

The Board Talk

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March 1995

EXTRAVAGANZA VII REFLECTS WORLD OF SHUFFLEBOARD "PROFILE" IN 1995

Shuffleboard players today come in all shapes and sizes, sex and ages, with skills ranging from amateur to professional. They represent a variety of professions -- doctors, lawyers, merchants, chiefs -- and a few who would list "shuffleboard" as their main occupation. With all their varied backgrounds, interests, personalities, and priorities in life, they come together with a common goal: to win!--and to enjoy themselves as they strive for that goal.

There were a lot of new faces in the crowd at this year's P.C.S.A. Shuffleboard Extravaganza VII, Jan. 31-Feb. 5, at the Aladdin Hotel/Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada, and along with those who had been at the previous six, their common goal (whether they were male or female, near 80 or 20) was a share of the \$84,400 pot.

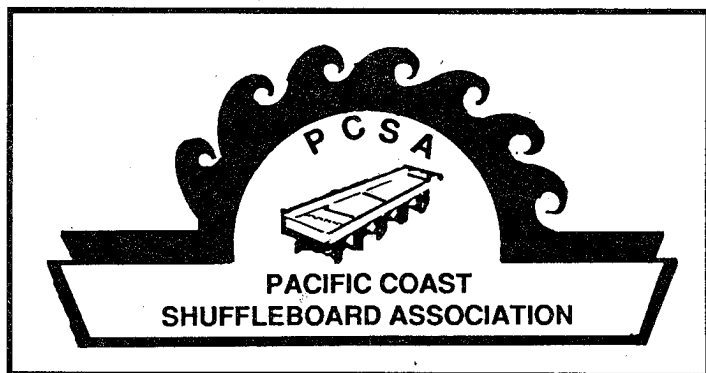
Draw, with more on the waiting list. There were more B's than A's, so some "borderline" players were ranked as A's, but were given the opportunity to drop out if they wished. None did and the marathan was on....

There was no doubt about Bill Melton's A ranking and he and his partner, Dave Brennan, took the biggest share of the pot. Diana Hagen and Earl Cole finished second, with Bobby Voorhis and Jim Russell in third, and Larry Vance and Jim Erdley in fourth.

Other winners were: Mike Melton and K. Lloyd, 5th; Bud Hillburn and Betty Brantley, 6th; Dale Koteras and J. Steffenson, 7th; and Louise Freer and Ron Blaylock, 8th.

There was a full 32 entries in the pro singles and it looked, for awhile at least, that Michigan's John McDermott would be a sure winner. He had come through undefeated to meet Darrol Nelson of Oregon in the finals and took the first

(continued on Page 20)



There was a field of 32 teams (the limit) in the amateur doubles and coming out on top were Al Salazar of Arizona and Dan Hitt of Washington. Louise Freer of Pennsylvania and Doug Fridley Jr. of New York took second place honors. Paul Elliott and Brian Collins of Indiana finished third, with George Ostrum and Morey Balins of Colorado in fourth place.

Other winners were: Gordie Smith and Marv Wilbur, 5th; Russ Miller and Jerry Ledent, 6th; Frank Corey and Frank Corey Jr. (Sante Fe Club, Texas), 7th; and John Cowan and Ray Miller, 8th.

An unprecedented 128 players participated in the A-B

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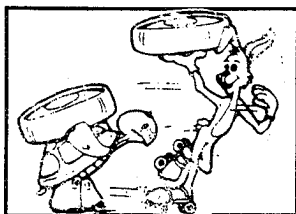
Along with the action on the 11 boards at the PCSA Extravaganza, there was also some interaction on the sidelines.....Page 6

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Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views
from The World
of Shuffleboard

Woodie Says: "People Read What They Know About"

In reference to the Dan Kelly article in the January issue, it's true that we have lost subscribers in Missouri. Back in January 1984, when you went to Las Vegas and more or less introduced *The Board Talk* to the world, I knew I had to have it and I have not missed an issue since.

However, I know most of the big name players in Southern California dating back to the late '40s and '50s and have been to some of the big matches in the U.S. When I pick up *The Board Talk*, I see "news." That's because I know a little about the Meltons, Nelson, and Bobby V., just to name a few. Missouri has never had a Texas Billy, Arizona Bill or a Raggedy Don. Everybody knows Balboa Ron, but Frisco Eddie has never made the scene in Missouri. Paul Casula is Missouri's biggest name (by the way, what happened to him?).

People read what they know something about. Missouri runs a lot of interbar leagues. If we could give the standings and winners, Missouri would pick up on subscribers. I'm sure other states would do the same.

My guess is that less than 10 percent ever make the big time. Let's write something about the other 90 percent.

Woodie Cockrum, Cuba, Missouri

You're absolutely correct, Woodie, and this has been a problem we've wrestled with since 1984. There are two reasons we cannot publish league standings: (1) there are thousands and thousands of leagues in the U.S. and we'd have to publish a newsletter the size of a metropolitan phone book to accommodate them all, which would be economic suicide; (2) it takes up to three weeks for each issue to be delivered, plus preparation time, so by the time subscribers received the league standings, they would be outdated.

— ATTENTION —

If you have a red check below, it means your subscription has expired. To receive the next issue, you must renew by the 15th of this month.

_____ Red Check

(Use the enclosed form to renew.)

Much as we would like to serve the league players, because they are the backbone of the sport, it's virtually impossible for us to do so. We are a tournament publication and a "voice" for those involved in shuffleboard. No event is too small to be included and we would hope that most league players participate in local tournaments even though they don't travel and play in the "biggies." As you'll recall, it was a small tourney in Washington and a local tourney in Pennsylvania that made the front page of the January and February issues.

We don't know what happened to Paul and we miss him! We'll likely run into his brothers at our Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion in Maryland in June and will inquire about him.

A Word of Thanks from Earl Kelley's Family

Earl Kelley played shuffleboard from 1955 to 1995. During those years, he traveled from tournament to tournament; he had a great time and made many friends along the way.

We would like to thank each and every person who contributed to his funeral expenses and sent flowers. Our family is very grateful for every one of you.

Earl would be very proud of the way his friends pulled together for him. We thank all of you for being his friends, but we would especially like to thank Billy Mays and Evelyn Harris for everything they have done for us and for Earl.

Thanks also to *The Board Talk* for the wonderful article that was in the February issue.

The Kelley Family

The World of Shuffleboard has not yet completed its outpouring of caring and sharing to honor your father. You'll see a report in this issue about a benefit tournament to raise funds to erect a shuffleboard tombstone for Earl, and at the P.C.S.A. Shuffleboard Extravaganza in Las Vegas, shufflers made contributions to his memorial. While the shuffleboard community has the network to respond to immediate needs (see Page 15 for report of the Fred Johns benefit), we were glad we had taken 100 extra copies of the February issue to Vegas. There were those who had not yet heard the sad news and even those who knew were glad they had this tribute to your father as a keepsake.

National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame Organized

The first annual meeting of The National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame, a non-profit association, came to order on Feb. 3, 1995, during the annual PCSA tournament in Las Vegas, Nevada. Its purpose is to serve the shuffleboard community with dignity, honor, and prestige in its quest to seek out and recognize "excellence" for all deserving participants in the world of shuffleboard.

The board's agenda for the first year of The National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame is to make the necessary preparations in order to accept nominations for inductees in the near future. In order to accomplish this, we are seeking the support of the shuffleboard community.

●Any person committed to furthering the sport of shuffleboard should contact us for the purpose of recognition of the deserving individuals by induction in The National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. **Participation on local, regional, and national levels will be needed!**

●Ideas and suggestions from all shuffleboard players regarding The National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame formation and execution are also needed. Success of The National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame depends on the grass-roots support of all shuffleboard players.

●Of course, as a non-profit association, The National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame will require the financial support of the community it seeks to serve. **Donations, as well as fund-raising ideas/offers will be gratefully accepted.**

Participation, donations, and feedback from the shuffleboard community The National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame seeks to serve are essential to assure the success of this venture. Please address all correspondence to:

The National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame
c/o Louise C. Freer, Secretary
189 Barry Avenue
Lansdale, PA 19446-6616

Checks are to be made out to The National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame.

As members of the board of directors, we feel privileged and honored to assume the task of seeking out and recognizing the great players and contributors to the game who deserve induction in The National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. We promise to serve the shuffleboard community as a non-profit association to the best of our abilities to fulfill the purpose stated above.

Glen Davidson (Oklahoma), President and Chairman of the Board

Hal Perry (California), Vice President

Bob Hunt (California), Chief Financial Officer

Louise C. Freer (Pennsylvania), Secretary

Larry Creakbaum (Indiana), Director

Jim Foran (Washington), Director

We encourage The World of Shuffleboard to support your efforts and to respond to your request for donations, participation and ideas. We are sending you a check for donations from: Bill and Bonnie English (Colorado), Bernie Martin (New Jersey), Judy and Ed Gartland (Pennsylvania), Al Ryan (New York), which were contributed specifically for recognition of Bob Miles and Mickey Mickens and which we have been holding until such time as a National Shuffleboard of Fame was formed according to laws governing non-profit associations, along with a donation from your editors. We hope these first contributors will follow through with their nominations. Keep us posted....

A Word from the Chairman

I consider it a privilege and an honor to sit as chairman of The National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame Board of Directors for its first year. We will seek to find the players who deserve Hall of Fame status and will do our best to see that they receive that recognition.

Our condolences go out to the family of Earl Kelly. We do recognize that Earl and Mickey Mickens are gone and hopefully we will get them into the Hall of Fame in 1996.

Thanks to Hal Perry and Bob Hunt for meeting with me in Las Vegas and deciding that we could do it, and then Louise Freer and Larry Creakbaum. Jim Foran could not attend the meeting.

The Hall of Fame is real and will stay real as long as we can do something to help it stay that way. We'll do our best to serve the shuffleboard community well.

Glen Davidson, Chairman

National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame Board of Directors

We wish you Godspeed. The entire World of Shuffleboard, we're certain, would like to see worthy individuals recognized while they are still with us.

Pacific Northwest Shufflers to Form Association

The meeting on formation of a shuffleboard association will be held on Feb. 25 at the Fir Cone Tavern in Shelton, Washington. Tournament directors said their Master's Tournament will begin at 10 a.m. that day and we should be able to get a lot of things taken care of before play begins.

The idea of a shuffleboard association has received some recognition in the February issue of *The Board Talk*
(continued on Page 22)

Reminder of Upcoming Events

(Editor's Note: The following is information from last month's issue regarding upcoming events to serve as a reminder for those who may have misplaced their Board Talk and for our new subscribers. Please check other pages for new information on other events.)

MIXED DOUBLES, OLD EDISON INN, MARCH 11-12

The Old Edison Inn in Edison, Washington, will host its 10th Annual Mixed Doubles Tournament on March 11-12. Entry is \$50 per team for the double elimination event on the two Edison boards. Play will begin immediately following the 11 a.m. sponsor sale on Saturday, with winner's bracket 2-out-of-3, 15 point games, and single 17-point games in the loser's bracket.

For further information, contact Phil at the Old Edison Inn, 360-766-6266, or 360-766-5301.

JIMMY L'S TO HOST ST. PAT'S TOURNEY, MARCH 17-19

Jimmy L's, 9520 E. 11th, Tulsa, Oklahoma, will host its 6th Annual St. Pat's Day Tournament on March 17-19. Events, played on four boards, will include a \$50 draw partner (no two pros), starting at 7:30 p.m. Friday night, single game, double elimination. On Saturday, following the finals for the draw partners, a \$100 open bring partner event will be held, 2 of 3, double elimination.

For information regarding the tournament or lodging (four motels within a mile of Jimmy L's), call Jimmy L's, 918-834-7544, or tournament director Cliff Goff, 918-664-9573.

"LUCK OF THE IRISH" TOURNEY, WETLANDS, ROYAL OAK, MARCH 17-19

Wetlands Bar & Grill, 1008 N. Woodward Ave., Royal Oak, Michigan, will host its 1st Annual "Luck of the Irish" tournament on March 17-19. Events include an A-B Draw, \$25 entry on Friday night; an open doubles, \$25 per player ("constant action" format), and an open singles, \$100 entry, on Saturday. All events are single game double elimination, with 15 point games for the open singles and doubles and 11 point games for the A-B Draw.

For information, call Mike Papa at 810-543-2626, or The Shuffleboard Federation, 810-380-9300.

2ND FLORIDA OPEN, MARCH 25-26, PEMBROKE PINES

The 2nd Annual Florida Open Championships is set for March 25-26 at Huddle's Sports Cafe, 7100 Pines Blvd. in Pembroke Pines.

The bring partner event starts at noon on Saturday, \$50 per team entry, with the singles, \$50 entry, at noon on Sunday. Both events are single game, double elimination. There will also be draw partner jackpots on Friday from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m.

For lodging and registration information, contact Marty Allen at 407-471-4053, or host Charlie Fisher, 305-985-8382.

APRIL FOOL'S DOUBLES AT CORNER TAVERN

The Corner Tavern, 1255 Allen West Rd., Bow, Washington, will host its annual April Fool's Day bring partner doubles tournament, \$50 per team entry fee. There will also be a \$20 draw partner tourney on Friday, March 31, \$20 per person entry.

For information, call the Corner Tavern, 206-757-6113.

SHAMROCK'S 5TH ANNUAL DRAW PARTNER, MAY 6-7

The Shamrock Tavern, 1131 15th St., Longview, Washington, will host its 5th Annual Draw Partner Tournament on May 6-7. Entry fee is \$20 per player and you must be signed up by 11 a.m. Saturday. The sponsor sale will start at noon with play immediately following. \$500 will be added to the pot! Plan on coming early for the \$10 draws on Friday night.

For information, call the Shamrock, 206-577-7444.

WHISTLING OYSTER TO HOST WASHINGTON STATE TOURNEY PLUS, MAY 11-14

The Whistling Oyster Tavern in Quilcene, Washington, will be the site of the state of Washington singles and

doubles championships, plus an open doubles, on May 11-14.

The state singles (open only to Washington residents) will be held on Thursday, with the state doubles (open only to Washington residents) on Friday. Both events will be single game, double elimination.

The open doubles (open to all shufflers), scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, will be 2 out of 3, 15 point games in the winners' bracket, and single game, 17 points in the losers' bracket. The sales for all events will be held at 11 a.m. each day, with play immediately following.

For information, call Bill Bailey, 360-765-9508, 765-3411, or 765-3436; or Jim Foran, 206-474-2724.

1ST EVERETT INVITATIONAL AT SHOTZE'S, JUNE 17-18

The 1st Annual Everett Invitational Tournament will be held at Shotze's Rack 'N Roll, 9602 Evergreen Way, Everett, Washington.

The tournament is a bring your own partner event, \$50 per team, sponsor sale starting at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 17. Shotze's is adding a guaranteed \$200 to the purse, with \$500 added if there are over 20 teams, and will also provide a Saturday night feed for participants.

For further information, contact tournament directors John Martin, 206-659-6590; Larry Pearson, 206-488-6664; or Bob Jacobsen, 206-744-0473.

11th ANNUAL BOARD TALK REUNION/MICKEY MICKENS MEMORIAL, JUNE 12-18

Harvey's Place in Street, Maryland, will be the site of the 11th Annual Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion/Mickey Mickens Memorial Tournament on June 12-18. Those of you who met Harvey for the first time (including Board Talk editors George and Donna Wilber) at the PCSA's Extraganza VII in Las Vegas know that he will be a congenial host and is dedicated to providing action for pros, amateurs, and those in between, and a full week of fun for all shufflers and spectators.

"Not only will this be a true reunion of shufflers from across the country, it will also be a worthy tribute to the memory of one of shuffleboard's greats, Mickey Mickens," said George. A special memorial printed program, which will list the winners of the previous 10 Board Talk Reunion tournaments, plus door prizes donated by local and national advertisers, will be part of the week-long activities.

Use the enclosed registration form to save your spot!

Bubba said,

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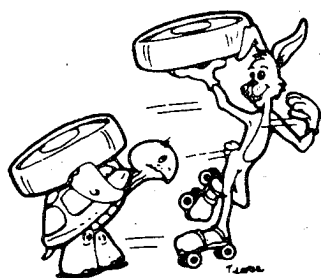
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As the Puck Turns...

By George & Donna Wilber

The P.C.S.A.'s annual Extravaganza is always a highlight of our shuffleboard year, and this was certainly no exception. While the action on the 11 boards was awesome and entertaining, so was the interaction on the sidelines. Here are some thumbnail sketches of what we witnessed....



We're not going to reveal his age, but it was a source of amazement to everyone that Al Stewart works on the intricate bowels of the scoring machines without his glasses! Despite his concerns regarding the welfare of his "child bride," Von, he worked tirelessly before, during, and after the event to tend the boards he furnished for the event.

Our sincere congratulations to Ed and Carol of Sun-Glo Corporation (who furnished the wax for the tournament). When we saw them on the sidelines, they were literally glowing about the birth of their granddaughter. What terrific grandparents they're going to be!

Shuffleboard is not a spectator sport, say some. Just tell that to Floyd and JoAnn of Triple Crown (suppliers of the silicone spray for the event) who were in the gallery every day to appreciate the action on the boards. They are such classy people! JoAnn didn't even lose her cool when Cheryl of BZ's Sports Bar & Cafe (Seattle, Washington) called her and the distaff side of *The Board Talk* a couple of "old broads." She just said: "Call your mother."

Speaking of Cheryl (what a character!), she holds weekly tournaments for the senior citizens of her community and it has become a very popular activity. The events attract about 18 shufflers every week with an average age of 75-plus. We salute Cheryl for taking her one day off a week to keep these seniors' adrenalin flowing. She promised to send us some photos of the action for a future issue.

It was great to see Billy Maxwell of California smiling again after suffering some great tragedies in his life. One reason for that smile is his lovely fiancée, Julie.

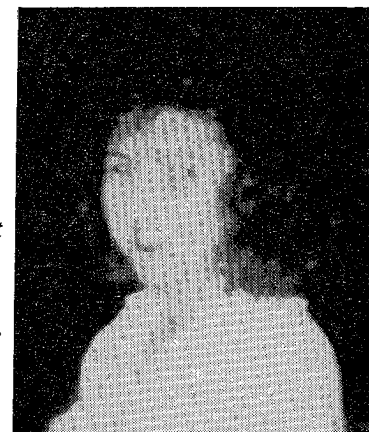
We extend our best wishes for a very happy future!



We hadn't seen one of our favorite people, Peggy Richards of Arizona, for many years, and then we were treated to see her and her double, twin sister Patty of Baltimore, Maryland.

We look forward to seeing double again at our 11th Annual Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion at Harvey's (we also met the congenial Harvey for the first time; you're going to like him!) in Street, Maryland, on June 12-18.

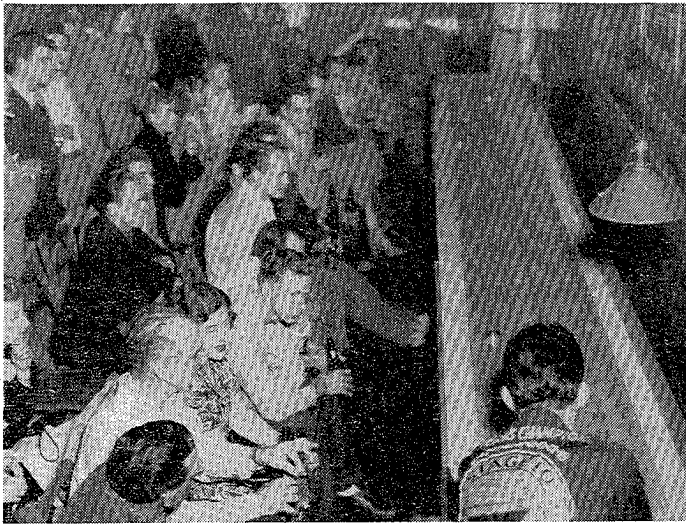
After all these months of communicating by FAX, we finally got to meet the famous "Dixie Debbie" from the Dixie Belle in Downey, California. What a delightful lady she is! Every shuffleboard establishment should have such an enthusiastic public relations agent.



We hope all of you who were at the Extravaganza VII took time to tell Balboa Ron that you appreciate his Frisco Eddie series and cartoons. Your thanks are all the pay he receives, so your positive feedback is important. We were impressed by the "oldies but goodies" photo board his sister created for display at the big event. If we ever do get a Shuffleboard Hall of Fame, that certainly should be a part of it.

Another legend in The World of Shuffleboard we met on the sidelines was Porter White, who is not only our No. 1 subscriber, but also supports our efforts through his listing in the Shuffleboard Directory every month. Our life has been enriched by this wonderful guy!

Porter gave us this photo -- a real classic -- and we share it with you until we can present it to the Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. It's the legendary "Kid Spooks" in action before an adoring crowd....



Remember this poignant photo in the June '94 issue? Little Franco, grandson of Bob and Vicki Hunt of California, passed away on April 5. Since then, \$12,000 has been raised for a picnic area in Sacramento with a plaque in memory of Franco. A dedication ceremony will be held some time this summer.



We're proud to be associated with people like you who have responded so generously to the needs of your fellow shuffleboarders. Whether it's to help Bob and Vicki build a memorial to their grandson, to provide Earl Kelley with a shuffleboard tombstone, or help Fred Johns rebuild his house destroyed by fire, you're always there. Sure, we've got some image problems, but as Kevin Larkin so aptly put it: "It's this kind of caring and sharing that makes The World of Shuffleboard special." We agree! You are special!

Greg Broka wanted us to put the news that he was an "A" player on the front page. We didn't have room there, Greg, but in our view, you're always an "A."

George says this was the last time he's going to enter a pro event. "They don't need my contributions any more," he said. Donna thinks he ought to stick to the slots....

It's always a little overwhelming to us that people appreciate what we are doing. We don't take that for granted. Special thanks to Bud Hillburn for buying Donna a hamburger (which she didn't share) and to the Corey family of the Sante Fe Club in Rockport, Texas, for letting us know they care!



After all this time, we finally had the opportunity to meet Washington correspondent Ralph Duarte. On our way home from the Whistling Oyster last August, we stopped at the Shamrock Tavern in Longview with hopes of meeting Ralph and owner Jerry Berquist, but missed them. Thanks for the photo, Ralph. It was a pleasure meeting you!



It had also been a long time since we had seen the legendary Billy Mays. He's got a little "meat on his bones" now (Hermi must be feeding him good) and proved he's still very much a contender as he teamed up with John McDermott to take the doubles crown.

If there was anything missing from this Extravaganza, it was the Crazy Canucks. We weren't the only ones who missed them. There were a lot of "party animals" present, but none can compete with our Canadian neighbors!

And, as we have since Extravaganza I, we thank the P.C.S.A. officials Joe Muniz, Paul Weber, Karl Spickelmier, and the hard-working, behind-the-scenes and often unrecognized Marvel Muniz, and Bellflower Bruce for the privilege of being there for Extravaganza VII. We look forward to No. VIII!

We also look forward to seeing many of you at the 11th Annual Board Talk Reunion in June at Harvey's Place, Street, Maryland.

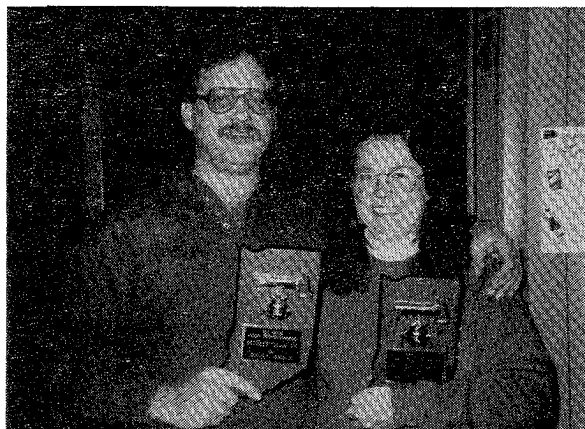
G & D

Hoosiers Set a Record-Breaking State Championship

RICK ROYAL, BOB AND DEB VOORHIS CAPTURE TITLES

Indiana shufflers turned out in full force to make their 1994 state championships a record-breaking event. Held at Chances R in Muncie over the Thanksgiving weekend, the annual affair attracted 23 teams in the doubles, 42 in the singles, 12 mixed doubles teams, and 13 in the women's singles, with a total pot of over \$13,500.

It was a productive weekend for the Voorhis family as Bob and Deb took first place in the doubles and first in the mixed doubles, with Deb finishing first in the women's singles. The only "barrier" to making it a clean sweep for the couple was Rick Royal, whose impressive play netted him the singles crown and put Bob in second.



Bob and Deb Voorhis display their winning smiles and championship trophies collected for the open doubles. They also teamed up to take first in the mixed doubles.

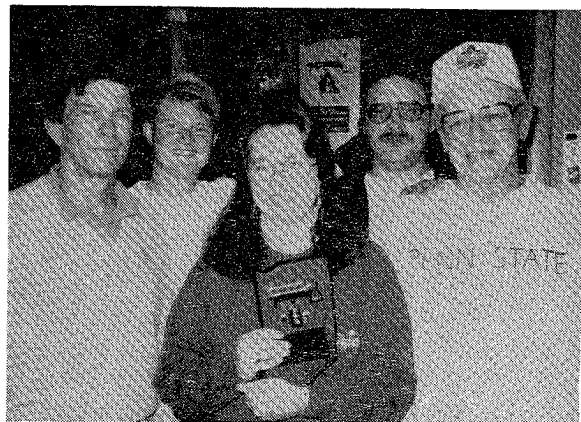
Tom and Greg Massie took second place honors in the open doubles, with Brian Collins and Terry Dowell in third.



Happiness is beating the great Bobby V! Ricky Royal is obviously pleased with his well-earned singles championship trophy. Watch out, World! He's only just begun.

Following Rick and Bob in the singles were: John Humes, 3rd; Bobby Brown Jr., 4th; Steve Hart and Gregg Massie, 5th and 6th.

On the heels of Bob and Deb in the mixed doubles were: Ricky Royal and Jonna Reese, 2nd; Larry Vance and Mary Youngblood, 3rd; and Bobby Brown Jr. and Cheryl Cockerill, 4th.



Deb Voorhis collects her women's singles trophy from Chances R host Bob Shaunce (left) and co-host/auctioneer Steve Hart while other top winners, Rick Royal and Bob Voorhis, get in on the act.

Mary Youngblood took second-place honors in the women's singles, with another member of the Voorhis family, Marissa, in third, and Robin Reed in fourth place.

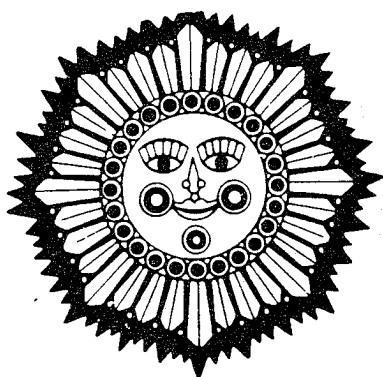
HUMES/HART TOPS AT CHANCES R DOUBLES

Chances R, 3421 S. Walnut in Muncie, Indiana, hosted its 1st Annual Open Doubles tournament on January 14. Coming all the way through the winner's bracket to take top honors were John Humes and Steve Hart, with the Jr. and Sr. Bob Brown team in second place. Bobby Voorhis and Dave Boaz took third, and Buddy Broka teamed up with Bob Perry of Illinois to take fourth.

With only 14 teams signed up for the four-board event ("where were our Michigan neighbors?" asked co-director Steve Hart), play finished early, so 21 "walkers" participated in a singles event.

In this event, Bob Brown Jr. came out on top, with Larry Brown in second, Steve Hart in third, and Dave Boaz in fourth place.

(Editor's Note: We're always disappointed when an establishment invests in a flyer and only 14 teams show up. Don't despair, Bob and Karen; maybe the post-holiday "blahs" had shufflers too lethargic to move.)



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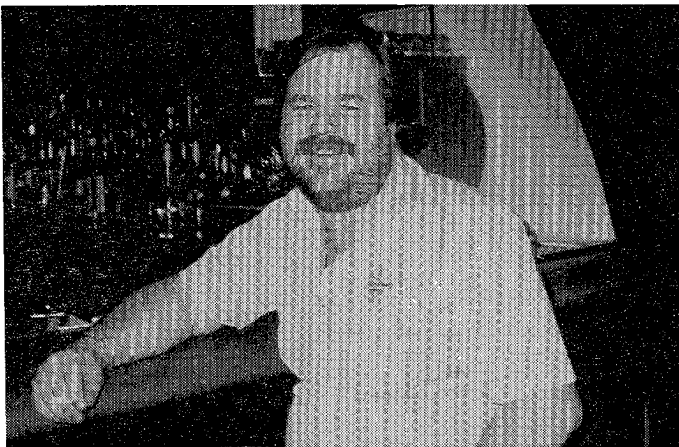
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McDermott Wins Round Robin Singles at Wetlands

The Wetlands Bar & Grill in Royal Oak, Michigan, hosted the first of its eight "Something for Everyone" 1995 tournaments on Jan. 21-22. The worst snowstorm of the season failed to deter 18 shufflers, including some of the "top dogs" from Michigan, Indiana and Illinois, from participating in the round robin singles.

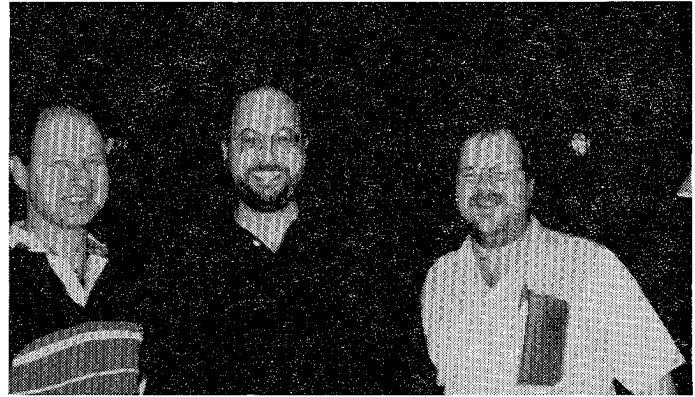
While the weather outside was cold and stormy, the action inside the Wetlands was hot-hot-hot, not just on the three in-house boards, but on the pool tables and a corner card table as well. There was also some spirited dialogue regarding how a "real" round robin, with all 18 players competing against 17 other participants, should be formatted. Total points? Total games? What about ties and subsequent playoffs? What happens when players who don't have a chance of winning decide it's just not worth fighting the elements to show up the next day? Should there be a higher entry fee with a payoff for every win to keep them there? (*Editors' Note: Good topic for an idea exchange, shufflers! Let's hear from you.*)

Even though host Mike Papa and directors John McDermott and Rob Kern soon realized you can't please all the people all the time (as do all tournament directors), it was a fast-paced, hard-fought, smoothly-run tournament in pleasant surroundings.

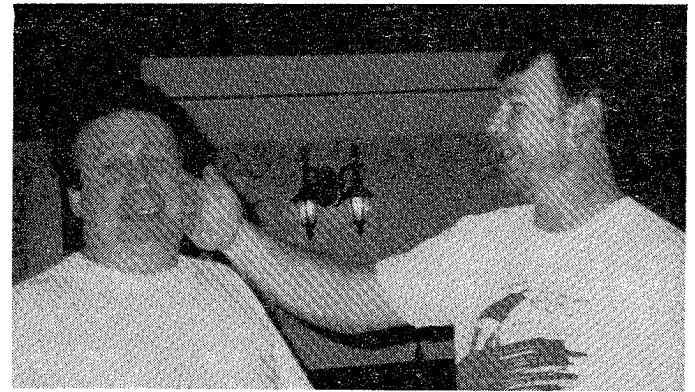


Rob Kern with a "new look" (a very becoming full beard) once again proved his competence as a top director/bracketeer. During his few breaks in the action, he struggled to become a top pool player! Board Talk Editor George Wilber says he needs a little more practice for the latter.

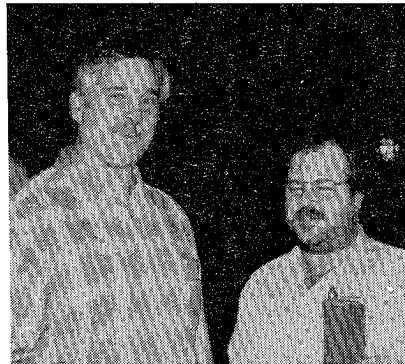
On Sunday evening, after many hours of "constant action," it was John McDermott of Michigan who took top honors and the biggest share of the \$1800 entry pot and a healthy sponsor sale pot. Michigan championship winner Frank Blade finished second, with John Tischler, also of Michigan, in third. Bob Perry of Illinois, who had a long ride ahead of him on treacherous roads when the tourney ended, took fourth place.



Wetlands host Mike Papa (left) and Rob Kern congratulate Round Robin Singles winner John McDermott.



"Hey, wake up, fella," Chuck Ricklefs tells Frank Blade on Sunday morning. He did and won second place.



John Tischler accepts his third-place monies from Rob Kern.



BUDDIES -- Buddy Broka of Indiana congratulates his buddy from Illinois, Bob Perry, on his 4th place finish.



One of the few times out of the money for this one, but always in the running to make a tournament interesting, were Bobby Voorhis and Dave Boaz of Indiana.



"Not so fast, big guy!" says Mom Vicki. "Let him get out of diapers first."

(continued on Page 12)

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE OR TRADE: Looking for new wood board (no plastic topping). Will make a deal for my plastic top plank, great cradle and working scoreboard. Doc Khan, 517-773-4465.

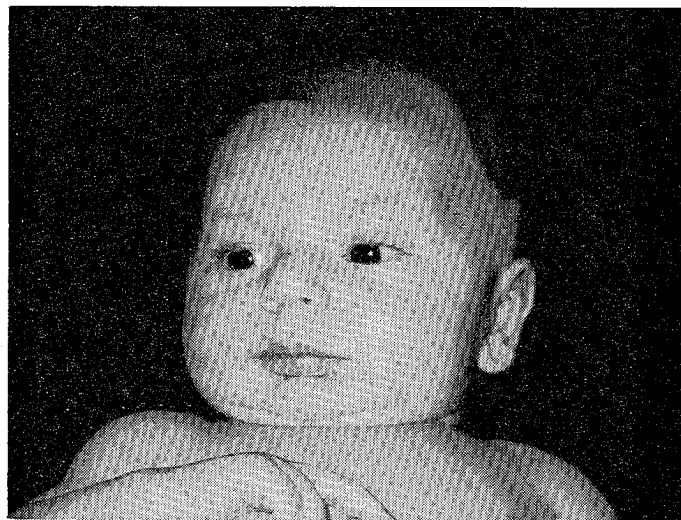
SHUFFLEBOARDS FOR SALE: Three full 22-footers. Two newly-refinished by the Meltons of Oklahoma (home of Lion's Barry Sanders), and one Playfair board barely used (played on by very old ladies). For information, call George Wilber, 517-371-2538.

WANTED: Got some product or service to sell? Remember, shufflers have a life beyond shuffleboard. They buy cars, RVs, TVs, VCRs, PCs, look for bargains in airline tickets, etc. etc. It only costs \$5 for 25 words or less to advertise in the classified section. If you haven't sold what you have to sell, try us! Send, along with your check to cover costs, before the 15th of each month.

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



Neil Fetter of Michigan didn't make the winner's circle either, but he thinks he's got a winner for the future. "Just look at that release!" he says about....



....Mitchell Brandon Fetter, born Nov. 15, 1994. Looks like pretty good form, Neil. Will he be back at the Wetlands to take top honors in the Round Robin Singles in the 21st Century?

WETLANDS ROUND ROBIN

(Continued from Page 11)

ON THE SIDELINES:

The Seville Motel provided many travelling shufflers with good, clean rooms at reasonable prices within walking distance of the Wetlands, and a tiny restaurant on their premises provided decent food. It also provided some lasting memories....

--Who was the "mystery woman" in a fuzzy red robe who visited Room 9 in the early morning hours -- just to talk about the weather?

--Bobby V chipped a tooth on a piece of frozen lettuce in his BLT sandwich.

--The non-shufflers in Room 10 were into spanking and a whole lot more.

--Quote of the Weekend by George Wilber (both in regard to the tournament and the action in Room 10): "Youth will prevail over experience every time. All experience has going for us is a lot of memories."

DANKE/WILSON LEAD BEEF'S SERIES OF FIVE

After the second in the Series of Five tournaments at Beef's in Kendallville, Indiana, in November, Bobby Voorhis and Dave Boaz still held the lead, with Chris Danke and Steve Wilson in second place; the two Larrys -- Huffer and Brown -- in third; and Terry Wolfurm and Bob Figgins in fourth.

However, the scenario changed during the third in the series, with Chris and Steve moving into first and taking over the "Bobby and Dave" show that had been going so strong. After the third match, the standings showed:

Chris Danke and Steve Wilson -- 10 points
Bobby Voorhis and Dave Boaz -- 8 points
Larry Huffer and Larry Brown -- 4 points
Greg and Tom Massie -- 3 points
Terry Wolfurm and Bob Figgins -- 2 points
Beef Camp and Jim Erdley -- 1 point
Jim Long and Larry Creakbaum -- 1 point

The fourth in the series of five was scheduled for Feb. 18 (see results next month), with the final on March 25. For information, call Beef or Marge at 219-347-9965. Entry fee for each of the series is \$40, with sales at 11 a.m. Playfair and Dale Gushman have added \$2000 to the total pot.

Beef is looking for ideas for next year's series of five. Share your viewpoints with him.

In other action at Beef's, Bobby V and Dave Boaz won the New Year's Eve Doubles, with Greg Broka and Jim Stockmaster of Ohio taking second place honors.

WILSON/DANKE WINNERS AT PALACE BAR

The Palace Bar in Fairmount, Indiana, hosted a doubles tournament on Dec. 17. Steve Wilson and Chris Danke from Warsaw prevailed over the Massie brothers from Summitville after Greg and Tom beat them the first game in the finals. Coming in third was the team of Tony Bright from Summitville and Willis Mathews from Noblesville. There were 17 teams vying for a total purse of \$2230.

The tourney was well-run, thanks to secretary-treasurer Deb Voorhis and hosts Bus and Marisa Voorhis.

MASSIES WIN AT DEER PARK TAVERN

Turning the tables on Chris Danke and Steve Wilson at the Deer Park Tavern in Fort Wayne, Indiana, on Jan. 7, Greg and Tom Massie took the lion's share of the \$1400 pot, with Chris and Steve collecting second place. Once again coming in third were Willis Mathews and Tony Bright.

The Deer Park thanks all who participated and looks forward to seeing you at their next tournament on March 18.

ADDITIONS TO THE "PLAY YOUR WAY ACROSS THE U.S.A." LISTING

Shuffleboard establishment subscriptions received after publication of our February "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." quarterly listing include:

California -- Cheers, 9850 Carmel Mountain Rd., San Diego 92129; phone 619-484-4215

Florida -- Holly's Hutch, 7135 S.R. 52, Hudson 34667; phone 813-868-9767

Iowa -- Railway Inn, 115 S. 12th St., Council Bluffs 51501; phone 712-328-9913

Michigan -- Lakeside North, 700 E. Houghton Lake Dr., Prudenville 48651; phone 517-366-7750

Missouri -- Jigger's, 2526 S. Campbell, Springfield 65807

Nevada -- Brass Rail, 1000 N. Nellis, Las Vegas 89110; phone 702-453-7371

Oklahoma -- Pardner's, 409 S. 81 Hwy., Duncan 73533; phone 405-255-8780

Texas -- The Emerald Room, 4100 Hwy. 287 NW, Vernon 76384; phone 817-552-6652

Please add these locations to your current map, stop in and welcome them to the shuffleboard network.

MOTHER NATURE FAILS TO HALT ACTION AT MICKEY'S

The Jan. 28-29 tournament at Mickey's Place in Henderson, Maryland, was dealt a cruel blow by Mother Nature in the form of a snow storm which forced the cancellation of Sunday's bring partner event. However, undaunted by the weather conditions, a large gang showed up from as far away as Street, Maryland, Wilmington, Delaware, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for the Pro-Am Draw on Saturday. "Four people from Michigan had called to say they were on their way, but we haven't seen them yet," reports Dick Gorman. "If anybody sees any unscratched snow banks, please look!"

Winners of the tournament were Richard Foraker, Canterbury, Del., and his partner, Ronnie Hamilton of Denton, Maryland. Second place went to Darlyene Belcher, the hostess of Harvey's Place in Street, and her partner from Baltimore, Len Dell. Third and final money spot went to Rosalie Kaufman, Queenstown, Md. (Bay Country Moose) and Wayne Tribitt, Greensboro, Md.

"New tournament director Rex Campbell from Queensboro is giving his all to making shuffleboard grow in this area of the eastern shore of Maryland. He works hard and his efforts show," said Dick. "Hostess Miss Della Husfelt provided a great hot meal, eastern shore country style, to all participants and guests, which was appreciated by all. Rex and Miss Della said there will be more tournaments, regardless of weather, so come join us."

Also participating in the tournament were the new owners of Darlyene's Place from nearby Sudlersville. Formerly owned by Art and Joann Ware and called Ours & Yours, Darlyne's has been completely renovated and has two in-house boards.

"They announced they are new to the world of shuffleboard, but are learning fast, and will be sponsoring their first tournament within the month," Dick reports. "It's great to have another place stay alive. We all remember Ours & Yours and the good times there."

MELTONS WIN BALLOON INN'S SANTA CLASSIC

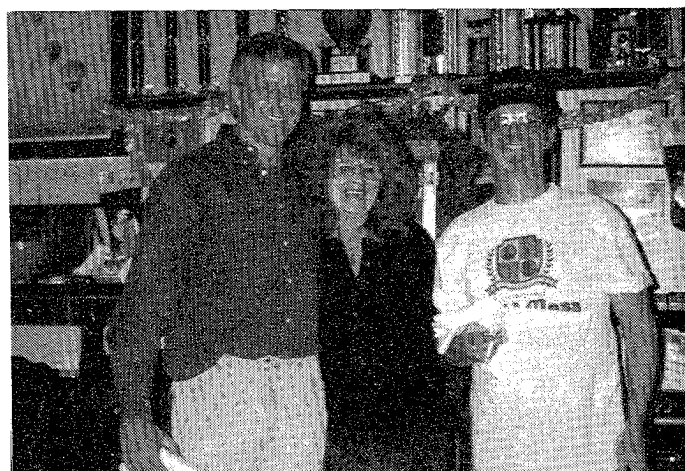
Santa came early for a father and son from Oklahoma and he was bearing gifts of green. "The way Bill and Billy Melton plowed through the winners' bracket, you would think they were wearing snow chains," reports Gwen and Ron Vogt, hosts of the Balloon Inn, Arvada, Colorado, scene of the 5th Annual Santa Classic.

The Meltons received \$4400 for their first place finish, which left Bob Shaw and Kenny Hawkes collecting \$2100 for second place. Third place honors and

\$1000 went to Gwynette Orsi and Denny Busch from Nebraska.



Billy and Bill Melton collect their first-place winnings from Balloon Inn hostess Gwen Vogt.



Gwen congratulates Bob Shaw (left) and Kenny Hawkes for their second place finish.



With "Santa's" permission, Denny Busch removes the 3rd place "gift of green" from the Christmas stocking for him and partner Gwynette Orsi. This was the Balloon Inn's 5th Annual Santa Classic.

A great time was had by all participants and the hosts. Gwen and Ron, thank the out-of-towners -- Bill and Billy Melton from Oklahoma, Gwynette and Denny from Nebraska, Bob Shaw from Texas, Tom Henry from Nevada, and Karl Spickelmier and Lou Lucero from California -- for helping to make this a national event.

"Special thanks to the 'Out of Minders,' Travis Anderson, Kenny Hawkes, Grady McGovern and Dennis Bird for the entertainment they provided everyone with their wild sense of humor and songs," said Gwen and Ron. "See you all at the next tournament."

FRED JOHNS BENEFIT DRAWS GOOD RESPONSE

A Jan. 7-8 benefit tournament to raise money to help Fred Johns rebuild his house, gutted by fire on Dec. 3, was held at Tim's Timber Tavern in Kelso, Washington. With less than two weeks notice, 40 players showed up to play in the \$20 per player draw partner event, with all entry money going to Fred. The sponsor sale was held next door at the Kelso Legion, with Jim Foran as auctioneer, and netted \$2395 for the players.

Taking top honors were Chuck Norris and Doug Buhl, with Larry Pearson and D.K. in second, and Dick Handley and Darrol Nelson in third place.

Between the entry pot, raffle, and money added by the Pacific Coast Shuffleboard Association, Paul Weber, the Kelso Legion, and Alex McDonald, a total of \$1570 was raised for Fred.

"It was another example of shuffleboard players coming together to help out one in need," said tournament director Kevin Larkin. "A special thanks to Tim Bonner for hosting this event and to all those who travelled and donated when one of our own was in need. It's this kind of caring and sharing that makes The World of Shuffleboard special. Thank you all!"

COCKRUM/McLEOD TOPS AT STEELVILLE C.C.

The Steelville Country Club, Steelville, Missouri, hosted its first tournament of 1995 on Jan. 21 with a full house of shufflers. "I don't know if they all came to play shuffleboard or to feast on Georgia Williams' homemade chili," reports Donna Beasley. "Needless to say, her chili was much better than my game."

Long after the chili ran out and the early losers went home, the games finished with Woodie Cockrum and Gene McLeod in first place. Earl Ware and Debbie Lorraine took second place honors, with third going to Henry Williams and Teddy Hoerr.

"My husband Jerry and I took advantage of *The Board Talk's* 'Play Your Way Across the U.S.A.' last fall. We would like to say hello to the gang at the Balloon Inn, Arvada, Colorado, and also to Betty Hodge in Missoula, Montana," said Donna.

EARL KELLY TRIBUTE TOURNAMENT HELD AT GOLD NUGGET

The Gold Nugget Club in Arlington, Texas, was the site of a recent tournament to raise money for a shuffleboard headstone for Earl Kelley. Another will be held in March to complete the fund-raiser.

Winners in the open draw were Tom Yates and Bobby Williams, with Johnny Wayne and Tammy Denson in second, and Bill Wooldridge and Charlene Green taking third place.

In the bring partner event, Johnny Wayne and Joy Huitt finished first, with J. D. Sweet and Bobby Williams taking second place honors. David Williams and Tammy Denson were third.

"The family of Earl Kelley was very thankful for the kind and sincere words of sympathy and respect that were received in abundance," Bobby said. "The funeral was attended by a large number of his friends and many fellow players. His son gave a very moving tribute to the shuffleboard community and the way it had come together to donate generously to pay the funeral expenses."

RENEGADES: "WINNER TAKE ALL"

*By Geoff Smith, Business Manager
Rocky Mountain Renegades*

Abbott and Costello's "Who's on First?" had nothing over on the Rocky Mountain Renegades January meeting. Sanwiched between shuffleboard tales spanning decades, the roster alternates, formats for challenges, play and purse money, were discussed.

The Renegades, formed by Bill English, a long-time player and advocatate of the game, organized the group as a Colorado challenge team. The concept stems from team play as Bill knew it in the '50s when playing in California. The intent is to put together the best 10 players from a state and challenge other states to do the same in a winner-take-all shoot-out.

The format for challenging the Renegades is as follows:

1. Challenges will be accepted for agreeable dates any time following June 1, 1995.

(continued on Page 21)

1995 Calendar of Shuffleboard Events

MARCH

March 3-5

3-Event Tournament
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

March 10-19

10-Day Tournament
Phil Gardner's Pro Lounge
Glendale, Arizona

March 11

1st Annual Doubles
Monty's
Chesterfield, Indiana

March 11-12

10th Annual Mixed Doubles
Old Edison Inn
Edison, Washington

March 18

Doubles Tournament
Deer Park Tavern
Fort Wayne, Indiana

March 18-19

Shuffleboard Affair Doubles
Town Tavern
Sequim, Washington

March 17-19

6th Annual St. Pat's Tourney
Jimmy L's
Tulsa, Oklahoma

March 18-20

1st Annual St. Pat's Tourney
Wetlands Bar & Grill
Royal Oak, Michigan

March 25

5th in Series of 5 Doubles
Beef's
Kendallville, Indiana

March 25-26

2nd Annual Florida Open
Huddle's Sports Cafe
Pembroke Pines, Florida

APRIL

April 1

Annual April Fools Doubles
Corner Tavern
Bow, Washington

April 1

"Best of Philly" Series
Bring Partner Event #2
Philadelphia Area

April 7-9

4-Event Nationals
Dew Drop Inn
Waterloo, New York

April 7-9

3-Event Tournament
Avon's Local 14
Toledo, Ohio

April 8-9

1st Annual Tournament
Eagles Lodge 1339
Warsaw, Indiana

April 14-16

Spring Tournament
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

April 22-24

3rd Annual Bring Partner
BZ's Sports Bar & Grill
Seattle, Washington

April 29

Open Singles
Beef's
Kendallville, Indiana

MAY

May 6-7

5th Annual Draw Partners
Shamrock Tavern
Longview, Washington

May 11-14

Washington State Singles and
Doubles Championships Plus
Open Doubles
Whistling Oyster Tavern
Quilcene, Washington

May 19-21

Spring Tournament
Glenn's Tavern
Funkstown, Maryland

May 26-29

2nd Annual Memorial Day
Tournament
Wetlands Bar & Grill
Royal Oak, Michigan

May 27-29

Memorial Weekend Tourney
Tolo Tavern
Central Point, Oregon

May 27-29

Memorial Weekend Tourney
Blinky's Sports Cafe
Santa Clara, California

JUNE

June 10

"Best of Philly" Series
Bring Partner Event #3
Philadelphia Area

June 12-18

11th Annual Board Talk
Shufflers' Reunion/Mickey
Mickens Memorial Tourney
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

June 17-18

Invitational Tournament
Shotze's Rack-N-Roll
Everett, Washington

JULY

July 1-4

4th of July Tournament
Dixie Belle
Downey, California

July 1-4

4th Annual Southwest Open
American Legion Post 73
Del City, Oklahoma

THE BOARD TALK

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

1995 Calendar of Shuffleboard Events

July 14-15

Deuces Wild 4-Person Team
Wetlands Bar & Grill
Royal Oak, Michigan

July 22-23

Shuffleboard Affair Doubles
Town Tavern
Sequim, Washington

AUGUST

Aug. 3-6

6th Annual Grand Masters
Plus
Whistling Oyster Tavern
Quilcene, Washington

Aug. 4-6

4-Event Nationals
Dew Drop Inn
Waterloo, New York

Aug. 5

"Best of Philly" Series
Bring Partner Event #4
Philadelphia Area

Aug. 11-12

Summertime Tournament
Bay Country Moose 831
Queenstown, Maryland

Aug. 18-20

6-Person Draft Team Event
Wetlands Bar & Grill
Royal Oak, Michigan

Aug. 27 - Sept. 4

Labor Day Week Tourney
Blinky's Sports Cafe
Santa Clara, California

Aug. 31-Sept. 3

Crazy Canucks Annual Labor
Day Weekend Tournament
AN & AF
Vancouver, Canada

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 8-10

5th Annual Skip's/Board Talk
Fall Tournament
Skip's Lounge
Houghton Lake, Michigan

Sept. 22-24

ABC 3-Person Draw
Wetlands Bar & Grill
Royal Oak, Michigan

OCTOBER

Oct. 21

"Best of Philly" Series
Bring Partner Event #5
Philadelphia Area

Oct. 21-22

Ladies' Singles/Draw
Partners
Wetlands Bar & Grill
Royal Oak, Michigan

NOVEMBER

Oct. 30-Nov. 5

North American Championships
Sands Regency
Reno, Nevada

Nov. 24-26

10th Annual State of Michigan
Championships
Wetlands Bar & Grill
Royal Oak, Michigan

DECEMBER

Dec. 9

"Best of Philly" Series
Singles Event

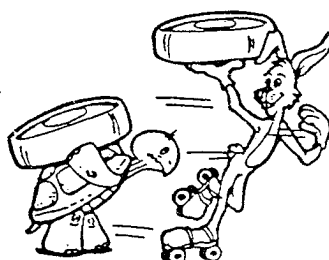
10-DAY TOURNAMENT AT PRO LOUNGE, GLENDALE, ARIZONA, MARCH 10-19

Phil Gardner's Pro Lounge, 6036 N. 67th Ave., Glendale, Arizona, will host a 10-day tournament on March 10-19. There will be something for everyone on the agenda, so plan your vacation around this action-packed tournament.

Events will include an A-B Draw, \$10 per person, Friday, March 10; an amateur bring partner, \$10 per person, Saturday, March 11; a mixed doubles draw, \$10 per person, on Sunday, March 12; an open singles, \$20 entry, on Tuesday, March 14; a women's singles, \$20 entry, on Wednesday, March 15; a St. Patrick's Day open draw, \$20 per person, on Friday, March 17; an open doubles, \$100 per team, on Saturday, March 18; and an open singles, \$50 entry, on Sunday, March 19. Play will be on four boards and payoff will be determined by number of entries in each event.

For tournament information and lodging recommendations, call: Cindy Clark, 602-589-0664; Clay Chance, 602-972-7046; Al Salazar, 602-547-1324; or Bob Lewis, 602-242-6782.

Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard establishment to help spread the word about this big event.



FREE!

*Three free gift subscriptions to
THE BOARD TALK
for every tournament listed
on the calendar -- for winners,
drawings, tourney helpers.
Just call George or Donna at
517-371-2538
and make your request.*

Frisko Eddie's Revenge: The Return

A series by Balboa Ron Schweikert

(In last month's episode, Long Beach Lil shared some of the "hustler" strategies she and Frisko Eddie would use during their adventures on the road, which would begin at Dallas/Fort Worth.)

Lil had completed her discussion about some of the ways they could "put the odds in their favor" while they were on the trip. She had asked Eddie for his feelings about the whole thing.

It didn't take Eddie long to analyze where Lil was coming from, and he didn't hesitate in his response: "I'm going to say this only once, Lil. If you intend to try out any of the crap I've just heard, we'll part company as soon as this plane lands in Texas. If I can't be successful at this game by using my own talents, then I'll give it up. Now, you tell me how you feel about what I just said."

Lil had a look of surprise and disbelief in her eyes then, and was obviously taken back by Eddie's reply. She knew her response could make-or-break the whole deal for her. She also knew she had to say something fast to keep this thing together! She hesitated for a few seconds and blinked before her reply: "Well now, you know we don't HAVE to do these things, Eddie. It's just that I wanted to wise you up a little, you know. We'll play it anyway you want it, Champ. O.K.?"

Eddie searched her eyes to try to see if she was being honest. He wondered if her reply was also a part of the "con." He figured that if she did pull any fast stuff, he would see it, so he said: "All right, Lil. We'll continue the march here, but if I even smell that something is phoney - - you won't like what will happen next."

Lil replied: "Hey, man; that's fine with me." They both kicked back then and were silent for most of the rest of the trip.

Eddie's thoughts were centered on how much he could really trust Lil and he began to wonder if he was getting in over his head.

Lil, on the other hand, had no doubts about how things were going -- right on schedule and according to plan. Eddie had no idea what was waiting for him in Texas....

They were both wide awake when the DC-10 began its final approach into Dallas/Fort Worth International. Eddie's excitement level rose over the prospect of finally getting into some REAL shuffleboard action. As good as that felt, though, he knew there was something else added now....

He would have to watch out for the competition. He would also have to keep a close eye on his own partner.

(If Eddie can't make it on his own talents, will he resort to Lil's strategies? Don't miss the next issue to find out.)

"HOT ACTION" AT CORBITT'S IN FLORIDA

Corbitt's Hideaway in West Palm Beach, Florida, hosted a bring partner event on Feb. 5. "The sponsor sales were brisk, the Okeechobee catfish superb, and the board action had everything," reports Mary Allen. "Like a next to impossible combo, two 'spooky' combos and a 'thread the needle' shot between three blocks, top board, last shot, to stick for a three, which earned Teddy Green our 'Desperation at its Finest' award."

Top honors went to Colletta Stanley and Marty Allen, thanks in part to a "Colletta Three" (all 1's) late in the finals. In second place were the "partners for life" duo of Carmine Talerico and Bill Dewes. Third place was won by Teddy Green and Daniel Aguilar (the "teenage terror" in his first tournament). In a tie for fourth place were the tough teams of Ted Balli and Faye Green, and Leland Larson and Denny Benge.

"Thanks to all the players who participated and to Corbitt's for hosting a super tournament" said Marty.

WARSAW EAGLES TO HOST 1ST ANNUAL TOURNEY

The Warsaw Eagles Lodge 1339, in Warsaw, Indiana, will host their first annual tournament on April 8-9. Action will start on Saturday with a doubles, \$40 per team entry, with sponsor sale at noon and play immediately following. A singles is scheduled for Sunday, \$25 entry. Come early for an A/B draw on Friday night, 8 p.m., \$5 per player.

For further information, contact Sue Barton, 219-268-0465.

MELTONS CAPTURE OKLAHOMA STATE TITLES

Two members of the famous Melton clan of Davis, Oklahoma, captured the Oklahoma State Championship crowns -- Lisa in the women's singles and Billy in the men's singles. Runners-up were Sally Goff of Tulsa and John Breathwit of Oklahoma City.

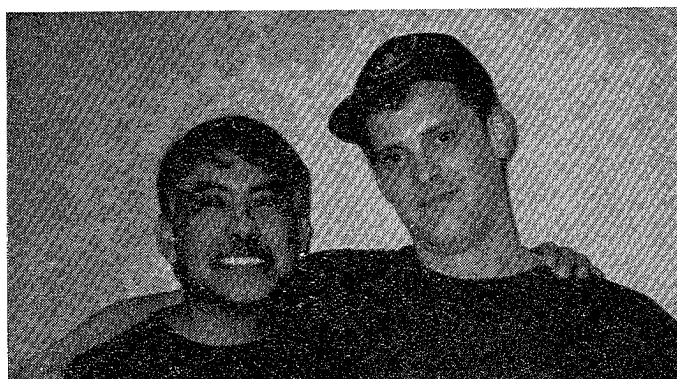
"This was a first-time event in Oklahoma, open to all players who were ready to test their skills in a singles event. Congratulations to these fine players! A lot of good players were determined to win this inaugural event, so the competition was extremely tough and the players were deserving of a state championship title," report Ron and Sharon Huddleston.

EXTRAVAGANZA VII DRAWS BIG CROWD OF CONTENDERS

(continued from Page 1)

game of the 2 of 3 match. Darrol took the next two, sending them to another board for the grand finale. Again, John took the first game, Darrol the next two to claim the title. This showdown between two of the top players in the U.S.A. was a real crowd-pleaser, as was watching the young Billy Melton of Oklahoma come through the ranks, knocking out some of the "biggies" to take third place.

Bob Shaw of Texas took fourth place honors, with Dale Koteris of Texas in fifth, Bill Melton of Oklahoma in 6th, Pat Bayless of California in 7th, and host Joe Muniz of California in 8th.



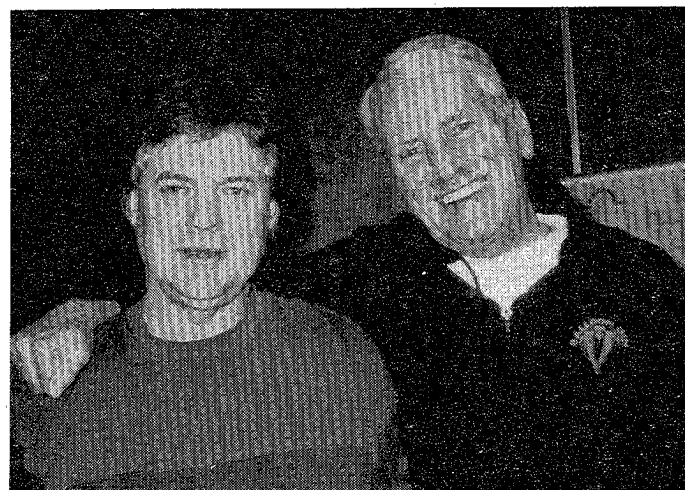
Al Salazar of Arizona and Dan Hitt of Washington were winners of the amateur doubles.



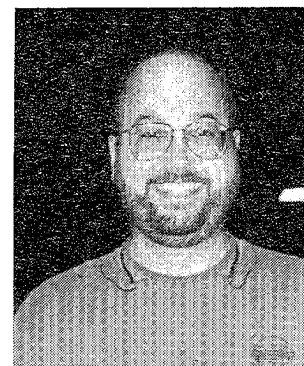
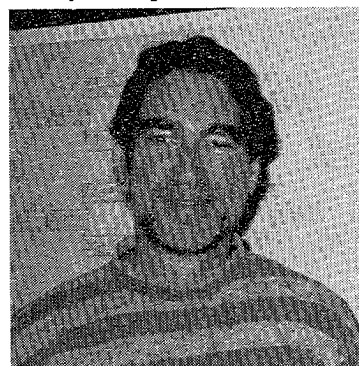
Louise Freer of Pennsylvania and Doug Fridley Jr. of New York teamed up to take second place honors.



Hoosiers Brian Collins and Paul Elliott finished in third place.....



...and Morey Balins and George Ostrum of Colorado took fourth place.



Darrol Nelson (left) of Oregon prevailed over John McDermott of Michigan in a tough-fought battle for the pro singles title.

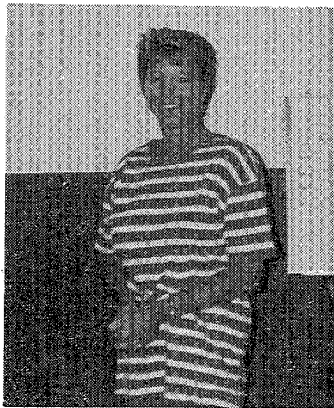


And Billy Melton of Oklahoma captured third place honors in the field of 32 contenders.

In the pro doubles, Billy Mays of Texas proved he's still got the stuff to be a winner as he teamed up with John McDermott to take first place. Jimmy Allis of Washington and Bobby Voorhis of Indiana finished second, with Billy Chiles and Rich (Bubba) Warren in third place, and Bob Shaw and Billy Melton in fourth. Don Cox of California and Darrol Nelson, Bud Hillburn and Glen Davidson of Oklahoma were fifth and sixth.

Diana Hagen of Texas, the only woman with enough confidence to compete in the pro singles, took top honors in the women's singles. Rena Hendrix of Oklahoma finished second, with Mary Koteris of Texas in third,

and Chris Danke of Indiana in fourth place.



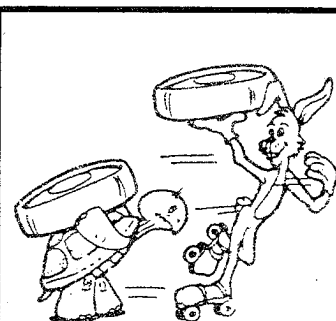
Diana Hagen of Texas finished first in the women's singles. In the 1994 event, it was Rena Hendrix over Diana. This year, Rena had to settle for second.

The Balloon Inn #1 (Arvada, Colorado) took first place in the popular amateur team event. Team members were: Gwen Vogt, Morey Balins, Dennis Bird, Ken Reeves, George Ostrum, Gwyn Orsi, Lisa Melton, and Junior Butler.

Taking second place honors was the Dixie Belle team (Downey, California), with the Southwest Friends from Oklahoma in third. Kimmell Inn (Kimmell, Indiana) finished in fourth place, with Arizona Heat and C.C.'s Sports Bar (Anaheim, California) in fifth and sixth.

P.C.S.A. official Paul Weber extends special appreciation to Al Stewart, A & M Amusement Service; Bill Melton, Melton Shuffleboard Company; and Jay Kimble for providing the boards, Sun-Glo Corporation for the wax, and Triple Crown Shuffleboard Supplies for the silicone. Paul salutes the hard-working team who made Extravaganza VII a smooth-running event: Jim Anderson, Chris Bonner, Mike Melton and Betty Brantley, Billy Chiles, Don and Donna Cox, Kevin Larkin, Bill Maxwell, Fred and Lois Thumann, Jodie Muniz, Bob and Anna Brunskill for running the amateur team event, Denny Busch for helping with the sponsor sales, Bubba Warren for keeping the boards in good playing condition, Karl Spickelmier for his usual fine bracketing, Joe Muniz for his wit as M.C., and Marvel Muniz, who worked for six long, hard months on registration and room reservations with patient capability.

"Last, but certainly not least, thanks to everyone who participated in this year's Extravaganza, particularly all the new people," Paul said.



***We missed you,
Crazy Canucks!
It just wasn't the
same without you.***

George & Donna

Renagades (continued from Page 15)

2. Challenging teams must consist of 10 players with all persons residing in that state.

3. All originating matches will be played at the Balloon Inn, Arvada, Colorado.

4. All challenges are to be directed to Bill English, 2000 Maple Drive, Apt. 62, Loveland, CO 80538 (Phone: 303-669-0725), or Gwen or Ron Vogt, Balloon Inn (Phone: 303-425-9823).

5. Play will consist of five doubles teams playing 15 point games, two sets of best 4 out of 7 games with a third set for the tie-breaker if necessary. Official format for pairing, coin flip, officiating, etc., will be supplied to team representatives upon request.

6. Challenges will be accepted on first-come basis, with team rosters to be validated prior to acceptance of the challenge -- two week minimum.

7. Minimum purse for challenge matches will be \$2500 per team with winner take all. Teams wishing to challenge for added monies are welcome to tender additional offers.

8. Any challenge team with roster deemed invalid may be denied.

During the meeting, players displayed their Silver Dollars, presented to them by English as a token of initiation and team membership. Team members are Morey Balins, Jody Slack (co-captain), George Ostrum, Rick Boyer, Dennis Bird, Kenny Reeves, Travis Anderson, Grady McGovern, Kenny Hawkes and Geoff Smith.

Team-selected alternates include Dave Cowan, Fred Compean, Gene Davis, Ron Hurney and Mark Simco.

In the waning hours of the meeting, planning turned to travel for challenge-backs to other states, transportation, entourage, and bail money. Business became even more sporadic as English told tales of near murder and mayhem. Not to be upstaged by the "old Master," Balins recounted a yarn of a \$1,000 game match between Mel Hanner/English and Nick Duran/Balins which terminated after a full-fledged brawl.

Business concluded with Anderson suggesting everyone go home and practice. The consensus for the evening was: "Let the challenges roll and the games begin on June 1."

A third party observer at this festive arena was heard to say: "I don't know who's going to win, but this can't help but be fun to watch."

(Editor's Note: We and our readers will be watching your challenges with a great deal of interest, Geoff. Hopefully, they won't result in "near murder, mayhem, and full-fledged brawls.")

REMINDER!

News and views and advertisements must be received by the 15th of each month to ensure publication in the next issue.

Northwest Players Organize

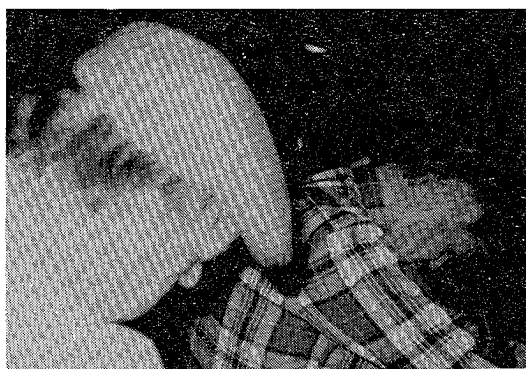
(continued from Page 3)

and, in talking with John McDermott (The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc.), he says there are several other states and groups looking at the same thing. There is a possibility this could lead to a national organization at some point in the not-too-distant future.

Jim Manders, Editor, Northwest Board Bits
Sequim, Washington

We look forward to hearing the results of this meeting (as well as results of the tournament) and congratulate you for the key role you play in keeping players and sponsors in the Pacific Northwest well-informed. If other states are considering forming organizations, Florida's state charter was published in the February issue and appears to be a good pattern. There may be others as well and we'd be happy to share.

Happy Birthday, Larry!



Larry Creakbaum (right) of Indianapolis celebrated his 60th birthday during the doubles tournament at Chances "R" in Muncie, Indiana, in January. It's hard to believe that Larry, who flies his own plane here, there, and everywhere, to play shuffleboard, would need a nap at his young age. Chances "R" owner Bob Schounce illustrates what a congenial host he is by taking a nap with him!

A reliable source tells THE BOARD TALK that no naps will be allowed during meetings of the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame Board of Directors (of which Larry is a member). Better start taking some Geritol, Larry! We expect great things during your service on that body.

G & D

"BEST OF PHILLY" SERIES LOOKING GOOD

The first in the "Best of Philly" tournament series, which are open to all Pennsylvania players, scheduled for Feb. 18, was a sell-out with a waiting list, with interest beyond the Philadelphia five-county area. The next in the series is a bring partner event on April 1. For information and tournament rules, contact directors Louise Freer, 215-661-0108; Regina Smith, 610-583-0841; or Jim Wolf, 610-644-1191.

"The tournament directors would like to thank The Shuffleboard Federation for their generous donation of the wax," said Louise. "In addition, a personal thank you to John McDermott for contributing the original concept of the tournament series. It was modified slightly, but is in keeping with the original idea of getting more people involved in the tournaments in the most fair arena possible."

3-EVENT TOURNEY AT AVON'S LOCAL 14, TOLEDO, OHIO, APRIL 7-9

Avon's Local 14, 5411 Jackman Rd., Toledo, Ohio, will host its first tournament on April 7-9. Events will include an A-B Draw on Friday night, \$20 per person entry; a singles on Saturday, \$50 entry; and an open doubles, \$50 per team, on Sunday.

For tournament and lodging information, call Martha at Avon's, 419-472-6978.

1ST ANNUAL DOUBLES, MONTY'S, CHESTERFIELD, INDIANA, MARCH 11

Monty's, 28 W. Main Street, Chesterfield, Indiana, will host its 1st Annual Doubles Tournament on March 11. Entry fee is \$40 per team, with a limit of 32 teams, played on three boards. The sponsor sale will be held at 11 a.m. with a payout of 50-35-10-5.

Hosts are Buck and Linda Brooks and co-sponsors are Bob Summers and Steve Hart. For information, call Monty's at 317-378-3602.

SPRINGTIME TOURNEY AT DEW DROP INN, WATER- LOO, NEW YORK, APRIL 6-9

That friendly Fridley family will host a springtime tournament at the Dew Drop Inn, 37 Virginia St.,

Waterloo, New York, on April 6-9. Action will start on Thursday, 7 p.m., with \$10 draws, limited to 36 players, and pays three places.

An open singles, \$20 entry, is on the schedule for Friday, sponsor sale at 6 p.m. with play immediately following. This event is limited to the first 24 paid sign-ups, pays 1 in 4 with a maximum of 6.

There are two events on Saturday, April 8 -- a mixed doubles, \$20 per team, with sponsor sale set for 9 a.m. and limited to the first 16 paid sign-ups, with prizes to the first three places; and a draw partners, \$10 entry, at 2 p.m., limited to 40 players, with prizes to the first four places.

The always competitive bring partner event starts at noon on Sunday, \$30 per team entry, limited to the first 24 paid teams. Payout will be 1 in 4, with a maximum of 6.

The Dew Drop Inn has four in-house boards and serves an open buffet to all participants. This part of New York is beautiful in the Spring. Try it; you'll like it!

For further tournament information and/or lodging recommendations, call Doug Jr. or Sr. at the Dew Drop Inn, 315-539-1346. This one will fill up fast, so use the enclosed flyer with registration form to secure your spot.

Correction!

On the front page of last month's issue, a cutline identified Jim Yank Sr., leader of the Dinosaurs, as being on the left when, in fact, he was on the right. It's not that we don't know you, Jim (even though you have a little less hair than the last time we saw you). It's simply that we don't know left from right! Our apologies.....G & D

MISSING:

Is news of your tournament results and/or information about your upcoming events missing from these pages? Don't keep The World of Shuffleboard "in the dark." Names and places make the NEWS, which must be received by the 15th of each month. Send to:
THE BOARD TALK
421 E. Sheridan, Lansing, MI 48906

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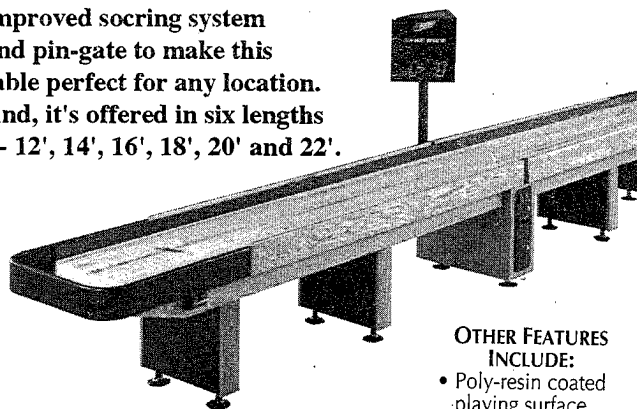
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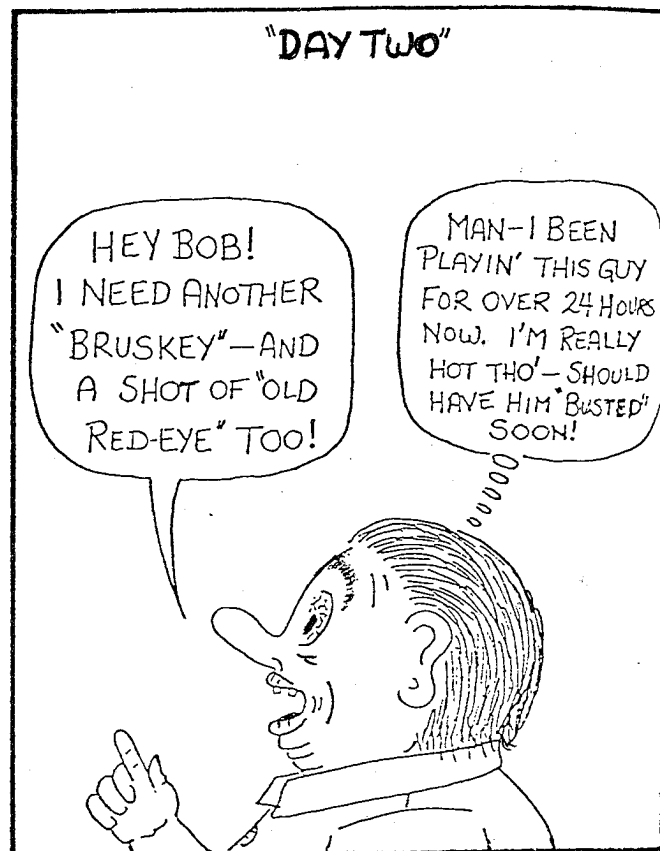
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Dear Friends:

On June 12-18, 1995, we will hold our 11th Annual Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion and Mickey Mickens Memorial Tournament at Harvey's Place in Street, Maryland. As part of that week-long event, a printed program will be distributed that will include: the history of shuffleboard, the winners of our previous 10 Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion tournaments, a program of events, a place to record this year's winners, advertising messages from those who support/service The World of Shuffleboard, and memorial tributes to Mickey Mickens.

We invite you to be a part of this "Once in a Lifetime Opportunity." Your advertising revenue will be used to cover the cost of printing this program, for a door prize to be awarded in your name for drawings at the tournament, plus a donation, also in your name, to the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame.

If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity, please fill out the form below and return to us by May 1, 1995.

Thank you for your consideration.

George & Donna Wilber, Publishers
THE BOARD TALK

Yes, I want to be a part of the 11th Annual Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion/Mickey Mickens Memorial Tournament printed program, with a prize awarded to participants and a contribution made to the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame in my name.

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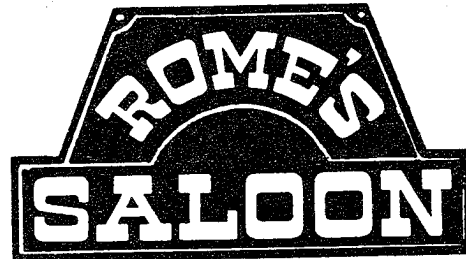
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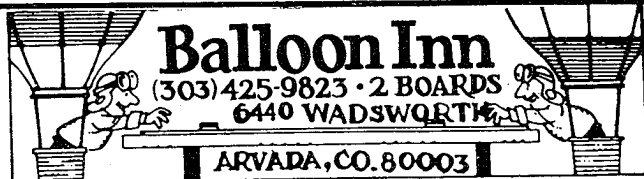
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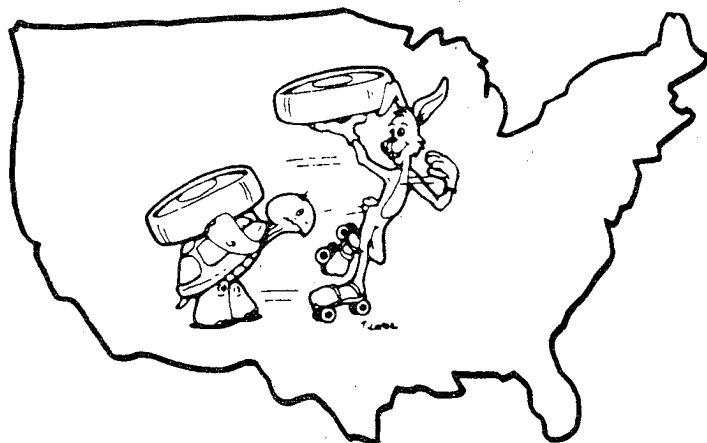
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