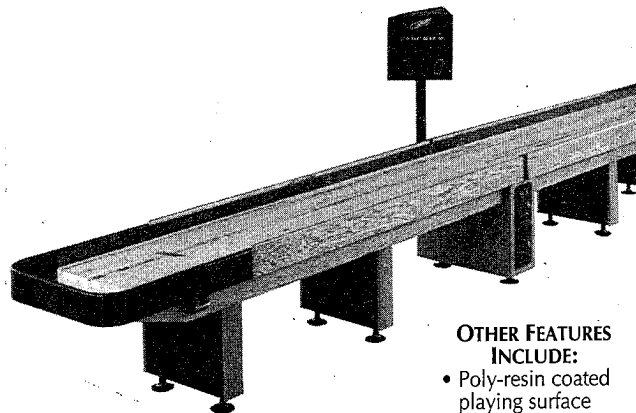
Lil looked directly into Eddie's eyes then and said, "Look, Eddie, all I'm doing now is throwing this out for you to think about. I'm only going to be in town for one or two days. Because when the word gets out about our action here tonight, I won't be able to get a game, even if I disguised myself. All I want you to do is just think it over for now; OK., just think it over."

Lil wanted to get a reaction, so she looked over at Bob first, and then at Shelli. She didn't like what she saw there -- and about that time, Shelli was on her feet and starting to head around the table to where Lil was sitting!

(Editor's Note: To see how Shelli reacts to Lil's suggestion that she take her boyfriend on the road for a year, watch for next month's "Frisco Eddie's Revenge.")

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Tourney Talk *(continued from Page 12)*

Texas Open Qualifier at Sticks Billiards, Austin, Texas, Aug. 12-14

Manager Nonie Hawley is adding \$220 to the pot at the Sticks Billiards' Aug. 12-14 qualifier tourney for spots in the Labor Day Texas Open.

Action starts Friday night with an A-B draw partner, single elimination, \$20 entry fee. Division I (1's and 2's) and Division II (3's, 4's and 5's) bring partner events are on Saturday's agenda, starting at noon. Entry for Division I is \$50 each; Division II is \$20 each. Both are single game, double elimination, limited to 32 teams in each division. The finals for both divisions will be held on Sunday.

The first and second place teams in Division II and the first place team in Division I will win spots in the Texas Open (Aug. 31-Sept. 5 at Texas Mist in Austin).

For information, call Nonie at Sticks Billiards, 512-335-9177.

Dixie Belle's 2nd Annual 4th of July Tourney a Big Success!

It was good times and competitive play throughout the three events at the Dixie Belle in Downey, California, over the 4th of July weekend.

August 12, 13, 14 STICKS BILLIARDS

Austin, TX (512) 335-9177

Qualifier for Labor Day Texas Open

Fri., Aug. 12: 8 p.m. A-B Draw Partner

\$20 entry, single elimination

Sat., Aug. 13, Noon, Bring Partner

Single game, double elimination

***Division II (3's, 4's, 5's) \$20 each**

1st and 2nd Place teams win spot in Texas Open Labor Day Tournament

***Division I (1's, 2's), \$50 each**

1st Place team wins spot in Texas Open Labor Day Tournament

****32 Teams Each Division***

Sun., Aug. 14: Finals of Bring Partner

Division I and II Events

***Every Tuesday, 8 p.m., \$5 Open Draw Partners
Sticks Adds \$50 to the Pot!***

The first event on the schedule was the popular ABC Draw with 14 teams competing in the single game, double elimination tourney. Coming out on top was the team of Rick Thomas, Leonard Dominic, and Evie Hughes. Finishing second were Gil Aragon, Don Hughes, and Gary Jones. John Fisher, Lou Lusero, and Eric Chiles came in third.

There were 16 teams in the 2 out of 3 double elimination doubles event. The awesome team of Darrol Nelson and Don Cox took top honors, with Rich (Bubba) Warren and Billy Chiles in second, and Karl Spickelmier and Jimmy Allis in third place. "Little Gary Jones and his partner George Lucas beat the Greats, Darrol and Don, the first game, and almost took the second before Darrol and Don realized what was going on," reports Dixie Debbie. "Nice going, George and Gary!"

There were 23 players vying for prizes in the singles, also a 2 out of 3 double elimination event. "They didn't finish until Monday night, with Darrol Nelson and Don Cox battling it out and finally settling the winner at about 11 p.m.," said Dixie. "Neither one of them wanted to give any points to the other, and they really took it down to the wire." It was Darrol who prevailed, with Don settling for second. Ted Z took third place, with Billy Chiles in fourth, and Steve Perry and Al Salazar in fifth and sixth place.

"Wes and Eileen Eades, our congenial hosts, along with Karl Spickelmier and several members of the P.C.S.A. made this another fast-paced, high-action event. Friday night and Saturday were party times with our bartenders, Peanut Jack and Evelyn, keeping players and spectators alike in top form. Friday and Saturday nights, there was dining and dancing in the front bar, where Johnna and I did our best to keep the fun rolling for those who needed a short pause from the competition," said Debbie. "The rest of the Dixie Belle employees who helped were Susie, Kim, Mag, Ray, Don, Chris, Julien and Emilio. We all had a great time.

"I would also like to thank Cadillac Joe and Jim (just too much fun) Anderson for their efforts in keeping the boards cleaned and waxed. They each put in about 20 hours a day during the tournament, and we really appreciate their support. Also thanks to Joanie Swenson for her help in keeping the finances straight.

"Congratulations to all the winners and all the players who participated. I would like to especially thank all the players who traveled great distances to be at the Dixie Belle on the 4th of July, all of you from Washington, Oregon, Arizona, Oklahoma (we had a great time getting to know Glen Davidson and Madge), Northern California, Santa Clara, and any I might have missed. Thank you so much for making our tournament such a success," Debbie said.

(More Dixie Belle news in Notebook.)

Two Big Events on Tap at Shamrock Tavern, Longview, Washington

The 3rd Annual Doubles Tournament at the Shamrock Tavern in Longview, Washington, has been set for Sept. 30-Oct. 1, with the winners earning their entries for the big PCSA Extravaganza doubles event in Vegas. "The last two years, the winners were Darrol Nelson and Doug Buhl," reports Ralph Duarte. "Can't anyone beat these guys?"

A "warm-up" \$20 draw partner event will be held on Friday night. The bring your own partner event, \$50 per team, will be held on Saturday and Sunday, with bidding starting at noon on Saturday, and play immediately following. "Yes, Bernice will make the chili again -- hot smoke and all," said Ralph.

The second event at the Shamrock will be the "Frank Hepler 55 and Older Draw Partner Tournament" on Nov. 25-27. Frank, who had just turned 55, passed away recently and this tourney is being staged in his memory. "He was very much looking forward to playing in this year's 55 and older tournament. He and Chuck Norris won the last tournament at the Shamrock," Ralph said. "Jerry Berquist, the owner of the Shamrock, came up with the idea of naming the tournament after him."

There will be \$10 round robins on Friday night, with the tournament starting at noon on Saturday. Head chef and bartender Bernice will again do the cooking.

There are motels within walking distance of the Shamrock. For information, call the tavern at 206-577-7774.

Mark your calendars!

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Lansing, Michigan

(Watch for details in next
month's issue or call George Wilber
517-371-2538)

Notebook (continued from Page 15)

Sunday afternoon Meat Shoots. There is a \$3 entry fee and doubles team draw play. If you haven't participated in our Sunday afternoon fun, you're missing a great time. Play starts at 2 p.m. Come join the fun.

Wes asked me to send a special message to Fritzi and Buddy Broka (Bourbon, Indiana). Wes thanks you for honoring him with the "Most Fun" award. He also says the next time he travels 3,000 miles to a town called Bourbon, he expects to find an operating "scooter" or he'll be riding behind Fritzi!

Wes and all our Southern California men who attended the Bourbon Tournament can't stop talking about what a good time they had. I'm sure they'll be back as soon as they can.

Here at the Dixie Belle, we have a lot of great players, many new players, and a lot of major fun. We hope that when you're visiting Southern California, you'll put us on your list of attractions, if you haven't already, right after Disneyland.

Along with Wes and Eileen Eades, we're still hoping all your lags are fours.

Dixie Debbie, The Dixie Belle, Downey, California.



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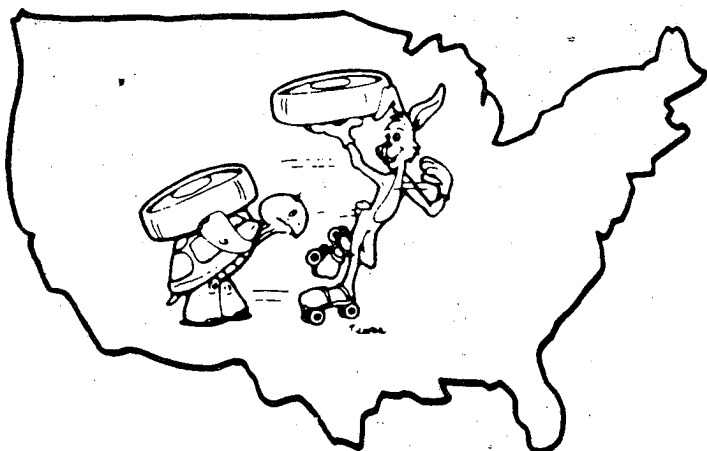
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6th Annual Labor Day Weekend Tournament Sept. 2-5, 1994

Friday, Sept. 2:

Ladies' Singles, \$10 entry, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 3:

Men's Singles, \$20 entry, 10 a.m.

Saturday, Sept. 3:

Sweetheart Draw, \$20 entry, 5 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 4:

Open Draw, \$20 entry, 11 a.m.

Sunday, Sept. 4:

Division II Tournament -- Male or female: any 1's or 0's who show up on Sunday by 10 a.m. can play singles or doubles for \$30 entry fee.

Monday, Sept. 5:

Bring Your Own Partner, \$50 per team, 1 p.m.

-- \$5 per person registration fee --

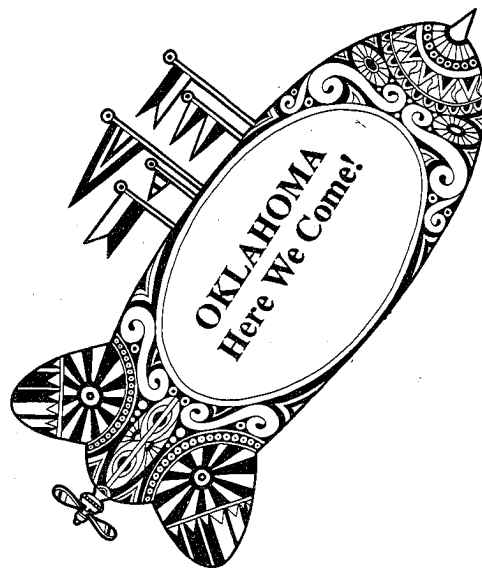
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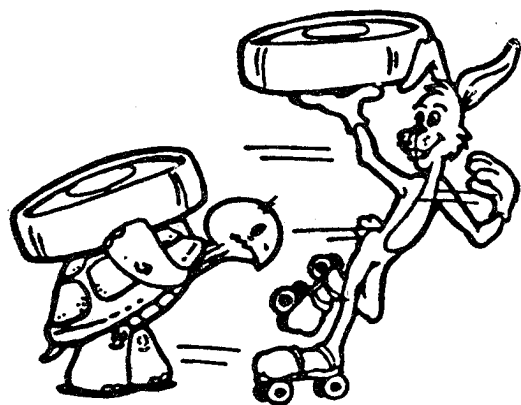
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with play immediately following

☞ Open Singles, \$40 per player

Sponsor Sale Sunday Noon Sharp

with play immediately following

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For tournament information and/or to save your spot,

Call George at The Board Talk, 517-371-2538

For lodging recommendations, call Skip, 517-~~422-5422~~

422-5631

SKIP'S LOUNGE

8895 W. Houghton Lake Drive, Houghton Lake, Michigan

"In the heart of Michigan's Vacation Wonderland"

.....
YES! I'll be there. Sign me up for Saturday's Draw Partners (\$20 entry): _____

Sign me up for Sunday's Open Singles (\$40 entry): _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

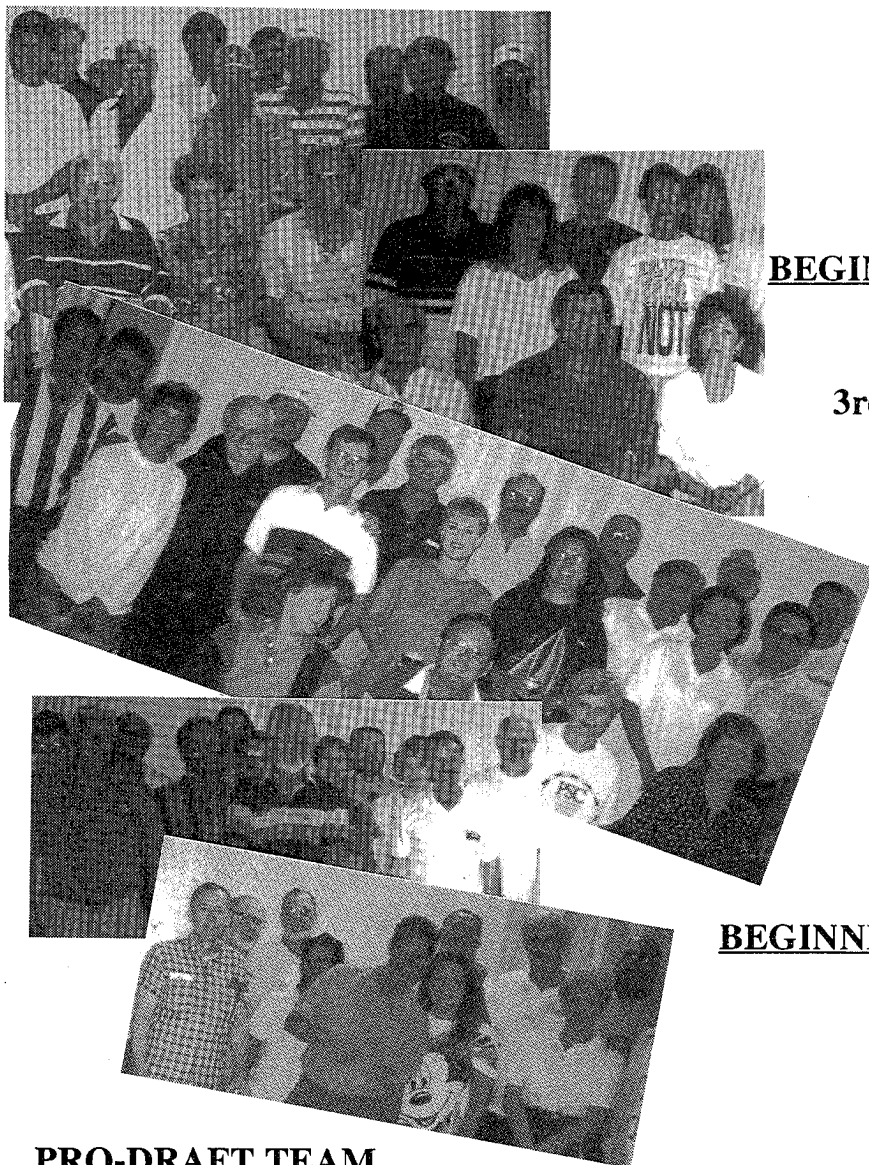
Address: _____

*Make checks payable to The Board Talk and mail to: The Board Talk, 421 E. Sheridan Rd.,
Lansing, MI 48906; or deliver to Skip at Skip's Lounge.*

Congratulations Winners and Thanks to all Participants!

3rd Annual Southwest Open

July 1-4, 1994, Del City, Oklahoma



OPEN SINGLES

1st: Bill Melton
2nd: Ron Huddleston
3rd: Sam Summers

BEGINNER/JUST PRETTY GOOD DRAW

1st: Slick & Rodney Hollis
2nd: Jerry Henson & Betty Brantley
3rd: Chuck Jones & Betty Baumgardner

OPEN DRAW

1st: Bobby Voorhis & Gwyn Orsi
2nd: Sam Summers & Steve Burkett
3rd: C.W. Walker & Tom Hendrix

AMATEUR DOUBLES

1st: Johnny Wayne & Janet Weidner
2nd: Rena Hendrix & Brenda Watts
3rd: Rick Jones & D.G. Lane

BEGINNER/JUST PRETTY GOOD SINGLES

1st: Jerry Henson
2nd: Tom McBurnett
3rd: Slick

PRO-DRAFT TEAM

1st: Billy Melton, Brenda Watts, Dick Smedberg, Harry Cradduck, Joe Dickerson, Lisa Melton
2nd: Bobby Voorhis, Zane Porter, Steve Blue, Kenny Hawks, E.T., Tom Johnson
3rd: Sam Summers, Kay Wells, J.B. McBride, Ken Storck, Debbie Voorhis, Shari Foust

AMERICAN LEGION POST 73

5000 S.E. 24th, Del City, Oklahoma

Phone: 405-677-9393

Your Host: Don Crall