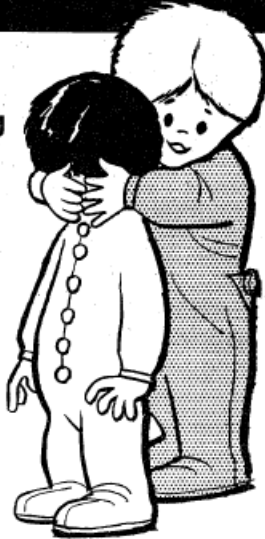


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Stagger Inn's Successful First Paves Way for Second Annual Thanksgiving Weekend Tournament

Recipe for a successful tournament: four boards, good sportsmen, champion players and avid fans. Mix with good management in the Stagger Inn. Set temperature at 70 degrees for three days and nights. The result is a perfect tournament.

This Thanksgiving weekend event, co-sponsored by A & M Amusement and the Stagger Inn, put Bellflower, Calif., on the shuffleboard map. Players came from Delaware, Florida, Michigan, Missouri, Arizona, Oregon and California to provide some of the best competition the sport has seen in recent years. In the 2 of 3 double elimination format, very few of the matches were decided in two games (two in the doubles, three in the singles).

Only one woman was among the high powered entries. She was Chris Monahan from Huntington Beach, Calif. She is not only an attractive lady, but her opponents were well aware of her playing ability.

Ray and Chris Hogan, owners of the Stagger Inn, have never been open on Thanksgiving, but went all out to provide the best in food and facilities. This included turkey dinner and all the trimmings on Thursday. It was also their first shuffleboard tournament, but not the last. It will be repeated next year at the same time and even better with added money for 4th, 5th and 6th place winners.

Al Stewart, who provided the two extra boards for the tournament, spent two weeks assuring that the boards were perfect. The only complaint came from one of the Arizona players who said the boards were "too straight."

Winners of the doubles event were Bill Maxwell and Billy Chiles. Second place went to Darrol Nelson and Doug Buhl. Finishing third were Jay Wilson and Lamont Mathuews.

Billy Chiles repeated to take first in the singles. Doug Buhl came through the losers' bracket to take second and Leroy Ledford finished third.

A special thanks to those who traveled so far to make this tournament a success: Don Casula, John Lukas, Jim Kumpula, Neil Fetter and Phil Skover.

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