## The Board Talk Frisco Eddie's Revenge: The Return

A series by Balboa Ron Schweikert

(In last month's episode, Long Beach Lil lured Eddie to her room in Reno on the pretext of "talking things over." Her change from travel clothes to a string bikini set the stage for seduction. In the meantime, Shelli is headed for Lil's room...)

Eddie had taken a half of step forward in Lil's direction, and said: "Oh, Lil; I need you so badly..." The completion of his sentence was: "....I need you so badly -- to understand something that you don't know about my situation." He explained: "Shelli and I are going to get married right here in Reno as soon as the tournament is over. I've made a total commitment to her; I love her, and this time I'm going to be faithful to her."

Lil was shamed and humiliated, when she heard those words. She stood there with everything she had to offer out in the open. She had a tearful look of mixed anger, disappointment and sorrow -- but she didn't respond. Eddie read all that in her eyes, and said: "I tried several times to explain this to you downstairs -- but you wouldn't let me finish. I'm sorry, Lil -- I really am." With that, he walked to the door. He turned when he reached it, to look into her now tearful eves, and said: "I am sorry. I only try to remember the good things we had going for us when we were together...I hope we can still be friends." Lil still didn't respond. He slowly shut the door on his way out.

Meanwhile, after several stops, Shelli's elevator had finally reached the 10th floor. It seemed like all the people in there were getting off at that stop. She made a bee-line down the hallway to find room 1007, but she had run the wrong way. Eddie didn't see her among all the other guests as he left Lil's room. He heard the bell for the elevator though, so he ran the short distance, rounded the corner, and actually caught the same elevator that Shelli had been on....just as the door was starting to close!

Shelli had frantically passed several rooms before she realized that the numbers were getting larger, instead of smaller. She quickly did a 180-degree turn, and raced past the elevator stations (just as Eddie's was starting to move) and found room 1007 a couple of doors down!

She was panting slightly now and her heart was racing. She decided to settle down for a moment or two before knocking on the door. Many compromising and disheartening images were flashing through her mind then, in anticipation of what she might discover inside that room. After gaining her composure somewhat, she knocked on the door.

After a short hesitation, she heard Lil's voice calling out: "Just a minute, I'll be right there." In slightly over a minute, the door opened and the two women were looking at each other....face-to-face! Before Shelli could blurt out: "Is Eddie in there?", Lil (who was fully clothed now, and in a rather surprised voice) said: "Come on in, Shelli" and moved to the side to let her pass. The unexpected invitation backed Shelli up for a second, but then she quickly entered, and started canvassing the room -- expecting to find

She turned to face Lil again, and only then noticed that her eyes were red, as though she had been crying. She inquired: "I heard that Eddie was probably up here with you in this room; am I correct in that?" Lil looked at her with understanding and said: "Yes, Shelli -- ves. he was here for a few minutes." Shelli's face was reddening as she replied: "Well, that's pretty damn rosy now, isn't it?"

Lil looked her intently in the eyes then and stated: "Now, before you say anything more, I want you to understand something. You don't have to worry about Eddie -- or me, for that matter. Your man is totally in love with you...and further, he's more faithful to you than most any woman could expect." She took her temperature then with a commanding look and continued: "We're all going to be here for the next week, and what I just told you is the truth. So, as far as I'm concerned, this is a done deal for me...and if you have any sense, it will be for you, too."

The looks they were exchanging then revealed that indeed, they had reached an understanding. No response was required from Shelli at that point -- and she didn't offer one. Lil said: "I'd rather not try to socialize right now, Shelli, so I'll lead you to the door if you don't mind." As she was exiting the door, Lil remarked: "Hey, I'll see you on the tables -- right?" Shelli had a hint of a grin on her face as she turned toward her and said: "Yes, you will, Lil....yes, you sure will."

Shelli had regained her composure on the ride down to the tournament room. She felt as though she had won this round, and decided to be cool, realizing that when she found Eddie, he wouldn't have the vaguest notion about all that had been revealed to her. When she got off the elevator, she walked into the main room -- and there he stood. He was just glancing around, looking as though nothing had happened, and he was merely waiting for her to show

It was Shelli now who walked up softly behind Eddie and in a low voice said: "Hi, Lover, what ya' been up to?" Eddie quickened when he heard her voice. He turned to face her then. He was speechless for several moments as he looking into her beautiful (but inquiring) eyes. Ironically, Shelli used the same

phrase that Lil had spoken to Eddie several minutes before: "Hey -- does the cat got your tongue?"

Eddie tried to muster a "husky" smile then -- and gave his reply: "Well, hi, Sweetheart! (his voice was a little high-pitched and louder than he had intended.) I've just been waiting down here for you....just waiting is all."

Eddie was provided a distinct "moment of clarity" as he saw his mirrored image in those big, shiny eyes of Shelli's. With an inquisitve smile, she said: "Oh, Eddie, Eddie -- why is it that when I look into your eyes right now, I see that same look that we've seen in the eyes of that man on television...almost every day now for months?"

Eddie was beginning to see through her devilishness now and thought he'd take the upper hand and just come clean with the whole thing. He said: "Honey, I have something serious to tell you...and it's about Lil and me." Before he could get started, Shelli broke in and said: "Darling, you don't have to tell me anything. Whatever this thing is, I don't want to hear about it -- because I trust you completely.O.K.?"

That just blew Eddie away! (He gave a sigh of relief. For a fleeting second there, he envisioned her knowing something, but that was silly...how could she?!) With a bit of amazement, he said: "What a lady I have. Shelli, you really are a 'full woman' and I love you!" While he was saying that, Shelli was cracking up inside — because she had won the second round, too.

Now, she knew that the whole thing would come out eventually, but for just this one moment in time -- SHE truly was "The Champ!"

-- TO BE CONTINUED--

Balboa Ron wishes readers a HAPPY NEW YEAR and THANKS for your continued interest in Frisco Eddie!

**Missouri HOF** (continued from Page 15) screen players who may be eligible for induction to the Missouri Hall of Fame. If you know of someone you feel is qualified to be in the Hall of Fame, contact your local trustee.

(Editor's Note: Thank you, Jean Cockrum, for this report. Annual elections are a great idea; it certainly broadens the base of involvement. We strongly encourage other state Halls of Fame to share your experiences and activities with our readers. That information can be valuable to states that are struggling to get underway and provide ideas to others already established.)

## Lots of Winners at William's Brothers' Thanksgiving Classic!

There was a good turnout and great competition at the Williams Brothers' Thanksgiving Classic, held this year at the Elks Lodge #1984 in Garland, Texas.

In the pro singles, Bob Shaw went undefeated to take first place honors. Johnny Ballard was in second place, followed by Bill Melton in third and Ken Strong in fourth place.

In Division II, first place went to Jeff Womble and second to Don Roper.

Tuesday's handicapped open draw was won by Eddie Guy and Dave Ramold, with second place going to Bill Melton and Lilly Kidd. Jay Mehall and Mike Renick finished third.

Friday's draw was won by Bill Melton and Jeri Billard with Harvey Kidd and Diana Hagen taking second place. Finishing third were Fred Boyd and Lilly Kidd.

Saturday's draft team event created the most spirited competition. When the dust settled, the winners were Bobby Williams' team of Flynt Preston, Mike Renick, Tommy McBurnett, Jack Davis and Mick Riell. Second place honors were captured by Bill Melton's team of Jeri Billard, Tammy Denson, Lee Duncan, Jeff Womble and Judy Jarnigan.

"I would like to thank several people who made this tournament possible," said Bobby Williams. "Jeri Billard and Pam Lee for the huge amount of work they did with the registration, entries and sales; C.W., Wooley, Moss and Johnny Wayne with the board transfer, set-up and adjustments. Thanks also to Wooley's Shuffleboard for the donation of the dust. Thanks to Gay Kennedy and Evelyn Harris who provided cajun fried turkey and dressing; and to Jack Davis and Eddie Guy for holding the sales.

"Once again, we proved that shufflers have big hearts as we collected more than \$100 to donate to the Elk's Christmas Fund.

"We thank everyone for attending. We were especially glad to see Alan Primrose who set up so many great tournaments in Wynnewood, Mike Melton and Betty Brantley who have not been able to get out much, and naturally Bill Melton and Diana Hagen -- without those two, a tournament is not considered a success!" Bobby concluded.

The Elks Lodge #1984 is a member of The Board Talk's national shuffleboard network, and also a part of our Shuffleboard Directory.

May your 1999 be filled with wins
-- on and off the boards!
George & Donna