

## Lots of Winners at Blinky's Memorial Week Tournament

By Rick Thomas

Once again, this year's Memorial Week Tournament at Blinky's Sports Cafe, Santa Clara, California, although not as big as the ever-popular Presidents' Day tourney, was quite good, filled with excitement and great shuffleboard. Action started on Sunday, May 21, with the sweetheart doubles.



First place winners were Jane and Dan Mourgos (right), with Bev and Nick Chaffin (left) taking second place honors.



California Hall of Famer Donny Cox and wife Donna took third place.

The amateur doubles started on Monday evening and gave the crowd some exciting shuffleboard to watch.



Winners of the amateur doubles were J.R. Danger and Bob Crum from Modesto, California.

Taking second place honors was the team of Chris Wayt and Sandy McQuilan.

Coming in third were Jim Olson and Kathy Thomas. (Jim said they held each other up all night!)



On Tuesday evening, the amateur singles started. This event was literally a shoot-out, extremely competitive and demanding. When all was said and done, coming out on top were:



Chris Wayt took first place, with Jolene Lembke in second. Jim Olson (pictured above) finished third.

The ever-popular ABC event got underway on Wednesday evening and concluded on Thursday. Another shoot-out!



First place in the ABC went to Paul Parks, Lloyd Shasker and Steve Heidenrich.

(continued on Page 16)

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## Blinky's Memorial *(cont. from Page 3)*



Second in the ABC was the team of Eddie Brayman, Pete Craven and Teresa Manfredi.



Coming in third were Chris Wayt, Kathy Thomas and Rich Porter.

The open/pro doubles began Saturday morning with some top-notch players producing great play that had some spectators speechless.



Coming out on top was the team of Nick Chaffin and Karl Spickelmier. Nick also won the open/pro singles.

Taking second place honors were Don Cox and Joe Hudson, with Darrol Nelson of Oregon and Nelson Jennings in third place. This was a super event!

On Sunday morning, May 25, the open/pro singles started and concluded on Monday. This was a real barn-burner! The first place winner was Nick Chaffin, with Darrol Nelson taking second place honors, and local Dan Mourgos in third.

A couple of spectators asked me on Saturday who Nick Chaffin was. I said he was a top-notch pro player from Roseville, California, and suggested they watch him play. They did -- in the finals against one of the best players in the country. Nick was calm, cool and collected, made great shots and really deserved to win this event.

Total prize money for the week was \$17,790.

### Don Cox Inducted into Hall of Fame

The "main event" of this week-long tournament was on Saturday afternoon with the induction of Don Cox into the California Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. Many tributes were given by his friends and fans and his plaque was presented by Rick Thomas, vice president of the California SHF.

*Don Cox, thank you for your dedication to this great sport. Your tenacity is well-documented. Your never-give-up attitude is a tribute to many of your wins on the circuit.*

*Thanks, friend, for your help and for being a part of all our lives.*

*"Remember the Phantom!"*



All of Don's "girls" were on hand for his induction.

Thanks to the new owners of Blinky's Sports Cafe for the great BBQ dinner they provided after the induction ceremonies. Thanks also to all the local and out-of-town players who continue to support this tournament. Special thanks to Donna Cox for her help all week long. Also thanks to others who helped -- Nick Chaffin, Pete Craven, Nelson Jennings, Dan and Jane Mourgos and all the girls. And thanks to Lorraine Bingham for bringing a computer, making all our lives easier, especially Kathy's.