

# The Board Talk

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## Champion Shuffleboard/Texas Open BIG Success!

### Indiana Rules!

Over 100 contestants from seven states gathered at The Gold Nugget, Arlington, Texas, on Aug. 30-Sept. 4, for the Champion Shuffleboard/Texas Open. Eleven events, played on four in-house boards and eight new Champion boards, netted a total pot of over \$60,000.

The tournament started on Wednesday with a 4-person bring team event.



The Hoosier team of (from left) Ray Miller, Jim Long, Dave Boaz and Glen Ingram took top honors in the Div. I bring team. "I have always contended that the best shuffleboard in the world is played in Texas/Oklahoma, but Indiana may be a close second. Not only are they good shooters and fierce competitors, they are gracious, nice folks and good sports," said director Bobby Williams.

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The team of Bill Melton of Oklahoma, Harvey Walden of Tennessee, Danny Hersom and Dave Ramold of Texas, finished second in Div. I.

In the Div. II bring team, it was Tom Yates, Tom Clubb, Mark Steelman and Jeff Nodland, who took first place. Chris Smith, Geg Hixon, George Leigh and Steve Roheror, finished in second place.

Singles competition for Div. 1, 2's only, and 3's and above, was on Thursday's agenda.



The legendary Billy Mays (left) proved he's still got the stuff to be a winner as he took first in the Div. 1 singles. David Williams took second place honors.

The other Williams Brother, Bobby, finished third, with Harvey Kidd in fourth place. All are from Texas.

In the 2's only category, Marshall Partlow of Texas topped the field, with Leon Black of Michigan in second. Danny Norris and Anne Walker, both of Texas, finished third and fourth respectively.

For the 3's and above singles event, Jimmy Fernandez earned first place. Connie McCormick was second and Denise Klein was third.

On Friday, there were draw partner events for Div. I and Div. II.

In Div. I, Billy Melton drew Dale Koteris of Texas to win the biggest share of the pot. Bill Melton and Sally Goff, Oklahoma, took second place, with

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## **Texas Open** *(continued from Page 1)*

David Williams and Jeri Billard, both of Texas, in third place.

In Div. II draw partners, it was Jack Davis and Linda Nobles taking top honors. Morris Moss and Renee Roberts finished second, with Jack Snell and Bev Chaffin in third place. All were from Texas with the exception of Bev, who came to Arlington with husband Nick all the way from California.

### **Indiana -- Again!**

The six-person draft team event started on Saturday and, once again, the Hoosiers made their presence known.

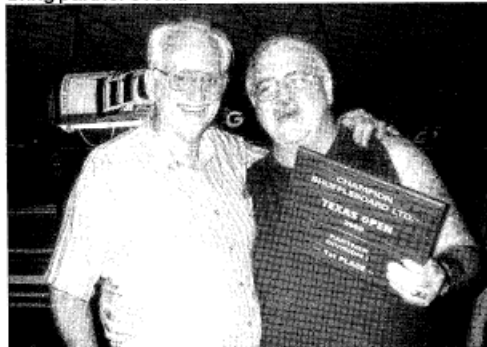


*Indiana Hall of Famer Jim Long (center) drafted Texans Rick Miller, Marshall Partlow, Rob Houchin, Lynda French and Mike Bolinger, and the team walked away with the plaques and first-place prizes.*

Taking second place was Johnny Ballard's team of Mike Taylor, Danny Norris, Tom French, Carol Audett and Danny Green.

Dave Boaz drafted fellow Hoosier Glen Ingram, plus Texans George Best, Pat Gainey, Randy Rogers and Lyndon (Coach) Baize to take third place.

The grand finale was on Sunday, a Div. I and II bring partner event.



*Wrapping up their successful week were Jim Long and Glen Ingram, winners of the Div. I bring partner.*

Johnny Ballard and Dave Ramold took second place, with Billy Mays and Jeff Womble in third.



*Mahlon Nobles and Jimmy Fernandez took first in Div. II doubles. Linda Nobles and Danny Green finished second.*

Finishing third were Tom French and Trevor Wade.

### **Thanks from the Director:**

"This was our best tournament yet," said director Bobby Williams. "The new boards provided by Kelye Stites of Champion Shuffleboard were the best I have ever seen for boards brought in and set up for a tournament. This was echoed by Bill Melton, a knowledgeable board refinisher and a great player. Tom Johnson, owner of the Gold Nugget, roasted a pig on Saturday and fed all his guests. It was superb! Everyone raved -- just melt-in-your-mouth delicious!

"To put on a tournament of this size is a very large undertaking and could not be done without the help of many gracious folks. Thanks are in order to Jeri Billard and Sally Goff for their computer work in registration, entries and sales; Johnny Wayne Crawford for adjusting, cleaning and maintaining all the boards; CW Walker, Morris Moss and Jeff Womble for delivering and setting up the boards; Tina Wade for running the bracket boards; Jack Davis and Harvey Kidd for handling the sales; and Gary Nelson for helping with dust and silicone. Special thanks to Scott at Triple Crown for donating the dust and to John of The Shuffleboard Federation for donating a set of weights.

"I hesitate to mention names because we were pleased that everyone came, but we were especially proud that Nick and Bev Chaffin from California came to play and the Indiana boys who came early, played everyone, and left with most of the money. We were also pleased that Angie Snyder and George Best came and played. George is a good shooter and does not let a disability stand in his way. There were some folks that we observed with a moment of silence to honor due to some

serious health problems: Sharon Summers, J.D. Sweet, David Veasey, and Rosanne Melton's father.

"Again, thanks to everyone for a great tournament. In addition to the Texas Open, we are seriously considering a tournament in Las Vegas in 2001. Let us know your thinking on this event.

"Last, but not least, congratulations to Cliff Goff on being named a director on the Table Shuffleboard Association," Bobby concluded.

## **Kelly/Richardson/Webster Win CO.NE.Head Classic II**

*By Kathi Lloyd*

The Co.Ne.heads came out in droves (Nebraska players came in cars) on Aug. 18-19 to the Balloon Inn, Arvada, Colorado, to compete in the most fun tournament of the year, the 2nd Annual Co.Ne.Head Classic.

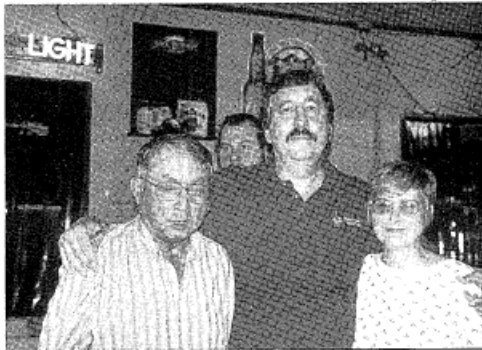
There were 11 three-person teams in this blind draw event and a payout of over \$2300. Bar owners Glenn and CeeCee Chavez added \$100 and had a delicious classic western barbecue dinner catered for the players on Saturday night.

Due to the astute rating ability of Jody Slack, the teams were very evenly drawn and it was any team's tournament to win. Jody and I thank Cyndi Busch for helping us with the Nebraska players' ratings, or he couldn't have done so well with the roster for the draw. Almost every match went right down to the wire with very close scores.



First place Co.Ne.heads were (from left) Len Webster (NE), captain Kevin Kelly(CO), and Mike Richardson (CO).

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Second place went to Ron Sosovec (center), Bill Shino and Jo Cook, all from Colorado.



Third place winners were Gwyn Orsi (left) and Shelly Hagen of Nebraska, and Mike Hedges, Colorado.

This was Shelly's first tournament and she made all of the Nebraska players proud with the level of her play. In this type of tournament, the A and B players more or less cancel each other out and it comes down to the performance of the C players quite frequently to determine the winning team. Shelly should be very proud of the way she played.

I had the privilege of playing with my teammates, Art Busch and Char Rahn. It gave me the opportunity to meet and get to know Art and get to know Char even better. What a treat that was for me! I hope they enjoyed it as much as I did.

Thanks to all the Nebraska players for making the trip to Colorado. I want to thank Gwyn Orsi for continuing to support Colorado shuffleboard. She has been a participant in countless tournaments here at the Balloon Inn over the past dozen years. It was great to have her play in this tournament.

There never seems to be enough time to visit with all the players when you are trying to run a tournament and play in it, too. So, I hope I see everyone again in Reno, or at least, on the next trip Jody and I make to Omaha.