

The Board Talk

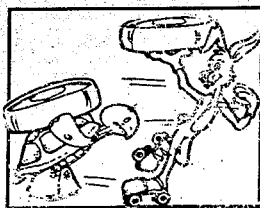
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Vol. 11, No. 1

George & Donna Wilber, Publishers
421 E. Sheridan Rd., Lansing, MI 48906
January 1994
Phone: 517-371-2538

1993: Memories are Made of This.....





Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views
from The World
of Shuffleboard

Tony's Last Hurrah?

Home from Reno where Dot and I celebrated our 30th wedding anniversary and participated in the Shuffleboard Federation's North American Championships. The tournament, as usual, was well run. We both enjoyed ourselves immensely. Our room was not upgraded this year, but was more than adequate. We participated in so many events that seldom had time to spend in our room. Comparing the facilities at the Sands Regency with the facilities at Aladdin, Las Vegas, is like comparing a pent house to an out house. It is my opinion that they should do the same to Aladdin's that they did to the Dunes recently -- blow it up and rebuild!

I had a little dispute over a late penalty on the Legends. No late penalty was charged for people getting on amateur teams at the last minute, so I felt it was unfair to charge a late fee for Legends since I had sent \$230 in advance fees. My anger helped me to focus in on shuffleboard. I won first place in the Legends event and also first place in the consolation draw. Thanks to my two fine partners, Dave Arndt and Les Burt. I couldn't have won anything without their help.

Both Dot and I feel that we may have played our last week-long tournament in Nevada. Endurance, old age, but mainly finances, are going to curtail our future participation in these events. Limited retirement income won't allow us to spend what we want on future anniversaries.

Tony Bastanchury, Garden Grove, California

Endurance, old age and limited finances -- we can relate. Nevertheless, we find it hard to believe that this was your last hurrah, Tony, and we look forward

to seeing you and Dot at tournaments well into the future. They just wouldn't be the same without your welcome presence. Congratulations on your tournament wins and on your 30th anniversary. Our sincere best wishes for many more -- of both!

(continued on Page 9)

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

*I appreciate your
patronage in 1993
and look forward
to serving you in
the year ahead.*



*I will be at the P.C.S.A.
Extravaganza VI in Las Vegas
Feb. 1-6
with a supply of already-made
custom leather weight cases -- stop
and take a look! I am also now
carrying all brands of weights.*

Fritzi Broka

Distinctive Custom Leather Weight Cases

FULL MOON LEATHER WORKS
Your Own Design
100% Hand-Made
by
Fritzi Broka
Bourbon, IN 46504
219-858-2278

— ATTENTION —

If you have a red check below, it means your subscription has expired. To receive the next issue, you must renew by the 15th of this month.

_____ Red Check

(Use the enclosed form to renew.)

The Hammer

The joy of victory, the agony of defeat -- it goes with every sport and shuffleboard is no exception. However, we'd like to think that our network goes far beyond those two emotions. In between the two, and ever present, no matter where they finish, shuffleboarders care about each other.

That's been illustrated so many times in this past 10 years -- through benefits for shufflers in their times of hardship and suffering, through prayers of support for those who are ill, and through words of encouragement and messages of caring to those who have lost loved ones. We hope you will carry on that tradition now to remember a couple of folks in our World of Shuffleboard:

Sol Lipkin (you'll see his photo in this issue) recently lost his life-long companion, his wife of many, many years. Please join us in letting Sol know we care: Sol Lipken, 899 Dona Rd., Union NJ 0708.

Just as we were putting the finishing touches on this issue, we received a phone call from Judy Iseman with the sad news that our good friend, Scratch Todd of Maryland, died of a heart attack on Dec. 16. This "gentle giant" leaves behind a host of shuffleboard friends across the nation. His pallbearers were the Greenwood Shuffleboard Team. Please let his daughter and son-in-law know that you share their grief: John and Lisa Richards, 3620 Houston Branch Rd., Federalsburg, MD 21632.

On this anniversary, here is a quote from the Vol 1, No. 1 Hammer column, published in January of 1984:

"Shuffleboard players are a special breed of people with a special language, one that crosses city limits and leaps state lines. We'll work hard to make THE BOARD TALK a reflection of you -- that special kind of person who shares the comradarie of others who speak your language, who cares about your fellow shuffleboard players and what's happening to them. Share and care -- that's what THE BOARD TALK is all about."

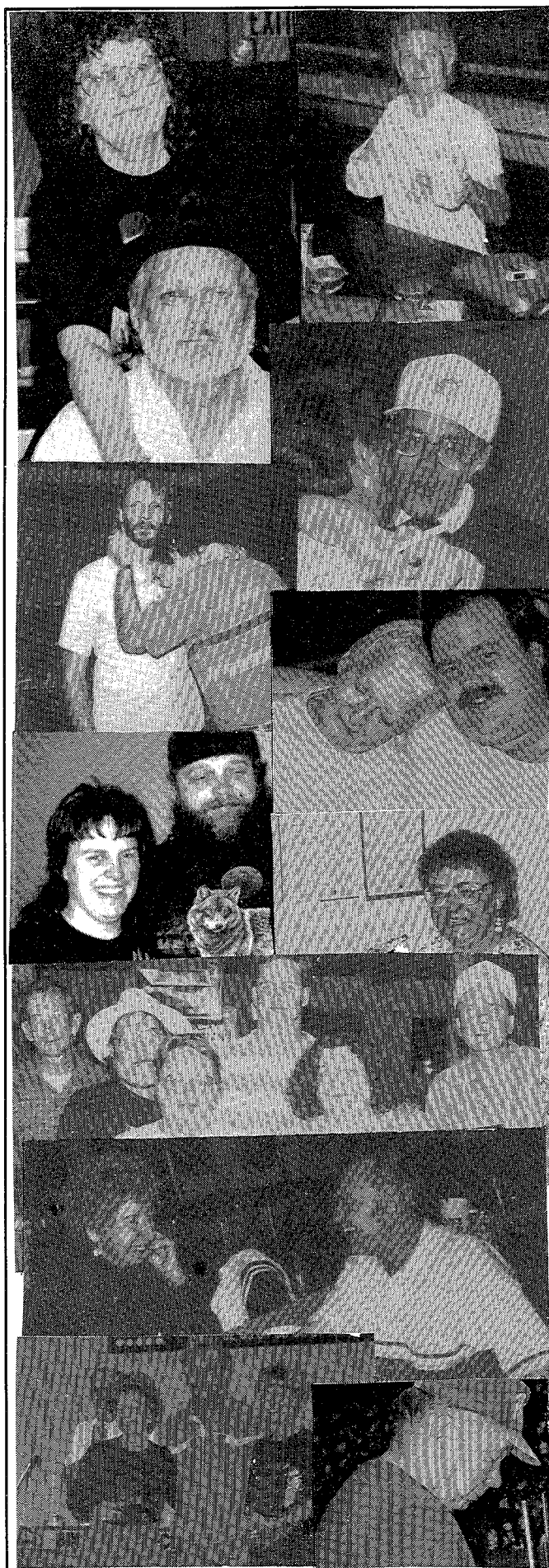
As we start our 11th year, that initial objective has not changed. Thanks, through your contributions, for helping us keep our focus on that objective.

We hope the collage of photos on our front cover and in this column from 1993 issues will bring back some pleasant memories and remind that you, indeed, our World of Shuffleboard is very special! We look forward to making some new memories with you in Las Vegas on Feb. 1-6.

Best wishes for a HAPPY NEW YEAR!

George + Donna

George and Donna Wilber, Publishers



Tourney Talk

Mays/Williams Win at Fibber's

Gary Kennedy hosted the 1st Annual Fibber's Open on Oct. 29. "He did a good job of running the show," reports Bobby Williams. "A great legend in shuffleboard, Gary left the hospital where he was recovering from a heart condition and pneumonia and came directly to the tournament where he played quite well."

Billy Mays and David Williams drew up and ran over everyone for first place. Evelyn Harris and Bobby Williams finished second, with Bill Wooldridge and Bobby Wright taking third place.

Kelly/Martin and Martin Tops at Gold Nugget

The Gold Nugget Club, Arlington, Texas, is becoming a shuffleboard tournament center for the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex area. Host/owner Bill Brody maintains two boards and always kicks in extra money for his two weekly tournaments. David and Bobby Williams report that this will be a place to be reckoned with in the future.

Bill hosted a qualifier for the Corporate Image Thanksgivng Classic on Nov. 6-7. First place in the doubles went to Earl Kelly and Slick Martin, who is such a devoted shuffleboard enthusiast and Board Talk reader that he had the turtle/hare logo tattooed on his right arm! Second place was taken by Bobby Williams and Johnny

Wayne, with third going to Bill Wooldridge and Ken Manacle.

First place in the singles was won by Slick Martin (on a roll!), with Bobby Williams in second and Bobby Wright in third place.

(Editor's Note: We are impressed, Slick! We can hardly wait to see it in the flesh!)

Foran/Gindt Winners at Acme Tavern Tourney

"Nancy Hiller and her band of merry bartenders kept 40 odd players warm and content and well-nestled in her merry little tavern for one fun-filled weekend of shuffleboard," reports Ron Wicks about the November doubles tournament at Acme Tavern in Tacoma, Washington.

Locals Jim Foran and Rick Gindt teamed up to take top honors in the field of 21 teams vying for a pot of \$3,400. Finishing in a strong second place were Portland's own Chuck Norris and Steve Bjorne. In third place were Mike Pond and Dan Hitt, both from Spokane. Coming in fourth were Gary George of Orchards, Wash., and Jim Long of Longview. In fifth and sixth spots were Mike Watters, Tacoma, and Chris Danke, and Dave Arndt, Tacoma, and Gordy Smith, British Columbia.

Ron says thanks to Nancy for the great Saturday feed and Nancy says: "Thank you all for being such a great, supportive crowd, and don't forget our annual sweethearts tournament in February."



Dear Friends:

*May 1994 be
filled with good
health, much
happiness, and
many wins!*

George & Donna Wilber

The Board Talk

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

Open Doubles at Port Side Sports Lounge, Ft. Wayne, Indiana, Feb. 12

Don't forget the open doubles tournament at the Famous Fish of Stroh Port Side Sports Lounge, 1571 Goshen Road in Fort Wayne, Indiana, on Saturday, Feb. 12. Entry fee is \$30. The bar opens at 9 a.m. and sponsor sale starts at 11:30 a.m.

For information regarding the tournament and/or lodging information, call Tony Bryant at 219-484-8602. Check the flyer in last month's Board Talk.

4th in Series of Five Doubles at Beef's, Kendallville, Indiana, Feb. 19

The fourth in a series of five doubles tournaments is scheduled for Feb. 19 at Beef's in Kendallville, Indiana. Entry is \$40 per team, sale at 11 a.m., with play on two boards. If over 16 teams are entered, it will be mark 4, play to 15, until money games.

The first four teams to place highest in the series of five matches have an opportunity to try for a percentage of the \$2,000 added to the entry pot by Playfair Shuffleboard Company and Dale Gushman.

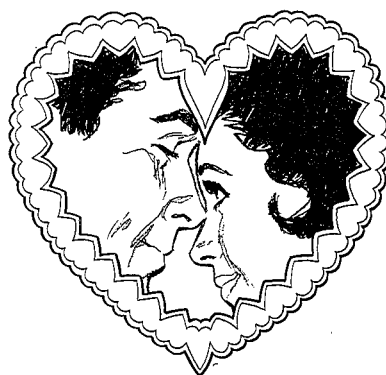
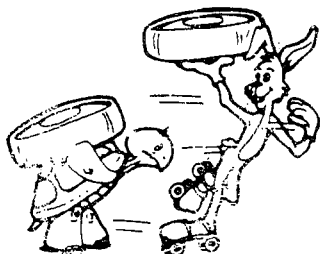
Recommended lodging is the Economy Inn, 219-347-3500, or Days Inn, 219-347-5263. For information regarding the tournament, call Beef or Marge at 219-347-9965.

The final in the series of five is March 19.

COMING SOON!

*Exciting news
about the
10th Annual
Board Talk
Tournament....*

**Watch for the announcement
in next month's issue!**



8th Annual Valentine's Weekend Tournament, Feb. 12-13, O'Connor's Pub & Grill, Warsaw, Indiana

O'Connor's Pub & Grill (formerly DJ's), 1360 W. Center St., Warsaw, Indiana, will host their 8th Annual Valentine's Weekend Tournament on Feb. 12-13. Events will include an open doubles on Saturday, \$20 per team, with sale at noon, and a Sweetheart mixed doubles on Sunday, \$20 per team, sale at noon.

Annual Winter Doubles, Bourbon American Legion, Feb. 26

That popular tournament site, the American Legion Post 424 in Bourbon, Indiana, will host its annual Winter Doubles Tournament on Feb. 26. These Bourbon events always attract the best from across the country, so "hot"

(continued on Page 8)

*Announcing our
annual
Winter
Doubles
Tournament*



FEBRUARY 26

\$40 per team entry

Sale at 10 a.m.

Five In-House Boards

For information, call Fritzi Broka

219-858-2278

Don't get left out in the cold --

Join the fun!

**AMERICAN LEGION
POST 424**

Bourbon, Indiana 46504

1994 Calendar of Shuffleboard Events

JANUARY

Jan. 14-16

Winter Tournament
Glenn's Tavern
Funkstown, Maryland

Jan. 14-16

"Las Vegas or Bust Warm-Up"
American Legion Post 73
Del City, Oklahoma

Jan. 14-16

4-Event Tournament
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

Jan. 22

3rd of 5 Doubles Series
Beef's
Kendallville, Indiana

Jan. 21-22

A-B Draw Tournament
Amato's
Huntington Beach, California

FEBRUARY

Feb. 1-6

PCSA Extravaganza VI
Alladin Hotel/Casino
Las Vegas, Nevada

Feb. 12

Open Doubles
Port Side Sports Lounge
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Feb. 12-13

8th Annual Valentines Tourney
O'Connor's Pub & Grill
Warsaw, Indiana

Feb. 18-20

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

Feb. 18-20

Everybody's Tournament
Texas Mist
Austin, Texas

Feb. 19

4th of 5-Series Doubles
Beef's
Kendallville, Indiana

Feb. 26

Winter Doubles
American Legion Post 424
Bourbon, Indiana

MARCH

March 19

5th and Final 5-Series Doubles
Beef's
Kendallville, Indiana

MAY

May 7

33rd Annual Spring Doubles
American Legion Post 424
Bourbon, Indiana

May 13-15

4-Event Tournament
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

May 20-22

Spring Tournament
Glenn's Tavern
Funkstown, Maryland

May 27-30

Memorial Weekend Tournament
Blinky's Sports Cafe
Santa Clara, California

JUNE

June 10-12

4-Event Tournament
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

JULY

July 1-4

3rd Annual Southwest Open
American Legion Post 73
Del City, Oklahoma

AUGUST

Aug. 4-7

5th Annual Grand Masters Plus
Whistling Oyster Tavern
Quilcene, Washington

Aug. 12-14

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

Aug. 26-28

Summer Tournament
Glenn's Tavern
Funkstown, Maryland

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 1-5

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

OCTOBER

Oct. 1

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

*Is your tournament
listed on this calendar?
It's never too early!
Shufflers plan their
travel itineraries around
this listing. Let us know
about yours today.....*

THE BOARD TALK

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

Tourney Talk *(continued from Page 5)*

competition and great fellowship are guaranteed.

Entry fee is \$40 per team and the sale starts at 10 a.m. sharp. The American Legion has five in-house boards.

For further information, contact Fritzi Broka at 219-835-2278. Suggested lodging: Plymouth Motel 6, 219-935-5911; Super 8 Motel Plymouth, 1-800-800-8000; Motel 6 Warsaw, 219-267-3900; or Dollar Inn Warsaw, 219-267-3344.

Massies Win at Red Dog

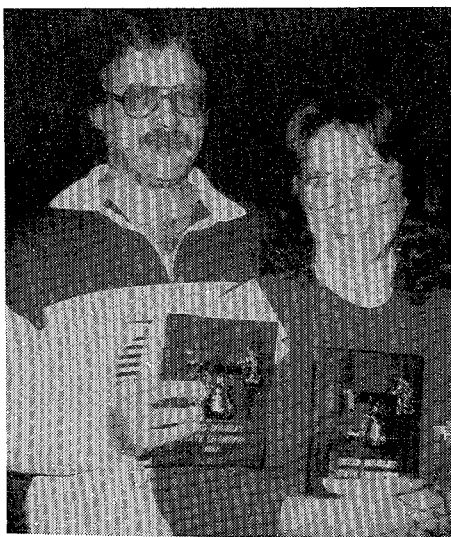
Thirteen teams put in \$50 each and played for a total purse of \$2410 at the Red Dog Saloon in Muncie, Indiana, on Dec. 4. Coming out on top was the team of Greg and Tom Massie from Summitville. Second went to Larry Creakbaum of Indianapolis and Jerry Knox of Mishawaka. Deb and Bob Voorhis of Fairmount took third place, with the father and son team of Bob and Bobby Brown of Portland rounding out the top four.

Indiana Championships Break Records

It was constant action during the five-event Indiana State Shuffleboard Championships, held this year at Chances R in Muncie over the Thanksgiving week-end.

Friday night's doubles saw 21 teams shoot it out on four boards for a pot of nearly \$5,000. Winners were Blaine Yaegy of Summitville and Phil Crowder, with Greg and Tom Massie, also of Summitville, taking second place honors. Steve Hart of Fortville and John Humes finished third, with Don Creswell and Steve Schuyler in fourth and final money spot.

Fourteen teams participated in the mixed doubles shoot-it-out. Winners were Bob and Deb Voorhis of Fairmount, with Bob and Marcia Brown in second place. Glen Ingram and Jeri Dickson finished in third, with Larry Vance and Mary Youngblood in fourth place. Total purse for this event with \$1730.



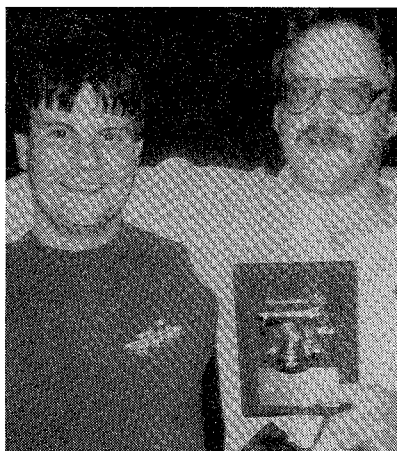
Bob and Deb Voorhis teamed up to take first place in the Indiana State Championship Mixed Doubles event.

Eleven women shufflers vied for a pot of over \$1,000 in the women's singles. Jonna Reese of Muncie took top honors, with Carol Westerman of North Webster in second, Deb Voorhis in third, and Fritzi Broka of Bourbon in fourth place.

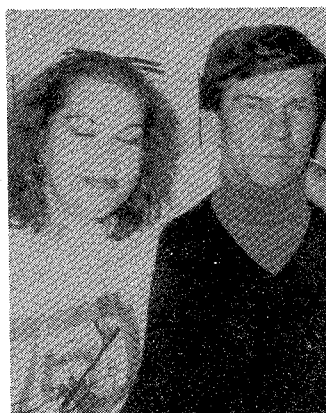
Jonna Reese of Muncie proudly collects her first place trophy in the Indiana State Championship women's singles.



Thirty-two Hoosiers shot it out in the open singles for a purse of nearly \$4000. And the winner was Bob Voorhis, with Paul Elliot of Warsaw taking second place honors. Larry Creakbaum of Indianapolis finished third, with Bryan Valentine of Ingalls in fourth place.



Bob Voorhis of Fairmount took top honors in the Indiana Championship singles with Paul Elliot (left) finishing second.



Steve and Cherri Hart after 72 hours at Chances "R"

Total purse for the four events was \$11,675. "We broke all records in purse and players at the 1993 Championships," said tournament director Steve Hart. "Our hosts, Bob and Karen, were great hosts and the facilities and food were also great. Thanks to all the people who helped make the tournament run: Bob Brown for boards, Jim DeWitt, Fritzi Broka for the bracket

boards, and especially Sheryl Cockrell and my wife, Cherri Hart, for doing the books, sign-up and announcing the games."

(continued on Page 14)

Notebook (continued from Page 2)

Another Response for A.Z.

It is always interesting to read a letter from A.Z. Turnbo. We salute him for taking the time to express his views through *The Board Talk*. It is too bad that more people do not follow his example. Exchanging opinions and ideas will help our sport to evolve and grow.

In this particular case, there are some points we agree with A.Z. on, and others which we feel he is wrong about. Certainly we agree that shuffleboard is the greatest game in the world. If we did not feel that way, we would not have invested the time and money that we have promoting the game since incorporating in 1987.

We also strongly agree that there are far too many bad boards. The game is no fun for players or spectators when the rails fall off or the ends run and it is essential that a game be able to be completed in a reasonable amount of time. Consistency in terms of speed is an essential part of that equation. The only way to achieve that is regular cleaning and polishing, the proper use of a good quality silicone spray, and good wax. Currently, only a small percentage of boards receive that type of care.

The reason is simple economics. If the bar owners

and vending companies do not make a reasonable profit from their shuffleboard tables, they are not going to maintain them, and then those shuffleboards will be out on the street, replaced by dart machines and pool tables.

A.Z. is right: the players are the game; they should dictate the rules and format; they do furnish the bulk of the money. In a capitalistic society, money talks. Here's some figures that may be of interest -- the total 1992 revenues of some of the popular tavern games. This information comes from an annual survey of the vending industry done by

Vending Times magazine:

Shuffleboards	\$ 17,992,000
Soccer Tables	\$ 30,420,000
Electronic Darts	\$ 583,440,000
Pool Tables	\$ 888,160,000
Pinball Machines	\$2,262,000,000
Video Games	\$2,722,720,000

As you can see, shuffleboard is bringing up the rear. In many places, the cost per game has gone up to a dollar. Unfortunately, even on a good board where the games go fast, the price would have to be \$2.00 to \$3.00 per game to compete with these other games. The bottom line is that shuffleboard players need to stick together and be a little more open-minded. We shouldn't be competing with each other; we have enough competition from other people.

A.Z. feels that the best way to play is 15 points, two out of three, double elimination. There are many people who agree with that. But those people should be aware that the East Coast and Midwest are home to many players who have played single game, double elimination their whole lives. A.Z. mentions the very exciting finals of the A-B draw at the 1993 P.C.S.A. Extravaganza. It should be mentioned that the format for that event was single game, double elimination.

Most people are not aware that in the late '40s, when shuffleboard was at its peak in popularity, frames -- not points -- was the format, with eight frames for singles and 10 frames for doubles being the most common. When shuffleboard made the switch from frames to points (21 points was the most common), the length of time for an average game tripled, but the cost per game stayed the same. This opened the door for pool, which soon passed shuffleboard in popularity and hasn't looked back since.

This does not mean we think everybody should go back to playing frames. We support all forms of the game. At The North American Championships, we provide an opportunity to play in a variety of events. One of the things we hear most often from participants is that if they are going to spend the money to travel to a shuffleboard tournament, they want to play in as many events as possible. We have singles and doubles events that are single game, double elimination and two out of three, double elimination, several draw partner events, the N.A.S.L.

(continued on Page 13)

CLASSIFIED ADS

THANKS to all our subscribers who sent us Christmas greetings with their renewals. We appreciated your messages! George & Donna

HAPPY NEW YEAR to our friends at the AN & AF Club in Vancouver, B.C. Canada. Thanks for the Christmas greeting and "bee" pins. We will wear them proudly at the PCSA Tournament in February. George & Donna Wilber

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. Get it started!

THE BOARD TALK

421 E. Sheridan Rd., Lansing, MI 48906

Phone: 517-371-2538

Frisco Eddie's Revenge

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

(Editor's Note: Back in 1985, Balboa Ron delighted readers with a series of short stories about a shuffler named Frisco Eddie. After recovering from two major hip surgeries, Ron is back at his typewriter with a "Frisco Eddie....The Return" series. Because we have so many new subscribers since 1985 who missed the original "Revenge" series, we decided to publish those before we start "The Return" series. In November, we published Part I; in December, Part II. And here's the conclusion of Frisco Eddie's Revenge. Enjoy!)

Frisco Eddie had been waiting for some time to play the "high rollers" now that his game had improved appreciably. His "someday" wish had become a reality as he was about to begin a money game with "Big Al" from the East Coast.

As the board was being waxed, Eddie reflected on some of the things he must make himself aware of during this session. He had been taught well. (Watch for Al to "dry off" the corners with the outside heel of his hand when he shoots. If he does, start springling some wax and wake them up for the cross-shot lags. No "palming" of the weights on the lags; the moisture on the bottom of the weight could slow it down by a foot or more. Any moisture, i.e., "spit" on the outside "hitting" surface of the weight will make it "run," especially if a small amount of wax was added to that surface. Don't let him get away with "nudging" or "bumping" the board when he shoots if I have a hanger up.)

There were a hundred other things flashing through Eddie's mind as the quarters went into the slot. The board was waxed and ready to go. "How much would you like to start for, Eddie?" asked Big Al. "We came a long way and me and Two-Hanger are splitting the action." "How about a hundred a game for now," Eddie replied. "O.K. call the toss," said Al. (Eddie recalled that out of thousands of coin-toss decisions, heads came up with a very slight edge.) "Heads," said Eddie. Heads it was. The game was on.

Big Al began by "testing" the right-cross lag shot which was his favorite. Eddie stuck on the deep deuce. "You are improving, kid. Hope you can keep it up all night because one of us will leave here broke," said Big Al. "Don't worry about the horse, man, just load the wagon," Eddie replied.

As the game progressed, Big Al and Two-Hanger Fred realized they were now involved with a formidable opponent. Eddie was "sticking," he was "lagging," his "short-weight" game was where it belonged, and he had a

good "expanded-hand" shot, in addition to his normal "jersey" game.

As the clock ticked on through the night, Eddie progressed consistently toward the winner's circle. He was actually beating the "Big Man." Big Al had tried every trick he knew, to no avail. It was now nine in the morning. Frisco Eddie had them stuck for \$4,000.

"How much do you guys want to play for this game?" Eddie asked. "How about a thousand?" said Two-Hanger Fred. "How much of that is guts?" Eddie replied. (He knew they were close to being broke.) "What the hell do you mean by that?" said Two-Hanger. "O.K., then," said Eddie. "You won't mind putting the bet on the table so we can all see where we stand."

Big Al and Two-Hanger had a conference; they had \$200 between them. "We'll just play for \$200 then," said Big Al as he placed the money up. "O.K., let's get it on then," said Eddie. (He remembered how these men worked -- "never give a sucker a break.") He would have to win and "clean them out" now, or God only knew what would happen next. The game was on and Eddie was shaky. He had never been in a marathon game before.

As the game progressed, the score was 11 to 14 in Big Al's favor, with two of Al's red weights blocking Eddie's right-hand lag. (Now or never, thought Eddie.) Big Al made a snide remark and then coughed loudly just as Eddie was releasing his final left-hand lag. Even with this distraction, the weight felt good and was on track. Eddie held his breath as the weight settled into a very deep three left cross. However, it was still spinning from the jersey lag. When the spinning had finally stopped (it seemed like an eternity to Eddie), the weight had gently edged its way another half-inch forward -- into a four!

Eddie had one it! He had "busted" them! Eddie had faithful watchers and after the excitement had died down, Eddie walked over to Big Al's table. He told them to hang onto the \$400 which had been put up for "travelling expenses." As they were leaving the bar, Big Al turned to Eddie and said, "You must know, Eddie, that we -- or someone else like us -- will be seeing you again real soon. You're into the game now, kid -- and we won't let you go." "I'm sure of that," Eddie replied. "Take it easy."

The sky was beginning to cloud up as Frisco Eddie left the Blue Moon Lounge after his first "real" session. "Someday" was glorious, thought Eddie. Then, remembering Al's final words, he wondered, is a life full of "somedays" what I really want?

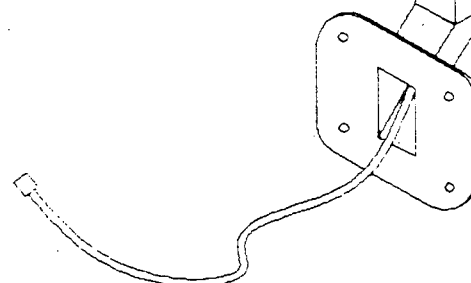
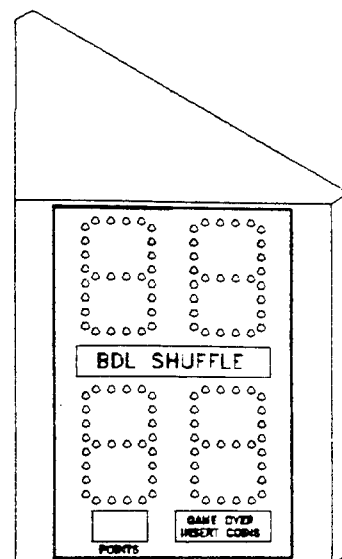
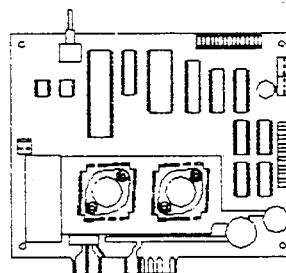
***Next month: "Frisco Eddie's
Revenge.... The Return" -- Don't
miss it!***

BIEDERMAN DESIGN LABS
PRESENTS
BDL SHUFFLE

FEATURES:

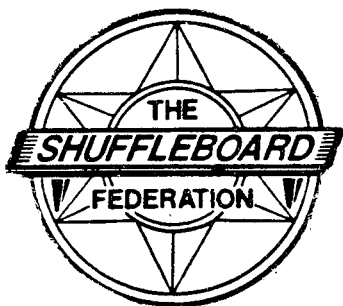
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FOR COIN OPERATED SHUFFLEBOARD**



RENO WRAP UP

Thanks to everyone who attended the 1993 North American Championships and helped to make the tournament a success. Special thanks to those who took the time to fill out a comment form. Your thoughts help us continue to improve this tournament. You can look forward to a few new things for the 194 tournament based on your suggestions.

Of course you need a place to play and boards to play on, so on behalf of all the participants we want to extend our appreciation to American International Shuffleboard Corp. and the Sands Regency Hotel Casino.

The unsung heroes of a tournament like this are the set up and take down crew. Most of the time players arrive after the boards are set up and leave before they are taken down and therefore do not see how hard these people work.

Lyndon Baize, Rick Boyer, Gordy Collins, Bob Patton, Steve Perry, Bob, Pete Vansteen and our friends from Tip Top Amusments, your hard work is appreciated.

One of the toughest things about a tournament like this is that the hardest job, re-crating all the shuffleboards, comes at a time when everyone is already tired from a long week. It was therefore a big bonus when Al Stewart, who was there to pick up the boards he bought, volunteered his services and those of his friend Bob.

The first and second place finishers in each of the twelve events got a beautiful plaque which resembled a miniature shuffleboard. We join all of them in thanking Bill Melton and Lisa Melton, who donated the fifty two plaques. We can assure you that everyone fortunate enough to win one of them loved it.

Our first time participants marveled at how smooth this tournament runs, thanks to the fantastic job done by bracket man Rob Kern and officials Lyndon Baize, Bob Patton, and Pete Vansteen. Thanks to them, everything ran like clockwork.

It was a thrill to see the surprised look on Don Valk's face when his name was announced as the recipient of the 1993 Sol Lipkin Award. It was just as big a thrill seeing the proud look on the face of Don's wife Linda, who knew about the award and did a great job of getting Don there to celebrate a second honeymoon (Don and Linda were married in nearby Lake Tahoe prior to the start of the 1991 tournament).

We were delighted with the response to our new game, DEUCES WILD™. The feedback was positive across the board (no pun intended), with pros and novices alike all having a great time. DEUCES WILD™ will be a bigger part of the 1994 tournament. Based on how much fun everyone had, this time, we're sure this event will be sold out next time.

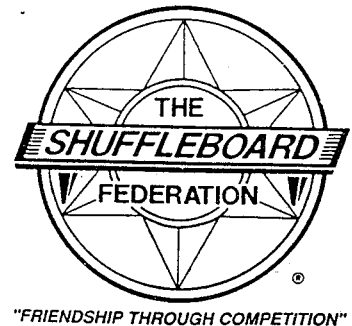
Our top priority for the 1994 North American Championships is to make some changes in the N.A.S.L.™ Team Event that will make it easier for teams to qualify. We are studying several options, including changing the rating system and breaking the event into divisions. Got any ideas? Let us hear them, as always, your input is appreciated.

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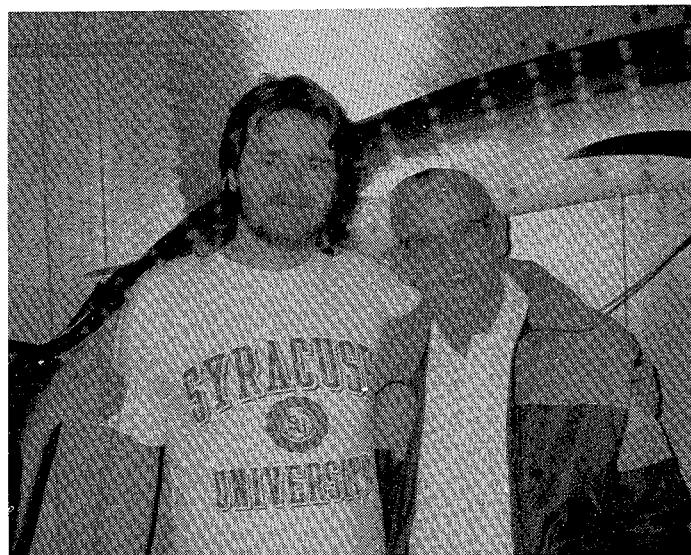
Tourney Talk *(continued from Page 9)*

Thanksgiving Shootout at Harvey's: A Lot to be Thankful for....

The annual Thanksgiving Shootout was held at Harvey's Place in Street, Maryland, on Nov. 19-21. "It was a great fall weekend -- just about the end of the turning hardwood trees and temperatures dipping into the 20s at night, but still 50s and 60s in the day, with bright sunshine," reports Dick Gorman. "We are all thankful that we are part of the shuffleboard world to be among our friends for friendly competition. One of the big thanks is the return of larger groups for the tournaments. On Friday night, we were back to advance sell-outs with a waiting list. The other events had better participation than we have seen for the last year or so on the East Coast, despite the fact that this was the fourth weekend in a row that there was a tournament."

To show their appreciation, Darlyene Belcher and Harvey Comer, owners of Harvey's Place, provided a full Thanksgiving dinner with fresh roasted Maryland turkey, stuffing, potatoes, string beans, cranberries and fresh baked rolls for all participants. "What a feed!" said Dick. There was also a hot buffet on the table again for all players and their guests. "Are these people great hosts or what? Talking to Harvey, he thinks the expanded payoff schedule is helping to increase the participation. Harvey is always thinking of new ways to expand the world of shuffleboard," Dick said.

"Also, our official photographer at Harvey's Place, Brenda Wallace, showed her gratitude and thankfulness by providing a self-made 'Holiday Teddy Bear' decoration as a door prize to all entrants -- no sale, just a free ticket to win. Keith Leonard of Charlestown, Maryland, was happy to take home his new decoration."



Joe Williams (left) and Lindsay Hall were winners of the draw partner event at Harvey's Thanksgiving Shootout.

Taking first place in Friday night's draw partner event were Lindsay Hall, Baltimore, Md., and Joe Williams, Ridley Park, Pa., with second place going to Louise Freer, Lansdale, Pa., and Mike Renzo, Rising Sun, Md. Third place was taken by Harvey's Place photographer Brenda Wallace, Port Deposit, Md., and Buddy Brammer, Rising Sun. Fourth went to Dick Gorman, Wilmington, Del., and Butch (Hollywood) Kelly, Springfield, Pa. Fifth and final money spot went to Chuck King, Greenwood, Del., and Dewey Shortridge, Bellaire, Md.



Louise Freer won the women's singles and also took second in the bring-partner event with Chuck King.

Saturday morning started with the women's singles event with increased participation and stronger shooters. First place went to Louise Freer, with second going to former Ours and Your Place owner JoAnn Ware, Sudlersville, Md., and third to the ever-strong player, Judy Iseman, Chestertown, Md.



Judy Iseman and Len Dell teamed up to take honors in two events at the Thanksgiving Shootout -- the bring partner and the mixed doubles.

On Saturday afternoon, the line-up was ready for the bring partner event. Judy Iseman and her partner, Len Dell of Baltimore, walked away with first place and a little over half of the pot. Second place went to the "give up hard" team of Louise Freer and Chuck King. Third place went to the Philadelphia area team of Butch Kelly and Joe Williams, with Harvey Comer, proud owner of Harvey's Place, and Jim McDaniel, Darlington, Md., in fourth place. Fifth and final money spot went to Dick Gorman and Mike Renzo.

Sunday's mixed doubles was won by Judy Iseman and Len Dell, with Mary Wagner, Milford, Del., and Scratch Todd, Fedaralsburg, Md., finishing a strong second. Third place was taken by Louise Freer and Chuck King. Newcomers to Harvey's, Jane and Arlo Johnson of Jordan, N.Y., took fourth place.

"It was another great tournament with the next scheduled for Jan. 14-16," said Dick Gorman. "We suggest reserving your spots in advance." Call Darlyene Belcher, 410-836-8881.

Notebook *(continued from Page 9)*

six-person event, as well as our frames based game, DEUCES WILD, which was well-received by players from novice to pro.

Everything we do is with the goal of more people playing -- not less. DEUCES WILD Leagues are going to bring more players into the game and it is also going to increase the number of tournament participants. DEUCES WILD will help average players improve their game by giving them a chance to practice their offensive skills -- lagging, bumping and splitting. As a result, more of them will have the confidence to enter tournaments.

Diversity has helped other games thrive. With darts, there are more games than you can keep track of -- 301, 401, 501, double, double out, cricket, mark 21, are just a few of them. Some pool players prefer eight ball to nine ball. Others prefer straight pool. It is interesting that many pool players predicted that nine ball would ruin pool. In fact, the opposite happened. It helped to fuel an unprecedented rise in popularity and was directly responsible for the start and growing success of the Pro Tour.

We can learn from this. It is arrogant to assume that everyone would rather play two out of three. To not welcome all forms of the game, and the players who enjoy them, is foolish. In Southern California, the three person A-B-C team events have become very popular. In Houston, Texas, they're playing a new game called multiplier. In many places, they play nothing but horseshollar. Shouldn't all shuffleboard people -- players, manufacturers, tournament promoters, suppliers, bar owners -- be on the same side, supporting and respecting each other? We think so.

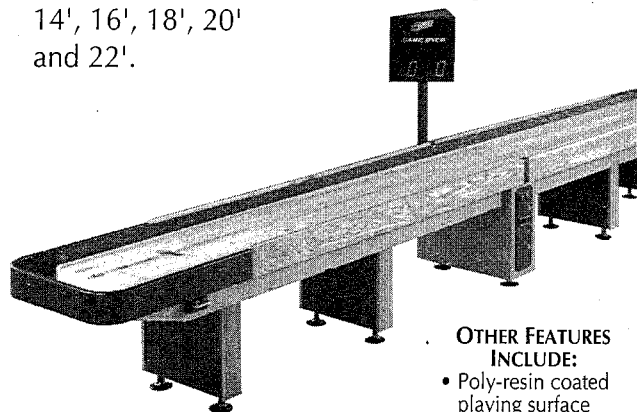
One last comment. A.Z. says: "We need a rule: 30 seconds to shoot or a one point penalty." Not only should there be such a rule -- there is! It's too bad that more people are not familiar with the rules used at our tournaments. Those rules were developed by the PLAYER POLICY BOARD, whose members felt the same way as A.Z., that slow play was a definite problem. In a meeting which took place on August 22, 1989, at the Holiday Inn Town Lake in Austin, Texas, they responded by establishing a 30-second slow play rule. It was immediately added to our official tournament rules and has been a part of them since that time.

The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc., Northville, Michigan
(continued on Page 20)

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More Tourney Talk

Melton/Keiffer/Huddleston/Blaylock Winners at American Legion, Del City, Oklahoma

The American Legion Post 73 in Del City, Oklahoma, hosted a "Play Your Way to Fort Worth" tournament on Nov. 18-20 to accommodate players who would compete in the Bourbon, Indiana, tournament on Nov. 13 and the 5th Annual Corporate Image Thanksgiving Classic in Fort Worth on Nov. 25-28.

In the open draw event, Bill Melton of Davis, Oklahoma, and Keiffer took top honors, with Ron Huddleston of Oklahoma City and Ronnie Gamble in second place. Just a lag away was Glen Davidson of Oklahoma City and Cliff Goff of Tulsa.



Bill Melton (left) and Keiffer were winners of the open draw event at Del City's American Legion tournament.

Taking top spot in the bring partner event, with a three lag, was Ron Huddleston and Ron Blaylock of Oklahoma City. A head-shaking second place went to John Cason and Rick Yingst of Tulsa, with Lonnie Phost and Keith Oyler in third place.



Dave Davidson (right) presents first place trophies and monies to bring partner winners Ron Huddleston (left) and Ron Blaylock.

"It was another fun-filled weekend of shuffleboard action at the American Legion," reports Dave Davidson.

"In the last couple of years, some names continue to pop up in the semi-pro/amateur ranks of shuffleboard. It's extremely motivating for younger players to see those folks who have played and supported the game for many years begin taking the top spots of amateur play. Names like Ron Huddleston, Oklahoma City; Alan Primrose, Wynnewood, Oklahoma; Mark Foust, Tulsa, Oklahoma; Lonnie Phost, Tulsa; Mike Melton, Davis; Billy Melton, Davis; Bobby Williams, Fort Worth; John Cason, Tulsa, --and a whole host of other faithful players. So, move over, big dogs -- the little dogs are moving up!

"Congratulations for another super fine tournament, folks. From me, Don Crall and members of the American Legion Post 73, a sincere thanks for your support. Special thanks to Ron Huddleston and Rena Hendrix for their assistance. As for my playing -- I punted when I should have passed," said Dave.

*"Should Auld Acquaintance Be Forgot.....
HAPPY NEW YEAR"*



Dick Delfino John Dunn Sol Lipkin

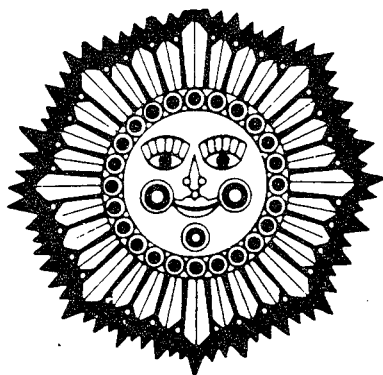
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1993 North American Championships Sets Winning Tradition *(continued from Page 15)*

Saturday night, while the pros were doing battle in their singles event and the N.A.S.L. Team Event was winding down, it was time for the over-50 set to have some fun in the Legends Draw. Dave Arndt of Washington and Tony Bastanchury of California topped the field by defeating tournament regular, Bob Hunt of California and first-timer Charles DeWees of Florida.

While the finals of the N.A.S.L. Team Event and Pro Singles were taking place, the real diehards in the crowd participated in the final event of the tournament, the Consolation Draw Partners. For the second time in 24 hours, it was Tony Bastanchury in the finals of a draw, this time with Les Burt. Also for the second time in 24 hours was Bob Hunt, this time with Brenda Watts. As in the Legends, it was Tony and partner in first with Bob and partner in second.



Tony Bastanchury (center) credits his partners, Les Burt (left) in the Consolation Draw and Dave Arndt in the Legends for his two first place finishes (see Notebook, Page 2).

The last event to finish was the Pro Singles, where Bobby Voorhis finally ran out of fours, and was defeated by 1990 champ Darrol Nelson of Oregon.



Darrol Nelson accepts his first place singles trophy from Shuffleboard Federation President Phil Skover. Darrol was also the singles champ in the 1990 tournament.

The Shuffleboard Federation, on behalf of sponsors American International Shuffleboard Corporation and the Sands Regency Hotel Casino, thank everyone who participated. We're all looking forward to the 1994 North American Championships, but we are also grateful that we have a few more weeks to recover before we have to think about them.

Notebook *(continued from Page 15)*

A Well-Deserved Salute to the Balloon Inn

Just writing to give all shuffleboard players the opportunity to share in a most delightful experience we had and "you all" should be aware of.

The Balloon Inn in Arvada, Colorado, would easily please the most critical player possible. They have two beautiful boards surrounded by plenty of comfortable seating and hand powder dispensers at both ends of the boards. They also have a kitchen that serves excellent breakfasts, lunches and dinners and a menu that offers a wide variety of everyone's favorites.

But more important, and the real reason for this letter, is to make it known that the patrons of this tavern are great competitors and make you feel like one of the family right from the start. Their hospitality is second only to the Balloon Inn proprietors, Ron and Gwen. Gwen is most definitely the kindest and most loving person we have had the pleasure of knowing.

To top that, you cannot believe how she has every shuffleboard tournament detail possible taken care of in a most professional fashion. She has everything organized so well, the players just sit back and relax, enjoying their surroundings. The barmaids are gorgeous and have personalities to match.

Gwen and Ron advertise in every Board Talk issue and support shuffleboard throughout the country.

If you are in favor of great competition along with greater people, you should seriously consider making a trip to the Balloon Inn.

Denny Bush and Gwyn Orsi, Omaha, Nebraska

We are delighted with this letter of tribute, Denny and Gwyn. These great folks have been loyal supporters of The Board Talk for many years and we appreciate them! We hope other shufflers will take your advice and visit the Balloon Inn during 1994.

No Tournament Too Small....

No Viewpoint Unimportant...

Send your news and views to The Board Talk before the 15th of each month.

CONGRATULATIONS WINNERS!

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- 2 Rick Boyer, California & Brenda Watts, Oklahoma
- 3 Donny Cox, California & Bob Jacobsen, Washington
- 4 Gregg McFarland, California & Martin Allen, Florida
- 5 Bob Hunt, California & Dale Williams, Texas
John McDermott, Mich. & Butch Robinson, Oregon
- 7 Charlie Busch, California, & David Williams, Texas
Phil Skover, Michigan & Sam Summers, Oklahoma

DIVISION II/III DOUBLES

- 1 Joel Rahn, Nebraska & Mike Roach, Nebraska
- 2 Leroy Burkhart, Oregon & Butch Robinson, Oregon
- 3 Sheriff Hallberg, Texas & Cassie Kern, Michigan
- 4 Gil Aragon, Arizona & David Veasey, Texas
- 5 Dennis Bird, Colorado & Kathi Lloyd, Colorado
Bob Jacobsen, Washington & Mike McDonald, Wash.
- 7 Marty Allen, Florida & Jim Kumpula, Florida
Jim Filkins, Nebraska & Maggie Worley, Nebraska

DIVISION I SINGLES

- 1 Dan Mourgos, California
- 2 Bjerne Sunde, Michigan
- 3 Al Salazar, Arizona
- 4 Paul Parks, California
- 5 Dan Hitt, Washington
Bud Hillburn, Oklahoma
- 7 Lonnie Pfost, Oklahoma
Dave Cowan, Oregon

LADIES SINGLES

- Rosa White, Oregon
- Sandy Swift, Oklahoma
- Cassie Kern, Michigan
- Tammy Denson, Texas
- Pat Burkhart, Oregon
- Brenda Watts, Oklahoma
- Viola Reeves, Oregon
- Sylvia Martinez, Texas

DIVISION II/III SINGLES

- 1 Junior Butler, Nebraska
- 2 Pat Bayless, California
- 3 Dennis Bird, Colorado
- 4 Tom Clubb, Texas
- 5 Mary Koteris, Texas
Joel Rahn, Nebraska
- 7 Larry Pearson, Washington
Bob Meyer, Oregon

PRO SINGLES

- Darrol Nelson, Oregon
- Bobby Voorhis, Indiana
- Denny Busch, Nebraska
- Bill Melton, Oklahoma
- Dan Mourgos, California
- David Williams, Texas
- Rick Boyer, California
- Bob Shaw, Texas

LEGENDS DRAW PARTNERS

- 1 Dave Arndt, Washington & Tony Bastanchury, California
- 2 Charles DeWees, Florida & Bob Hunt, California
- 3 Pat Bayless, California & Terry Smith, Illinois
- 4 Dot Bastanchury, California & Bruce Wechter, Oregon
- 5 Al Kantor, Ontario, Canada & Alan Primrose, Oklahoma
- 6 John Martin, Washington & Bobby Williams, Texas

CONSOLATION DRAW PARTNERS

- 1 Tony Bastanchury, California & Les Burt, Washington
- 2 Bob Hunt, California & Brenda Watts, Oklahoma
- 3 Cindy Clark, Arizona & Jim Kumpula, Florida
- 4 Marty Allen, Florida & Bobby Williams, Texas

DIVISION I DOUBLES

- 1 Alan Primrose, Oklahoma & Bobby Williams, Texas
- 2 Nick Chaffin, California & Bob Hunt, California
- 3 George Camara, California & Rick Thomas, California
- 4 Cheryl Collins, Michigan & Debbie Voorhis, Indiana
- 5 Dan Hitt, Washington & Mike Thorpe, Washington
Bill Meyer, Michigan & Bjerne Sunde, Michigan
- 7 Dave Arndt, Washington & Rosa White, Washington
Gwynette Orsi, Nebraska & Lonnie Pfost, Oklahoma

PRO DOUBLES

- 1 Bill Melton, Oklahoma & David Williams, Texas
- 2 Denny Busch, Nebraska & Bob Shaw, Texas
- 3 Jim Allis, Washington & Bobby Voorhis, Indiana
- 4 Donny Cox, California & Fred Thumann, California
- 5 Dan Mourgos, California & Paul Parks, California
Doug Buhl, Washington & Darrol Nelson, Oregon
- 7 Nelson Jennings, California & Sam Summers, Oklahoma
Diana Hagen, Texas & John McDermott, Michigan

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|---------------------------|-------------------------|
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| Dale Williams, Texas | Bobby Voorhis, Indiana |
| 2 Ron Buckley, Oregon | Sue Hubenthal, Wash. |
| Bob Jacobsen, Washington | George Ostrum, Colorado |
| 3 John Fisher, California | Diana Hagen, Texas |
| George Main, California | Rich Warren, California |
| 4 Charles DeWees, Florida | Fuzz Taylor, Texas |
| Brenda Watts, Oklahoma | Maggie Worley, Nebraska |

N.A.S.L. TEAM EVENT

1 Nebraska Cornhuskers

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Junior Butler, Nebraska | Larry Morrow, Nebraska |
| Gwyn Orsi, Nebraska | Joel Rahn, Nebraska |
| Mike Roach, Nebraska | Maggie Worley, Nebraska |

2 Gas Log Lounge, Sacramento, California

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Mike Bruner, Colorado | Charlie Busch, California |
| Lloyd Coffelt, California | Cheryl Collins, Michigan |
| Steve Perry, California | Debbie Voorhis, Indiana |

3 Balloon Inn, Arvada, Colorado

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Dennis Bird, Colorado | Dave Cowan, Colorado |
| Ron Hurney, Colorado | Kathi Lloyd, Colorado |
| George Ostrum, Colorado | Gwen Vogt, Colorado |

4 Whistling Oyster, Quilcene, Washington

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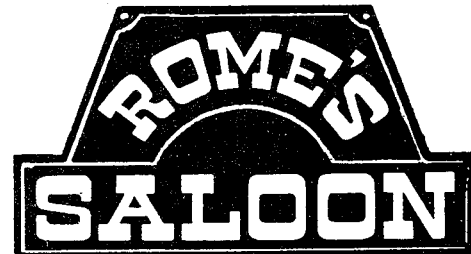
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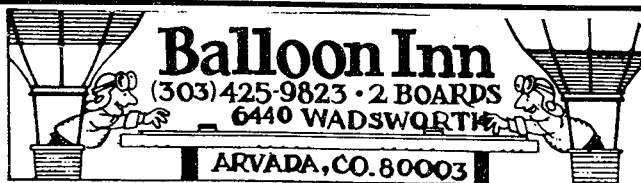
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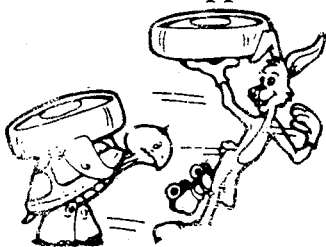
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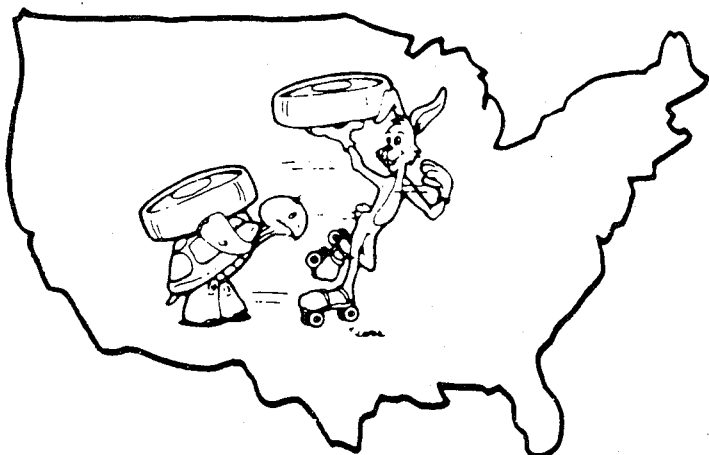
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