

Frisko Eddie's Revenge: The Return

A Series by Balboa Ron Schweikert

(Editor's Note: The final game of the Pro Singles between Long Beach Lil and Frisko Eddie was underway. The score was 14-12 in Lil's favor, with Eddie's hammer left to be shot. Just as he was about to throw his shot, Lil casually mentioned: "....by the way, do you have any names picked out for the baby that Shelli has on the way?")

Eddie was totally taken by surprise after Lil passed him the supposedly secret fact that Shelli was pregnant! Eddie and Shelli had planned to get married as soon as their part of the tournament was over. Shelli's intentions were to let Eddie know that chances were pretty good that she was pregnant, prior to the wedding. That way, if it really bothered Eddie, they could call off the whole thing, or do whatever Eddie chose to do. This was all planned to be private, until Lil spilled the beans after getting the information from Shelli -- and used it at a crucial time to put the odds in her favor.

The score of the final game was 14 to 12 in Lil's favor. Lil's last weight was a 1, almost touching the 2 line, and in the center of the board. Eddie's options were pretty slim now. His most likely shot would be to lag the three and win the whole thing; or he could try some other slim options, none of which offered much in the way of resolving this thing.

Prior to making his shot, Eddie took a glance down to the other end of the table where Shelli was standing. The quick look they exchanged, coupled with the fact that Shelli covered her face in her hands, told Eddie that she knew what had happened, and the spot she had put Eddie (and herself) in!

Eddie would have liked to go down to the other end of the table and iron things out with Shelli, but there were rules, and something like this would take too long. No, he would have to shoot, and pretty quickly at that!

There were a ton of thoughts whirling through Eddie's mind right now! He was trying to sort everything out -- but that led only to more confusion and uncertainty. Then, as he was getting set up for his final shot, he finally got a "moment of clarity." Everything else could wait -- the shot he was about to make could not! He was somehow able to clear his mind of everything and concentrate 100% on the right cross lag he had chosen to make.

Just as he was about to make his release, he glanced over at Lil and said: "This is gonna hurt, but

ya' know -- it should." With that, he let go with the right-cross lag.

Everyone in the area held their breath as the weight sailed down the board. There was a terrific hook toward the center on the right cross from that end and, as a result, Eddie's weight barely clipped Lil's deep 1, sending it into a very short duece! Lil actually shouted out: "I've got him!" Eddie's weight continued on, and on -- into the g....

--TO BE CONTINUED--

We think Balboa Ron likes to make us suffer from one month to the next! Did Eddie's weight go into the gutter or did he score the 3 he needed to win? Check it out next month. He doesn't give the Board Talk publishers any clues, either!

**Happy New Year to All
From Balboa Ron!**

Notebook (continued from Page 2)

If there was a change in the rules in the middle of the tournament, we can't recall what it was (perhaps Rob, who is much younger and has a better memory, will enlighten us). There are occasions when we have to make alterations in the format because of the number of entries and the time available, but that is acceptable to most participants. Regarding the boards, they were sprayed every morning prior to play. It's not important to spray boards if they don't require it.

Regarding the use of weights, I am among the 5% who think the opponent should have the option of using your personal weights. Why? Because it removes a lot of doubt about some advantage you may think you have. Why would you object? They're your weights and you are more familiar with them than the opponent. (More next month. Donna is ragging on me about meeting deadlines!)

We're sure your comments about Jerry Sabourin will be appreciated by him. We wouldn't rule him out entirely. Note that his Shooter's is still on the "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." listing. We miss him because he was diligent in supporting The Board Talk through paid advertising of his events. That's vitally important to us -- and to those establishments who use "free" space to promote their tournaments.