

The Board Talk

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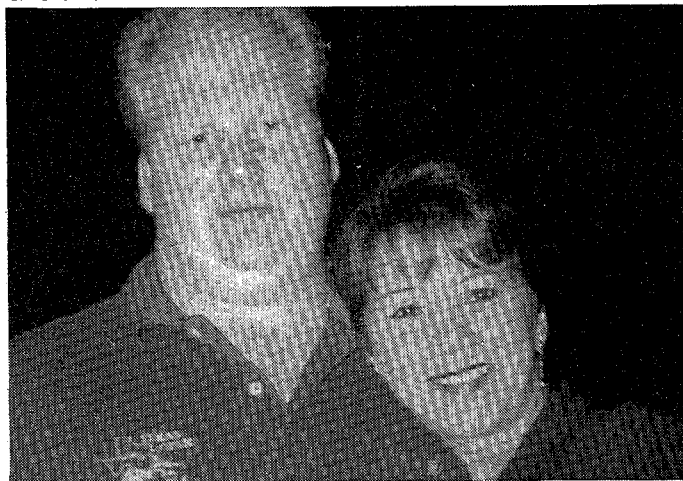
Vol. 13, No. 10

October 1996

'96 Texas Open Players Find "Pot of Gold" at Gold Nugget

Shufflers participating in the 1996 Texas Open over the Labor Day weekend found a "pot of gold" worth over \$82,500 at a new location for this annual event, the Gold Nugget in Arlington, Texas. There were 10 events on the schedule, which started on Thursday and concluded at 1:30 a.m. Sunday.

The kick-off event, a co-ed draw with 28 teams participating, was won by Bob Shaw and Rena Fleming. This was Rena's second consecutive year in the winner's circle for this event.



Brian Walker and Diana Hagen took second place honors in the co-ed draw.

Johnny Wayne Crawford and Betty Baumgardner took third place.

A "Leftover Guys" draw partner tournament was also held on Thursday with seven teams participating. The winners were Carlos Guzman and Fred Boyd, with Jack Davis and Ronnie McMahan in second place.

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Seven States Represented at Dew Drop Inn's Nationals

Players from New York, Michigan, Indiana, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Illinois gathered at the Dew Drop Inn, Waterloo, New York, on August 2-4 for the annual Summer Nationals. The first event on the schedule was Friday night's singles with a total purse of \$2400.

Doug Fridley Jr. was winner of the singles. He is congratulated by second-place finisher Earl Durgan. Terry Smith took third place with Lonzo Knight in fourth.



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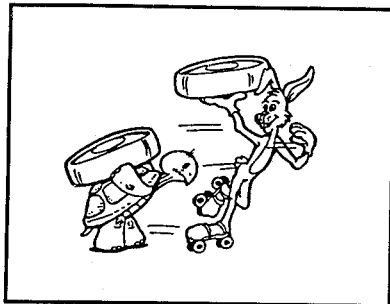
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Louise Freer and Al DiBella of Pennsylvania were winners of Saturday morning's mixed bring partner event.

Saturday afternoon was the draw partner tournament with a purse of over \$2,000.

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Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views from The World of Shuffleboard

What About Personal Conduct Rules for Hall of Fame?

Recently, I was able to attend the Southwest Tournament in Del City, Oklahoma. While there, I was able to renew and revisit times and events of the past with an old friend, Rod Cameron, formerly from Tulsa, now residing near Houston.

Rod had previously mentioned to me about nominating a former legendary player from a previous time period to the Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. Rod, Joe Spratt and I decided to nominate and circulate a petition for the nomination of Little Ray (Ray Hartness).

In a recent Board Talk edition, there were several players mentioned as possible nominees to the NSHF including Ray. There was another legendary player's name in that group also, which will bring us to another question of some interest later.

I was pleasantly surprised when we secured over 20 signatures for Ray's nomination.

I met "Little Ray" at the old Ferndale Tavern in Tulsa, Oklahoma, in the mid '50s when shuffleboard and the leagues were quite popular and successful. I had the privilege of seeing many of the best "road" players including Bob Miles, Porter White, Bob Tucker, Bill Owens, Granville, Mexican Tommy and others. I was amazed at their ability and consistency.

I was most impressed with "Little Ray," not only with his ability, but with his athleticism. Ray, while shooting his last weight, would brace himself with one hand on the frame or carriage, or on the board itself by placing his hand upon a weight (so as not to disturb the wax), then jump into the air with his body horizontal and his feet straight backwards, and drive the weights off the table.

--ATTENTION--

If you have a red check below, it means your subscription has expired. Use the form inside to renew NOW so you won't miss next month's issue!

Ray was one of the straightest and hardest shooters I have ever seen.

Arguments and opinions will abound as to who might be some of the best players of all time, partly because of the change in style of playing, scoring and board conditions, but "Little Ray" would, in our opinion, be among those so named.

People might wonder why we would nominate a person for consideration who mostly quit playing in his prime and with many active years left. Ray realized, as have others, that playing a game in a bar, traveling on the road, and living away from home for periods of time, did not necessarily lend itself to family harmony and stability.

We thought we would give those who knew Ray the opportunity to vote, by proxy, for his nomination. Ray's mailing address is P.O. Box 771, Hominy, OK 74035; phone 918-885-6061, for those players who would like to contact him. For those who would like to join us in nominating Ray, drop me a line.

Now, the other subject. In discussions with other reasonable and rational persons, the subject of eligibility occasionally comes up, usually with the remembrance of other players from another era, but, of course, not precluding some who are still playing, who are quite deserving because of their ability. This player, who has been mentioned before, caused problems wherever he went, has been in and out of jail and prisons for various crimes including drug use and dealing (when he wasn't caught) and other nefarious and illegal and immoral acts.

The question is: Should there be rules of personal conduct for eligibility and acceptance into the NSHF? As a friend of mine recently stated: "That might eliminate 50% of the players from eligibility!" Should there be an asterick and footnote with their names? Are drug (illegal) users acceptable, but drug dealers not? Are child abusers a no-no, but assault and batterers O.K.? Should every nominee be required to fill out a questionnaire?

Maybe these questions have already been addressed, but if not, maybe that is why there has seemingly been a lack of interest and acceptance of the NSHF process.

Gary A. Moore, 81 Lake Country, Mannford, OK 74044
Phone: 918-865-5252

You've raised some interesting questions, Gary, questions that illustrate just how difficult the challenges are faced by the NSHF Board of Directors! We've done some research on the nearly 60-year-old Baseball Hall of Fame and found that if rules of personal conduct had
(continued on Page 10)

Upcoming Events Across the Nation

Maryland

HARVEY'S PLACE FIRST SEASON EVENT, OCT. 11-13

Harvey's Place, 3403 Conowingo Place, Street, Maryland, has scheduled its 1996-97 calendar of events, starting with a three-tournament event on Oct. 11-13. Action will start on Friday night with a draw partner, \$12 entry fee, limited to the first 40 sign-ups. Saturday will feature a bring partner, \$30 per team entry fee. On Sunday, there will be a "second chance" amateur draw, \$12 per person, starting at noon.

This same format will be used for the remainder of the schedule: Dec. 6-8, Feb. 28-March 2, and April 11-13.

Harvey's has five in-house boards and holds a draw partner event every Saturday night starting at 8 p.m.

For information and/or to save your spot, call 410-836-8881.

1ST ANNUAL EAST COAST SHOWDOWN, HARVEY'S PLACE, STREET, NOV. 8-10

The 1st Annual East Coast Showdown will be held on Nov. 8-10 at Harvey's Place in Street. Action will start 7 p.m. Friday with an open draw, \$25 per person. An open doubles is on the schedule for Saturday at 1 p.m., \$100 per team entry. The open singles, \$50 per person, will start at noon on Sunday. The doubles and singles are limited to the first 24 paid sign-ups.

For further information, call tournament director Dave Shewbridge, 410-437-1078, or Louise Freer, 215-661-0108.

RIVER INN EVENTS TO BE RESCHEDULED

Weekend tournaments which were scheduled for the remainder of this year at the River Inn, Williamsport, have been cancelled due to remodeling. Keep watching for announcement of scheduled events next year.

WANTED:

News about your upcoming events. Spread the word through THE BOARD TALK!

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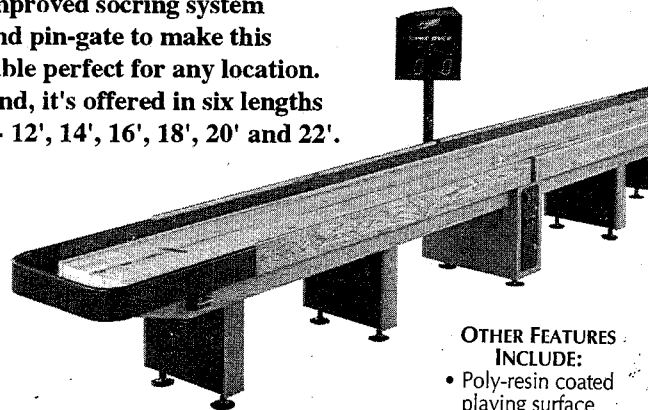
All boards are now available with 4-3-2-1 scoring. Old playfields can be refinished to accommodate this new score system.

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--Bob Shaw, Fort Worth, Texas

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Missouri**"DOUBLE DIPPER" AT
SONNY BOYS, CUBA, OCT.
18-19**

Sonny Boys Tavern, 121 Main St., Cuba, will host a "Double Dipper Tournament" on Oct. 18-19. Players with a rating of 3, 4, and 5 only will participate in an A-B draw partner event on Friday, with \$20 added by Sonny Boys. A bring your own partner is scheduled for Saturday with \$30 added by Sonny Boys.

For information, call the tavern, 573-885-9981.

**MISSOURI STATE DOUBLES,
LONGBRANCH LOUNGE,
SPRINGFIELD, OCT. 11-12**

The Longbranch Lounge in Springfield, and Miller Beer, will sponsor the 3rd Annual Missouri State Shuffleboard Tournament on Oct. 11-12. It will be a bring your partner event, \$30 per team entry fee, open to the first 20 teams entered and paid (make checks payable to Jim Johnson and send to the Longbranch, 2000 N. National, Springfield, MO 65803).

The sale for the double elimination event will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, with play beginning at 7 p.m. and continuing on Saturday at 9 a.m. A complimentary lunch will be served Saturday afternoon.

For further information, contact Jim at 417-866-9212.

New York**\$500 ADDED AT RIVERSIDE,
EARLVILLE, OCT. 11-13**

There will be three events, plus round robins, on the agenda for participants in the Oct. 11-13 tournament hosted by the Riverside Hotel in Earlville. The single game, double elimination events will be played on four boards and host Roger Sawyer will add \$500 to the bring partner tournament.

Round robins will be held on Friday starting at 7 p.m., with singles starting at 10 a.m. on Saturday. A draw partner is scheduled for Saturday at 3 p.m., with the bring partner starting at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday.

For information, call Roger at 315-691-3081, or Dale Law, 607-674-6580.

***It pays to promote your events
early!***

Washington**ANNUAL DOUBLES AT
SHAMROCK, LONGVIEW,
OCT. 19-20**

Winners of this annual doubles event (better known as the Nelson/Buhl Tournament) at the Shamrock Tavern, Longview, on Oct. 19-20 will get their entry fee paid in the PCSA Extravaganza IX doubles in Las Vegas, Jan. 28-Feb. 2. Entry fee is \$50 per player with the bar adding \$10 per player, and payoff will be 55-30-10-5. Food will be served on Saturday and Sunday and there are lots of nearby lodging, plus some RV parking at the Shamrock.

For information, call 360-577-7444.

Indiana**OCT. 19 MIXED DOUBLES
KICKS OFF NEW SEASON AT
BEEF'S, KENDALLVILLE**

A mixed doubles, \$20 per team entry, will kick off the new season at Beef's, 550 S. Main in Kendallville, on Oct. 19.

Other events on the schedule (all double elimination) include an open doubles, \$50 per team entry, on Nov. 16 and Dec. 28, followed by another mixed doubles, \$20 per team entry on Jan. 18; an open doubles, \$50 per team, on Feb. 15; and a mixed doubles, \$20 per team, on March 22. The sales for all events are scheduled for 11 a.m. with play immediately following.

Playfair will add \$300 to the entry pots of each tournament. Payback will be determined by the number of entries.

For information on the events and/or lodging recommendations, call Beef or Margie at 219-347-9965.

Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site to spread the word about these fun-filled opportunities at Beef's!

Michigan**"FOR WOMEN ONLY"
EVENT AT WETLANDS,
ROYAL OAK, OCT. 11-13**

Get a sitter for the kids and the hubbies, ladies, for the 2nd Annual Ladies' Weekend Tournament at the Wetlands Bar & Grill, 1008 N. Woodward Ave., Royal Oak, Michigan, so you can enjoy three fun-filled days

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Texas Open (continued from Page 1)

Billy Mays and Brenda Moore (above) shared first and second places in the Division I draw partners with Diana Hagen and Ronnie McMahan. Brian Walker and Bobby Wright took third, with Bob Shaw and Tommy McBurnett in fourth place.

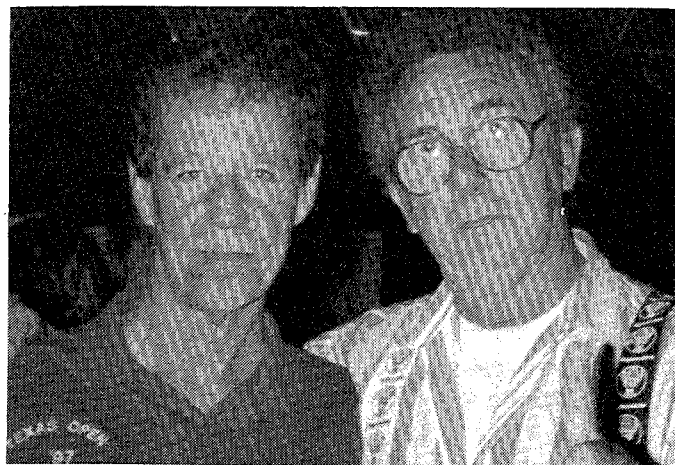


Dub Hatley and Bo Hyman were winners of the Division 2 draw partners.



Tree and Jeri Ballard (above) took second place honors in the Division 2 draw partner. Carlos Guzman and Kim Plyler finished third, with Jack Davis and Ann Nguyen in fourth.

There were three singles events scheduled for Friday: -1's through 2's, Deuces Only, and 3's through 5's.



First and second places in the Division I singles were shared by Billy Mays and Bobby Williams.



Billy Melton receives congratulations for his third place finish from his No. 1 fan, Sarah Stalley. Diana Hagen took fourth place in the Division I singles, which attracted 21 participants.



Scott Mollere topped a field of 17 contenders in the Deuces Only singles. Fred Boyd took second place and Rost Kaune finished third.

There were 36 participants in the 3's, 4's and 5's singles event, with Carlos Guzman coming out on top. Jack Davis earned second place honors, with Don Roper in third place. In her first tournament outside Dallas, Linda Nobles took fourth place. Bo Hyman finished in

fifth place, with Dan Bell in sixth.

There were 18 teams in the -1 through 2 Division and 17 teams in the 3's through 5's bring partner events on Saturday.

Taking top honors in the Division I event were Diana Hagen and Flynt Preston. Dale Williams and Gwyn Orsi finished second, with Ron Huddleston and Rick Jones in third place.



Bo Hyman and Bill Brodie were winners of the 3's through 5's bring partner event. Jeri Billard and Carlos Guzman took second place, with Linda Nobles and Mahlon Nobles finishing third.

In the concluding event, the Draft Team, there were eight teams competing, with first and second places agreeing to split the pot. They were Denny Busch's team of Rena Fleming, Eddie Guy, Joe Spratt, Angie Snyder, and Bill Melton's team of Scott Mollere, TJ, Mahlon Nobles, Dub Hatley, and Jack Snell.

Tournament directors David and Bobby Williams thank the following people for helping to make the 1996 Texas Open a big success:

*Tom Johnson, Joyce Leonard, KK, Rosa and the rest of the staff of the Gold Nugget for their hospitality and service.

*Steve Bilbo for the barbecue.

*Bob Shaw and Johnny Wayne Crawford for helping to adjust the boards.

*Billy Mays and Coach Lyndon Baize for the photographs.

*Bill Wooldridge for his auctioneering skills.

*Rob Kern for keeping the brackets.

*Coach Lyndon Baize for making the boards.

*Tammy Denson, Joy Huitt, Rena Fleming and Brenda Watts for the registration desk.

*Jack Davis, Rost Kaune, Johnny Wayne Crawford, Dave Fleming, Carlos Guzman and John Dancer for spotting during the auction.

Bobby and David congratulate all participants in the '96 Texas Open. "Hope to see you all again next year," they said.

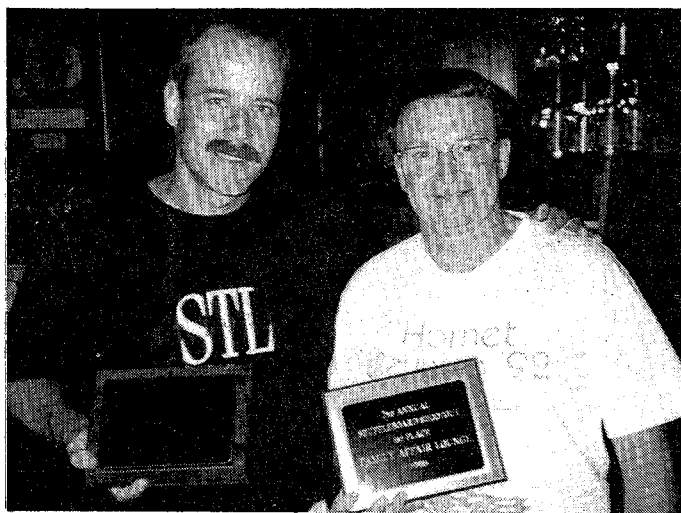
Hart/Snyder Winners at the Get-A-Way

Steve Hart and Ady Snyder took top honors in the doubles tournament at the Get-A-Way in Anderson, Indiana, on Sept. 7. Second place went to Emmett Wilcox and Bill Hill, with Tom and Greg Massie in third place. There were 12 teams vying for a share of the \$1170 pot.

There will be another open doubles at the Get-A-Way on Oct. 12. Sale is set for 11 a.m. For further information, contact Ady at the Get-A-Way on Thursdays from 4 to 8 p.m., 317-644-9454. The Get-A-Way is located at 2322 Columbus Ave. in Anderson.

Muehlauser/Hart Win St. Louis Shootout -- Again!

Five cities were represented from Missouri in the 2nd Annual St. Louis Shuffleboard Shootout, held recently at the Family Affair Lounge in St. Louis.



Chuck Muehlhauser (left) and Charley Hart of St. Louis successfully defended their championship.



John Stenger (left) and Rick Pittman of Houston took second place honors.

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As The Puck Turns.....

By George & Donna Wilber

The conclusion of our 6th Annual Skip's/Board Talk Fall Bash coincided with the deadline of this issue, so we're tired, as all you tournament directors can relate to. However, you can't help but think about what can we do next year that will make it better.

We were talking with Skip and Carole, the hosts of this annual event at Houghton Lake, Michigan, that has grown from 15 teams in the draw partner and 16 in the singles in 1991 to 26 teams in the A-B-C Draw and 32 in the singles in 1996. Granted, there were some "glitches" in the newly-introduced A-B-C Draw. Since you have to have an equal number of A's, B's and C's, and you have 78 entries, somebody on the borderline is going to be rated an "A" when they really qualify as a "B." (The PCSA officials at the Dixie Belle, where we first witnessed this event, warned us this would happen.) George already has some ideas to make this event more equitable.

We also talked about expanding the tournament to a 3-event, since everyone seems to come in early, and making it a mixed draw doubles on Friday night. The problem with a mixed draw, it seems, is that there are more men than there are women. Bill Bailey at the Whistling Oyster's Grand Masters and Bobby and David Williams at the Texas Open solved that problem by having a "leftover guys" event. George has another idea: why not have the women bid on the men they'd like to have as their partners? Something to think about!

What impressed us most about the A-B-C Draw at our Fall Bash was the "coaching" abilities (and caring) of the pros who participated. When you have a "C" player, who has never entered a tournament before because they didn't think they had the required skills, come up and say: "Thanks for this opportunity to play and learn from the greatest," that makes us realize it was a wise decision. It is these players, who learn from the "greatest," who will keep the sport going and growing!

Skip's Lounge is a unique place for a tournament, not just because it's located in the heart of Michigan's Vacationland on a beautiful lake, but because of its local regulars. They all seem glad to see us return each year and do everything they can to make us feel welcome. And, they're not just observers -- they get involved, whether it's playing, bidding, helping when needed, and/or leading the entertainment. Good people!



Yes, Skip's is a unique place. They even use human board wipes!

We're pleased to have two new advertisers in our Shuffleboard Directory -- the Majestic Bar & Cafe in Pontiac, Michigan, and the Club Car Lounge in Durand, Michigan. The owners of both locations were at our "Fall Bash," as was the owner of Loggers (a new member of our shuffleboard network) in Mancelona, north of Houghton Lake, Barbara Dixon, who participated in the tournament. In your travels, please stop in, play a game or two, and thank them for their support of your favorite sport. Once again, we urge you to patronize our advertisers. They are the ones who make it possible to bring you this shuffleboard communication each month.

A good friend of ours and of the sport of shuffleboard, Don Valk, who hosted the U.S. Open for several years, recently underwent a quadruple by-pass. He's on the mend now and if you'd like to help speed his recovery, let him know you're thinking about him: Don Valk, 8003 Bounty Trail, Austin, TX 78749.

There are times when we need a kind word, particularly after running a tournament and facing a publication deadline. Like this one received from Ron and Sharon Huddleston: "Thank you for your efforts with the Board Talk and the assistance you give us in the promotion and news of shuffleboard. We doubt many of us can realize where the sport **wouldn't be** if not for the two of you." Ah! We needed that!

George & Donna Wilber, Publisher

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Personal Conduct *(continued from Page 2)*

been enforced in 1939, a number of the first 13 inductees would never have made it! For example, Babe Ruth's outrageous personal lifestyle and his unprofessional antics on the field earned him three suspensions by the American League President in 1922, who called his conduct "shocking to every American mother who permits her boy to go to a game....A man of your stamp bodes no good in the profession," he said. Ted Williams was reported to have shot out the scoreboard lights at Fennway Park with a .22 rifle. A team mate acknowledged Williams as a great hitter, "but he would be a lot greater if somebody would just spank his fanny." Ty Cobb, who received the most votes for induction, did not make an appearance at the June 12, 1939, ceremonies attended by 10,000 fans, until it was over simply because he did not want to have to be polite to the Baseball Commissioner who had dared question his integrity.

So what does this have to do with the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame? Does this example mean we should tolerate misbehavior in our sport? No! It just shows that the two-year-old NSHF is going through growing pains, just as the 60-year-old NBHF did and is still experiencing. Has it been perfected yet? Just ask Pete Rose!

Johnny Wayne Crawford: "Don't Change Hammer Protection Rule"

Rules applying to the game of shuffleboard have been written and amended through years of trial and error. They have purpose.

There is a major movement by tournament directors and players to change the rule applying to hammer protection. The new rules states: once a weight is delivered (even out of turn), the frame continues play. I have the utmost respect for these players initiating this change, but strongly disagree with them.

The past few years, I jokingly stated (but truly meant) that I was bringing something new to the World of Shuffleboard -- CLASS. Most of us want our game played on an even plane -- fair to all -- exhibiting good conduct and sportsmanship.

The reason for the change? A few players are shooting their first weight out of turn to gain an advantage. If the frame doesn't work right, they say: "Wait a minute, I should have the hammer." This, of course, is a form of cheating. If the opponent realizes the mistake and says nothing, this is another form of cheating. So do we punish the masses for a few? Do we want to encourage cheating? Are there players who will abuse the rule change to their advantage? Are we going back to cheap bar room tactics?

Do we punish an honest mistake?

No weight in hand, out of cradle, is for the same purpose: PROTECT THE HAMMER. Suppose some player has just had 4 points scored on them; they're nervous and mistakenly shoot first. Now the opponent has an opportunity to score 3 or more points again. Is this fair? Do we really want to support such a situation? What if a person shoots the wrong color? Do they get to keep that color? Of course not, and the same ruling applies to the hammer.

An explanation given is that you should be aware and focused on the game to prevent such a mistake. Not good enough for me. One hammer stolen, accidentally or intentionally, is too many. In a quick poll at the Texas Open, Bill Melton, Billy Mays, David Williams, Bobby Williams, Steve Burkett, Bill Wooldridge, Howard Mouton, Diana Hagen, Brian Walker, Jack Davis, Tommy McBurnett, Fred Boyd, Carlos Guzman, Dale Williams, Denny Busch, Gwyn Orsi, Brenda Moore, Bob Shaw (and others too numerous to list) all agree that to change the protective rule is to promote and allow cheating. Steve Burkett (who rarely speaks on such matters) said: "The new rule change will create a monster and much larger problem."

I'm told that if players abuse the new rule, they will be barred from tournaments. Why not bar the abuser of the rule as is? Remember the original rule had purpose to begin with. Instead of looking for rule changes, consider a referee for every game.

Let's quit looking for a needle in the haystack and do what is best for the game. No rule change should be initiated by a few and ends up affecting many. Right is right and wrong is wrong!

Please reconsider this change and correct it now. Let's keep the game on an even plane, fair to all. Punish the bad -- not the good.

Johnny Wayne Crawford, Dallas, Texas

Thank you, Johnny, for your viewpoint on this important issue. We look forward to feedback, both pros and cons.

More Innovative Ideas from Art..

Regarding my letter in the June issue about no lost hammers and giving one point to speed play time, I now see this is not a good idea. Being somewhat hasty and trying to solve problems on my own in one night is like playing shuffleboard for the first time.

After having read your comments and picking up pieces here and there from thoughts of others in The Board Talk, that is what is needed, especially from the ones who truly love the sport and have worked hard to improve problems.

The story on Sol Lipkin was truly amazing -- 574 teams from 14 states playing on 12 boards! That would take around one week under most of today's conditions. They did it in less than three days, also a 4 out of 7 format. Many matches must have lasted six to seven games. Of course, the point is that these games must have lasted on an average of 15 minutes playing 10 ends per game. I would think that each time a team won their game, they would have to shoot first the next game.

Larry Pearson and I have been experimenting recently and have been somewhat happy with it. We played five games the other day in 1-1/2 hours on a tough board. Usually we play five games in three hours when playing 15 point games. We played the frame style in this manner:

1. If 15 points are scored at any time, the game is over. It may last only 7 or 8 ends.

2. In case of a tie at the end of 10 ends of play, there is a one weight lag off, the deepest wins. You can hit a weight, but it must stay on the board.

As Ed Galke has said, the power of the draw can beat the better all-around player at times. I say, yes it can in a short game, but not very often in a series of games when you're the better all-around player.

I was once playing a slightly better all-around player in the '70s -- Firehouse Freddie Johns. He was lagging early and stealing points and was ahead 9 to 3. I lagged three straight 4's to beat him 15 to 14. Glen Davidson proceeded to play me and I lost three straight while never even lagging a 4. I was a strong lagger in those days, but in a series of games against a strong all-around player, the draw was not enough, especially since I did not have a freehand draw that was good.

Many players today are not showing up for the doubles event that starts any time on Saturday. This is because in the Northwest, where there are only two or three boards in most places, the event does not end until Sunday night at times. I saw this happen recently with only 10 teams and three boards! Dave Arndt told me that one 2 out of 3 format lasted 3-1/2 hours! That must have been at least 60 ends of play in three games.

My final note is that no small to medium size tournament should last more than one day when it starts between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Dan Hitt had to drive 320 miles to get home after he won the Shotze's tournament that ended 8 p.m. on a Sunday night.

Also, the Crazy Canucks tourney had one event that started on a Thursday and was not over until Saturday. This was with five boards. It went into the third day, interfering with the singles on Friday, and the doubles and the finals of the singles on Saturday. The doubles started at 6 p.m. Saturday.

Not that there shouldn't be a format such as the best 3 out of 5, single elimination, or 2 out of 3 in the winners'

bracket and 2 out of 3 in the loser's bracket games. Even at an average of nearly 20 minutes per game in frame style play, there should be nine games per hour played on three boards. If a team averages three points per two ends of play in a 10-end game, that's 15 points.

Art Green, Everett, Washington

Another interesting viewpoint, Art! We welcome feedback on Art's ideas on frame play.

Butch Says: Support Your Sport!

Please don't let this great game of shuffleboard die! We all have to put a little more into getting this game into the 21st Century.

I had never seen this game before until Willis Mathews put weights in my hands in 1975-76. I played very little then, but by 1990, I was on my way. All the Hoosier shufflers helped me in some way to get my game going. Thanks to all of them. When Chris Danke and Steve Wilson came to Noblesville, they helped me with some shots and lagging. Thanks, Chris and Steve. I would love to come to your town and play and have some fun.

Please support your states and the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame.

Butch Thomas, Noblesville, Indiana

Getting this sport into the 21st Century depends a lot upon those who help others improve their skills -- and taking the time to thank them is vitally important, Butch. Thank you for that! We've lost track of Chris and Steve, but if someone out there in shuffleboard land knows of their whereabouts, we hope they'll pass your message along.

Thanks, also, for your vote of confidence in the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. Indiana certainly has a lot of potential inductees and perhaps you can do your part by encouraging the formation of a state Hall of Fame. Need some guidelines? Contact Louise Freer, Secretary, National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame, 189 Barry Ave., Lansdale, PA 19446.

Your Viewpoints Welcome!

Your viewpoints on all aspects of the game of shuffleboard are welcome. Deadline is the 15th of each month. Letters must be signed and must not be of a nature that would be damaging to a person's/entity's reputation. Send to: The Board Talk, 421 E. Sheridan Rd., Lansing, MI 48906.

Ladies' Weekend *(continued from Page 5)*

and nights of female camaraderie and competition! There are three events on the Oct. 11-13 schedule: a draw partners on Friday night, a doubles on Saturday, and a singles on Sunday. All events have a \$10 per player entry fee.

This was a very popular event last year and feedback indicates a good turnout again this year. Entries are limited so don't miss out! To reserve your spot, send a check payable to Wetlands Bar & Grill to Wetlands Bar & Grill, 1008 N. Woodward Ave., Royal Oak, MI 48067, for all the events you want to enter.

For further information, call Mike Papa at 810-543-2626 or The Shuffleboard Federation at 810-380-9300.

STATE OF MICHIGAN CHAMPIONSHIPS AT McCABE'S, SAGINAW, NOV. 29-DEC. 1

Michigan shufflers will be vying for titles at the 11th Annual State of Michigan Championships, scheduled this year for M.J. McCabes Food & Spirits, 54 E. Morley Drive in Saginaw, on Nov. 29-Dec. 1.

There are five events on the schedule: a mixed doubles, \$15 per player, at noon on Friday (entry deadline, 10:30 a.m.); Division II singles, \$20 per player; ladies' singles, \$15 per player; and open singles, \$40 per player, all starting at 10 a.m. on Saturday (deadline for sign-ups for all singles is 7 p.m. Saturday); and an open doubles, \$20 per player, on Sunday at 12:30 p.m. Sale times are 11 a.m. Friday for the mixed doubles, 9 a.m. for all singles events, and noon Sunday for the open doubles.

There will be a \$5 per player event registration fee which goes to Rob Kern, who will serve as tournament director.

The Knight's Inn (517-754-9200) is offering a special rate of \$32.95 plus tax for one or two people, but you must make your reservations by Nov. 4 to qualify for this price. There are several other hotels nearby.

To get to McCabe's, take I-75 to exit 149A and go east approximately 1/2 mile. The bar opens daily at 7 a.m. and serves great food. There will be four boards available for the tournament.

For information, call Dave at McCabe's, 517-754-3621, or The Shuffleboard Federation, 810-380-9300.

Promote your events early! Deadline for each issue is the 15th of the month. Spread the good word in The Board Talk!

Nevada

PCSA EXTRAVAGANZA IX, SHOWBOAT, LAS VEGAS, JAN. 28-FEB. 2

The Pacific Coast Shuffleboard Association's 9th Annual Shuffleboard Extravaganza will be held at the Showboat Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas on Jan. 28 through Feb. 2.

There are six events on the agenda, beginning with a bring your partner amateur doubles, \$100 per team entry on Tuesday, Jan. 28. The sale is set for 9 a.m., with play beginning at 10 a.m. That evening, the sale for the A-B Draw will start at 8 p.m., with play beginning at 8 a.m. Wednesday. Entry fee for the A-B Draw is \$50 per player. The sales for the pro singles and amateur team events will be held on Wednesday evening at 8 p.m.

The pro singles, \$300 entry, will start at 8 a.m. on Thursday, along with the Amateur Team Event, \$300 per team entry. The sales for the pro doubles and women's singles will start at 10 p.m. Thursday night.

The pro doubles, \$200 per team entry, will start at 8 a.m. Friday morning, with the pro singles finals scheduled for 1 p.m. The Women's singles, \$100 entry, will begin on Saturday morning at 8 a.m., with the amateur team finals set for 1 p.m.

The pro doubles and women's singles finals will be held on Sunday, Feb. 2.

The PCSA is accepting money for entries and room reservations now (the firm deadline for both is Dec. 31). Rooms at the Showboat are \$53 per night (double occupancy) and must be made through the PCSA to qualify for participation in Extravaganza IX events.

Use the enclosed registration form to save your spot. For further information, call the PCSA at 310-926-2152.

More Upcoming Events: Page 25

Don't Get Shut Out!

This is "Last Call" for the 1996 North American Championships, Oct. 28-Nov. 3,

***Sands Regency Hotel Casino,
Reno, Nevada!***

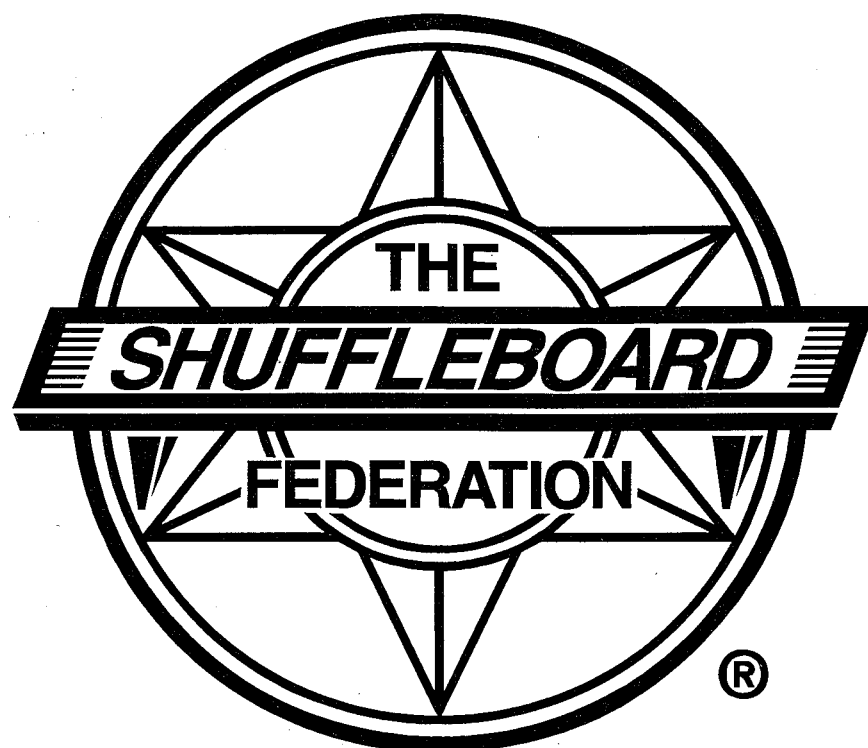
***Use the registration forms in the last
several issues to save your spot.***

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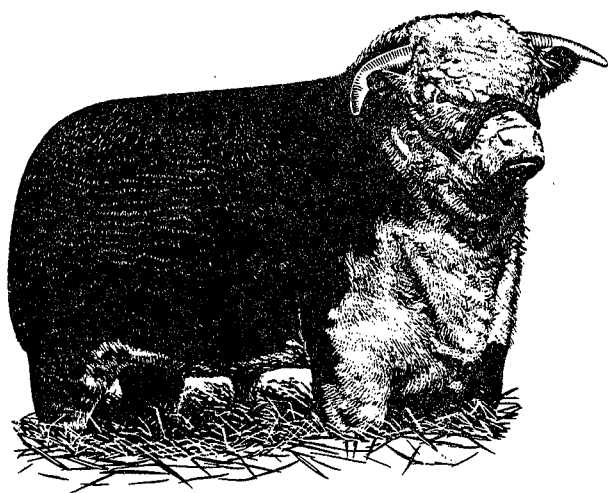
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ANNOUNCES.....

1996-97 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

☺ *OCTOBER 19, 1996: Mixed Doubles*
\$20 per team entry

☺ *NOVEMBER 16, 1996: Open Doubles*
\$50 per team entry

☺ *DECEMBER 28, 1996: Open Doubles*
\$50 per team entry

☺ *JANUARY 18, 1997: Mixed Doubles*
\$20 per team entry

☺ *FEBRUARY 15: Open Doubles*
\$50 per team entry

☺ *MARCH 22, 1997: Mixed Doubles*
\$20 per team entry

All Events Double Elimination, Sale at 11 a.m., payback according to number of teams.

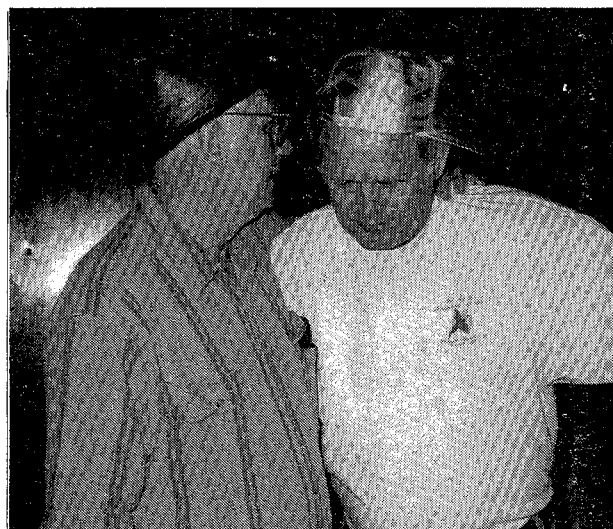
**\$300 ADDED TO ENTRY OF EACH
TOURNAMENT BY PLAYFAIR**

**For tournament and/or lodging information, call Beef or Margie,
219-347-9965**

To All Participants of the 6th Annual Skip's/Board Talk Tournament:
In our book, you're ALL winners!



1994 Singles Champion Bjerne Sunde didn't place this year, but won accolades as guard of the women's restroom. Woe is she who doesn't know the password!



Traditional supporters of this event, Jim Long and Larry Creakbaum of Indiana, argue about who has the prettiest hat.



Joining hands across state lines to place in the A-B-C Draw: Gene Wendling, Mich.; Madge Goff, Okla.; and Steve Blue, Ind.



Local talent spiced the sideline action.



The "Cookie Lady," Betty Kuebeler, helped Debbie Turk and Dave Boaz win some bucks in the A-B-C event.

We applaud you for your good sportsmanship, your competitiveness, your friendliness, and your fun-loving spirit! Thanks for making this a great weekend of shuffleboard at Houghton Lake.....We look forward to seeing you again!

Carole & Skip Sliwa

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Phone: 517-422-5631

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Old Faithfuls, New Faces, Make "Fall Bash" Success

● Bobby V is Big Winner

● A-B-C Draw Attracts New Participation

● Pros Get Rave Notices as Coaches

For the first time in its six-year history, the Skip's/ Board Talk Fall Bash, held at Skip's Lounge, Houghton Lake, Michigan, Sept. 7-8, featured an A-B-C Draw. The new event attracted 26 teams (78 players), among them a good number of first-time participants. Sunday's singles drew 32 entries. While this turnout didn't reach last year's record-breaker of 84 in the A-B Draw and 36 in the singles, the total pot of \$10,905 surpassed the '95 record by \$125.

Bobby Voorhis of Indiana showed his skills as a coach as well as a pro when he took his team of B player Tom Leivo of Bay City, Michigan, and C player Joanna Ingoglia of Lake Orion, Michigan, all the way to the top of the chart.



Tom Leivo (left), Joanna Ingoglia, and Bobby V collected not only the fatest envelopes in the A-B-C Draw, but also winner's cups, t-shirts and jackets from host Skip Sliwa.



"What's in the bottom of this mug?" asks second-place captain John Myles (right) of Livonia. "Look in the envelope," say B player Reggie Surfus (center) of Houghton Lake and Will Jackson, C player from Bay City. Reggie and his wife Debbie, owners of the Northside Family Bar in Houghton Lake, contributed to the door prizes.



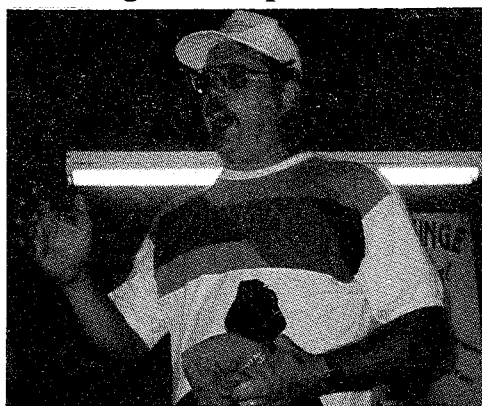
Captain O.B. Brimm (center) of Lake Orion and his team of B player Ron Monville (right) of Bay City and player John McLaren of Saginaw toast their third place finish.



Hall of Famer Glen Davidson (right) of Oklahoma coached his team of B player David Mitchell of Saginaw and C player Carol Ruby of Pontiac to a 4th place victory.

Sharing fifth and sixth place money spots were captain Steve Blue of Indiana, B player Eugene Wendlin of Saginaw, and C player Madge Goff of Oklahoma; and captain Dave Boaz of Indiana, B player Debbie Turk of Pontiac, and C player Betty Kuebler (the cookie lady) of Saginaw.

New Singles Champion Crowned

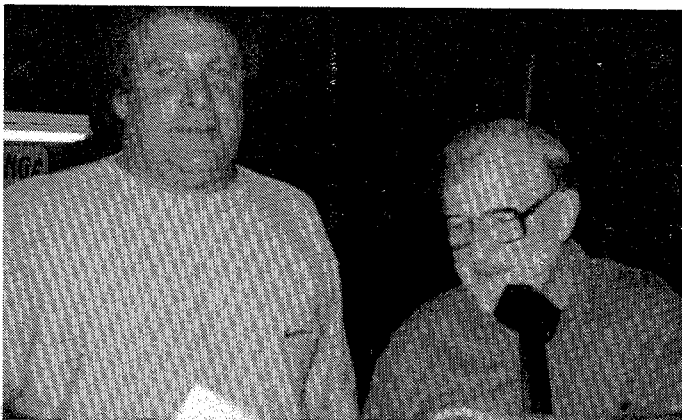


"Yeh, I did it, but it wasn't easy!" says Bobby V, new singles champ of the Skip's/ Board Talk Fall Bash.

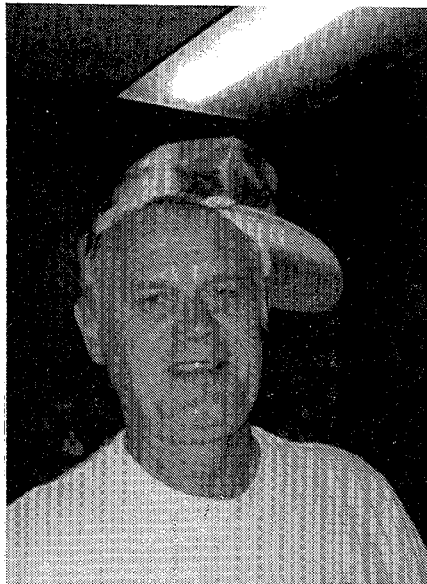
It was a fiercely fought battle for the singles crown this year. When you have such highly-regarded pros as Bobby Voorhis, Frank Blade, John McDermott, Larry Creakbaum, Glen Davidson, and Buddy Broka, you hardly expect that the finals would pit Bobby V against a relative unknown (at least in national circles) as Gary Young of Bay City, Michigan. It must have been a surprise to Gary as well, as he challenged his rating as an A in the A-B-C Draw!



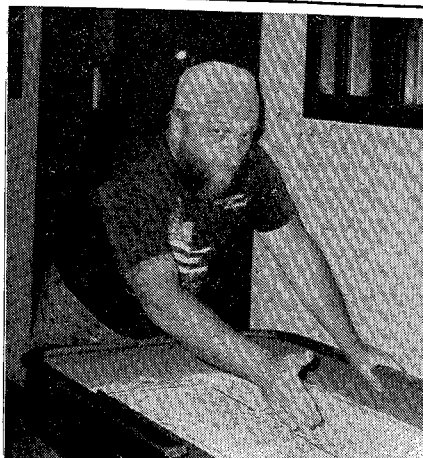
Gary Young of Bay City collects his 2nd place winner's mug from host Skip Sliwa.



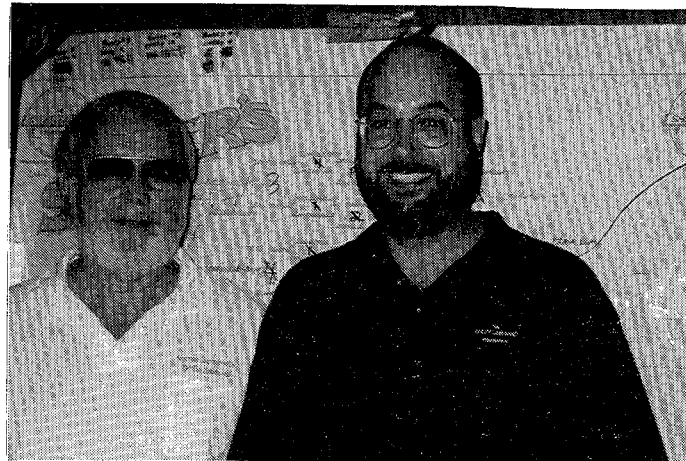
"George, I need to talk to you about something," says 3rd place finisher Frank Blade of Roseville, Michigan. He finished second last year, losing out to traveller Rick Boyer.



Larry Creakbaum of Indiana (alias "the Red Baron") took fourth place in the singles. He was the title-holder in 1992-1993. He's proudly wearing one of Skip's colorful caps -- sideways, of course!



The legendary Buddy Broka of Indiana shows off his winning style. He finished in the 5th-6th spot in a field of 32 tough competitors.



Finishing with Buddy for the 5th-6th spot was Glen Davidson (left), congratulated by John McDermott, The Shuffleboard Federation, who filled in for bracketeer Rob Kern in the homestretch.

If you didn't win on the boards, there was still a chance to win one of the door prizes contributed by Skip's Lounge, Northside Family Bar, and The Board Talk. Winners included: Chris LeMieux, Kim Parrish, Aaron Tolsdorf, Dawn Brookins, Carol Ruby, Sue Wharry, Skip Jackson, Shirley Jackson, Pat Shaw, Walt Canell, Betty Kuebler, Sonny Morgan, Larry Creakbaum, O.B. Brimm, Alice Robinson, Sher Blessing, and Beverly Armsdon.

Everyone was a winner with Saturday afternoon's buffet, courtesy of hosts Skip and Carole Sliwa! And, if all this isn't enough, there was plenty of free entertainment both inside and out.....

George and Donna thank Skip and Carole and their crew for fine service and hospitality, Rob Kern for his usual great job on the brackets, Betty Parrish for her capable assistance as "treasurer," those players who served as officials, and all the strong backs and willing hands that helped move boards.

Thanks, also, to Bubba Warren and Paul Weber of California for their guidance and encouragement in the A-B-C Draw.

More sideline viewpoints in "As the Puck Turns" on Page 8.

Frisko Eddie's Revenge: The Return

A series by Balboa Ron Schweikert

(In last month's episode, Eddie left the airport when he remembered that he still had the \$10,000 he and Lil had won in Texas. He returned to Tacoma Tim's to give her the money and requested the cabbie to wait for his return to the airport for his trip back home. Lil's fond farewell gave him second thoughts.....)

Eddie was trying to make the words come out. The cabbie was looking at him strangely because of the confused look on his face. Finally (what seemed like an eternity), the instructions to the driver were complete.

Lil could hear the cab as it drove off. She could hear her heart pounding as well, and when she couldn't stand it a second longer, she went to the door. She knew there was no one out there, but she had to make sure for herself. She opened the door and, as she feared, the only thing she could see was the disappearing taillights of the cab. She was totally depressed now. Then something strange happened. There was resistance when she tried to pull the doorknob. Her heart was pounding as she took a look around the door. There was Eddie standing against the wall holding the outside of the doorknob. Lil was speechless then, but Eddie wasn't. "Well, love, are you going to let me in, or what?" he said.

Eddie put down his bag as Lil rushed to him. They embraced then -- in a very serious way. They hugged and kissed like passionate lovers. Lil whispered into Eddie's ear: "My room is ready, sweetheart." Eddie replied: "I thought you'd never ask. What are we waiting for?" They were both desperately trying to get their clothes off as they made their way to the bedroom. They just flung things as they went!

Tim's bedroom was just down the hallway from Lil's room and the commotion had him half awake. He could hear the sounds coming from the other bedroom. It didn't take him long to figure out what those sounds were. He turned on his side then, and with a smile on his face, went back to sleep.

Tim was up first in the morning. He laughed to himself when he noticed some articles of clothing on the hallway floor. He made his way to the kitchen and began making a giant pot of coffee. As the coffee was brewing, he selected the things he would need to make breakfast.

Now Tim was quite a cook and when he had overnight company, he especially liked to prepare breakfast. He began to lay out the food items he would need. He selected a half slab of hardwood smoked bacon, which he cut into thick slices. Then he took out a one-pound package of fresh pure pork sausage. The jumbo eggs were then layed out. He got out three large frying pans and put two of them on very low heat. He also brought

the oven to 400 degrees to pre-heat. While that was on, he peeled and then grated three large fresh Idaho potatoes into a bowl of ice water.

He had timed his system to where everything would be hot and ready at the same time. He'd found a place where he could get freshly prepared biscuit dough that was perfect. He rolled and shaped the biscuits and, after buttering the tops, placed them on a large cookie sheet and into the oven.

He took the pork sausage and added his own spices. He sprinkled in some garlic powder, a touch of salt and pepper, some oregano, parsley and just a touch of dried and finely crushed red peppers. He formed them into small patties.

He started the bacon and sausage then and, in a second pan, he melted a chunk of butter and started his home made hash browns. He didn't have the heat too high at first, so they wouldn't burn. He took the bacon and sausage out when they were well-cooked and drained them. He poured off most of the grease, but left a little from both pans in one pan so he could make his famous "Red-Eye" gravy.

After the remaining grease from the bacon and sausage was hot in the pan, he added about 4 tablespoons of flour, mixing it with the grease until it started to brown. Then he poured in one cup of water and brought it to a boil while he stirred. He added about three cups of whole milk then and brought it to a boil once more, stirring all the time.

Everything was done about the same time. All he had to do now was place it all in the oven on low heat and get the two "lovers" out of bed.

He knocked on their door and heard whispering coming from inside. He hollered out: "Hey, in there, breakfast is ready. How do you want your eggs?"

Lil and Eddie had awakened earlier. It was a wonderful way to wake up. Lil knew about Tim's famous breakfasts, so she shouted out: "Eddie and I will have them the usual way -- and we'll be at the table before they're done, Tim."

Cooking eggs was also an "art" for Tim. He had a special Teflon pan that had a heavy, tight-fitting clear glass lid. He turned the heat to medium and added a chunk of butter. Then he broke his six jumbo eggs into a bowl. When the butter had melted, he carefully added the eggs, making sure he didn't break any of the yokes. Then he added his secret ingredient -- about two tablespoons of water on the side of the pan. Just as he got his tight-fitting lid in place, Lil and Eddie made their appearance.

They all made eye contact. There was a smile on all of

their faces and they all had a knowing twinkle in their eyes. Lil continued to look at Tim as Eddie made his way to the coffee. She gave him a big smile and a wink, along with a "thumbs-up" sign with her hand. No one spoke right then; there was no need to.

Lil and Eddie began to set the table and poured the steaming coffee as Tim went back to his eggs. The water he had added had turned to steam and was nicely firming-up the white around the yokes on the tops of the "sunny-side-up" eggs.

Everything was put on serving plates and bowls and the breakfast began. Eddie watched Lil and Tim as they loaded their plates, and then followed their lead. He took one of the hot biscuits and broke it into pieces on a side plate, and then poured some of the "Red-Eye" gravy over it. He put butter and honey on a second biscuit.

Eddie found that the food was wonderful! The bacon was crisp and very tasty and the sausage was delicious. The "from scratch" hash browns were also crispy on the outside and chewy on the inside. The eggs were also perfect -- of course!

After they had finished, they just "kicked back" in their seats with satisfied looks on their faces. There was a good, warm feeling in the room.

Tim finally broke the silence by saying: "Well, my children -- what happens next?" There was no answer. Lil and Eddie were holding hands and looking into each other's eyes. They were only thinking of the good things that had happened earlier and what was happening at that very instant. They both felt a deep sense of an emotional "moment of clarity." It felt good. What happens next? Who cared? Next would just be....next.

--TO BE CONTINUED NEXT MONTH--

Editorial Note to Ron: This is a true story....It was Saturday noon, Nov. 14, and I had been setting copy for several hours, fueled only by several cups of coffee and a vitamin pill. By the time I got to Tim's breakfast, my stomach was growling so loud that I couldn't hear the click of the computer keys. I hit the "save" button and went to the kitchen. (George was back up at Houghton Lake finishing up some odds and ends from the tournament, so I couldn't haul him to the bedroom!) No bacon, no sausage, no biscuit mix, no time for homemade hash browns. There was, however, a can of spam, an egg, and a cheese bread stick. Even though I broke the yoke, it was the best breakfast I had in a long time -- at least good enough to give me energy to return to the computer and finish setting your story and the others that arrived in the mail today. Thanks to your graphic description of Tim's breakfast, I am not slumped over the computer with fatigue and hunger, and the fingers are flying over the keyboard! -- Donna

More Notebook....

Another Loss for Shuffleboard

We in Las Vegas recently lost a dear friend and avid shuffleboard player. His name was Frank Smith. He was well-known here and in the Southern California area as "Orange County Frank." He passed away as a result of a heart attack at 66 years of age. He was given a full Military funeral, with honors, at the newly-built Veteran's Cemetery here.

Shuffleboard was Frank's passion and he played for well over 30 years in the L.A. area and here in Las Vegas. You'll be missed, Frank, and not soon forgotten. It was always a delight to have the "tall man with the cigar" show up for our tournaments. Rest well, good friend, from all your partners in Las Vegas.

Balboa Ron Schweikert, Las Vegas, Nevada

A "Virgin" Views a Full House

Labor Day weekend, I went to Pat Kinard's shuffleboard tournament at the Full House in Wynnewood, Oklahoma. In the women's singles, I reinstated my "virgin" status because I couldn't do a thing. (Well, that's not all the way true because I did win two games off of two women who may have had one or two little drinkee-poops too many.) Then I came up against Betty Brantley from Davis, Oklahoma. She slowly but surely unhinged me. She was so nice and apologetic about it that I couldn't feel too bad. It was, after all, double elimination, and I was still in. Next, I was up against my friend Pam Worsham from Oklahoma City. I play her all the time at Bristol Station. Well, my friend Pam showed me how the cow ate the cabbage. She apologized for slam-dunking me and I was out.

Nancy Tice came in first, Betty Brantley second, and Pam Worsham third. Thank goodness I didn't have to play Nancy Tice. She was in the zone and couldn't be beat. A young woman, Shannon McLeod, from Austin, Texas, played Nancy a great game. Shannon was so poised and focused for one so young and inexperienced. She will be a force to be reckoned with if she keeps her interest in shuffleboard. Shannon's husband, Mark McLeod, will be a hot one in the very near future, too. Look for them; they are so young and fresh. Just what shuffleboard needs to carry on the sport. Stay in there, Shannon and Mark.

I do have one little complaint. Why aren't there any handicaps in the women's singles? I, for one, think more women would play in tournaments with a handicap for them. What do you think?

In the sweetheart draw, I drew Richard Harden from

(continued on Page 20)

Virgin at Full House (cont. from Page 19)

Wichita Falls, Texas. I had played with Richard and his wife Noris when they visited Bristol Station in Midwest City, Oklahoma. It was nice to draw someone I knew. Richard and I played very well. We didn't place, but we had some fine competition (virgin status still intact). I'm just not satisfied to get close anymore. Heck, now I want to win! But I won't give up the name "virgin" until Madonna does.

By the way, the rough draft of this letter was written with a pen stolen from Pat Kinard of the Full House because she was too cheap to give it to me (inside joke). Seriously, I wish to thank Pat and all of her friends and relatives who were still hammering, sawing and putting things together when I got there to check out the boards. They made us all feel so welcome and at home.

So, if the creek don't rise and my dog don't bite nobody, I'll be back next year.

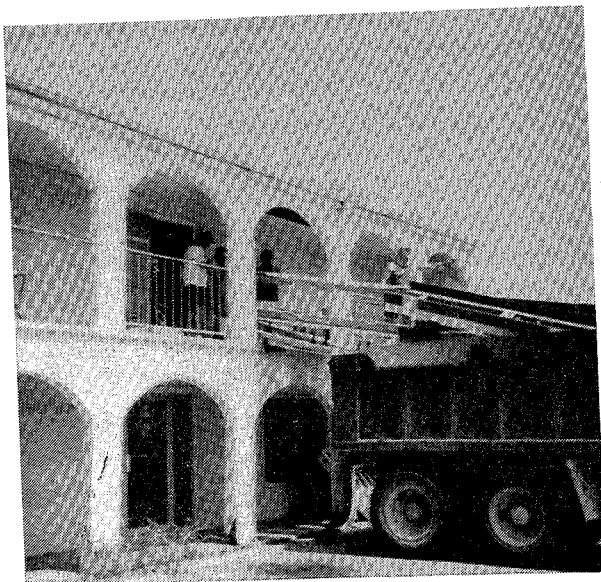
Sue Lewis, Midwest City, Oklahoma

Bowers Have New Location: Bumpers Billiards

We have a new location: Bumpers Billiards, 1406 FM 1825, Pflugerville, TX (phone 512-990-5526). Thanks to all of those who helped with the move of the boards from the Texas Mist to Bumpers: Pat Gainey, Don Valk, Lyndon Baize, Robert Hurst Sr., Tony Howard, David Porterfield, Steve Luttrell and Bill Moody.

Also, thanks go to Don Valk for setting the boards up, Lyndon Baize for the work on the scoreboards, and Robert Hurst Sr. for the use of his dump truck.

Ron and Debbie Bowers, Austin, Texas



The Bowers' shuffleboards left the Texas Mist in style, riding 9 miles to Pflugerville in a dump truck!

From the Traveling NSHF Chairman Glen Davidson....

Madge and I just left from Skip's Houghton Lake (Michigan) tournament. This was our first visit to that area. I entered the A-B-C Draw and with David Mitchell from Saginaw and Carol Ruby from the Majestic Bar in Pontiac, we finished fifth. Madge, with Eugene Wendling of Saginaw, and Steve Blue from Indiana, finished sixth. We both enjoyed it and had a great time. This was a first for me and we could have won and didn't. My team mates say they will be ready next year. It was a pleasure for me to get to teach someone along the way -- give something back to the game.

I entered the singles and almost beat Frank Blade, but missed by an inch. I did enjoy the singles. I haven't been playing singles for awhile and it felt good.

We will be staying here in this area until the Bourbon Fall Doubles, then we'll head back to Oklahoma City.

Michigan is organizing a Hall of Fame for their state and hope to get two inducted on Thanksgiving at their State Championships at McCabe's in Saginaw. Rob, the bracket man, is heading the committee. Hope to see other states doing this and inducting whoever they choose at a tourney in their state. Get on the bandwagon and start now to get a Hall of Fame in your state.

Frank Blade and I played in Pontiac Saturday, Sept. 14, from noon until 2 a.m. If any of you so-called "hustlers" want action, go to the Liberty Bar in Pontiac. Bob, Steve, O.B., Jerry and "Car Wash," the bartender, will give you all you want. These guys are players deluxe and they will give you a game.

Glen Davidson, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

REMINDER!

**The subscription fee to
THE BOARD TALK
will increase from \$15 to
\$20 a year effective
Jan. 1, 1997.**

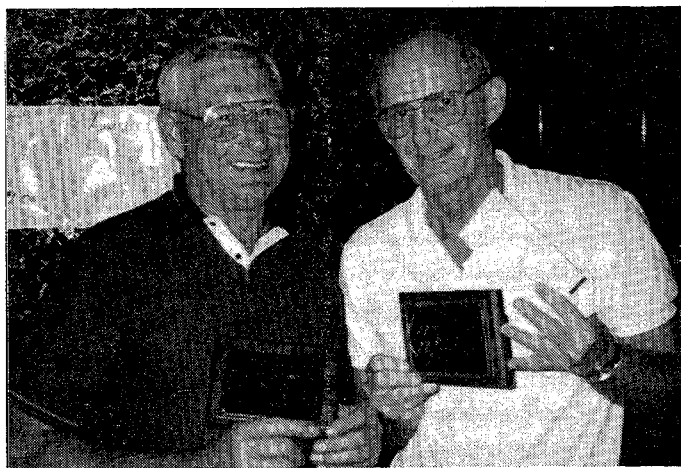
**You may renew NOW for
up to three years at the old rate.**

**New or renewals: use
subscription form in
this issue.**

St. Louis Shootout *(continued from Page 7)*



Moe Miller (left) and Charlie Riley, also of Houston, took third place.



Meme Lacity congratulates Fred Love (left) and Dan Kelly of St. Louis for their fourth place finish.

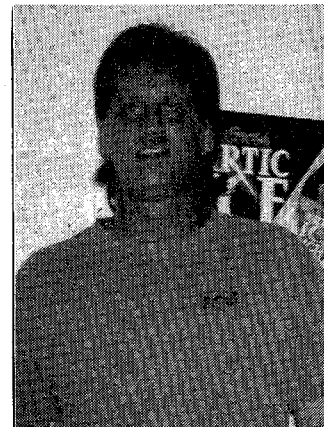
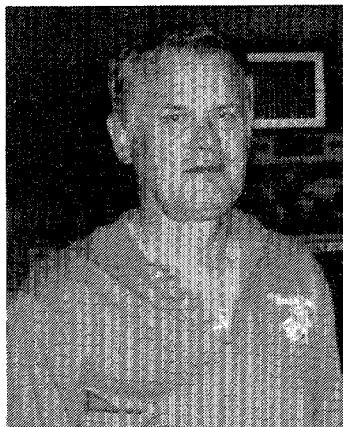
"All of the best shooters in Missouri were here and the competition was extremely tough," reports Chuck Muehlhausen. "The tournament was promoted on KFNS Radio in St. Louis on the sports show. This might not be a first in the country, but it was for Missouri. Thousands of people were introduced to shuffleboard because Fred Love had the great idea of calling in to discuss the game and gave the past and present status of the tournament. They said to call back next year -- WE WILL!"

Chuck extends thanks to Russ and Becky Beisner, owners of the Family Affair Lounge, for hosting this year's event, and to people and sponsors who supported it: Coca Cola, Grey Eagle, Major Brand Distributing, Rob and Tracey of Burch Vending, John McDermott of The Shuffleboard Federation, George and Donna Wilber from The Board Talk, Woodie Cockrum, Fred Love, Super Sam Eveland, and special thanks to Jim and Donna Dunn.

Creakbaum/Voorhis/Davidson Tops at Bourbon Event

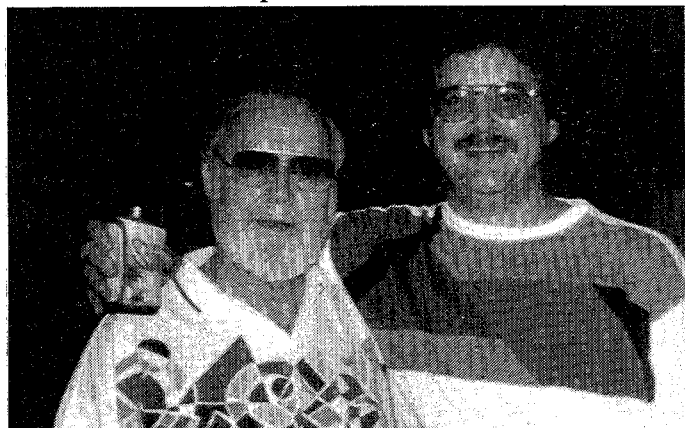
The American Legion 424 in Bourbon, Indiana, hosted a late summer tournament with a total purse of over \$5,000 attracting some of the Midwest's strongest players.

There were 18 players entered in Friday night's singles event.



Larry Creakbaum (left) was winner of the singles. Steve Blue (right) took second place honors.

Bobby Voorhis finished in third, with fourth place going to Jim Long. "It was one of the most laggin' tournaments that most of us have ever seen, with Steve Blue and Larry Creakbaum throwing 2's, 3's and 4's like never seen before," reports Mike Johnson.



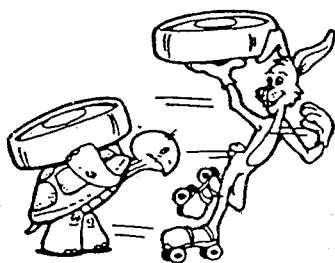
In Saturday's doubles, Glen Davidson ((left) of Oklahoma teamed up with Hoosier Bobby V to take top honors.



They beat Dave Boaz (left) and Steve Blue. Terry Dowell and Deb Voorhis took third, with Bourbon's Mike Koontz and Dennie Kingsley in fourth. (cont. on Page 27)

Looking Back.....

1993



Editors' Note: To mark 12 years of publication, we started this new column in December 1995, highlighting the winners of past major tournaments. Because of space restrictions, we can't include them all. This month.....1993.

●PCSA Extravaganza V, Aladdin, Las Vegas, Feb. 2-7: (6-member Pro Team)--

Oklahoma (Sam Summers, Glen Davidson, Bud Hillburn, Mark Foust, Bill Melton, Frank Blade) 1st. **(A-B Draw):**-- Buddy Broka, Indiana, and Tom Hendrix, Oklahoma, 1st; George Ostrom, Colorado, and Mike Thorpe, Washington, 2nd; Fritz Broka, Indiana, and Eric Waldman, Montana, 3rd; Gregg McFarland, California, and Gail Schultz, Michigan, 4th; David Williams, Texas, and Shirley Gieries, Oklahoma, 5th and 6th; Mark Foust and Sandy Swift, Oklahoma, Fred Thuman, California, and Rena Hendrix, Oklahoma, 7th and 8th. **(Women's Singles):**--Diana Hagen, Texas, 1st; Rena Hendrix, Oklahoma, 2nd; Debbie Voorhis, Indiana, 3rd; Janet Weidner, Texas, 4th. **(Pro Singles):**--Bill Melton, Oklahoma, 1st; John McDermott, Michigan, 2nd; Billy Chiles, California, 3rd. **(Pro Doubles):**--Bobby Voorhis, Indiana, and Jim Allis, Washington, 1st; Leroy Ledford, California, and Steve Wilson, Oregon, 2nd; Bob Shaw and Diana Hagen, Texas, 3rd; David Williams, Texas, and Bill Melton, Oklahoma, 4th; Don Cox, California, and Chuck Norris, Oregon, Mark Foust of Oklahoma, and Frank Blade, Texas, 5th and 6th; Rick Gindt and Al Pease, Washington, Gary George, Washington, and Fred Thuman, California, 7th and 8th. **(Amateur Team Event):**--50/50 Team (Kathy Broka, Bill Meyer, Bob Schultz, Gail Schultz, Bjerne Sunde, Diana Hofmann, Deb Voorhis, Gene McLeod), 1st; Oklahoma Friends (Rena Hendrix, Bill Holley, Fred Washington, Shirley Gieries, Tom Hendrix, Ken Storck, Ron Blalock, Dino Flemming), 2nd; Southern California "Scream Team," 3rd; Dunes, Arizona, 4th.

●Bourbon Spring Tournament, American Legion,

Bourbon, Indiana, May 1: Bob Perry, Illinois, and Buddy Broka, Indiana, 1st; Glen Davidson, Oklahoma, and Fritz Broka, Indiana, 2nd; Jim Long and Jerry Knox, Indiana, 3rd; Jim Stockmaster and Phil McGrew, Ohio, 4th; Chris Passariello and Chuck Rickliefs, Michigan,

5th; Larry Vance and Ricky Royal, Indiana, 6th.

●7th Annual Arbuckle Open, American Legion, Del City, Oklahoma, Memorial Weekend: (Women's

Singles)--Brenda Watts, Oklahoma, 1st; Lisa Melton, Oklahoma, 2nd; Carolyn Jones, Oklahoma, 3rd; Gwyn Orsi, Nebraska, 4th; Maggie Worley, Nebraska, 5th. **(Amateur Open Singles)**--Billy Melton, Oklahoma, 1st; Tim Piccolo, Nebraska, 2nd; Mike Melton, Oklahoma, 3rd; Janet Weidner, Texas, 4th; Billy Loos, Nebraska, 5th; Gregg Tedford, Texas, 6th. **(Pro Singles)**--Frank Blade, Oklahoma, 1st; Mark Foust, Oklahoma, 2nd; Bob Shaw, Texas, 3rd; Sam Summers, Oklahoma, 4th; Bobby Voorhis, Indiana, Rick Boyer, Colorado, 5th and 6th. **(Sweetheart Draw)**--Ron Campbell, Nebraska, and Debbie Bowers, Texas, 1st; Larry Barthel, Oklahoma, and Denise Addison, Texas, 2nd; Zane Porter, Oklahoma, and Gwyn Orsi, Nebraska, 3rd; Janet Weidner and Ron Bowers, Texas, 4th; Lisa Melton, Oklahoma, and Alfred Suarez, Texas, 5th; Maggie Worley, Nebraska, and Ron Snelgroves, Oklahoma, 6th. **(Amateur Open Draw)**--Shirley Gieries and Shari Foust, Oklahoma, 1st; Bill Stoops, Oklahoma, and Ron Campbell, Nebraska, 2nd; Bill Loos, Nebraska, and Cissy Carter, Oklahoma, 3rd; Brenda Watts, Oklahoma, and Brady Jones, Texas, 4th; Johnny Crawford, Texas, and Bobby Voorhis, Indiana, 5th; Bill Carter and Keith Finley, Oklahoma, 6th. **(Amateur Doubles)**--Brenda Watts and Rena Hendrix, 1st; Carolyn Jones and John Cason, 2nd; Mike and Billy Melton, 3rd; Ron Huddleston and Shirley Gieries, 4th; Alan Primrose and Steve Walker, 5th (all from Oklahoma); Ron Campbell and Billy Loos, Nebraska, 6th. **(Pro Doubles)**--Glen Davidson, Oklahoma, and Bobby Voorhis, Indiana, 1st; Sam Summers and Sam Sweatt, Oklahoma, 2nd. **(Amateur Team Event)**--Nebraska (Gwyn Orsi, Maggie Worley, Ron Campbell, Billy Loos, Janet Weidner), 1st; Prim's Wagon Wheel (Brenda Watts, Ron Grove, Bettye Brantley, Ron Gamble, Bill Stoops, Keith Finley), 2nd. **(Pro Team Event)**--Oklahoma City (Sam Summers, Rena Hendrix, Jim Griggs, Ken Storck, Billy Holly), 1st; Melton Shuffleboard (Steve Walker, Al Primrose, Bill-Lisa-Mike-Billy Melton), 2nd.

●2nd Annual Southwest Open/9th Annual Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion, American Legion, Del City,

Oklahoma, July 1-4: (Pro-Am Team Event)--Bobby V's Team (Bobby Voorhis, Jim Long, Steve Blue, Indiana, and Sam Sweatt, Oklahoma), 1st; Mark Foust's Team (Mark Foust, John Cason, Ron Huddleston, Oklahoma, and Bob Lewis, Arizona), 2nd; Bill Melton's Team (Bill Melton, Billy Melton, Lisa Melton, Oklahoma, and Janet Weidner, Texas, 3rd. **(Pro Singles)**--Bill Melton, Oklahoma, 1st; Rick Boyer,

Colorado, 2nd; Frank Blade, Texas, 3rd; Mark Foust, Oklahoma, 4th. **(Pro-Am Draw)**--Mark Foust, Oklahoma, and Mike Roach, Nebraska, 1st; Frank Blade, Texas, and Ron Blalock, Oklahoma, 2nd; Bobby Voorhis, Indiana, and Chuck DeWes, Florida, 3rd; Mike Melton and Sam Sweatt, Oklahoma, 4th; Bud Hillburn and Dino Fleming, Oklahoma, Alan Primrose, Oklahoma and Larry Creakbaum, Indiana, 5th and 6th. **(Beginner/Just Pretty Good Draw)**--Jeff Simco and Cindy Sweatt, 1st; Ken Cartner and Sharon Huddleston, 2nd; Ron Snellgrove and Pat Kinard (all from Oklahoma), 3rd. **(Amateur Singles)**--Bobby Williams, Texas, 1st; Steve Burkett, Oklahoma, 2nd; Rena Hendrix, Oklahoma, 3rd; Jim Long, Indiana, 4th; Tom Hendrix, Oklahoma, 5th; Mike Roach, Nebraska, 6th; Ken Hawks, Colorado, Cliff Goff, Oklahoma, 7th and 8th. **(Beginner/Just Pretty Good Singles)**--Eddie Woods, Texas, 1st; Bettye Brantley, Oklahoma, 2nd; Alan Cobb, Oklahoma, 3rd. **(4-Person Team Event)**--Elbow Room, Nebraska (Larry Morrow, Gwyn Orsi, Mike Roach, Ken Hawks), 1st; Prim's Wagon Wheel, Oklahoma (Al Primrose, Brenda Watts, Bill Holley, Tom Hendrix), 2nd; Buckhorn Tavern, Oklahoma (Steve Walker, Rick Yingst, Betty Brantley, Pam Croft), 3rd. **(Open Doubles)**--Bill and Billy Melton, Oklahoma, 1st; Sam Sweatt and John Cason, Oklahoma, 2nd; Glen Davidson, Oklahoma, and Dudley Hutcherson, California, 3rd.

●**Fall Doubles, American Legion, Bourbon, Indiana,**

Oct. 2: Mike Melton and Ron Huddleston, Oklahoma, 1st; Denny Busch, Nebraska, and Glen Davidson, Oklahoma, 2nd; Jim Stockmaster and Phil McGrew, Ohio, 3rd; Bobby Voorhis and Dave Boaz, Indiana, 4th; Chris Passariello and Wayne Snellenberger, Michigan, 5th; Larry Vance and Milt Vanulzen, Indiana, 6th.

●**North American Championships, Sands Regency Hotel Casino, Reno, Nevada, Nov. 9-14: (A-B Draw)--**

Rick Boyer, California, and Brenda Watts, Oklahoma, 1st; Bobby Voorhis, Indiana, and Tammy Denson, Texas, 2nd. **(Ladies' Singles)**--Rosa White, Washington, 1st; Sandy Swift, Oklahoma, 2nd. **(Division I Singles)**--Dan Mourgos, California, 1st; Bjerne Sunde, Michigan, 2nd. **(Div. II/III Singles)**--Clarence Butler, Nebraska, 1st; Pat Bayless, California, 2nd. **(East/West Pro Team Challenge)**--East (Bill Melton, Bob Shaw, Sam Summers, Bobby Voorhis, David Williams, John McDermott), 1st; West (Jim Allis, Donny Cox, Nelson Jennings, Leroy Ledford, Hal Perry, Fred Thumann), 2nd. **(Division I Doubles)**--Bobby Williams, Texas, and Al Primrose, Oklahoma, 1st; Nick Chaffin and Bob Hunt, California, 2nd. **(Div. II/III Doubles)**--Joel Rahn and Mike Roach, Nebraska, 1st; Leroy Burkhart and Butch Robinson, Oregon, 2nd. **(Pro Doubles)**--Bill Melton,

Oklahoma, and David Williams, Texas, 1st; Denny Busch, Nebraska, and Bob Shaw, Texas, 2nd. **(Dueces Wild)**--Dale Williams, Texas, Rosa White, Washington, Bobby Voorhis, Indiana, Al Salazar, Arizona, 1st. **NASL Team Event)**--Nebraska Cornhuskers (Junior Butler, Larry Morrow, Gwyn Orsi, Joel Rahn, Mike Roach, Maggie Worley), 1st; Gas Log Lounge, 2nd.

Other Significant Happenings in 1993:

A Board Talk "Revival," headed by **Doc Khan** of Michigan and **Glen Davidson** of Oklahoma nets 150 new subscribers. Doc leads the way with 30 and Glen next with 25. **Lois Lambrecht** of Oklahoma wins the slogan contest with her creativity: "Places, Faces....Dates, Fates...News & Views -- Every player a WINNER with The Board Talk."

At the PCSA Extravaganza, **Fritzi and Buddy Broka** tied the knot, **Terry Broka** was awarded a football helmet to protect his head, and **Bjerne Sunde** fell through the wall of the shuffleboard room into a meeting to which he was not invited.

At the Southwest Open/Board Talk Reunion, **Bill Melton** presented his first place singles trophy to his idol and mentor, 76-year-old **Pete Polk**, who introduced Bill to shuffleboard when he was 12 years old.

At the 4th Annual Whistling Oyster tournament, **Jim Foran** was presented with a gold and diamond shuffleboard pendant for the many things he had done to promote the sport in the Pacific Northwest.

The East Coast loses two of its most highly-respected and beloved shufflers -- **Art Ware** and **Scratch Todd**.

At the North American Championships, **Don Valk**, U.S. Open founder, was awarded the **Sol Lipkin** award from The Shuffleboard Federation in recognition of his extraordinary contributions to the sport.

Two new versions of the game -- the ABC Draw introduced by **Bubba Warren** and **John Fisher**, and the Dueces Wild by **The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc.**

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189 Barry Avenue, Lansdale, PA 19446

1996-97 CALENDAR OF SHUFFLEBOARD EVENTS

OCTOBER

Oct. 5

Annual Fall Bourbon Doubles
American Legion 424
Bourbon, Indiana

Oct. 11-12

3rd Annual Missouri State
Tournament
Longbranch Lounge
Springfield, Missouri

Oct. 11-13

2nd Annual Ladies' Weekend
Wetlands Bar & Grill
Royal Oak, Michigan

Oct. 11-13

3-Event Tournament
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

Oct. 12

Open Singles
Syd's Bar
Noblesville, Indiana

Oct. 11-13

3-Event Tournament
Riverside Hotel
Earlville, New York

Oct. 12

Open Doubles
Get-A-Way
Anderson, Indiana

Oct. 18-19

Pre-Halloween Bring Partner
Top's, That Other Place Saloon
St. Louis, Missouri

Oct. 18-19

Double Dipper Tournament
Sonny Boys Tavern
Cuba, Missouri

Oct. 18-20

Bring Partner Mixed Doubles
Balloon Inn
Arvada, Colorado

Oct. 19-20

Bring Partner Tournament
Shamrock Tavern
Longview, Washington

Oct. 19

Mixed Doubles
Beef's
Kendallville, Indiana

Oct. 28-Nov. 3

7th Annual North American
Championships
Sands Regency Hotel Casino
Reno, Nevada

NOVEMBER

Nov. 8-10

1st East Coast Showdown
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

Nov. 9

Open Singles
Syd's Bar
Noblesville, Indiana

Nov. 15-16

Pre-Thanksgiving Bring Partner
Top's, That Other Place Saloon
St. Louis, Missouri

Nov. 16

Open Doubles
Beef's
Kendallville, Indiana

Nov. 16-17

Draw/Bring Partner Tourney
Dew Drop Inn
Waterloo, New York

Nov. 27-Dec. 1

12th Thanksgiving Classic
Gold Nugget
Arlington, Texas

Nov. 28-Dec. 1

11th Annual State of Michigan
Championships
McCabe's, Saginaw, Michigan

Nov. 29-30

2nd Thanksgiving Tournament
Eagles Lodge FOE 3911
Houston, Missouri

Nov. 29-Dec. 1

Indiana State Championships
Chances R
Muncie, Indiana

Nov. 29-Dec. 1

2nd Annual Florida State
Championships
Corbitt's Hideaway/Happy Days
West Palm Beach, Florida

Nov. 30-Dec. 1

Over 55 Tournament
Shamrock Tavern
Longview, Washington

DECEMBER

Dec. 6-8

3-Event Tournament
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

Dec. 7-8

Singles/Doubles Tournament
Locker Bar
Marion, Indiana

Dec. 14

Open Doubles
Syd's Bar
Noblesville, Indiana

Dec. 14

Open Doubles
Sportsman's Bar
Muncie, Indiana

Dec. 14-15

8th Santa Classic Doubles
Balloon Inn
Arvada, Colorado

Dec. 14-15

Scratch Todd Memorial
Moose Lodge
Harrington, Delaware

Dec. 20-21

Christmas Holiday Tournament
Top's, That Other Place Saloon
St. Louis, Missouri

Dec. 28

Open Doubles
Beef's
Kendallville, Indiana

1997 CALENDAR OF SHUFFLEBOARD EVENTS

JANUARY 1997

Jan. 18

Open Singles
Syd's Bar
Noblesville, Indiana

Jan. 18-19

2nd Annual ESA Draw Partner
Shotze's Rack-N-Roll
Everett, Washington

Jan. 28-Feb. 2

PCSA Extravaganza IX
The Showboat
Las Vegas, Nevada

FEBRUARY 1997

Feb. 8

Open Doubles
Sportsman's Bar
Muncie, Indiana

Feb. 15

Open Doubles
Syd's Bar
Noblesville, Indiana

Feb. 21-23

16th Annual Masters
Fir Cone Tavern
Shelton, Washington

Feb. 28-March 2

3-Event Tournament
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

MARCH 1997

March 8

Open Doubles
Sportsman's Bar
Muncie, Indiana

March 15

Open Doubles
Syd's Bar
Noblesville, Indiana

March 22

Mixed Doubles
Beef's
Kendallville, Indiana

APRIL 1997

April 11-13

3-Event Tournament
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

April 18-20

Heartland Handicap
American Legion 73
Del City, Oklahoma

April 19

Open Singles
Syd's Bar
Noblesville, Indiana

MAY 1997

May 3

36th Annual Spring Doubles
American Legion 424
Bourbon, Indiana

JULY 1997

July 1-6

Southwest Open
American Legion Post 73
Del City, Oklahoma

July 2-6

5th Annual 4th of July Tourney
The Dixie Belle
Downey, California

More Upcoming Events (continued from Page 12)

Nevada

LAST CALL FOR NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS, RENO, OCT. 28-NOV. 3

October 10 is the last date that entries will be accepted for the 1996 North American Championships without a penalty. If you haven't already registered, do so now. Use the entry forms that have appeared in the past several issues (it might be a good idea to call The Shuffleboard Federation, 810-380-9300, to see if there are still openings in the 11 events that are on the schedule). The big event is set for Oct. 28-Nov. 3 at the Sands Regency Hotel Casino in Reno and features competition for everyone from amateurs to pros. There's also an opportunity to be crowned the 1996 North American Champion!

Remember, you must be a registered guest of the Sands Regency to participate. Send in your registration forms today! Questions? Call The Shuffleboard Federation, 810-380-9300.

Texas

12TH ANNUAL THANKSGIVING CLASSIC, GOLD NUGGET, ARLINGTON, NOV. 27-DEC. 1

The Gold Nugget in Arlington, Texas (site of the recent Texas Open), will host the 12th Annual Thanksgiving Classic on Nov. 27-Dec. 1. Events include a Co-Ed Draw, Left-Over Draw, Draw Partners, Bring Partner, and Singles. Check the enclosed flyer for details. A Thanksgiving dinner will be served on Thursday.

For further information, contact David Williams, 817-451-9583 or 473-4029; Bobby Williams, 817-496-8972 or 265-7045; or Tom Johnson, 817-277-4029.

This will be another BIG one -- don't miss it!

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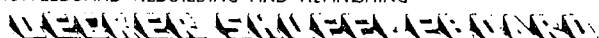
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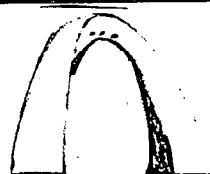


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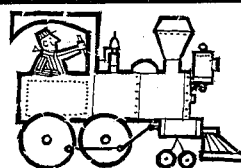
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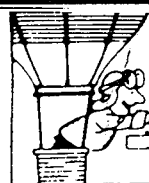
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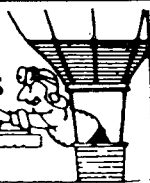


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Bourbon Action (continued from Page 21)

The last event for the weekend was the draw partner, with Glen Davidson and Bobby V again taking first. Bill Niswonger and Dave Boaz took second, with Mike Johnson and Brian Collins in third spot.

"Thanks to all the players -- hope to see everyone on Oct. 5. Thanks to all who helped with the sponsor sales and to Bill Niswonger's wife for some great food," said Mike.

Another Success at Sherburne American Legion, New York

The American Legion in Sherburne, New York, hosted a weekend tournament on Sept. 6-8 with a total pot of nearly \$6,000.

Friday night's draw partner event attracted 28 players. Taking first was Doug Fridley Jr. of Waterloo and Bob White from Sherburne. Second place went to Sam Jones and Lonzo Knight from Hagerstown, Maryland, and third went to Steve Bennett and Roy Schriber.

Saturday's bring partner event was won by locals Steve Bennett and Russ Reynolds, with another local team, Dale Law and Bob White, in second. Third went to the Hagerstown, Maryland, team of Wanda Farris (the only female to go to the payoff table this weekend) and

Lonzo Knight.

In Sunday's singles, with 15 entries, Earl Durgan from Waterloo walked away with the big cash, with second place going to his neighbor, Doug Fridley Jr. Third place money went to first-time money winner in the singles, Shelly Paul from nearby Earlville (Riverside Hotel).

"The American Legion has three boards on a permanent basis, with two more brought in for tournaments," explained Dick Gorman. "Up to three days before the first scheduled event, only two participants had contacted Director Milt Benedict. Disappointed, but practical, he made the decision not to bring in the two extra boards. Maybe it was a bad April Fool's joke played in September, but the crowd came anyway and they were disappointed because there were only three boards. Players -- please recognize it is important to let tournament operators know about your participation so they can plan ahead.

"Dispite this problem, Milt and Betty Benedict went into high gear, along with the help of auctioneer Steve Bennett, while Debbie Benedict lined up the first event and Betty and Kate Palmer and Brenda Williams went to the store to get more food and prepare it for the unexpected crowd -- a lot of extra work. Players, help your tournament directors make a better time for you. Let them know. A telephone call is cheap these days!"



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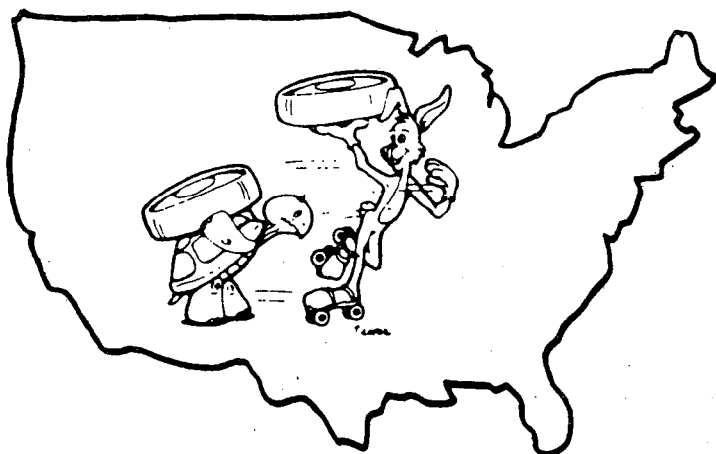
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