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The Board Talk Frisco Eddie's Revenge: The Return

A series by Balboa Ron Schweikert

(In last month's episode, Eddie's patient sweetheart, Shelli, had picked him up from the airport after his long road trip with Long Beach Lil and they had stopped at the Blue Moon.....)

Eddie really wanted to take Shelli to the apartment so they could start to pick up where they had left off before he went on the road trip with Lil. To his bewilderment, Shelli suddenly made a request before they left. She asked him to put two quarters in the shuffleboard...."for her." All he wanted to do right then. was to take her (and her voluptuous body) right on out of the Blue Moon! He really didn't feel like wasting valuable time trying to teach her how to play shuffleboard -- if that was her little plan.

She looked at him with that little smile then, and he weakened and put in the quarters. He said: "Well, what happens now, cup-cake?" Shelli produced a coin of her own then and told him to call it, then flipped it in the air. Eddie didn't make a call. He started laughing and said: "You don't have to do that, honey. The least I can do is give you the hammer!" She gave him a serious look then and said: "I'm gonna flip one more time -- and you better make a call, hot-shot." He was still laughing as he called "heads." It came up tails. Shelli had a twinkle in her eye as she said: "I believe that makes it my hammer, lover man -- take your best shot!"

Eddie figured he would take it easy on her and make it close, so she'd be in an even better mood when they got to the apartment. Images of their lovemaking were burning in his mind as he casually shot a free-hand. It was a deep one and in the center of the board. To Eddie's surprise, Shelli made a perfect right-hand "Jersey" release -- and stuck his weight head-on! He commented: "Hey, that looked pretty good, love. How'd you pick that up?" She replied: "I've got a few secrets. And during the time that you were gone, I'm sure you do too, my man."

After that last comment, he figured he'd give her a little test to find out just how real this all was. He shot another freehand, which caught the drift and ended up a deep three, and covered real good by her back weight. He gave her a smile as she picked up her weight and sized things up. Without much hesitation. she set up a left-hand thumb release. She caught the drift perfectly and stuck Eddie's front weight! He commented: "O.K., Lucky," as he made his own left hand thumb shot. He underestimated the drift and his weight caught her back weight -- and both weights careened right off the board!

It was Shelli who was smiling now as she put a perfect cover on her three. Eddie was feeling a little frustration now, and he decided to just clear her off

the board with a combo shot. He fired at the back weight but, to his surprise, he caught it off-center and both of them went sailing into the gutter! Shelli had her hammer shot left now, with a three on the board. As she released her right-hand cross lag, she whispered to Eddie: "Read 'em and weep, sweetheart." The right-cross from that end of the table drifted way in toward the center and, as a result, her lag nudged the three she had up very gently -- into a four!

Eddie was really flabbergasted now. Seven points in the first frame! He loudly said: "Man, how lucky can you get?" Shelli replied: "There was luck there, honey, but I can tell you that I was trying for that shot." Shelli's newly-developed skills continued to amaze Eddie as the game progressed, and she actually ended up winning the thing, 15 to 12! The crowd that had been following the game let out a big cheer for Shelli. Eddie REALLY wanted to get out of the place now, so they quickly said their goodbyes and made it out the door.

On the drive to the apartment, Shelli explained the phenomenon. It turned out that while Eddie was on the road all that time, Shelli had been tutored by Eddie's young replacement bartender and shuffleboard protege, Jack. He taught her all he knew (mostly what he had learned from Eddie) and they had played partners together. She had practiced and practiced until she and Jack could take anyone in the city -- except Eddie, of course.

Shelli went on to explain that she had initially wanted to do it solely for Eddie -- to help draw them closer together; but as her skills improved, she got attached to the game for herself as well! She was driving, and Eddie leaned over and gave her a big kiss, then another, and his hands started to roam as well, until Shelli made him stop because the car was aoing out of control!

When they got to the apartment, they left everything in the car and almost ran up the stairs. There were few words spoken then, except for "How I missed you's and how I need you's" as they undressed one another. The time was special then -better than ever before, it seemed. Their lovemaking corssed all thresholds; and finally, after they both laid there totally exhausted, Eddie gently whispered two things into Shelli's ear: "Darling, I think we both know that our love will last for always now, so I want to ask this question. I know I'M ready -- would you be willing to be?"

-- CONTINUED NEXT MONTH --This was Episode No. 50! Write: Ron Schweikert. 1140 Coral Desert Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89123.