

Volume 13, Issue 7 - March, 2012

# The Northern Colorado Top Guns Came Out in Full Force to Determine the "Best of the Best" 



Top Gun Shane Wertz

The Northern Colorado 8-Ball Top Gun was held at A Bit of Billiards in Longmont on Feb 25th, 2012. 47 players representing most S/L's came out to compete in this Double Elimination tournament. The Final match found Shane Wertz (SL7) in the hot seat waiting for Bobby Ray (SL7) to make his way thru the one loss side. Shane did not lose any momentum while waiting and was able to close the match out in 5 straight games. Congratulations to Shane on his win. He took home the 1 st place trophy along with $\$ 300.00$. Bobby Ray was awarded the 2 nd place trophy and $\$ 200.00$ for his efforts.

The Ladies made a great showing this event rounding out the next 3 spots. Congratulations to Kristi Renville (SL5) for her 3rd place finish. Kristi earned the 3rd place trophy, the Top Lady Trophy, AND $\$ 150.00$ for her play. Catherine Romero (SL4) finished in 4th place taking home $\$ 80.00$ and Michelle Eisenbarth (SL3) tied with Shannon Rutherford (SL6) to finish out top 5 places.

Top Lady Gun Kristi Renville


Congratulations to everyone that competed in our Top Gun event. Players earn the opportunity to play in the Top Gun by playing in weekly APA league play through out Northern Colorado and being in the group of high percentage winners during the season.

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## Cue Times Billiard News

Dedicated to the promotion of pool in recreational and competitive environments, the Cue Times strives to bring you unbiased coverage of tournaments, leagues and recreational play in the Rocky Mountain region.

Carrying of advertisement does not indicate endorsement or guarantee of the same by the editors or publishers. Opinions expressed in the Cue Times are those of the authors. For advertising rates and subscription information, or if you have an interesting story you want us to publish contact:

Cue Times Billiard News<br>P. O. Box 283<br>Conifer, CO 80433<br>Phone: 303-886-1854 www.cuetimes.com<br>E-mail: info@cuetimes.com

> The Cue Times is a monthly publication. Every effort will be made to distribute the Cue Times by the 5 th of each month (in the Denver Metro area). Other areas outside of our region will receive delivery as soon as possible. Events scheduled for the first 7 days of any month should be posted in the prior months issue. No portion of the Cue Times may be reprinted without the express written consent of the editors/publishers. Articles and photos submitted for publication must be received by the 25 th of the month.

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## Thank you all for your contributions to the Cue Times Billiard News

For general inquiries and advertising information, call us at:

## Instruction With Tom www.tomrosspool.com

Note from Editor: Due to an ongoing health issue, Tom will not be contributing new articles for awhile. For now, we will dip into his vast archives while he's on the mend. Please keep Tom in your thoughts and prayers.

September 2000
Increasingly over the past ten or fifteen years pool players have adopted a more aggressive style of play. In the past, conventional wisdom dictated that if you do not have a good shot play defensively even it merely leaves a long, tough shot for your opponent. Since nine ball replaced straight pool as the standard game that wisdom is giving way to a stubborn reluctance to allow one's opponent back to the table with any shot. We all have too many bad memories now of losing to a great bank, jump or kick shot, tactics that were rarely employed in the straight-pool era.

Of course a well-executed safety is a devastating weapon since the reward for leaving your opponent helpless is often ball in hand. However we face many tough situations throughout a match or series of matches where playing a good safety is at least as difficult as the bank, thin-cut or combination shot in front

of us. As with every tactical question the solution will rarely be the straightforward product of a simple rule but will require weighing options and applying judgment. And the answer in a tough situation is never just to come out blasting; we know those players and it is their scarcity that forces most of us to work regular jobs.

Because nine ball is a rotation game we find ourselves facing the choice between safety and a difficult shot more often than we do in straight pool. Sometimes our opponent leaves us this way and sometimes we do it to ourselves. Regardless, the game calls for us to take more chances on difficult shots. We old guys are conditioned, from our straight-pool experience, not to take chances since a competent player can run 50 balls while a great player is liable to run out the game from any open shot. In nine ball, where the odds are against a champion running five or six racks, the stakes are not quite so high. Nobody wants to sit down and watch his opponent shoot but the nine-ball player can feel more confident than the straight-pool player that he will get another chance at the table if he makes a mistake early in the match. Here lies the primary cause of the shift from the cautious play of the past to the more aggressive and flashy play of nowadays.

When faced with a tough shot the first thing you must do is examine the table to evaluate the risk. Sometimes you will find that you can go for an extremely difficult shot with a great chance for a safety or least a tough leave if you miss. These are called two-way shots since a good result is likely whether you make the shot or not.
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6501 W. Mississippi Lakewood 303-936-8513

## Free Pool:

Mon-Fri, 10am-5pm \& Sat, 7 pm - close

* with two drink minimum


Let us sponsor your Soltball Team! WEEKLY POOL TOURNAMENTS Friday Night 8-Ball S10.00 Entry Fee ~ BCA Rules

Every Saturday in March 8-Ball Tourneys for BC's League Players ONLY
Starts at Noon sharp, S10 entry Top Prize every Saturday:
One round trip ticket to Las Vegas!

## March 3rd OPEN 8-BALL <br> March 17th <br> OPEN <br> SCOTCH DOUBLES <br> BCA, Handicapped 1 pm start <br> $\$ 20$ Per Team

BCA, Handicapped
1 pm start
$\$ 10$ Entry Fee

## FREE TEXAS HOLD'EM POKER TOURNAMENTS

# "Ya better say yer prayers, ya flea-bitten varmint. I'm-a gonna blow ya to smithereens!" - Yosemite Sam - 

## By OMG

February 9th, 2012
I recently took a trip to play in the annual Jay Swanson Memorial 9-Ball Tournament held at Hard Times Billiards in Bellflower, CA.

Jay "Swanee" Swanson was a pool player from San Diego from before my time. I have watched a tape of Swanson playing a very young and railthin Johnny Archer, though. You who have seen the match know what I am talking about. Swanson was known as the "Gentle Giant" and this tournament honors his memory.

I had to get up at a slightly ungodly hour to make the starting line at this tournament (doors open at 9:30, matches begin at 10:00 a.m.), but we all do what we gotta do. Luckily, it was another balmy winter day in Southern California and I could stay as toasty as I pleased as long as I stayed in the sun.

A common question I get is: "How long does it take?" The trip takes anywhere from two to two-and-a-half hours on the weekends. It's not too bad considering plenty of people are driving from many more hours away.

The trip was uneventful and that's about as good as it gets.

The "Swanee" is Southern California's largest tournament. It knocks out 191 of the 192 players entered in two days via races to 7 on the winner's side and races to 6 on the loser's side on the first day, and races to 7 and 7 on the second day. The relatively low entry fee ( $\$ 60$ when I first started playing, $\$ 80$ now) and high-quality field (this year's star attendees included world champions, U.S. Open champions, Mosconi Cup members, and other assorted professionals) ensure that a nice variety of players of all skill levels come for the big dance.

If you're gonna have your ass kicked, might as well be by the best, right?

This tournament is crazy. Just think of the logistics. And add the fact that Hard Times doesn't have the loosest pockets around and you have a tournament that needs to run on a tight schedule if everyone's going to get a decent amount of rest. Matches have to be knocked out one after the other and players must play back-to-back-toback.

Hoo boy.
Match \#1
I played pretty damn terrible in this match. I lost 7-1, but I forced myself to shake my opponent's hand (not all that special, I guess, since I knew the guy) but I still hated every second of it. The
fact that I was even able to do it is miraculous. Every year, the topic of my dislike and infrequency for shaking hands comes up. It looks like someone called my number already so let's talk about it. It boils down to this:

I don't like shaking hands and I have my reason for $i t$.

Plenty of horrible people in the world shake hands and it doesn't make them better people for it. I choose, on most occasions, not to shake hands and if you feel it makes me a worse person for it, so be it. There will be a day when I'll make the reason known but that day is not today.
In recent years, I have "mellowed" out a little (hard to believe, isn't it?) and occasionally, I'll get it in my head to do the handshake thing for a while, but I repeat -- it is sporadic. Any work done on this issue by me will take eons until there is any recognizable improvement.
Imagine we're looking at some ancient seabed which through tectonic forces has raised up to observable level. Each of my handshakes is a drop of water. When those drops of water have carved out the Grand Canyon, only then shall I be somewhat inured to the Socially Acceptable Level of Handshaking.

You get the idea.
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## "Stay in Stroke" Billiards \&

 Hank's Billiards (303) 424-1822 Get Ready For VegasAA's \& Down Bracketed 8-Ball Tournament March $24^{\text {th }} \& 5^{\text {th }}, 2012$ $\$ 750.00$ Added!

32 AA's - 16 A's - 16 Women - Double Elimination
Race To 5 - Alternate Breaks - 64 players \$25.00 Entry Fee

Saturday Player Auction 10:00 A. M. and Sunday
Run on a Time Schedule
All Players are Subject to Approval
Sign up Deadline is Monday March 19, 2012 7:00 P.M. No Exceptions

Contact Richard Montoya - Stay In Stroke Billiards 303-748-6653 - stayinstrokebilliards@gmail.com
Tournaments/Leagues/Committed to Growth


# Rick Field Dominates at Greenfield's Stay in Stroke Event 

Rick field came to play and ends up smashing the competition. He beat ATM (Andrew Pettinger) 6-4, Bill Skinner 6-2, Elliott Fields 6-2, and Bill Skinner in the finals in a thriller. At one point Rick broke the rack and made 6 solids, and had straight in shape on the 7 ball and a stop shot on the 8 ball in the side. Everything went his way.

Elliott Fields made a valiant effort as he went through the AA Bracket without a hitch. He is becoming a great player and it is really nice to see.


Thanks to all who participated. Here is how they finished:

| $1^{\text {st }}$ | Rick Field | $\$ 350.00$ | $\$ 400.00$ |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: |
| $2^{\text {nd }}$ | Bill Skinner | $\$ 300.00$ | $\$ 300.00$ |
| $3^{\text {rd }}$ | Carol James | $\$ 250.00$ | $\$ 200.00$ |
| $4^{\text {th }}$ | Mike Lopez | $\$ 165.00$ | $\$ 100.00$ |
| $5^{\prime} 6^{\text {th }}$ | James Davis | $\$ 70.00$ | $\$ 75.00$ |
|  | Elliot Fields | $\$ 70.00$ | $\$ 75.00$ |
| $7 / 8^{\text {th }}$ | Holly Figeuroa | $\$ 50.00$ | $\$ 50.00$ |
|  | James Brothers | $\$ 50.00$ | $\$ 50.00$ |
| $9-12^{\text {th }}$ | Terry Duncan | $\$ 30.00$ | $\$ 30.00$ |
|  | Mike Sordin | $\$ 30.00$ | $\$ 30.00$ |
|  | ATM | $\$ 30.00$ | $\$ 30.00$ |
|  | Jimmy Gardner | $\$ 30.00$ | $\$ 30.00$ |



Other people to watch are James Davis, Mike Sordin, Holly Figeuroa, Congratulations to all from Stay In Stroke Billiards And Greenfields Sports Bar.

Watch for upcoming events!!

Carol James dominated not only the woman's bracket but the A bracket as well. She beat her close friend Terry Duncan 5-2, and then knocked one of the top A players into the loser's bracket (Mike Lopez) a player, who by the way is up and coming himself. He lost to Bill S. in a hill/hill match.


Billiard Education Foundation
Date: January 25, 2012

## Billiard Education Foundation PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Laura Smith
Executive Director
LauraSmith@BilliardEducation.org 303.926.1039

## Billiard Education Foundation Scholarship Opportunities for High School Seniors

The Billiard Education Foundation (BEF) is accepting applications for the 2012 scholarship awards. The objective of the BEF Academic Scholarship Program is to grant scholarships to high school seniors who have benefited from the sport of billiards and are pursuing a college education.

The BEF Academic Scholarship Program is divided into two categories: Excellence in Education scholarship (a single \$2,000 award) and Aiming for Higher Education scholarships (three individual scholarships at $\$ 1,000$ each). Each applicant will be considered in both categories; only one completed application is required and must be postmarked no later than Monday, April 2nd, 2012. Applications can be downloaded at the BEF website:
www.BilliardEducation.org.
Students must adhere to the following scholarship criteria:

1) hold a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA (on a 4.0 scale);
2) must have an ACT score of at least 23 or SAT combined score (critical reading + math) of 1050 or higher;
3) submit a 500-1000 word essay on how billiards has been an integral part of their life;
4) must be accepted to an accredited undergraduate academic program by June 1;
5) must attend an accredited undergraduate institution and carry at least 12 hours per semester.

The final application must also include a letter from the applicant outlining academic achievements, leadership and/or community service work, a description of the applicant's background and career objectives plus personal and professional (academic) goals. Applicants must also submit an official High School Transcript and SAT/ ACT scores.

The Billiard Education Foundation has awarded over $\$ 200,000$ in scholarships since 1993. Said BEF executive director Laura Smith, "The BEF is proud to help young adults who have benefited from billiards to offset their education expenses and become our future leaders."

## Felt Patrons Unite for a Fun Day and a Great Cause

Photos \& Story by Samm Diep, FeltBar.com

On Saturday, February 25, Felt Billiards in Englewood, Colorado hosted the Ron Lyle Memorial 8-Ball Tournament to honor and remember the late heavy-weight boxing champion. Ron was a friend and regular at Felt and his spirit will continue to live on.

The local billiard community came together on this day to pay tribute to the local legend while raising money for a wonderful cause. An 8-ball tournament was held in Ron's honor as that was his game of choice. The gentle giant would frequent Felt as both a player and often spectator. He would share boxing stories and insights from the mind of a world champion.

At Ron's passing in November, his family requested contributions be made to the Cox-Lyle Red Shield Boxing Program in lieu of donations or flowers. Felt has since continued its fundraising efforts by creating a Ron Lyle Special with Ron's favorite meal: bacon cheeseburger, fries, soft drink, and a scoop of ice cream. $\$ 4$ from each order sold has been collected for the boxing program.
$100 \%$ of the entry fees from the tournament also went toward the program and generous donations were made from businesses throughout the community to be awarded as tournament prizes. Four official sporting jerseys (valued at \$200+ each) were anonymously donated. Congratulations to Nick Dittmar of Littleton for taking home $\$ 100$ for the Mac Outlet store. Hands That Heal You in Englewood, graciously contributed four one-hour massage vouchers and Felt kicked in another $\$ 100$ in bar tabs to various winners. Local professional, Marc Vidal donated his time taking challenge matches all day and individually raised nearly $\$ 200$ from his efforts.

Due to the support and kindness throughout the community, Felt was able to raise over $\$ 500$ for


Ron's wife Jill with Captains Ron \& Roberta McKinney of the Salvation Army
the program. Salvation Army Corps Commanding Officers Ron \& Roberta McKinney also enjoyed the day, ordering a couple Ron Lyle Specials before receiving the donation dollars. "It was a pleasure to visit with you and the great people at Felt. I can see why it was one of Ron's favorite places," said Captain Ron McKinney.

Photos memorialized Ron's favorite seat in the house and on the big screen, highlight videos of his boxing matches played all day. As a special treat, Ron's wife Jill stopped by to meet all the supporters and share the special day.

The Cox-Lyle boxing program collaborates with existing Salvation Army youth programs to help kids who are at risk of becoming involved in any number of negative activities that plague inner-city youth. Aside from improving the educational outlook, the boxing program aims at instilling six life skills: positive thinking, selflessness, integrity, courage, adaptation, and persistence.


Felt House Pro, Samm Diep presents donations to Captain Ron McKinney of the Salvation Army


Tournament Director, Brandie Rejent
"Ron was a friend of mine and when I asked him if he would like to leave Vegas, come home to Denver and really make a difference in the lives of the children of Denver, he did not hesitate to relocate from Nevada back to Denver," added Captain McKinney. And that, he certainly did. The program started in 2002 with only six kids growing to today's three-digit numbers.

If you wish to make a contribution or learn more about this great program, visit coxlyleboxing.org.



AZBilliards.com

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You Name It and We've Got It!

## 



I dedicate this month's column to the late Ron Lyle who, regardless of his past, turned his life a round, moved back to Denver, and devoted his efforts to the Cox-Lyle Red Shield Boxing Program, a youth program designed by the Salvation Army to help kids who are at risk of becoming involved in negative activities, including dropping out of school, participating in drug abuse, joining in gang violence.
Aside from improving the educational outlook, the boxing program aims at instilling six important life skills: positive thinking, selflessness, integrity, courage, adaptation, and persistence. I immediately saw how these valuable skills could be applied to improving not only life but our pool game.

## Positive Thinking

I can't stress this one enough. Positive thinking not only helps to reduce stress, particularly when it comes to the pressures of competing, but it also facilitates in giving you more energy and who couldn't use that in their pool game?

When it comes to competing, most of us fall victim to our own fears of failure. In reality, those ideas all manifested from the seeds of just a few negative thoughts. Planting the seeds of positive thoughts can have the opposite effect.

Think positively, feel positively, and live positively.

## Selflessness

Life is not all about winning, especially if it's at the expense of others. It's proven, champions have to live, eat, and breathe success and completely believe they are the best in order for it to happen. It can be a lonely road victory. However, true champions understand what it means to make sacrifices for the things they believe in.

Give a little piece of yourself by passing on a little knowledge and experience to a beginner.

## Integrity

Winning means nothing if it cannot
be done with integrity. To become a world class player in every respect of the term, it not only requires hard work and dedication but means being a leader and a role model for those who admire you. A professional does not lie or cheat to win. A professional plays by the rules and wins with honor and the utmost respect from his/her peers.

## Courage

Believe in yourself. Inspiration can come from anywhere, but only you can summon the faith and confidence required to follow through. Courage comes from within and if you don't believe you can do it, then you never will. "Whether you think you can or you think you can't - you're right," Henry Ford.

## Adaptation

Adaptation begins with preparation. You would never show up for a tournament without your pool cues. And likewise, being mentally and physically prepared for a match is just as important. When it comes to adapting to the situation and the equipment, it can only be done when you give yourself the best opportunity to do so.

## Persistence

Never give up. This statement is used so commonly that it often loses its meaning. In pool, this means to keep fighting for every ball and every game no matter what the score is. It means you're willing to practice the same shot 100 times a day until you never miss it again. It means to never break your cue down regardless of how bad you may be playing. It means you vow to let everything else go and keep grinding away no matter what else is going on.

I think we could all learn something from these six key principles, both in life and in pool.

Samm Diep, "Cherry Bomb" -
(DenverCherryBomb.com)
House Pro at Felt Billiards
Englewood, CO
League Manager for Rocky Mountain USA Pool League (RockyMountainPool.com)
SammsPocket.com | fun \& unique products for pool players
PoolTipJar.com | random smatterings of pool thoughts, articles, news, \& reviews

# Get The Green 10Ball Tournament March 17th \& 18th 

## MAIN EVENT*

Mar 17-18 - Open to everyone
$\$ 40$ Entry (+\$10 GF) if paid by 3/15 (\$50 Entry (+\$10 GF) after 3/15) Doors open Sat at 6AM - Tournament starts at 10AM
$\$ 500$ added w/ $32 \cdot \$ 750$ added w/ $48 \cdot \$ 1,000$ added w/ 64
Race to 7-Winner breaks • Rack your own - Magic Racks

* This event is a Qualifier for the 4th Annual U.S. Open

10-Ball Championship in Las Vegas, NV (May 14-19, 2012)


Sunday, Mar 18 - A's \& Down only \$15 Entry (+\$5 GF) • No AA's, Masters, or Pros Doors at 6AM - Tournament starts at 10AM Limited to 24 players - Race to $4 / 3$. Alt breaks
\$200 added with full field
Register online at www.feltbar.com/register


## Press Release

For Immediate Release
Contact: Samm Diep
Email: samm@feltbar.com

## Bull Durham Casino Signs as New Sponsor for 2012 Felt Tournament Series

February 10, 2012: Felt Billiards in Englewood, Colorado is proud to announce Bull Durham Casino of Blackhawk as its newest sponsor for the 2012 Tournament Series. Their historic building has been a Colorado landmark since the late 1800's before ultimately becoming the casino we know it as today.
As the first official table sponsor for the tournament series, it's currently the feature table used for premier matches and all the finals matches. "It's nice to see businesses outside of the billiard world taking notice and supporting pool. We need more of that and we welcome more 'outside' relationships," said Samm Diep, Marketing Director and House Pro at Felt.
"We are thrilled to sponsor the 2012 Felt Tournament Series. It's a great fit because both organizations are about delivering friendly, competitive experiences to our players," added Corby Harrell, Marketing Director for Doc Holliday Casino and Bull Durham Casino.

Global Casinos owns and operates the Bull Durham and Doc Holliday casinos, which are located an hour west of Denver in the neighboring mountain towns of Black Hawk and Central City. Both Bull Durham and Doc Holliday offer limited menus and bar service. With a focus on building customer loyalty, both casinos strive to offer state-of-the-art gaming experiences and personalized customer service.

Additional sponsorship opportunities for the tournament series are still available. For more information on the series or sponsoring an event, visit: www.feltbar.com/2012series

# Calendar of Events for the 2012 ACS, BCAPL, and VNEA Nationals 

Check with your League Operator for more information or to sign up
2012 ACS Nationals - May 5-12, 2012
Tropicana Hotel \& Casino, Las Vegas, NV (On-Time Entries to be postmarked by March 26, 2012 - Late Entries to be postmarked by April 9, 2012) For more information, including entry fees, go online at www.americancuesports.org or check with your ACS League Operator

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | May 1 | May 2 | May 3 | May 4 <br> - 9-Ball Singles \& 8-Ball Scotch Doubles check-in begins at 6:00 pm | May 5 <br> - 9-Ball Singles begins at 9:00 am <br> - 8-Ball Scotch Doubles begins at 6:00 pm |
| May 6 <br> - 9-Ball Singles concludes <br> - 8-Ball Scotch Doubles concludes <br> - All 8-Ball Singles checkin begins at Noon | May 7 <br> - All 8-Ball Singles play starts at 9:00 am <br> - All 8 and 9-Ball teams check-in begins at Noon | May 8 <br> - All 8-Ball Singles play concludes <br> - All 8 and 9-Ball teams check-in starts at noon | May 9 <br> - 9-Ball Teams play begins at 9:00 am <br> - Open and Standard 8-Ball Teams play begins at noon |  | May 11 <br> - All team events play continues <br> - Sportsmen (2nd Chance) Teams check-in TBA and play to start TBD | May 12 <br> 9-Ball Teams, Open 8-Ball <br> Teams, Standard 8-Ball Teams and Sportsmen Teams conclude with times TBD |

## 2012 BCAPL National Championships - May 9-19, 2012

Riviera Hotel \& Casino, Las Vegas, NV (On-Time Entries to be postmarked by March 26, 2012 - Late Entries to be postmarked by April 9, 2012)
For more information, including entry fees, go online at www.playbca.com or check with your BCA League Operator

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| May 6 | May 7 | May 8 | May 9 <br> -9-Ball Challenge begins at 1:00 pm <br> - 9-Ball Singles begins at 9:00 am | May 10 <br> - Open Scotch Doubles play begins at 7:00 pm <br> - 9-Ball Challenge and 9-Ball Singles conclude | May 11 <br> - Master \& Advanced Scotch Doubles play begins at Noon | May 12 <br> - Grand Master Singles begins at noon <br> - Singles play begins at 9:00 am |
| May 13 <br> - Singles, Grand Masters Singles and Scotch Doubles play continues | May 14 <br> - Second Chance Singles play begins at 8:00 pm <br> - Singles and Scotch Doubles play continues <br> - Artistic Pool play continues | May 15 <br> - Singles, Second Chance Singles and Scotch Doubles concludes <br> - Grand Master Singles concludes | May 16 <br> - Open \& Women's Teams play begins at 9:00 am <br> - Artistic Pool play continues | May 17 <br> - Open Teams play continues <br> - Master Teams and Trophy Teams play begins at 9:00 am | May 18 <br> - Open Teams, Master Teams and Trophy Teams play continues <br> - Second Chance Teams play begins at 6:00 pm <br> - Artistic Pool play concludes | May 19 <br> - Open Teams, Master Teams, Trophy Teams and Second Chance Teams play concludes |

## 2012 VNEA International Championships - May 24 - June 2, 2012

Bally's in Las Vegas, NV (Entries and fees are due to your VNEA League Operator by Tuesday, April 17th)
For more information, go online at www.vnea.com or check with your VNEA League Operator

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| May 20 | May 21 | May 22 | May 23 <br> *NOTE: Singles do NOT need to check in if your name is already on the brackets. Teams MUST check-in on the appropriate day. | May 24 <br> - 8-Ball \& 9-Ball Singles check-in from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm <br> - Certified Instructor Seminar from 1:00 pm to 10:00 pm <br> - Mini-Tournaments begin at 3:00 pm | May 25 <br> - Special 9-Ball Singles check-in from 8:00 am to 8:30 am <br> 9-Ball Singles play begins at 9:00 am (includes Classics and Seniors) <br> - Special 8-Ball Singles check-in from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm | May 26 <br> - Special 8-Ball Singles check-in from 8:00 am to 8:30 am <br> - 8 -Ball Singles play begins at 9:00 am (includes Classics and Seniors) <br> - Prize Money available from noon to 7:00 pm \& Scotch Doubles sign-up <br> - Scotch Doubles begins at 9:00 am |
| May 27 <br> - 8-Ball Singles play continues <br> - Certified Referee School at 2:00 pm <br> - Team check-in from 7:00 to 9:00 pm <br> - Masters Singles Finals (TBA) <br> - Scotch Doubles Finals (TBA) <br> - Mini-Tournaments (TBA) | May 28 <br> - 8-Ball \& 9-Ball Finals (TBA) <br> - Certified Referee School at 9:00 am <br> - Certified Instructor Re-certification Class from Noon to 4:00 pm <br> - Team check-in from Noon to $6: 00 \mathrm{pm}$ <br> - Mini-Tournaments begin at 9 am <br> - Prize Money available from 10:00 am to noon and 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm <br> - Suds \& Chips Mixer at 7:30 pm (includes Awards Presentations, Parade of Flags, etc.) | May 29 <br> Team check-in from 7:30 to 8:30 am <br> - Team competition begins at 9:00 am (except Master Teams) <br> - Team Uniform Photos @ VNEA Booth from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm <br> - Prize Money available from Noon to 4:00 pm <br> - Mini-Tournaments (TBA) | May 30 <br> - Certified Referee School at 8:00 am <br> - Team competition continues at 9:00 am <br> - Team Uniform Photos @ VNEA Booth from 9:00 am to $6: 00 \mathrm{pm}$ <br> - Master Team competition begins at 9 am <br> - Prize Money available from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm <br> - Sports Division competitions begin (TBA) <br> - Hall of Famers Party from 6:00 to 7:00 pm <br> - Mini-Tournaments (TBA) | May 31 <br> - Team competition continues at 9:00 am <br> - Executive Committee Meeting at 9:00 am <br> - Speed Pool Minis from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm <br> - Prize Money available from 3:00 pm to $5: 00 \mathrm{pm}$ <br> - President's Reception/ Meritorious Service Awards at 8:00 pm <br> - Mini-Tournaments (TBA) | June 1 <br> - Team competition continues at 9:00 am <br> - Prize Money available from 10:00 am to Noon, 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm and 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm <br> - Hardluck competition begins at 10:00 am <br> - Artistic Pool Finals from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm <br> - Charter Holders Meeting from noon <br> - Charter Holder round table 2:00 pm <br> - Cues for Kids Giveaways at 7:00 pm at VNEA Booth <br> - Team Finals (TBA) <br> - Mini-Tournaments (TBA) | June 2 <br> - Team competition continues at 9:00 am <br> - Prize Money available from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm <br> - Charter Holder Roundtable at 11:00 am <br> - Team Finals (TBA) <br> - Banquet Cocktail Hour from 6:00 to 7:00 pm <br> - Banquet at 7:00 pm <br> - Awards Presentation and Entertainment at 8:00 pm |

## Instruction <br> With Tom

continued from page 3

Look at the shot in the diagram, a classic two-way shot. The first thing you will notice here is that there is no shot on the seven. After that you will see the opportunity for a good safety by sending the seven down table and leaving the cue ball behind the nine. An experienced player will see an offensive opportunity here as well. Though it is a low-percentage shot, the set up is perfect to bank the seven off of the short rail into the opposite side pocket. Practice this shot with the proper speed to hold the cue ball behind the nine and send the seven to the middle of the opposite short rail, point X , if you miss. Your top priority is to keep the cue ball behind the nine on this shot so the possible, unpredictable roll off of the pocket point of the side still leaves your opponent safe. You would not play a shot like this in a situation where a miss leaves your opponent a good shot or in a situation that does not yield a good shot for you on the next ball if you make the shot.

Usually in a tough spot we are not so fortunate to have a clear, two-way shot like the one in the diagram. Most of the time when there is no good shot the best option is to play a safety. Playing an effective safety however can
be difficult when you have to control the speed and direction of the cue ball and object ball very precisely to execute successfully. Sometimes you will see a possible safety but notice that its execution is very difficult, a paper-thin cut or sending the cue ball two or three rails with perfect speed to hide behind a ball. If you do not see a safety that you know you can execute with confidence you should consider playing the shot. My own rule of thumb dictates that if the safety is questionable or appears as difficult as the shot I play the shot. Some players will pass up an easy bank shot in favor of a difficult safety. Another factor that you must weigh is the position that you will have for the next shot. If you do not see simple, natural position for the next ball you probably need to lean back toward the safety. Being forced to manipulate the cue ball while pocketing a difficult shot may be too much to handle and nothing is worse than making a great shot only to find yourself facing a harder one or worse still, no shot.

As the game changes and players continue kicking and jumping balls better than ever the conventional wisdom for safety strategy is changing with it. I believe that players are executing tighter, more powerful safeties nowadays and, in situations where a truly devastating safety is not an available option, going for shots that others would have passed up a few years ago in favor of a weaker safety. What used to be cut and dried, "no good shot, leave a bad one for your opponent," is becoming more complex
as other options appear more effective. Examine your own safety play to see if it is winning games for you. Also look for and practice safeties that would stop any player. Finally, pay attention to the pros and compare their responses in bad-shot situations to what you think you might do in the same predicament.


## Still need to get Qualfified

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 VISIT

## "Big Bellies" Came Through Scotch Doubles Tournament

by Cue Times Staff
On February 12 ${ }^{\text {th }}$, Felt Billiards in Englewood, Colorado hosted the second event of its 2012 Tournament Series with a Jack-n-Jill Scotch Doubles event in honor of Valentine's Day. The day boasted 16 coed teams of sweethearts and not-sosweethearts that spanned from Fort Collins to Colorado Springs. The game was bar table 8 -ball on the winner side and 9 -ball on the one-loss side, alternate-breaks, race-to-five games.

The duos were encouraged to come up with fun team names. A couple strong teams included "Milk \& Cookies" with 2011 U.S. Amateur Prelim Winners Aimee Peterson and Mike Ellis, and "War Party" with "Cowboy" Emil Richards and Isabel Gutierrez from Fort Collins. The name "OPP" was given to the team of Terry Duncan and Doug James as James' other half (Carol) partnered with Bill Skinner on the team of "Tiki Gods." Both pairs finished in the top four.

It was the unnamed team of WPBA professional Laura Smith and partner Tim Thompson who went undefeated into the finals. They ran several racks together throughout the day before encountering a pair of "Big Bellies." As a last minute decision, top player Neal Morrison teamed up with Felt house pro Samm Diep. Big Bellies were dished their first loss by Smith and Thompson and looked forward to their 8-ball rematch in the first set of the finals. Spectators enjoyed the savvy patternplay by both teams but in the end, Big Bellies
broke and ran to claim the hill game before sealing the match 5-3.

In the 9-ball set, Smith and Thompson jumped to a quick 3-0 lead. Diep took a short break and returned to find a bead marked in their favor. Morrison had snapped in the 9 and their opponents were racking. The two instructors would continue to win the next two games to make it 3-3, and then 4-4. In the final rack, at hill-hill, Morrison's cue ball drifted just a little too far, leaving Diep a railfirst kick on the 6 ball. She managed to kick it in with shape for the 7 for Morrison and the two closed out the set 5-4.

Felt added $\$ 300$ to the prize fund even with only 16 teams. And, with the overwhelming interest for more scotch doubles events, Felt plans to host many more tournaments like this one in the future with even more added money.

For more information about the 2012 Tournament Series, visit feltbar.com/2012series. Felt Billiards is located at 101 West Floyd Avenue in Englewood, Colorado and is home to the best weekly tournaments, nightly food and drink specials, and a home away from home for players and spectators alike. Check out feltbar.com for more information and a complete calendar of events.

Special thanks go to the sponsors for this event: Bull Durham Casino in Blackhawk, CO (BullDurhamCasino.com), Access Printing in Englewood (AccessPrint.biz), Rocky Mountain


Top Finishers: Bill \& Carol (3rd), Samm \& Neal (1st), Doug \& Terry (4th), Tim and Laura (2nd)

USA Pool League (RockyMountainPool.com), and the Magic Ball Rack courtesy of CueSports International (playbca.com/magicballrack.aspx). Special recognition also goes to Brandie Rejent, Don Posri, and Sean Thamrongpradith for their thankless hard work all weekend. Additional sponsorship opportunities are available for the tournament series. Contact Felt for more information.

## Payouts

| $1^{\text {st }}$ | "Big Bellies" <br> Neal Morrison \& Samm Diep | $\$ 250$ |
| :--- | :--- | ---: |
| $2^{\text {nd }}$ | Laura Smith \& Tim Thompson | $\$ 120$ |
| $3^{\text {rd }}$ | "Tiki Gods" <br> Bill Skinner \& Carol James | $\$ 120$ |
| $4{ }^{\text {th }}$ | "OPP" <br> Doug James \& Terry Duncan | $\$ 58$ |



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## Mile High Pool Leagues Crowns Fall Session Team Champions

Pieces of Eight, Brews \& Cues and The Wreckin Crew declared victory at the Mile High Pool Leagues Fall Session Championships at Greenfields Pool and Sports Bar. Pieces of Eight from Greenfield's won the 8 -ball tournament. Brews \& Cues out of Love's Shack won in 9-ball. The Wreckin Crew from Greenfield's took the Ladies Division. Beyond bragging rights and trophies, each team took home $\$ 1,000$ in prize money. The runners-up were Cheap Dates from Greenfield's in 8-ball, The Chalk Jockeys from Red Lion Tavern in 9-ball and the ladies of Catastrophes from Club Level.


8-Ball Champions - Pieces of Eight: Eric Kooi, Diane Kooi, Nicholas Page, Mike Kendle, Emily Stokes, Ryan Birmingham, Matthew Sandoval and Jeremy Kendle


8-Ball Runners Up - Cheap Dates: Kirk Askelson, Erik Askelson, Hal Quist, Jack Quist, Paul Richardson, Jon Trout, Sally Morrison, and Todd Michael


9-Ball Champions - Brews amd Cues: Jeff Estes, Paul Cordova, Kevin Tenorio, Sarah Dobler, Rex Goodbeau, Sherri Goodbeau, Joshua McFarland and Meagan Mysch


9-Ball Runners Up - Chalk Jockeys: Ross Teeple, Manuel Maez, Autumn Teeple, Jeff Gage, George Smith, Manuel Herrera, Sandra Herrera and Rick Arellano


Ladies Division Champions - Wrecking Crew: Keke Foster, Max Garcia, Tamra Krebs, Mary Corro, Lynn Mills, Patricia Massaro, Lynda Byrd and Kelly Byrd


Ladies Division Runners Up - Catastrophes: Shelley Goldner, Roxane Strayer, Tiffany Furrow, Lavonne Parrish, Cindy Quintana, Lorinda Davis, Tamara Castellano, andNicole Sollenberger


## Yosemite Sam by OMG continued from page 4

Match \#2
This was an ugly, ugly match. My opponent was someone I knew and a nice person who, not unlike myself, expected the best performance out of himself at all times. This became difficult for both of us because we had an awkwardly situated table in an area of high foot traffic and general idiocy. At one point, a guy came out of the tournament room, stood by our table and continued yakking on his phone. Well, that's the way tournaments go, I guess.

Match \#3
I hate having to play people I like because I feel there can be no victory, only defeat. Especially if we're both on the one-loss side. Maybe this is why I prefer to dislike the general populace.

## Match \#4

By this point, I'd spent most of the day in a slightly grumpy state of mind. Playing substandard pool does that to me. But, as I said before, I very occasionally get the idea that I should be A Better Person. I'm not sure what triggers these episodes but I think it might be low blood sugar or a low blood-alcohol level or something of the
sort. Anyways, my next match was with someone I did not know and I took a deep breath, cracked my neck a couple of times, and decided that it was never too late to try and be A Better Person. My match was called and I went to my assigned table.

I looked around but my opponent wasn't there yet. I threw out three balls on the table and hit them in. A man who was a DEAD RINGER for Yosemite Sam (but not quite as -- diminutive -- as the animated character) approached the table. I took another deep breath, tried to look cheerful, and I greeted him by name. He stared me up and down, then heaved his considerable cue case onto the table and began picking through his cues. Okay. I leaned against a stool and waited. He took a rather long time to assemble his cues. When he was done, I walked up to the table again and stood there with the most pleasant expression I could muster and a plastic smile. I was gritting my teeth, but hey, no one said trying to be good would be easy. He said brusquely, "I am going to use the bathroom." Leaving his cues on the table, he stalked off. I sat back down on the stool.

Miss Sunny, one of the tournament directors, came over and asked what was going on. They had called our match a while ago and she noticed we had not started. Since this tournament was on a tight schedule, she wanted to know why we hadn't started. I shrugged and told her
he had gone to use the restroom.
Yosemite Sam came back. He went up to the table and picked up his cue and I, taking my cue from this that he was ready, approached the table.
"JUST RELAX WILL YOU?!!?" He said this very loudly with a snarl. "I'VE SEEN YOU HITTING BALLS THE WHOLE TIME AND NOW IT'S MY TURN SO GET AWAY!"

## Nice.

Practice time at this tournament is more rare than a handshake from me given in good faith. There is ONE practice table and 192 players. You do the math.

However, I considered that yes, prior to this match being called, I did get to hit a few balls. Of course, that's because I was here and not out chasing Bugs Bunny with a pair of six-shooters. (Not that that was what Yosemite Sam had been doing. I am merely speculating.) I do understand that practice time is valuable to all and everyone has a right to it and so, I SAID NOTHING (because I was trying to be A Better Person), and walked one table away and sat down on a stool.

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The APA of Northern Colorado 303-862-0466<br>www.APAPoolLeague.com

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## Romero Runs Through USAPL Field at Felt

Photos \& Story by Samm Diep, RockyMountainPool.com

February 11 marked the second event for the Rocky Mountain USA Pool League. As the first season wrapped up, the Singles Big Table Championships were held at Felt Billiards in Englewood with players from all levels. The unique business model for the Rocky Mountain USAPL commits to raising money throughout the year for its players through local events and corporate sponsorships.

The Rocky Mountain USAPL proudly added $\$ 500$ to this singles championships and not only penny of it came from league dues. The league also offers divisions for players on both 7 -foot and 9 -foot tables for 3,4 , and 5 player teams. Players with a minimum four weeks of league play established a rating and qualified for this event.

The game was 8 -ball on the 9 -foot Brunswick Gold Crowns, BCAPL rules, winner-breaks, race-to-yourrating. Greg Romero (72) of Thornton went undefeated through the intimate field to claim the title. In the finals, he defeated Dave Kato (52) in a tight hill-hill match with a final score of 72 to 49 . Joining them respectively in the top four were husband and wife, Doug (58) and Carol (56) James who faced off on the quarter-finals for a hill-hill battle of their own.

Congratulations to all the top finishers of both the tournament and the fall divisions!

The spring session has kicked off with even more teams and there are still weeks available to get qualified for nationals. To learn more about the Rocky Mountain USA Pool League, visit RockyMountainPool.com or call 303-667-8000.

The USAPL rating system has proven to be one of the most fair and accurate in the nation. Nearly $70 \%$ of league matches go hill-hill. Skill levels are anywhere from 30 to 125. Players receive 14 points for a win and one point for each ball pocketed for a loss, racing to the sum of the player rating.


Top Finishers: Dave Kato (2nd), Carol James (4th), Doug James (3rd), and Greg Romero (1st)

## Complete Payouts:

| $1^{\text {st }}$ | Greg Romero | $\$ 300$ |
| :--- | :--- | ---: |
| $2^{\text {nd }}$ | Dave Kato | $\$ 200$ |
| $3^{\text {rd }}$ | Doug James | $\$ 100$ |
| $4^{\text {th }}$ | Carol James | $\$ 55$ |
| $5^{\text {th }}$ | Peter Hearth | $\$ 30$ |
| $6^{\text {th }}$ | Brandie Rejent | $\$ 30$ |
| $7^{\text {th }}$ | Ray Padilla | $\$ 20$ bar tab |
| $8^{\text {th }}$ | Kenny Rosenbaum | $\$ 20$ bar tab |



## Theodore Roosevelt on . . .

## Winning and Losing



Theodore Roosevelt's famous "Man in the Arena" excerpt from his "Citizen In A Republic" speech delivered at the Sorbonne in 1910.

The full text of the excerpt:
"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat."


## Yosemite Sam by OMG <br> continued from page 12

Yosemite Sam savagely threw out a rack on the table and I waited patiently as he chopped his way through it. At the conclusion of his firewood session, I stood back up and walked towards the table. He gave me a mean look, noisily threw out another rack, and recommenced lumberjacking. Yosemite Sam wasn't going to play until he felt good and ready, it seemed.

When it comes to a tournament, I have all the time in the world.

I went over to the tournament desk where the directors were watching and said, "Just letting you know, this guy told me to 'relax' and he wants to warm up before we play. I'm going to get some coffee. I'll be back." Miss Sunny wanted to tell him to start right away, but I said it was all right -- I didn't mind waiting. But, it was not about whether or not I was all right with waiting or whether Yosemite Sam was taking his time hacking out some hasenfeffer -- the tournament brackets could not be delayed. We
were made to begin.
I played well in spots, but overall, just dogged too many opportunities. Yosemite Sam got into stroke and he won. Afterwards, he walked up with a smirk and held out his hand. I looked at his hand and hesitated for the briefest of moments before saying, "Nope. You were rude."

This launched a tirade on his part about how I was in the wrong for "crowding" him and "rushing" him. Apparently, he thought he was completely in the right for yelling at me at the beginning because, I might not know this, but he'd "been around pool" for a long time and he knew how things should be.

## Uh, what?

He further accused me of being "on juice" and this instantly insulted me. If anyone was supposed to be on drugs, it was HIM. He had been twitchy the entire match. I'm an ornery bastard(ess) but I'm never on drugs -- I would rather spend that money on table time. I had to listen a while longer before it turned out that he meant to say that I had "juice" -- meaning I had wrongfully used my influence with the tourna-
ment directors to begin the match before he was ready. The amusing thing is that I wouldn't have minded waiting to start the match. I could have used the rest. And the coffee. If I had both rest and coffee, I might have won.

Upon further inquiry to others more familiar with Yosemite Sam, it turns out he is this rude almost all the time. Yosemite Sam's rudeness was, like most instances of rudeness (including my own), not necessarily personal, and nothing more than a brief moment in time. I do not think he would have been as rude to some six-footeight hair-covered monster named Gossamer, but unfortunately, I have only the appearance I was born with and that appearance is not threatening at all.


I did appreciate the Universe letting me know that I should never, EVER change my naturally charming Why-Don't-You-Go-Die-In-A-Fire personality for anything or anyone. If I ever try to be nice, it only backfires and that's awesome because I'd rather just be the murderous bunny you all know and love/hate.



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\end{gathered}
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## The Viper's Pool Journal

Melissa Little interviews some friends in Olathe, KS while at the Midwest 9-Ball Tour: Thursday, February 23rdSunday, February 26th, 2012 at Shooters in Olathe, KS

I thought it would be interesting to chat with some pool players about pool in general and see what their thoughts were of this bad economic downfall we are all in these days.
First up was tournament director Evelyn Dysart of the Midwest 9-ball tour.

Do you feel the bad economy in your tournaments?
"Not really on my tour. I have been averaging 100 plus players at each of my 12 events. But I have lost a couple of rooms along the way. It's sad to see them go but I just have to move forward and book other rooms." Evelyn says.
What's your next tour stop?
"Break Billiards, in Cahokia, IL running from 3/21/2012-4/1/2012. It's a $\$ 2500$ added event on the bar table with open and ladies divisions."
Thoughts from Gabe Owen
Where are you living these days?
"I'm currently living in Houston, TX, because of the beautiful warm weather."
Do you feel the bad economy being a pro player?
"Sure!! I think everyone does. I luckily have some DVD's to fall back on for extra money." Gabe says.
Where can somebody purchase your DVD's?
"A lot of them are sold through Muller's website at www.mullers.com." Gabe says.
What do you offer?
"It's called "Gabe Owen's One Pocket My Way for Beginner/

one of the best."
What is going to make pool better in this bad economy?
"I wish that a major league would create a pro tour. They are the ones that are doing really well and it makes sense to have one. If you think about it, what level do the amateurs go after leagues? They should move up to an advanced/pro level." Gabe says.
Have you approached anyone about your ideas?
"No, but I should."
Next up, James Baraks originally from Rock Island, IL now residing in Houston

Is there a reason why you're living in Houston now?
"Work is better for my wife there and my kids have better schooling."
So as far as pool is concerned, are there better/more tournaments in Houston?
"If you live in the Houston area, you can play in a weekly tournament every night. But if you want to travel to Houston its really not worth it."

What do you think is going to help pool get to be better?
"I wish we could get some business people involved with our sport and stop relying on players to run our industry. Or maybe even get into the Olympics someday."

So in the end, after spending some time with the players, I realized how much they love the game, socialize, compete, and chit chat to speak their mind () What an extended family we all have... I love pool too.

Till next month,
Viper ()
Melissa "The Viper" Little has been a WPBA Touring Professional for over 10-years, she has represented the USA in Four WPA World Championships and has over 18 Top-10 WPBA Career Finishes. Melissa is currently the house-pro at the Wynkoop Brewing Company located in Downtown Denver.

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## Thoupmanemt Traill

| 岴 SUNDAY |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| BC＇s Sports Pub | Scotch Doubles， 2 pm |
| Dylan＇s Bar \＆Grill | 8－Ball，BCA， 2 pm start，\＄\＄，3／755－2874 |
| Felt | 10－Ball， 9 ＇tables， 2 pm start，$\$ \$$ added |
| Match Ups，Ft．Collins | 9－Ball，9＇tables，\＄\＄added，3pm start |

念 MONDAY
Mirage Sports Bar
8 －Ball，handicapped， $7: 30$ sharp start
悤 TUESDAY
Felt $\quad 9$－Ball， $9^{\prime}$ tables，$\$ \$$ added
A WEDNESDAY
Wynkoop Brewing Co 10 －Ball Tournament，$\$ \$$ added
䓢 FRIDAY
BC＇s Sports Pub
Felt
Match Ups，Ft．Coll
8－Ball，bar table
8 －Ball，bar table，$\$ \$$ added
8－Ball，bar table，$\$ \$$ added， $7: 30 \mathrm{pm}$

## A SATURDAY

| ＠Cheers | TAP 8－Ball，$\$ \$$ added， 7 pm |
| :--- | :--- |
| Felt | 9－Ball，bar table，$\$ \$$ added， $4: 30 \mathrm{pm}$ |
| Love＇s Shack | 8 －Ball，no $\mathbf{A A A}$＇s，$\$ \$$ added， 7 pm |

The Tournament Trail is free for advertisers（\＄15 for Tournament

Trail listing only）．Listing of tournaments does not guarantee the event will take place．

## Speciall Events

| Mauch 3pd |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| BC＇s Sports Pub | Open 8－Ball， 1 pm start |
| Love＇s Shack | 9 －Ball Tournament，1pm start |
| Manchla 4ith |  |
| Felt | One Pocket，9＇tables， 2 pm start，$\$ \mathbf{\$}$ added |
| Mauchla 10th |  |
| Greenfields | BCA Scotch Doubles Open，12pm |
| Love＇s Shack | 8－Ball Madness，APA rules |
| March 11 the |  |
| Love＇s Shack | APA Jack \＆Jill Doubles－Vegas Qualifier |
| Maurch 177 thm |  |
| BC＇s Sports Pub | Open Scotch Doubles， 1 pm start |
| Greenfields | APA Singles Boards |
| Felt | Get the Green，Open 10－Ball，\＄\＄added |
|  |  |
| Felt | A＇s／down 10－Ball，$\$ \$$ added |
| Maurch 24xth |  |
| Greenfields | All American Tour，\＄\＄added，12：30 pm |
| Hank＇s Billiards | Vegas Warmup by Stay in Stroke，\＄added |
| March 31st |  |
| Greenfields | 8－Ball Tourney for all APA members |
| Upcomimg E＇vents |  |
| April 19－22 | 21st Annual 8－Ball Classic at 4 Bears in N．D． |
| April 28 | Felt Vegas Warm－up，bar table，8－Ball |

See ads for more imformation

# Colorado Players are Among Top Finishers at Shooters in Olathe，KS 

## Haddad Goes Undefeated in the Midwest 9－Ball One－Pocket Event

Mark Haddad of Colorado withstood a loss－side challenge from Joey Gray in the finals to go undefeated in the One－ Pocket event of the Midwest 9－Ball Tour stop on the week－ end of February 23－26．The \＄500－added，One－Pocket event drew 55 entrants to Shooters in Olathe，KS．Still ongoing， as of early Sunday evening，were a 9－ball and ladies event．

From among the winners＇side final four，Haddad sent Tay－ lor Anderson west 3－1，as Shane McMinn was downing Gary Lutman 3－1．Lutman had just sent Gray over 3－1． Haddad got into the hot seat with a double hill win over McMinn and waited on Gray．

Following victories over Justin Richardson and John Gabriel，both double hill，Gray met up with Anderson．Lut－ man drew Chip Compton，who＇d shut out James Baraks and defeated Dale Pence 3－1．A quarterfinal Lutman／Gray re－ match was avoided when Gray chalked up his third straight double hill win，against Anderson，but Compton eliminated Lutman 3－1．Gray then recorded his fourth straight double hill win with a quarterfinal victory over Compton．

Gray，seemingly tired of dodging＇double hill＇bullets，shut McMinn out in the semifinals．Haddad，though，turned the tables on him，shutting Gray out in the opening set of the finals，to complete his undefeated run．

## John Gabriel Tops Field of 150 at Midwest 9－Ball Event； Melissa Little takes Ladies title

John Gabriel went undefeated on the Midwest 9－Ball Tour＇s \＄3，500－added 9－ball event on the weekend of February 23－26，working his way through a field of 150 entrants at Shooter＇s in Olathe，KS．Melissa Little of Colorado also went undefeated in the \＄500－ added Ladies event，which had attracted 20 entrants．

From among the winners＇side final four，Gabriel sent Chuck Raulston west 9－5，as Dus－ tin Gunia was busy sending Mike Banks，Jr．over 9－4．Gabriel then took the hot seat match over Gunia 9－5，and waited for his return．

First up for Banks，Jr．on the loss－side was the winner of the concurrently－run One－ Pocket event，Mark Haddad，who＇d defeated James Baraks 9－6，and Anthony Garcia 9－3 to reach him．Chuck Raulston，in the meantime，squared off against Joey Gray（second in the One－Pocket event），who＇d downed Gary Lutman 9－3，and Gordy Vanderveer 9－6． Haddad defeated Banks，Jr．9－4，but a re－match of the One－Pocket semifinals was avoided when Raulston dropped Gray into the tie for fifth place 9－5．

Raulston took it a step further，dropping Haddad into fourth place 9－5，and turning to face Gunia in the semifinals．Gunia ended Raulston＇s bid 9－2 for a second chance versus Gabriel in a potential，true double elimination final．Gabriel took the first and only set 9 － 5 to secure the event title．

Melissa Little and Nicole Keeney of Colorado battled twice to crown the Ladies cham－ pion．They met first in the hot seat match，and fought back and forth to double hill before Little prevailed．Keeney moved over to the semifinals to face Kathleen Morast，who＇d just defeated Carrie Williams in the quarterfinals 7－5．Keeney then shut out Morast for her second chance against Little．Little，though，came out strong in the opening set of what would have been a true double elimination final，and defeated Keeney a second time 7－2．

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## ${ }^{* * *}$ Denver Metro Area ${ }^{\text {*** }}$

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SPORTS STATION - 850 Dayton, 303-343-2950
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SKYLARK LOUNGE - 140 S Broadway, 303-722-7844
SOBO 151-151 S Broadway
WYNKOOP BREWING CO-1634 18th St, 303-297-2700, www.wynkoop.com, Weekly Pool Tournaments

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LOVE'S SHACK - 7290 N Pecos, 303-426-6420, Pool Leagues, Texas Hold'em, Weekly Pool Tournaments MUSIC BAR - 4586 Tennyson, 303-458-5360

## WELCOME INN - 3759 Chestnut Pl, 303-296-7229, Pool Leagues

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JL'S CHEERS - 3415 S Monaco Pkwy, 303-692-9183
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MY BAR-10139 E Colfax, 303-367-0426
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FELT- 101 W Floyd Ave, 720-266-6190
MAGNET INN - 2893 S Broadway, 303-781-5262
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MINER'S TAVERN - 524 Briggs St, 303-828-9997
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SHOTZ - 2695 W 92nd Ave, 303-427-9910

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TAILFEATHERS - 11010 120th Ave, 303-286-1475
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AMERICAN LEGION POST \#178 - 1655 Simms St, 303-233-9758
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SANDBAR LOUNGE - 100 N Ash, 307-266-2745
VFW POST \#10969-4570 W Yellowstone Hwy, 307-266-3221
LARAMIE
COWBOY SALOON - 108 S 2nd St
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DOUGLAS
NORTHGATE LIQUORS - 711 N 4th, 307-358-6806
PLAINS TRADING POST - 628 E Richards, 307-358-4489
GILLETTE
FIRESIDE LOUNGE - 114 N US Hwy 14-16, 307-682-7545
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MINGLES - 2209 S Douglas Hwy, 307-686-1222
GLENROCK
FOUR ACES BAR - 316 W Birch St, 307-436-9010
MOORCROFT
DEWEY'S PLACE - 307-756-3713
RIVERTON
BOOT, THE - 702 E Main, 307-856-7595
CEDAR BAR - 413 E Fremont Ave, 307-856-6721
RALFF'S - 121 N Broadway, 307-856-2837
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COLORADO BILLIARDS \& SPAS - 1555 S Havana, Aurora, 303-337-1818
COLORADO BILLIARDS \& SPAS - 9140 E Westview Rd, Lonetree, 303-721-8181
FIERCE EAGLE CUE CO - 4014 Tennyson St, Denver, 303-455-1412
FODOR BILLIARDS - 9030 E Philips Pl Ste 100, Centennial, 303-770-7771
FODOR BILLIARDS - 16565 N Washington St, Thornton, 303-920-0800
FODOR BILLIARDS - 3310 Austin Bluffs Pkwy, Colorado Springs, 719-598-4611 FRONT RANGE POOL TABLES - 1600 E. Mulberry St. \#3, Fort Collins, 970-419-0816 FRONT RANGE BILLIARD SUPPLY - 303-717-0040
GAME EXCHANGE OF COLORADO - 2650 W 6th Ave, Denver, 303-893-4300
GAME MASTER - 107 Quincy Street Pueblo, CO 81004 (719) 542-5832
HOME STARS DESIGN STUDIO - 2855 W Oxford Ave Unit 1, Englewood, 303-979-1200
HOT SPRINGS SPAS OF COLORADO - 4275 Broadway, Denver, 303-296-7727
INTERNATIONAL HOT TUB CO - 1640 S Abilene St, Aurora, 303-755-4772
LG CUES / Chris Briggs - 2785 S Patton Ct, Denver, 303-922-4003
POOL SHARKS INC - 1020 28th Ave \#107B, Greeley, 970-304-6837
ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOME \& LEISURE - 163 Goldmine Dr, Pagosa Springs, 970-264-1717 SPA PALACE - 8601 W Cross Dr, Littleton, 303-972-4932
SPLASH AND RACK - 13750 E Quincy Ave, Aurora, 303-680-2000
ROCKY MOUNTAIN POOL TABLE - 301 Main, Windsor, 970-686-1111
TD ROWE AMUSEMENTS (Vending) - 303-455-4500
TRIANGLE BILLIARD SUPPLY - 5950 S Platte Canyon Road Unit A1B, Denver, 303-935-3734 WOODY'S BILLIARDS INSTALL \& REPAIR - 720-628-6053

## *** Leagues/Tours

APA OF NORTHERN COLORADO - Kevin Leivonen, 303-862-0466, northerncolorado@apaleagues.com APA - NORTH \& WEST DENVER AREA - Peggy LeBlanc, 303-205-9781, paleblanc@comcast.net APA - SOUTH \& EAST METRO DENVER - Chuck Rooney, 720-427-4629, apapool1@comcast.net APA - WESTERN SLOPE - Jan Maez, 970-523-8661, wcoapapool@bresnan.net APA - Yampa Valley Pool League (Routt \& Moffat Counties) - Michelle Reed, (970) 826-2783, yvapa@msn.com
BMW BILLIARDS - Judy Mehle, 970-391-7664, VNEA Pool Leagues in Northern Colorado
DENVER POOLPLAYERS ASSOCIATION, David Howell, 303-668-6090
GAMES PEOPLE PLAY- Cindy Plank, 720-289-1471
LOVE TO PLAY POKER -303-829-5742, Texas Hold'em Poker, www.lovetoplaypokertour.com MILE HIGH TAP LEAGUE - Bill Davis, 303-817-6996, Adams \& Arapahoe counties in Denver Area PLAYERS CHOICE POOL LEAGUES - Deb \& Bob Winter, 303-477-2333, www.vneapool.com or www.pc-pool.com, BCA, VNEA, ACS Pool Leagues
STAY IN STROKE BILLIARDS - Rich Montoya, 303-748-6653, offering leagues and tournaments TAP POOL LEAGUES - Scott Prater, 303-944-2994, www.tapleague.com, TAP Pool Leagues

## 2012 Rooky Mountain VNEA Team Tournament

## The annual Rocky Mountain VNEA team tournament was held at the Embassy Suites in Loveland, Colorado on February $17^{\text {th }}-19^{\text {th }}, 2012$.



Open AA - 1st Place
"Kill ‘Em All" (BMW - CO) Brian Griego, Jeff Morton, Pom Rai, Dave Hubbard, Aaron
Westcott, and Dave Munoz


Open B-1st Place
"Stardust Danny" - (JES - CO)
Danny Kulp, Ted Brown, Doug
Crynes, Danny Garcia, Chris Patrinas

## Open AA

2nd Place -"Usual Suspects" JES Rich Cunningham, Chris Onesky, Rick Spurio, John Sandifer, Peter Mercaldi, and Angela Jackson

3rd Place - "Old Dawgs" JES Bob Kelly, Larry Romero, Roland Lucero, Caleb Lovato, James Fortin

4th Place -"RIP.COM" Chey Vend (WY) - Steve Tollis, Rich Haines, Jarrold Harris, Mitch Christiansen, BJ Spencer, Ray Harris, Logan Camp, and BC Gonzales

## Open B

2nd Place - "Easy Money "JES
Tony Knoppe, Jim Norman, Rick Huddleston, Danny King, RD Rowland

3rd Place - "Oasis Top Dogs" BMW
Ray Lopez, Tommy Lopez, Bob
Medina, Andrew Archuleta, Omar Chaparro, and Frank Roybal

4th Place - "B-Town Boys" B \& B
NM - Joe Gabaldon, Rick Montano,
Isaac Jacquez, Tony Tellez, and
David Olivas


Open A-1st Place
"Lady \& Da Tramps" (B \& B - NM) Pearl Ortiz, Geno Rael, Sonny Rael, Issac Rael, Adam Franks, and Dion Fediuk


Open C-1st Place
"Valley Deers" - (Aspen Amuse - CO) Jose Luis Galaviz, Napoleon Guerra, Jose Ibarra, Manuel Duran, Seryando Castillas

## Open A

2nd Place - "Love's Shack Charlie" JES - Charlie Williamson, John Santistevan, Jonas Martinez, Rich Montoya, and Neal Grasing

3rd Place - "Lumbre" BMW Mary Vasquez, Silviano Vasquez, Francisco Monge, Tomas Maciel, and Lucas Montano

4th Place - "Lil's Prosecuters" GPP - George Jury, Steve Gleason, Rick Ott, Glenn Matthews, Gary Work, and Adam Sisneros

## Open C

2nd Place - "Deja Vu" Chey Vend WY - Lavonne Bessler, Joe Bessler, Midori Spatz, Criag Spatz, Dennis Iversen, Tom Goss

3rd Place - "Key Largo
Outlaws BMW - Dave Giron, Rick Garza, Scott Jones, Stan Parker, Garrett Renville

4th Place - "Just the Tip" BMW - Zack Farrell, Jesse Gillen, Rod Keener, Chris Mcloughlin, Isabel Gutierrez


Majors (Ages 18-20)

## 1st Place

L.T.A. (Ft. Collins, CO) Jacob Glass, Cody Nelson, and Chad Schmidtberger
3rd Place - "The Cremators" (BMW) CO - Lisa Staggs, Tina Catlin, Lynda Lilly, Samantha Howard, Mary Vogel

4th Place - "Welcome Inn Rose" (JES) CO - Tina Payne, Rose Ramos, Patty Bautista, Tiffany Haas


Minors (Ages 14-17) 1st Place High Rollers (Greeley and Cheyenne ) Allyssa Romero, Isaac Espinoza, and Max Rodriguez

