

Frisco Eddie's Revenge: The Return

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

(Editor's Note: In the November, December 1993 and January 1994 issues, we reprinted Balboa Ron's short stories about a shuffler named Frisco Eddie, originally published in The Board Talk back in 1985. In February, we were pleased to continue that series with "The Return." Last month, Eddie had just met Long Beach Lil, who had challenged him to a game.....)

Eddie had lost the toss (his mind was so messed up he called "tails" instead of "heads"), and he tested-out his lag on the first shot with a left cross. It was a deep duece. Lil kind-of smiled, and then stuck it with a perfect left-hand "jersey" shot. She knew that if she followed her opponents' shots, shooting the same shot they did, and "sticking" for a few frames, they'd soon get the notion that she could do everything THEY could -- and more. This proved to be the case here, and as Eddie looked into those steel-blue eyes, they were telling him somethingsomething he wasn't really sure he wanted to know.

After a few frames, Eddie saw Lil shoot everything in the book -- the jersey, the "expanded-thumb," and the freehand, to name a few. She was cold and calculating as she worked the board. She was silent then, letting her weights do the talking. Her concentration put Eddie on edge a little, and he even blew a couple of weights. Lil kind-of smirked at him then. It was as though she had called his shots for him.

The crowd had gathered now to watch the action. This put Eddie even a little more on edge because he was down. Lil kept the pressure on and the score was now 14 to 12 -- her favor, and Eddie's hammer. On her last shot, she placed her weight almost mid-board and centered. This essentially blocked Eddie's left and right cross lags. Eddie's mind was racing a mile-a-minute now. He was thinking, "Oh, man! This is a WOMAN I'm playing here; this is a nightmare!"

Eddie sprinkled some wax on the board as he planned his strategy. When he decided on his final shot, he took his No. 4 weight in his right hand, bent down to size up the board one more time -- and let it go! As the weight floated down the board, Eddie thought, "I've got to make this shot," and again reflected:

"Geez....It's only a woman."

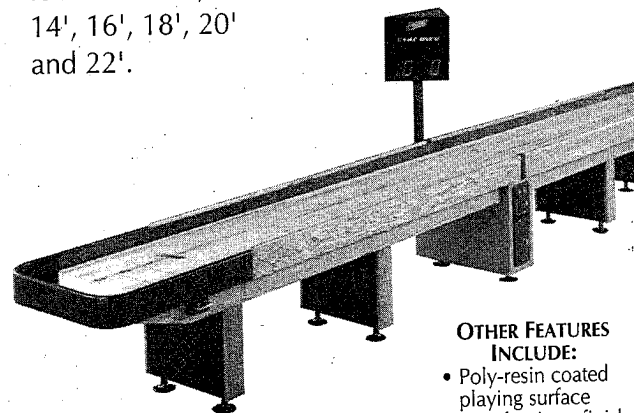
Will Eddie's shot make it? Or will Lil prove that his "It's only a woman" attitude was remiss? Watch next month's issue to find out what happens in this continuing saga.



"Frisco Eddie" author Ron Schweikert of Las Vegas enjoys some sideline laughs with photographer Madge Goff at the P.C.S.A. Extravaganza VI.

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