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The Board Talk

September 1998

Frisco Eddie's Revenge: The Return

A series by Balboa Ron Schweikert

(In last month's episode, Shelli had convinced Eddie that she was ready to meet the competition in a BIG tournament and they headed for Santa Clara....)

Eddie and Shelli had just departed San Francisco and were on their way to Santa Clara for Shelli's debut as a tournament player. The weather was beautiful as they made their way southeast on the freeway. Eddie had taught her well, and she was really into the basic strategy of the game now. The only thing Eddie was concerned about a little was her eagerness, and her desire to move a little too quickly against the good competition they would be facing.

They arrived in Santa Clara around one in the afternoon. They had made reservations at a place nearby where they would be playing, which was Sparky's Sports Pub. They had grabbed a bite to eat before getting to the motel, so after they freshened up a little, they left for the bar.

Shelli was really getting excited as they drove up in front of the place. She was "rarin'" to go! Eddie had to remind her to act kind of casual when they entered, to afford him a chance to size the place up a little before they started their action.

Upon entering, they found a rather large room. The straight bar was located on the wall to their left. There were several tables extending from the bar, and then four good-looking shuffleboard tables lined up. There was also a stage located at the far right side. It was a very well-kept looking place, and was already filled with a crowd of patrons and players. Eddie's notion of being "casual" was almost immediately squelched. A whole gang of players came up to offer greetings to Eddie. Obviously, he wouldn't be a stranger to almost anyone after his showing in Reno! When asked, Eddie introduced Shelli as his fiance, but made no reference to her shuffleboard abilities.

There was a lot of "hoopla" and reminiscing about Eddie's second place finish in the Pro Singles at Reno. There were also some inquiries about: "Where's your partner, Long Beach Lil?" and "How come Lil's not with you?" etc. Eddie replied very discretely (for both Shelli AND Lil's sake) that the partnership had broken up and they wouldn't be playing together any more. It was a pretty tense few moments. Shelli was watching his eyes and carefully measuring each word he said.

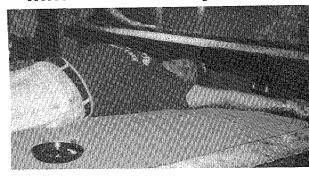
While all this was going on, there was something else also underway in the southern part of the state. Similarly, very early that same morning, a car had departed to head in the direction of Santa Clara. The car's destination was also to a shuffleboard tournament in the North. The driver of the car happened to be the top-rated woman player in the

world, and the car had departed from.....Long Beach. California.

-- TO BE CONTINUED--

Oh, oh! Will Shelli and Long Beach Lil lock horns ove Eddie -- or possibly on the boards? Shelli is "cool" now, but will she be able to keep her composure whe she meets the woman who stole her lover, at least fo a little while? And how will Eddie react? Don't miss th next exciting episode! PLEASE, if you're enjoying Balboa Ron's series, let him know: Ron Schweikert, 1140 Coral Desert Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89123.

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