

Tourney Talk *(continued from Page 5)*

competition and great fellowship are guaranteed.

Entry fee is \$40 per team and the sale starts at 10 a.m. sharp. The American Legion has five in-house boards.

For further information, contact Fritz Broka at 219-835-2278. Suggested lodging: Plymouth Motel 6, 219-935-5911; Super 8 Motel Plymouth, 1-800-800-8000; Motel 6 Warsaw, 219-267-3900; or Dollar Inn Warsaw, 219-267-3344.

Massies Win at Red Dog

Thirteen teams put in \$50 each and played for a total purse of \$2410 at the Red Dog Saloon in Muncie, Indiana, on Dec. 4. Coming out on top was the team of Greg and Tom Massie from Summitville. Second went to Larry Creakbaum of Indianapolis and Jerry Knox of Mishawaka. Deb and Bob Voorhis of Fairmount took third place, with the father and son team of Bob and Bobby Brown of Portland rounding out the top four.

Indiana Championships Break Records

It was constant action during the five-event Indiana State Shuffleboard Championships, held this year at Chances R in Muncie over the Thanksgiving week-end.

Friday night's doubles saw 21 teams shoot it out on four boards for a pot of nearly \$5,000. Winners were Blaine Yaegy of Summitville and Phil Crowder, with Greg and Tom Massie, also of Summitville, taking second place honors. Steve Hart of Fortville and John Humes finished third, with Don Creswell and Steve Schuyler in fourth and final money spot.

Fourteen teams participated in the mixed doubles shoot-it-out. Winners were Bob and Deb Voorhis of Fairmount, with Bob and Marcia Brown in second place. Glen Ingram and Jeri Dickson finished in third, with Larry Vance and Mary Youngblood in fourth place. Total purse for this event with \$1730.



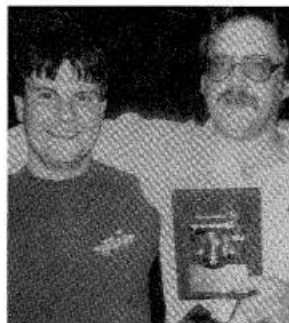
Bob and Deb Voorhis teamed up to take first place in the Indiana State Championship Mixed Doubles event.

Eleven women shufflers vied for a pot of over \$1,000 in the women's singles. Jonna Reese of Muncie took top honors, with Carol Westerman of North Webster in second, Deb Voorhis in third, and Fritz Broka of Bourbon in fourth place.

Jonna Reese of Muncie proudly collects her first place trophy in the Indiana State Championship women's singles.



Thirty-two Hoosiers shot it out in the open singles for a purse of nearly \$4000. And the winner was Bob Voorhis, with Paul Elliot of Warsaw taking second place honors. Larry Creakbaum of Indianapolis finished third, with Bryan Valentine of Ingals in fourth place.



Bob Voorhis of Fairmount took top honors in the Indiana Championship singles with Paul Elliot (left) finishing second.



Steve and Cherri Hart after 72 hours at Chances "R"

Total purse for the four events was \$11,675. "We broke all records in purse and players at the 1993 Championships," said tournament director Steve Hart. "Our hosts, Bob and Karen, were great hosts and the facilities and food were also great. Thanks to all the people who helped make the tournament run: Bob Brown for boards, Jim DeWitt, Fritz Broka for the bracket

boards, and especially Sheryl Cockrell and my wife, Cherri Hart, for doing the books, sign-up and announcing the games."

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Notebook (continued from Page 2)

Another Response for A.Z.

It is always interesting to read a letter from A.Z. Turnbo. We salute him for taking the time to express his views through *The Board Talk*. It is too bad that more people do not follow his example. Exchanging opinions and ideas will help our sport to evolve and grow.

In this particular case, there are some points we agree with A.Z. on, and others which we feel he is wrong about. Certainly we agree that shuffleboard is the greatest game in the world. If we did not feel that way, we would not have invested the time and money that we have promoting the game since incorporating in 1987.

We also strongly agree that there are far too many bad boards. The game is no fun for players or spectators when the rails fall off or the ends run and it is essential that a game be able to be completed in a reasonable amount of time. Consistency in terms of speed is an essential part of that equation. The only way to achieve that is regular cleaning and polishing, the proper use of a good quality silicone spray, and good wax. Currently, only a small percentage of boards receive that type of care.

The reason is simple economics. If the bar owners

and vending companies do not make a reasonable profit from their shuffleboard tables, they are not going to maintain them, and then those shuffleboards will be out on the street, replaced by dart machines and pool tables.

A.Z. is right: the players are the game; they should dictate the rules and format; they do furnish the bulk of the money. In a capitalistic society, money talks. Here's some figures that may be of interest -- the total 1992 revenues of some of the popular tavern games. This information comes from an annual survey of the vending industry done by *Vending Times* magazine:

Shuffleboards	\$ 17,992,000
Soccer Tables	\$ 30,420,000
Electronic Darts	\$ 583,440,000
Pool Tables	\$ 888,160,000
Pinball Machines	\$2,262,000,000
Video Games	\$2,722,720,000

As you can see, shuffleboard is bringing up the rear. In many places, the cost per game has gone up to a dollar. Unfortunately, even on a good board where the games go fast, the price would have to be \$2.00 to \$3.00 per game to compete with these other games. The bottom line is that shuffleboard players need to stick together and be a little more open-minded. We shouldn't be competing with each other; we have enough competition from other people.

A.Z. feels that the best way to play is 15 points, two out of three, double elimination. There are many people who agree with that. But those people should be aware that the East Coast and Midwest are home to many players who have played single game, double elimination their whole lives. A.Z. mentions the very exciting finals of the A-B draw at the 1993 P.C.S.A. Extravaganza. It should be mentioned that the format for that event was single game, double elimination.

Most people are not aware that in the late '40s, when shuffleboard was at its peak in popularity, frames -- not points -- was the format, with eight frames for singles and 10 frames for doubles being the most common. When shuffleboard made the switch from frames to points (21 points was the most common), the length of time for an average game tripled, but the cost per game stayed the same. This opened the door for pool, which soon passed shuffleboard in popularity and hasn't looked back since.

This does not mean we think everybody should go back to playing frames. We support all forms of the game. At The North American Championships, we provide an opportunity to play in a variety of events. One of the things we hear most often from participants is that if they are going to spend the money to travel to a shuffleboard tournament, they want to play in as many events as possible. We have singles and doubles events that are single game, double elimination and two out of three, double elimination, several draw partner events, the N.A.S.L.

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CLASSIFIED ADS

THANKS to all our subscribers who sent us Christmas greetings with their renewals. We appreciated your messages! George & Donna

HAPPY NEW YEAR to our friends at the AN & AF Club in Vancouver, B.C. Canada. Thanks for the Christmas greeting and "bee" pins. We will wear them proudly at the PCSA Tournament in February. George & Donna Wilber

WANTED: Do you have a special message to deliver, a product or service to sell? If so, it only costs \$5 for 25 words or less in *The Board Talk's* classified section. Get it started!

THE BOARD TALK

421 E. Sheridan Rd., Lansing, MI 48906
Phone: 517-371-2538