

Frisko Eddie's Revenge: The Return

A series by Balboa Ron Schweikert

(In the last episode, Shelli made the bold suggestion to Eddie that they play in one of the upcoming tournaments promoted in The Board Squawk.)

With a copy of the Board Squawk magazine in hand, Shelli had surprised Eddie by stating that she wanted them to check out some of the tournaments coming up in the Northern California area. She said she thought she was "ready to take on just about ANYone now!" Eddie had countered with: "Now, you watch my lips very carefully -- because I'm only going to say this once. The answer is definitely....." He paused then, as he looked into her eager eyes, then continued: "definitely YES! I've been wondering why you've waited this long to come up with a plan like this!"

Shelli broke out into a big smile then and began kissing and squeezing Eddie so hard, he had to say, "Hold on, Lover, I can't breath!" She proceeded to point out some of the places that were going to have tournaments soon in the Board Squawk. Eddie looked things over and then said: "Well, Hon, it looks like a good bet might be a tournament coming up in Santa Clara. It's at a place called Sparky's Sports Pub. I was there once some time ago, when I was learning how to shoot. I lost pretty bad then. It would be nice to go back there and 'clean house.'"

They sat down and had a cup of coffee. Eddie went on to say: "There was an interesting story I heard while I was there. It seems that some years back, the couple that owned the place then were involved in a weird sort of challenge. The husband's eyesight was very bad. He was considered legally blind. He knew his board so well, though, that he could still shoot a hell of a game. They said that one weekend a hustler from Texas showed up to stir up some action."

He continued: "Now, this guy's 'handle' was 'San Antonio Sam,' and he proceeded to beat up on everyone in the place. The man who owned the place (Billy Blinkman) got up and shot a few weights after the rest of them had enough. He purposely didn't look too hot while he practiced. The Texas man came up then and said he knew about Billy's situation -- and he'd make him a deal, if he cared to play. He offered to play for any amount....and he would wear a blindfold!

"Billy sort of hesitated a little then, but he was urged on by his customers, and all the other players whose money was stashed in San Antonio Sam's pocket. He kind of reluctantly agreed to play then -- best out of three for \$50. The Texas man commented that the deal was pretty much 'slim-pickins' -- but about that time, several of the players who had lost offered him all the side action he wanted."

Eddie went on: "Well, the Texas man took on all the side bets he could handle -- all of his winnings, plus most of his own stash. They blindfolded the Texas man then, real tight -- so tight that he couldn't see the grin on Billy's face as they started the first game. To make a long story short -- San Antonio Sam got beat two games straight! They say someone heard the Texas man complaining that he had gotten 'hustled' as he went out the door, but no one else heard him because they were too busy laughing and hooting as they picked up their winnings. Now, I don't know if the story is right or wrong -- but that's the way they tell it at the place we're going to."

Three weeks passed. They had practiced hard and Shelli's game really looked good. It was time. After breakfast on a Friday morning, they fired up the car and were on their way....to Santa Clara!

--TO BE CONTINUED --

How will Shelli fare in her debut? Don't miss the next episode to find out. We urge you to let Balboa Ron know how you like his series: Ron Schweikert, 1140 Coral Desert Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89123.

Important Notices

Judith Iseman of Maryland has made a lot of friends throughout the U.S.A. and those friends agonized with her when her Dad was brutally assaulted four years ago and lived in a coma until May 21, 1998, when he passed away. If you'd like to let Judy know that your thoughts are with her, write: Judith Iseman, 115 Malone Ave., Chestertown, MD 21620.

PLEASE don't disregard the second, third, fourth, etc. publications of tournament flyers. Even though they may look the same, the content may well have changed. For example, in the NASC flyer last month, there were a couple of typos: the ladies' singles eligibility for the contest was 2.50 to 5.00. It now reads 1.5 to 5.00. Also, the Internet number for the Bowers Rating System had an extra .com (scratch that). The Texas Open/Board Talk Reunion Tournament flyer had the wrong dates and entry information. Check the new ones enclosed. There has also been some changes in the Rudy Stober Memorial Tournament, details in the Upcoming Events column.

We don't call those boo-boo's; we call them "refinements of information" due to player feedback! Those tournament directors are listening to you...