

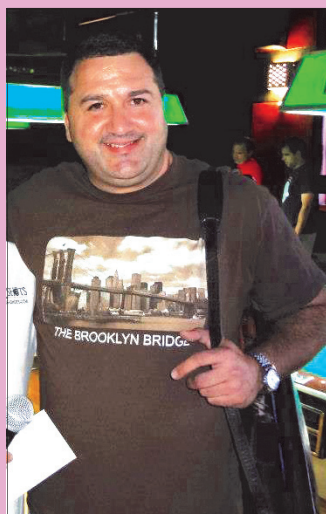
CUE TIMES

Billiard News

Volume 14, Issue 2 - October, 2012

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**The Str8-Shots.com 1st Annual
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Nearly \$9,000 For Its Charities.
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See Full Story on Page 10**



Mark Haddad
Open Division
Winner



Juniors Division
Geoffrey Quezada



11 & Under
Nick Macomber



Carol James
Ladies Division
Winner

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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.

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

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or email: mike@cuetimes.com

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.

May 2001

Sometimes the difference between winning and losing a nine-ball match rests on the outcome of one's attempts to convert early opportunities to make the nine ball. It's very common to hear a player saying something along the lines of, "I had the match but then he made a nine on the break and two more on combination shots." I'm referring to a well-played match, not a grenade fest with both players taking ridiculous flyers on the nine and hoping for some luck.

Many times a player jumps on an opportunity to play the nine and then loses the game when the missed attempt leaves the nine hanging in the pocket for his opponent. More often than not such an outcome can be avoided by choosing the carom shot over the combination. Look at Shot A in the diagram and imagine what you would do with it. This is a good example of a situation where going for the nine ball is the best shot since it lies right in front of the pocket with no good shot on the two ball. However the shot is



of a miss that leaves the nine hanging with the two nearby.

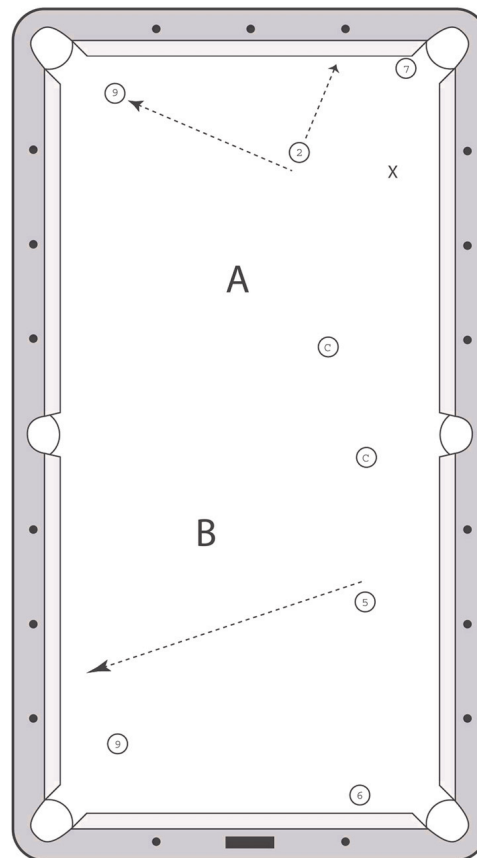
In this situation the carom is clearly the better choice. Playing to hit the two and pocket the nine with the cue ball is not easier than the combination, probably more difficult, but the carom shot will separate the two and nine in case of a miss. Play the shot a few times working to control the speed so that the two ball and cue ball are at opposite ends of the table after the balls stop rolling.

Here is a reliable technique for playing many carom shots. A couple of months ago we discussed hitting stop shots when cutting a ball to track the cue ball on the line perpendicular to the line of the ball to the pocket. Since you have no

not easy. If the cue ball were at point X the combination shot would be straight-in and much easier, though still not a piece of cake. From this cue-ball position cutting the two precisely into the nine is very difficult and carries a strong possibility

doubt mastered the stop shot you can put that concept to work for you on caroms. With your cue find the track that you need off the top of the two ball to pocket the nine. Now find the line perpendicular to that; it happens to meet the first diamond on the short rail in this example. To pocket the nine simply aim to shoot the two into that first diamond and play a stop shot. Now you are playing a shot that employs two things you know very well. One, you are aiming to shoot an object ball at a specific target, the most fundamental objective in pool.

And two, you are using the stop shot, the one that you've mastered, to give you a precise track to the nine ball. Practice the shot now combining all of the necessary elements including the proper speed to leave the two ball and cue ball at opposite ends of the table. You may find that the best way to play the shot is to focus on shooting the two ball at its target with a stop shot while giving no thought to the nine ball. If we were billiard players perhaps we would feel the shot as a carom but as pool players we are more comfortable doing what we do most, aiming to shoot an object ball somewhere.



continued to page 13

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**2012 BCAPL / USAPL
Colorado State Championships**

November 9-11, 2012
Antique Billiard Museum
 3628 Citadel Drive North, Colorado Springs, CO 80909
\$2,000 Total Added

Scotch Doubles	Men's Singles	Women's Singles
<p>Starts Friday, 11/9 at 7 pm \$500 Added \$50 Entry Fee*</p> <p>Races: Open / Open to 3 Open / Advanced to 4 Open / Master to 5</p>	<p>Starts Saturday, 11/10 at 9 am \$1,000 Added \$65 Entry Fee*</p> <p>Races: Open to 5 Advanced to 6 Master to 7</p>	<p>Starts Saturday, 11/10 at 12 Noon \$500 Added \$65 Entry Fee*</p> <p>Races: Open to 4 Advanced to 5 Master to 6</p>

All events are played on 7' Diamond Tables, are double elimination and alternate breaks.
 *Entry Fees: If faxed, postmarked or entered online after October 22, 2012, it must include a \$10 late fee to the standard entry fee listed. The Scotch Doubles entry includes a \$10 registration fee.
 All singles entries include a \$15 registration fee.

Register Online at www.ctsondemand.com

Faxed or mailed entries: Complete and submit the entry form (www.playbca.com and www.playusapool.com)
 Onsite entries (CASH ONLY): Onsite entries (Singles Only) will be accepted FRIDAY 11/9 EVENING with the additional \$10 late fee. The BCAPL and USAPL are divisions of CueSports International (CSI).
 CONTACT: info@playcspool.com PHONE: (702) 719-7665 FAX: (702) 719-7667



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October 6th OPEN 8-BALL

BCA, Handicapped
2 pm start
\$10 Entry Fee

October 20th OPEN SCOTCH DOUBLES

BCA, Handicapped
2 pm start
\$20 Per Team

October 27 9-Ball

Tournament
2 pm start
\$10 entry

NEW! WEEKDAY AFTERNOON TOURNAMENTS

1 pm start ~ \$5 entry
Wednesday 9-Ball
and
Thursday 8-Ball

New Sessions
Starting in Sept!

Mondays - BCA In House Scotch Doubles
Tuesdays - BCA/VNEA In House 8-ball
Wednesdays - VNEA Traveling 8-ball
Thursdays - BCA In House 9-ball

WEEKLY POOL TOURNAMENTS

Denver's Longest
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Night Tourney!

Friday Night 8-Ball
\$10.00 Entry Fee ~ BCA Rules

Saturday Night 9-Ball
\$10.00 Entry Fee ~ 8 pm start

FREE TEXAS HOLD'EM POKER TOURNAMENTS

SUNDAYS @ 7 PM ~ MON, WED & FRIDAY @ 8 PM
CASH FOR 1ST PLACE, BAR TAB FOR 2ND

Top Finishers from the Monthly Events at BC's Sports Pub



Open Singles - Sept. 1st

1st James Fortin	\$125
2nd Ron Kidd	\$70
3rd Rick B.	\$40



Scotch Doubles - Sept. 15th

1st Kyle/Eric	\$160
2nd Robin/Robert	\$95
3rd Miles/Patrick	\$50

CSI Introduces the "Leisure Division" for the 2013 BCAPL Championships

The BCA Pool League will introduce a new division at the 2013 BCAPL National Championships, called the "Leisure Division." It is designed to fill the gap between average league players and the better players in the Open Division.

The "Leisure Division" will offer a lower entry fee (\$80.00) and a deep payout. Here are the basic criteria for this division:

- Players who have played for 2 years in Open, Senior, or Super Senior (since 2005), and have never cashed in any Singles Division are eligible.
- Players may also be eligible if they have finished a full league session in the bottom half of their local league, and their league is enrolled on LeagueSys. We need LeagueSys to help research player history.
- Every player will be researched for player history. The eligibility criteria above do NOT insure playing in the new division. Known ability will be a big factor in establishing eligibility for this new division.
- Players entering the Leisure Division may also enter the 2nd Chance

Singles events (if eligibility criteria are met), all mini-tournaments, and much more.

The purpose of this division is to give lesser skilled players (called "B" players in some states) a level playing field against players of equal ability. For years, hundreds of players have participated in the Open division with no results. We greatly appreciate their support of the BCAPL and the BCAPL National Championships and wish to give them a fair chance to truly compete and cash among similarly skilled players.

If a player is unsure of their eligibility, he/she may send an email to Bill Stock, CSI Rules & Referee Director, requesting approval to enter the Leisure Division at: bill@playcsipool.com

Relocating the BCAPL National Championships to the larger Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino, July 17-27, 2013, allows us to add this new division. We look at this as an opportunity to introduce more entry level pool players to "The Greatest Pool Tournament in the World!" This welcome addition demonstrates CSI's ongoing commitment to provide ... More Choices for All Players.

James Fortin Lights Up the Field at Hank's Billiards

Results provided by
Rich Montoya, Tournament Director

From the onset, James was determined to prove that he is among the best in the Denver area; as if he and the Alien-eighter came down from another planet. The winner break format worked to his advantage as he broke and ran out on several occasions, changing the outcome of almost every match to his favor.

He squeaked out his first match by beating heavily favored Derek Skonecki by running out the last rack to win (6-5). Then he caught a gear and beat Brian Krapes (6-2). He did not allow Brian to get to the table as much as he would have liked. Pom Rai, a highly regarded player from the Ft. Collins area, was his next opponent.



Stay In Stroke - September Event
1st Place - James Fortin

Photo provided by Joshua Ramey

The outcome was the same as his run out capabilities came into play again and he bested Pom (6-3). Andy Benefiel, a regular customer at

Hank's Billiards, was shut out by James (6-0). Again his run out capabilities came into play. In the hot seat match, he spotted Al Montoya one game going to six and he showed his experience by buckling down and giving out lessons. James won the hot seat (6-3). In the finals,

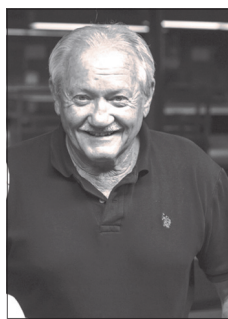
he again beat Andy Benefiel (6-4) to capture his first Stay In Stroke event. Congratulations James!

Other top players from the Denver area that deserve a round of applause are Warner Kingsbury (7th), Rich Montoya (8th), Brian Bogart (5th), as always Dave Mondragon (6th), Ray Padilla who always competes at his best (4th) and Al Montoya (3rd). Also, an honorable mention goes to top lady Terry

Duncan -- one match out of the cash!

Thanks to Hank's Billiards for the added money (\$300.00) and for reconfiguring and reclothing the tables. Thanks also go out to the staff at Hanks for taking care of the players all day and to Joshua Ramey for the excellent photos 720-333-2978. Do not forget our Sponsors: Randy Ethridge Custom Cues and Repairs 303-921-0772 and Dale James Custom Chalk Holders 720-280-8759.

Please support our local billiard industry, read the Cue Times Billiard News, buy a cue stick, give a lesson, and invite someone new to play this wonderful sport!



Runner-Up
Andy Benefiel

Photo provided by Joshua Ramey

Here is how they finished:

1 st	James Fortin	T-\$300.00	P-A \$160.00
2 nd	Andy Benefiel	\$200.00	\$120.00
3 rd	Al Montoya	\$110.00	\$85.00
4 th	Ray Padilla	\$90.00	\$60.00
5 th	Brian Bogart	\$40.00	\$20.00
6 th	Dave Mondragon	\$40.00	\$20.00
7 th	Warner Kingsbury	\$30.00	
8 th	Rich Montoya	\$30.00	

CSI Lifts Ban on Phenolic Tips on Break Cues



Las Vegas, NV - The "2012 - 2014 Official Rules of the BCA Pool League" was released June 1,

2012, the beginning of the new BCAPL and USAPL league year. The most noted change for the newly released publication is the lifting of the restriction on the use of the phenolic tips on break cues. Below is the newly added language in the 2012-2014 edition, quoted from section 9d of the Equipment Specifications section:

"The cue tip must be composed of leather, fibrous, or pliable material."

"Note: Pending further research and review, the BCAPL has temporarily rescinded the prohibition of the use of phenolic tips for break shots. However, the restriction is subject to be re-introduced before the expiration of the 2012-2014 rulebook. League Operators and League Managers will be contacted if any further rules modifications regarding phenolic tips are made."

When the last edition of the BCAPL rule book went to press, CueSports International (CSI) adopted the ban on phenolic tips on break cues to be consistent with forthcoming World Standardized Rules. In the interim, CSI has determined that the ban is unenforceable, since neither the expertise nor the apparatus is available during pool tournaments to determine conclusively and consistently that a tip is phenolic. Also, the "phenolic" covers a wide spectrum of material. This only reinforces how difficult the rule was to consistently enforce, and further confirms the need to rescind the ban. Hence, the ban was lifted pending further review by CSI, World Pool Billiard Association (WPA), or other world bodies.

To view the entire "2012-2014 Official Rules of the BCA Pool League" visit www.playbca.com. A listing of significant content and editorial changes can be found in the beginning of the publication on pages VII - IX.

Charlie Ray Set to Take Over Operations of the Denver Poolplayers Assn.

The Denver Poolplayers Association (DPA), previously managed by Dave Howell, would like to announce that operations of its BCA leagues have been handed over to Charlie Ray, long-time local poolplayer from Lakewood, CO. The DPA has provided league opportunities in the Denver area for many years and Charlie is eager to continue the work of the DPA.

"One of the key league locations that still need players is the West Hill Grill (formerly Fugglie's) in Littleton" noted Charlie. "I'm also looking for new host locations in the SW Denver and Jefferson county areas."

All of the DPA leagues are sanctioned through the Billiard Congress of America Pool

Leagues. So put a team together now and get qualified for the 2013 BCAPL National Championships. Next year, the Championships will be held at The Rio in Las Vegas for the first time and you do not want to miss out on that! Leagues are now forming for Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday -- traveling and in-house leagues are available.

In an effort to provide more opportunities for playing this game we love, Charlie also plans to start some money added tournaments after the new year.

If you would like to sign up for a league, please contact Charlie at (303) 902-3014 or feel free to email him at:

playdpa@gmail.com

Wynkoop Billiards

15-RACK LLC IN-HOUSE 10-BALL LEAGUE

FALL SESSION STARTS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD @ 11 AM

Handicapped 10-week session @ \$12 per week, ALL skill levels welcome

Qualify for our up-to \$1,000 added End of the session tournament

Available Sunday days or Tuesday nights - Played on 9 FT tables

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Call Melissa Little to sign-up @ 720-296-5395

FALL JUNIOR'S 15-RACK 10-BALL LEAGUE

FALL SESSION STARTS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD @ 11 AM

\$5 per week, Ages 6-19 & 10-weeks MUST RSVP @ 720-296-5395

Played on 7 ft tables/Top finishers Awarded Prizes

And qualify for end of session tournament

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Vidal Victorious at Colorado State Straight Pool Championship

Results provided by
Event Staff

It's been over two years since Colorado seen its last State Straight Pool Championship. On September 15th at Felt Billiards in Englewood, the rail was treated to a showcase of savvy straight pool players, a nearly

extinct breed of players. 14.1 enthusiasts vied for the title of state champion. Many of the Felt Monday night Straight Pool League players also joined the mix.

This niche discipline drew 16 players for a perfect four flights of four round-robin format where the top player from each group advanced into a single-elimination bracket. Marc Vidal, Rick Field, Danny Olson, and Peter Hearth all fled their flights unscathed into the finals.

The round-robin matches were only 75-point games. In the final four, the matches were now 100-point games. After defeating 19-year-old Olson with a convincing score of 100-28, Vidal went on to face Field in the finals. It was then that he secured himself the tournament high run of 82 balls. Olson and Hearth then played off for



Straight Pool Top Finishers (L to R): Danny Olson, Marc Vidal, Peter Hearth and Rick Field

third place which favored former Junior National Champion 100-45.

Tournament Director and straight pool connoisseur, Pete Way, was very enthusiastic about the turnout and plans to organize more straight pool events in the future. As the final event of the 2012 Felt Tournament Series, players gear up for the \$2,000 Added Season Finale in November. Only players who participated in a minimum of five events are eligible to compete in the finale.

Details on upcoming events, along with a complete series schedule, player standings, and additional information can be found at felt-bar.com/2012_series. Special thanks for this event go to: Pete Way, Roberta Maestas, Access Printing in Englewood (AccessPrint.biz), and the Cue Times Billiards News.

1 st	Marc Vidal	\$230	+ \$40 High Run Bonus (82 balls)
2 nd	Rick Field	\$150	
3 rd	Danny Olson	\$100	
4 th	Peter Hearth	\$50	
5 th – 8 th	Jose Cruz	\$10	Felt Bar Tab
5 th – 8 th	Buddy Ferber	\$10	Felt Bar Tab
5 th – 8 th	Melissa Little	\$10	Felt Bar Tab
5 th – 8 th	Frank Urbaniak	\$10	Felt Bar Tab

“I speak not to disprove what Brutus spoke, but here I am to speak what I do know.” by OMG

August 15th, 2012

Well, hello. Today I shall incoherently ramble on about a tournament. You have been warned.

Since the last time I posted about a tournament, a tiny kerfuffle has taken place. The winner of the last tournament I played in listed his prize, a four-prong, four-veneer Tad Cue for sale. This is nothing spectacular in and of itself -- people sell cues they win all the time, even before it's had time to cool off from their blazing trail to victory.

I think the circumstances of victory are interesting and may give us something to discuss. As an actual player in the tournament, here is my contribution to your procrastination are my thoughts.

The Tad Cup is a Southern California handicapped B-player tournament. It is a tournament specifically for intermediate players (no A-players and no professionals) and the higher-level participants give the lower-level participants weight.

First place is a four-prong Tad cue from Tad Kohara, a well-known local cuemaker. Kohara has been making cues since 1963. The cues are highly collectible and still very much in demand. The wait time for a similar cue -- well, I might as well place an order and then go hang out in grad

school. When I graduate (procrastination included), it might be ready.

I think the official value of the cue is \$1,400-\$1,600, but due to demand, one could get upwards of \$2,000 for it. It's a generous donation for first-place in a handicapped B-player tournament, designed to encourage competition in the next generation of players.

This past tournament was the third time it has been held. Like any fresh event, it has growing pains. Although it is open to "B-players" only, how does one determine what a B-player is? And, within that category (and below), how does one determine the weight that must be given? I believe this is the first year the tournament required you play in at least four in-house handicapped tournaments during the past year to verify your rating (to "qualify") and yet, unknowns could still come in at the highest rating (10). Several people were involved with this tournament and when that many people are involved with something as subjective as rating skill levels, and the sometimes contradictory rules, there was bound to be some kerfuffling.

In the finals, I was a 7 and I received the last two from my opponent, *Brutus*. I guess I should thank him for shanking the easy shots so I could lose with a respectable score. Toward the end, he

really let his stroke out and we all got to see some amazing crazy-ass reverse-spin swank-shit position play and shotmaking. Truly, it was a sight to behold.

He won the cue, I didn't, and that's all she wrote.

Except for the allegations Brutus sandbagged his way through the tournament.

That's where everything gets interesting (for me, at least).

I received the condolences of many and the apologies of some after the loss. The condolences were for losing the finals two years in a row. But, honestly, even I know (in all my hardass-ness) that making the finals of this crazy tournament two years in a row is somewhat remarkable. I had to play at a higher level this year since my handicap went up from last year, but it was no less difficult. I actually feel it was much more difficult this year. I did have luck on my side as I sh#t in two nine-balls to get on the hill in two separate matches. Of all the matches I played, I only felt I deserved to win two or three -- but as Will Munny once said, "Deserve's got nothing to do with it."

continued to page 13

Cheryl Jones Make's 15-Rack History

15 Rack LLC, 10-Ball Pool Leagues is pleased to announce that Cheryl Jones has made history for Colorado by winning the summer session of 15-Rack pool leagues. This is the first time in our league history that a woman has won the session league. Congratulations to her for her big win and with her strong efforts. She also won the grand prize of a 15-Rack Jacoby custom cue.

1st Place Cheryl Jones – Trophy, cue, and MVP award
2nd Place Jeremy Coulter – Trophy and most improved award
3rd Place Dave Berns – Trophy

Other notables – Irene Padilla “Highest Finishing Female” award, Darrin Bruce “Directors” award, Loren Webb “Most Supportive Player” award, and John Dietrich “Player Rep” award.

John Dietrich Wins End of Session Tournament Again

Sunday, September 16th, 2012, the Wynkoop Brewing Company hosted their grand finale 15-Rack's

LLC added monies end of the session tournament. Congratulations to all that competed and won the following prizes.

1 st Place	John Dietrich	\$135
2 nd Place	Dave Berns	\$100
3 rd Place	Rod Ashby	\$65
4 th Place	Loren Webb	\$30

The fall session of 15-Rack will begin on Sunday, September 23rd, 2012 and will feature a 10-week juniors session along side of the adults league. 10-weeks, handicapped, Adults \$12/per week juniors \$5/per week, and will also feature an end of the session tournaments for both adults and juniors. For more information please visit www.15rack.com.



15 Rack Summer Session Champ
Cheryl Jones

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Saturday - Sunday
11 am - 2 pm

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Saturday 8-Ball Tournaments

7 pm start

\$10 entry + \$5 green fee
* with 2 drink minimum

All of the \$15 goes to purse
No AAA players

FRIDAY AFTERNOON TOURNAMENTS

2pm start, \$10/entry
Free pool with drink purchase

OCTOBER 27 HALLOWEEN PARTY

Prizes for First, Second
and Third Place Costumes



Bronco Game Day Specials

★ Shot specials for every
Bronco Touchdown

★ Drink specials during
the game

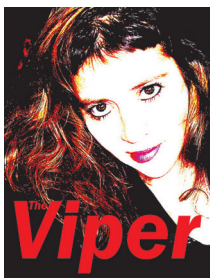
★ Free Pool on Sundays
(with minimum drink purchase)

Sunday Night 3-Ball Tourney
\$5 entry, \$5 green fee
Starts at 7 pm

Ask The Viper...

Q & A's by WPBA Pro
Melissa Little

Email your questions to:
info@cuetimes.com



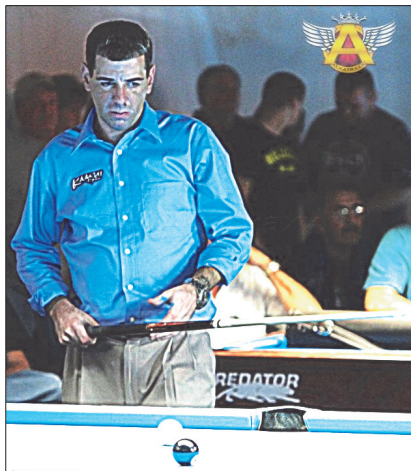
An Interview with Professional Player Rob Seaz

Viper: Where were you born?

RS: I was born on February 8th, 1974 in Bridgeport, Connecticut

Viper: Where and when did you first start playing pool?

RS: I started playing in 1989 at the age of 15 at a place called Milford Rec.



Viper: How did you start playing the sport of billiards?

RS: I was an aspiring baseball pitcher until I blew out my rotator cuff. So while recovering from my injuries, I used to go with my dad to the local recreation center. He would play pool and I would play video games. He taught me the fundamentals and then one day one of his friends drew the cue ball back for position on his next ball. Next then I knew I was trying to draw backwards. It drove me nuts until I finally did it a few years later. That's what drove me to play everyday for the next four years straight.

VIPER: What is your biggest accomplishment in the sport of billiards?

RS: I would say when I played my first match on ESPN – I got invited to participate in the Texas Hold'em Billiards Championships in Springfield, Massachusetts's at the Basketball Hall of Fame. It was a ring game – unfortunately I did not win that time. Not to long afterwards, I earned another TV spot into the Binion's Player's Championships with the United Pool Players Association. I won that match beating Texas pro-player Charlie Bryant.

VIPER: Did you ever play in a pool league?

RS: No

VIPER: Where do you draw your inspiration?

RS: One of my best friends George "Ginky" SanSouci inspired me the most in my pool career. Unfortunately he passed away on March 8, 2011 and is no longer with us.

VIPER: Are you good at any other sports?

RS: I am really good at all hand-eye coordina-

tion sports including basketball.

VIPER: Describe yourself in three words.

RS: Friendly, different, and tenacious

VIPER: If you had to live your life over again, what would one thing you change about your self or your career?

RS: I would have listened to my mom more and paid more attention to school.

VIPER: Who influenced you the most in pool?

RS: Of course it was Ginky but then later in the years it would be pro-player Rodney "The Rocket" Morris

VIPER: Who are your favorite professionals?

RS: Efren Reyes because he is extremely humble and is hands down one of the greatest players ever, and I love that he gives back to his community like the kids and people in need and I hope in the near future, I can also in some way give back to the community. The second player I would choose is Ralf Souquet, because in my eyes he is a class act.

VIPER: How do you prepare for events?

RS: Practice, practice, practice. To stay on top of your game you really need to put a lot of time in on the table.

VIPER: What was the best advice you were ever given?

RS: Ginky once told me to believe in myself

VIPER: What is one thing that you enjoy most while playing pool?

RS: I love the attention – when you're playing perfect pool its almost like art. It's an awesome feeling like a natural high.

VIPER: If you could say one thing to a young up-coming player what would it be?

RS: I would say family and school first and if its pool you want play, then go for it.

What did your parents say about you playing pool for a living?

RS: My mom didn't care for it until I made it to ESPN. My dad was really cool with it from the beginning and as I got older he was very proud of me and he never imagined that I would make it this far in my career. ☺

Ok, thanks for answering all of my questions, now . . . lets have you answer some of my Facebook friends' questions.

Bill Butler from Hailey, ID Asks: "What does he do to keep his concentration in a long game?"

RS: Bill, you must really get into it and enjoy every moment - when you're having fun its easier than not.

JP Gillespie from Columbia, SC asks: "What are all the items he carries in his cue case?"

RS: JP, I carry an Ultimate tip tool, hand towel,

hand powder, a custom cue extension, Masters chalk and one piece of Kamui chalk, a sand paper tip shaper, and two pieces of my jump cue.

Bill Butler from Hailey, ID asks another question: "What is his favorite game on the pool table?"

RS: Bill, my favorite game is 10-ball

Geoffrey Quezada from Arvada, CO asks: "How do you overcome and fight through a bad slump during a match?"

RS: Geoffrey, when things are not rolling your way - you have to try and think positive. For the past few years I have been really practicing self-talk by say things to myself like - this is not the end, and it's going to be okay.

If you believe positive thoughts then good things with happen. Believing in god also helps. Try and take a break and go to the bathroom and wash your face, place a towel on the back your neck and most importantly is to remember to take deep breaths.

Bobby Martinez from Mesquite, TX asks: "How does he like his new Lambros cue?"

RS: Bobby, I love my new cue, thanks for asking. I know it's unbelievable to say, but I am truly doing things that I could never do before.

Jackie R Claxton from Springfield, MO asks: What does he do to prepare himself mentally before a match?

RS: Jackie, a few hours before my match I like to be in my room and relax and stay off my feet and while I'm in the room I like to chat with friends on the phone. And then on my way to my match I like be alone and I like to basically zone myself out almost like a trance state of mind. And just think about what I need to do to stay focused to win.

Brian Andrews from North Richland Hills, TX asks: "How does he ship his cues?"

RS: Brian, I have my cloths luggage bag and then I have a special cue travel bag for my cue case that I check as well.

A special "Thank-you" to Rob Saez for sharing his thoughts on his personal life and pool career.

Till next month you can find me on Facebook at www.facebook.com/wpbaviper.

Viper ☺

Melissa "The Viper" Little has been a WPBA Touring Professional for over 10-years, she has represented the USA in six WPA World Championships, is the current USA Bar Table Champion for 8-Ball and 9-Ball and has over 20 top-10 WPBA career finishes. Melissa is the house-pro at the Wynkoop Brewing Company located in Downtown Denver and is sponsored by The Wynkoop, Jacoby Custom Cues, www.str8-shots.com and the Cue Times Billiard News. She teaches monthly clinics, gives private lessons, and has created a juniors program that promotes billiards education to the local youth.

5 PLAYERS QUALIFY FOR THE U.S. AMATEUR POOL CHAMPIONSHIP

Will Compete for Prestigious Amateur Pool Title

Match Up's Pool Hall in Ft. Collins, CO was the site of the US Amateur Preliminary tournament. At this event, held September 21-23, five players out of 81 participants qualified to compete in the 2012 U.S. Amateur Championship - the nation's most prestigious amateur billiards tournament. **Preston Hollis, Colorado Springs; Scott Prater, Castle Rock; Eddie Robinson Jr., Des Moines IA; and Derek Skonecki, Aurora;** will join the 128-player field of the nation's best amateur men's players, competing for the title of U.S. Amateur Champion. **Christine Honeman, Conifer, CO** will join the 32-player field of the nation's best amateur women's players, competing for the title of U.S. Amateur Champion.

The 19th annual event, produced and conducted by the American Poolplayers Association (APA), will take place Nov. 9-11 at Stroker's in Palm Harbor, FL which is in the Tampa area.

The U.S. Amateur Championship is the highest level of amateur billiards competition in North America. In September, hundreds of the top amateur players attempted to qualify for the tournament, but only those who earned top spots during one of the Preliminary Rounds held at regional sites across North America advance to the championship rounds. This double elimination event offers these top amateur players the opportunity to showcase their skills through a



Derek Skonecki



Chris Honeman



Preston Hollis



Eddie Robinson



Scott Prater

combination of 8-Ball and 9-Ball matches in a race-to-7 format. The U.S. Amateur Championship is the only APA event that does not use *The Equalizer*® handicap system.

In addition to achieving the highest honors in amateur pool, the champion in each division earns a magnificent marble and bronze trophy, event jacket, and paid travel, lodging and entry into a 2013 pro billiard event. The champion also receives an automatic bid to return and defend their title the following year.

The APA, based in Lake Saint Louis, Mo., sanctions the world's largest amateur pool league, known as the APA Pool League throughout the United States and as the Canadian Pool League in Canada. More than 270,000 members compete in weekly 8-Ball and 9-Ball league play. The APA is generally recognized as the Governing Body of Amateur Pool, having established the official rules, championships, formats and handicap systems for the sport of amateur billiards.

The APA produces three major tournaments each year-the APA National Team Championships, the APA National Singles Championships and the U.S. Amateur Championship-that, together, pay out more than \$1.5 Million in cash and prizes annually. In 2010, the APA National Team Championships were recognized by Guinness World Records as the "world's largest pool tournament."

The APA and its National Championships are sponsored by Pool Dawg, Aramith and Action Cues.

For more information or to get signed up with the APA, please contact **Kevin and Erin Leivonen** at **303-862-0466** or by email at **www.APAPoolLeague.com**. Or you can visit the official APA website at **www.poolplayers.com**.



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Saturdays -
Free Poker @4pm
Free Pool 9PM
Sundays -
Free Poker at 1pm
"Cash Box" Karaoke at
8pm**

OCTOBER POOL TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE



October 6th- BCATournament
20 or more players sign up- Each player gets a ticket for drawing for a Jump Cue! Sign up by 12:45pm - Starts at 1:00pm
October 13th- APA Summer End Invitational Tournament -
APA hosting the event!!
October 20th - 8 Ball Thunder Pool Tournament at Greenfields Bar.
Note date change from 10/13
October 27th- Greenfields Halloween "Broomstick Tournament"
APA Rules, sign up at noon, play starts at 1PM \$\$\$ added!



Remembering Billy Gray -
He will be missed by all who had
the privilege of knowing him.....



Pure X American Tour - Greenfields 8-Ball Open
Saturday, Nov 3, 2012- sign up @ 11:30 am / start @ noon
Saturday, Jan 26th, 2013- sign up @ 11:30 am / start @ noon
Saturday, March 23rd, 2013- sign up @ 11:30 am / start @ noon

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October 6th-
G-Jai's Blues**

**October 12th &
13th-
Psycho X**

**October 19th-
The Chris King
Band**

**October 20th-
Weekend Medicine**

**October 26th &
27th-
Soul Squared**

**Don't Miss.....
Saturday 9 ball Tournaments!
Tournaments will start at 9PM,
\$5 Entry Fee, BCA Rules,
Random \$\$\$ will be added to
the Pot!!!**

Success at Str8-Shots Shoot for a Cure Event!

Results provided by Event Staff

It was a fun weekend with good friends, great pool, amazing stories, as well as true kindness and generosity. The first annual Str8-Shots Shoot for a Cure event was held at Felt Billiards in Englewood, Colorado on September 21-23. It began as a vision between Colorado Springs couple, Marc and Kimberly Griffiths. They wanted to organize an event to raise money for cancer, a cause they are both very passionate about. They chose LIVESTRONG and National Breast Cancer Foundation (NBCF) as the lucky recipients and began their fundraising campaign. They are also passionate about working with youth so joined with the Billiard Education Foundation (BEF) to raise money and awareness about youth in billiards. The Shoot for a Cure event was launched and raised nearly \$9,000 for all three charities.

The Griffiths alone raised \$4,000 from their commendable efforts which was used as the total prize fund for the three tournaments: Open, Ladies, and Junior's. Players were asked to sign up online to participate. At the time of registration, they received a link that they could send to their friends and family for either LIVESTRONG or NBCF. Once they raised a minimum of \$40 they were all set to play in the tournament. The junior players were asked to raise \$25 for the BEF to participate.



Tournament Directors Samm Vidal and Marc Griffiths. Thanks for all of your hard work!



Special Recognition Awards (Cancer Survivors): Brian Andrews, Dave Gross and Danny Medina

Dave Gross, Brian Andrews, and Danny Medina were recognized at the event for the courage and strength they displayed dur-

ing their battles against cancer. They are truly an inspiration to us all. Junior player, Taren Stewart, was recognized for coming out to support the cause by playing in the tournament after recently having knee surgery. Dave Gross of Fort Collins, a recent cancer survivor, was also acknowledged for his extraordinary efforts in raising over

\$2,400 in donations for LIVESTRONG.

It was truly a day of selflessness and so many of the 'grown-ups' set some great examples. Carol and Doug James both donated their winnings back, totaling \$225. A very generous man, who wishes to remain anonymous, won a raffle drawing for a 5280 pool cue and donated it back to the youth to be raffled. It was won by youth player Aryanna Davis. Tarasa Escoubas passed on her winning raffle ticket to junior player Stephen Griffiths who won a cue. Marc Vidal gave away the cue he won in the raffle to junior player Cody Escoubas. Several other adults bought tickets for the youth and with those tickets they won some fabulous prizes. The giving spirit was noticeably felt by all.

LIVESTRONG and NBCF were not the only winners on this weekend. Every junior player that participated received a Str8-Shots goody bag with a t-shirt, stickers, and other great prizes. Players could buy raffle tickets for \$1 each for LIVESTRONG and NBCF or \$5 each for BEF and every hour a winner was drawn for Str8-Shot grab bags. Both BEF and Str8-Shots also raffled a total of seven pool cues and many other prizes over the weekend.

In total, Str8-Shots raised \$6,632 for LIVESTRONG and National Breast Cancer Foundation between player entry donations, raffle ticket sales, t-shirt sales and other donations. Billiard Education

Foundation raised \$2,325 from player entry donations, raffle ticket sales, and donations/pledges. Overall, making the total raised for the day \$8,957.

We would like to thank all of the sponsors who donated to this event but can only mention a few here. A big thank you to Cue Times for donating advertising space to the Shoot for a Cure event as it truly helped us get the word out to players. Dave and Sandy Jameson for a very large contribution to the prize fund in memory of their son Greg, a pool player who died in 2009. Finally, Lorraine Kelly for the donation she made in memory of her husband Eric, also a pool player, who died from cancer in 2003. Please visit str8-shots.com for a complete list of those sponsors

Str8-shots.com is an online retailer for dart and billiard supplies. Visit their store at str8-shots.com/store. The Billiard Education Foundation is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization aimed to promote higher education for young adults by way of pocket billiards. Felt Billiards is located at 101 W. Floyd Ave. in Englewood, Colorado.

Visit www.str8-shots.com or www.facebook.com/str8shots.whenevershotcounts to see all the photos from the weekend.



Special Recognition Award: Taren Stewart for participating in the junior's event after just undergoing knee surgery along with Tournament Director Marc Griffiths

Open Event

1 st	Mark Haddad	\$750
2 nd	Marc Vidal	\$575
3 rd	Danny Medina	\$425
4 th	John Sandifer	\$300
5 th – 6 th	Melissa Little	\$150
5 th – 6 th	David Gross	\$150
7 th – 8 th	Anres DeHerrera	\$75
7 th – 8 th	Doug James	\$75

Ladies Event

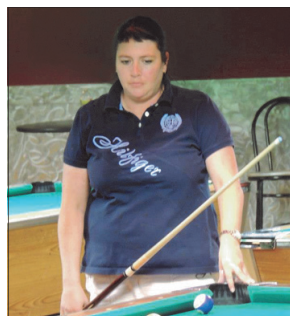
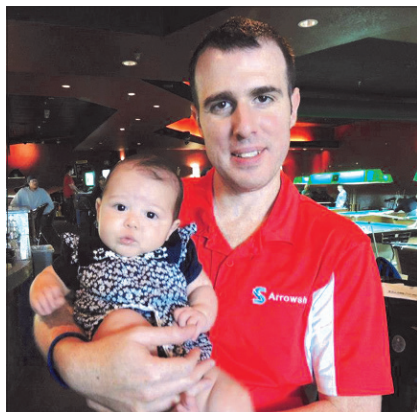
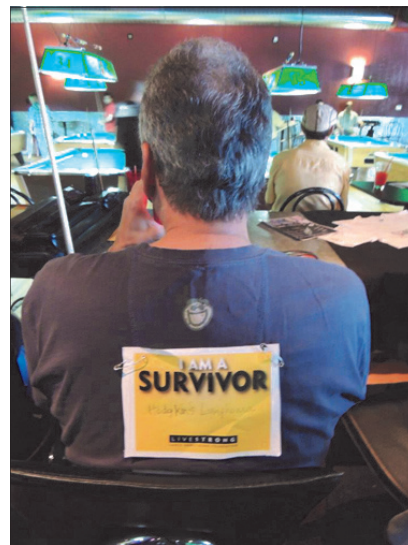
1 st	Carol James	\$375
2 nd	Sharon Hubbard	\$250
3 rd	Cheryl Jones	\$150
4 th	Emily Pond	\$75

Juniors Event

1 st	Geoffrey Quezada	\$250 Academic Scholarship
2 nd	Taren Stewart	\$150 Academic Scholarship
3 rd	Stephen Griffiths	\$100 Academic Scholarship

Juniors 11 & Under Event

1 st	Nicholas Macomber	\$15 Felt Gift Card & Str8-Shots Gift Bag
2 nd	Aryanna Davis	\$10 Felt Gift Card & Str8-Shots Gift Bag
3 rd – 4 th	Cody Escoubas	\$5 Felt Gift Card & Str8-Shots Gift Bag
3 rd – 4 th	Brayden Davis	\$5 Felt Gift Card & Str8-Shots Gift Bag



Scenes from the 1st Annual Shoot for a Cure Benefit Tournament

Ga-Young Kim Captures Women's World 10-Ball Title

Korea's Ga-Young Kim has finally put the misery of previous finals behind her by lifting the Ya-lin Women's World 10-Ball Championship trophy in the Philippines last week.



**World 10-Ball Champion
Ga-Young Kim**

After both having had to play compatriots in the semi finals, Chen playing Xiaofang Fu and Kim playing Yu Ram Cha, it led to a South Korea versus

China final match.

Kim faced off against 2011 World Number 1 Chen Siming of China in the final in front of a packed crowd at Robinson's Galleria Mall in Manila. The women's World 10-Ball Championships is now the largest female sporting event in the Philippines with massive support from both sponsors and the media.

The finals began with Ga-Young Kim continuing where she left off in the semi-final. She took the first 3 racks in quick succession and after around 15 minutes she already commanded a 4-1 lead.

continued to page 14

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NOVEMBER 3RD & 4TH 2012

9-BALL / RACE TO 7 / ALTERNATE BREAKS

BRACKETED/HANDICAP

PLAYER RANKING LIST AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

64 PLAYER LIMIT

\$750.00 ADDED MONEY

\$25.00 ENTRY FEE

PLAYER AUCTION 10:00 A.M. SATURDAY NOVEMBER 3

FINAL 16 SUNDAY NOVEMBER 4, 2012

NO PRO'S

7' BAR BOX/ SHARE QUARTERS

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TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

RICHARD MONTOKA 303-748-6653

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WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 21, 2012 @ 7:00 P.M.

8-BALL RACE TO 3, ALTERNATE BREAKS

\$10.00 ENTRY - \$\$\$\$ ADDED MONEY\$\$\$

7' BAR BOX/SHARE QUARTERS

OPEN - NO PRO'S

FRIDAY NIGHT 8-BALL 7:00 P.M.

SAT. 9-BALL 2:00 P.M.

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 (16) 12's & 11's
 (16) 10's & 9's
 (16) Women & down

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 (First Sunday is One-Pocket / Last Sunday is 8-Ball)

MONDAY

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TUESDAY

9-Ball Tournament @ 7PM

WEDNESDAY

Poker @ 6PM & 8:30PM

FRIDAY

9-Ball Tournament @ 7:30PM

SATURDAY

8-Ball Tournament @ 4:30PM

Karaoke @ 9:30PM

(see Tournament Trail or visit website for more details)

Brutus by OMG

continued from page 13

For those who felt I deserved to win, I reiterate - deserve's got nothing to do with it. The chips fall where they will and sometimes, they certainly don't fall where you feel they should. Seriously, if things turned out the way we all feel it should, then shouldn't we all win all the time?

Someone told me, "I hate it when the bad guys win." I do, too -- but when the "bad guy" plays better pool than you, that's just how it goes, sometimes. How "good" or "bad" (both subjective terms) has nothing to do with how well someone plays the game. I'm very sure I was the "bad guy" for many people sweating the match. We ascribe meaning to situations and certainly we have the people we cheer for, but that is because we want to believe the Universe cares and keeps an orderly house. But, really -- the Universe doesn't give a sh#t about pool players. Although if you believe in a higher power holding the reins, I am all for it (as long as they're on my side, teehee).

Shortly after the match was over, some douche-bag I didn't know tapped me on the shoulder to tell me I should have won, that I let the match slip away. Nice. I didn't give 110 percent he said.

"No, I didn't," I said between grinding teeth.

"You would have won if you did."

"You moron. You can't give 110 percent. By definition, if you give more than you have, you will die."

Everyone judges and I hear about what I did, or didn't do, all the time (and you guys get to hear it, too). In the end, screw the critics. Critics are men who sit and watch a battle from a high place and come down to shoot the survivors. You can only give what you have and if it's not enough, it's not enough. I didn't have the luck or the skill to win. So be it.

The neat thing Brutus' alleged sandbagging brings to my table is the "what if" dish. That is, would I have won against someone else? Did I even have a chance? Could I have done more? Could I have outrun the nuts? If I had won, would that mean he wasn't sandbagging -- and I was? "What if" questions have a way of playing games with your mind. I vacillated between feeling like I should have done more and feeling like I could not have done more -- and that was torturous. After a while the "meh" factor kicked in and life went on.

Enough of my internal kerfuffling. Let's take a look at the kerfuffling of others. I certainly heard A LOT in the following days regarding me, my opponent, and the tournament itself. Here are my observations and conclusions gleaned from what I heard.

Brutus paid his entry to one of the many people who were taking entries. Brutus is from Las Vegas. I am not sure if anyone told him about the qualifying requirement -- not everyone allowed to take entries was clear about the tournament specifics -- but when he showed up, I do not think the tournament director wanted to tell him he had driven all that way for nothing.

Brutus had played in 2010 as an 8 (about a B-). He affirmed this was his 2012 skill level. He was admitted as an 8.

I hear the tournament director had his suspicions after a few matches. When he voiced the possibility of raising Brutus' skill level, Brutus objected, accused the tournament director of favoring locals, and demanded others be raised if he were to be raised. The tournament director, who prided himself on fairness, let the matter go.

I have since heard that Brutus is an A-player. Maybe he doesn't know how well he plays. He spent a fair amount of effort woofing and decrying the lack of \$3,000 sets to be found in Southern California during the tournament.

Sets for \$3,000 and more are generally rare at B-player events for an unknown challenger and the majority of players are beginner-to-intermediate.

continued to page 16

Instruction With Tom

continued from page 3

Sometimes you will see a shot like the one diagrammed in B. In this situation you will pocket the five ball and continue the run, but you can't help noticing that nine over there waiting for something to come over and nudge it home. In this case the line perpendicular to the line of the five to the pocket does not meet up with the nine. Since you will pocket the five ball you know that a stop shot will not work here to make the nine as well. For this shot look at where the perpendicular track leads and, using the stop shot as your reference on the cue ball, make an adjustment upward to where you think you will apply the right amount of follow to move forward from the perpendicular track to the nine ball. Focus on pocketing the five ball and

play it with proper speed for position on the six to ensure the run out if you miss the nine. The six is the critical ball in this layout since it lies in a place that matches up with your attempt on the nine. If the six ball were down at the other end of the table you would play position for it and run out disregarding any attempts to pocket the nine ball.

Great players generally play run-out pool moving through the vast majority of racks in sequence. At the same time however they are on the lookout for opportunities to win a game early in the rack. You will learn, as everyone does, that thoughtless flyers at the nine will lose far more games for you than they win. You will also learn though how to recognize opportunities that, when played with planning and caution, can lead to a win if converted and still keep you in the game when the attempts fall short.

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Britain's Kelly Fisher Wins China Open

Britain's Kelly Fisher came into Sunday's final at the China Open feeling pretty good about her game. But even she had no idea just how good things were about to get.

With an eye squarely on the prize, and clearly on greatness as well, Fisher put in an electrifying performance as she completely routed an overmatched Zhou Doudou of China, 9-2, to capture the 2012 China Open.



2012 China Open Champion
Kelly Fisher

Two racks later Zhou missed another 9-ball to put Fisher up 4-1. From there the match was for all intents and purposes over. Fisher's confidence was sky high and palpable to the several hundred fans watching at the Shanghai Pudong Yuanshen Stadium arena. Zhou, meanwhile, played as if she had been struck by the fear of a higher power.

Within minutes of being up 4-2, Fisher looked to be in a different galaxy as she went ahead 7-2. Zhou then scratched in rack 10 and Fisher went up 8-2. Putting an exclamation point on the proceedings, the Brit then broke and ran for the final slam dunk and another big time title on her resume.

Afterwards, as fans mobbed her for photos and autographs, Fisher seemed to be in awe of what she had just done, and struggled the find words to fit the moment.

"I'm absolutely thrilled," she said. "I went in confident. How can I explain it? You go out on tour. You know the odds are against you with the standard being so high now. You can get knocked out at any stage of a tournament. But I'm feeling great about my game."

"I felt more prepared and I came in with confidence. Winning the World 9-ball championship in Shenyang gave me a boost. But getting knocked out in the World 10-ball in Manila this year

knocked me down a bit. I just figured that I've won the World 9-ball, the World 10-ball, but I've never won the China Open, Now I have."

"She made a couple of errors and I played really well so there's not a lot she could have done. She's a fantastic player. I have a lot more experience than her. There's a lot of great players coming up now so I'm going to try and take it while I can."

"This is my peak in pool. I played for 8 years in the States and I was always asking myself, 'Was it going to happen? Could I win the big international events?' I knew I could do it. But actually doing it is another thing. I'm surprised but I couldn't ask for anything more."

Characteristic of all Chinese players, Zhou remained the model of sportsmanship in defeat.

"Kelly played really well and I made a few mistakes," Zhou said. "I'm satisfied with how I played in this tournament and I'm happy that I reached the final. I will try to learn from the experience and hopefully I can come back in the next tournament and do even better."

For winning the 2012 China Open, Fisher collected \$30,000 while Zhou earned \$15,000.

The entire match took just 45 minutes, and in that short span of time, Fisher left no doubt that she is the premier performer in the women's game at the moment, and by the looks of it, for the foreseeable future.

With two world titles and years more experience in her arsenal, Fisher was obviously favored coming into the match with Zhou, who at 20 years old had never before played in a final of an international tournament. Still, with China's government backed sports system churning out young world beaters, most people expected the match to be close.

While Fisher completely dominated the proceedings, she did get plenty of help along the way from Zhou, who could never find a groove. After Fisher nabbed the opening rack in the alternate break match, Zhou completely missed an elementary 2 ball in rack two. Zhou got away with it as she accidentally snookered Fisher and ended up winning the rack. But it was a portent of things to come. And in a hurry.

"When she missed that two ball, I figured right there that she's not as settled as me," Fisher said after the match. Indeed Fisher smelled blood, and Zhou sensed a hungry shark was on the prowl as she missed a makeable 9-ball in rack three to help put Fisher up 2-1.

Ga-Young Kim Wins the 10-Ball World Championship

continued from page 11

Chen didn't look to be able to cope with the speed out of the blocks of Kim and although pocketing some nice shots was having difficulty with her positional play. On the other side of the table however, Ga-Young Kim looked supremely confident and it was evident that she was determined to lift the title, every visit to the table was well executed and not only did she manage to pot key balls but her positional play was also immaculate.

With Kim pushing her lead out to 9-3 she gave Chen another chance off a rare poor safety shot, Chen capitalised by making a lovely carom off the 3-Ball and sending the cue ball down table off the short rail and neatly pocketing the 10-Ball perfectly

where she called the ball. With the score now at 9-4 the crowd were hoping for some sort of comeback, and with Chen breaking and running the next rack for 9-5 it looked like it could be on, but alas, it was not to be and Ga-Young Kim managed to control the next rack to lift the title 10-5.

"I have improved my result from last year, so I am happy about that. I am getting closer", said Chen in her interview after the final.

When asked if she had done anything differently this year to prepare for the tournament Ga-Young Kim replied, "I really did not practice any more than usual for the event, but I was doing a 'Dancing with the Stars' TV show in Korea leading up to the World Championship, and so I was really in a happy mood. So I think my happiness and positiveness carried over to here this week."

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Randy Rodriguez wins the 2012 Colorado Junior State 9-Ball Championships

Nineteen juniors traveled all the way from Wyoming and from across Colorado's Front Range to compete in this year's 7th Annual Colorado Jr. State 9-Ball Championships held at the Wynkoop Brewing Company in downtown Denver, Colorado.



Maria Flores, Randy Rodriguez, and Felipe Flores, Jr.

tation. The Flores family who lost their pool player dad & husband Felipe Flores to a fatal car accident last year donated the \$600 Jacoby cue. Felipe's wife Dawn and two children

Maria & Felipe Jr. waited all night just to present the champion with this honorable grand prize.

A special thank you goes out to the following sponsors: room host - Wynkoop Brewing Co., www.str8-shots.com, Jacoby Custom Cues, the Flores Family and WPBA touring pro Melissa Little - tournament director. Other notable Colorado state champions players include James Fortin, now WPBA pro-player Nicole Keeney, and Malek Haj-Hussein.

For more information, photos, results and future events please visit www.wynkoop.com or www.melissalittle.com.

2012 Junior Champion: Randy Rodriguez – Trophy & \$600 Jacoby Custom Cue

Runner-Up Champion: Geoffrey Quezada – trophy

3rd Place: Ricky Smiley – trophy

4th Place: Taren Stewart – Gift Bag & \$300 Jacoby custom cue gift card

5th Place: Drake Spencer – Gift Bag

6th Place: Evan Balogh-Bruce – Gift Bag

Highest Finishing Female: Aryanna Davis

Randy being on a roll, continued by defeating Ricky to force him to finish 3rd place finish in the tournament. In the finals, due to the double elimination format Randy would have to beat Geoffrey twice to become the next champion. The first set was a nail biter going hill-hill in a race to 7 and it was Randy who won the 1st set. The second set was a breeze for the Randy. The young straight shooter from Cheyenne, WY dominated the final set 7-2 to become our next 2012 Colorado Junior State 9-Ball Champion!

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Texas Tornado, Vivian Villareal, Stops Repeat at the Texas Open

Vivian Villareal jumped up to a 6-0 lead for the hot seat against Kim Pierce only to have a minor hiccup on the nine ball to allow Kim to take one game



Vivian Villareal and Melissa Little

The final showdown between Vivian Villareal and Melissa Little (last year's champion) was all the buzz as the Tornado was undefeated and Melissa was still in over drive. The first set

before sending her to face Melissa Little on the one loss side with a 7-1 victory. Meanwhile, Melissa Little still at full speed from the gear she caught earlier, takes care of Nicole Keeney 7-3. Nicole finished nicely in 4th place. Melissa Little takes Kim Pierce 7-4 with a cheese on the last game to top it off. Kim Pierce played well earning an impressive 3rd place.

ran neck and neck as they kept the score tied up until 5-5, when Melissa found yet another gear to take the match 7-5. Set two went exactly the same way. The score stayed tied up until 5-5 but the tables got reversed as Vivian took over to win the match 7-5, crowning Vivian the 2012 Texas Open Champion.



Pete, Frances &
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Brutus by OMG*continued from page 13*

I would suggest he try the Hard Times 10-Ball Open. His proposal, assuming it is fair, should find many interested parties there.

I guess I would most closely equate Brutus' admittance and subsequent -- play -- with South African swimmer Cameron van der Burgh's slightly controversial Olympic victory in London. He admitted he cheated but rationalized:

"Everybody does it—well, if not everybody, 99 percent of them. If you're not doing it you are falling behind and giving yourself a disadvantage."

Whoa. (That sounds a lot like the rationale for hustlers and sandbaggers in pool, amirite?! Hell of a coincidence.) Van der Burgh got one over on the judges, even kicking them in the teeth with the public acknowledgment. He gamed the system and now, the system has to change to keep up.

Brutus gamed this little tournament and now, the tournament will have to change to keep up. A win is a win. A loss is a loss. Such are the trials and tribulations of competition.

I've seen a range of reactions and suggestions for the tournament, both from players and non-

players, locals and non-locals:

- Good for him, he hustled his way to victory.
- Who cares, people cheat every day, get over it.
- I wasn't allowed to play so serves them all right.
- Close the tournament to out-of-state players. (if you ban players from one state, you gotta ban them all)
- Close the tournaments to all non-local players. (but then, we'd have to define "locals", too)
- Have at least half a dozen local players verify your rating. (still room for possible collusion)
- Require qualification of playing the in-house tournament for four consecutive weeks. (could be difficult even for local players)
- Require qualification of playing the in-house tournament eight times within the year. (eh, why not)

The list goes on.

It is the nature of a handicapped tournament (rather, all tournaments) to not please all players. After all, only one player will win. However, after this tournament, I believe the tournament director will be more stringent in policing

skill levels in the future, and no doubt the process of receiving entries and evaluating eligibility will be clarified to prevent miscommunication. The worst loss, I feel, is the loss of trust between players and an increase in cynicism -- but that has been going on for some time now, hasn't it?

It was said that I took the fall for the mistakes and indecision of others. Whether that is true or not is irrelevant. Nothing can be done about the past.

Or can it?

I put on my best wizard hat and after some stretches, extended my arms, wiggled my fingers, and placed a curse on the cue (long distance and standard messaging rates did apply). Of course, my bad juju voodoo magic curse is merely words and therefore c o m p l e t e l y harmless...

In the meantime, the money I won goes into practice costs for next year. Maybe the third time will be the charm. Maybe not. I can only approach the next tournament the same way I did this year and last year: disregard what everyone else is doing, see how far I can run, and let it end where it ends.

Visit OMG's blog at:

www.massiveunderstatement.com



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Sunday Oct 14th

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Tournament Trail

▲ SUNDAY	
Felt	10-Ball, 9' tables, 2pm start, \$100 added
Love's Shack	3-Ball, 7pm, \$5 entry + \$5 green fees
Match Ups, Ft. Collins	9-Ball, 9' tables, \$\$ added, 3pm start
▲ MONDAY	
Felt	FREE Pool Tourney, 8 & 9-ball, A's down, 7:30pm
▲ TUESDAY	
Felt	9-Ball, 9' tables, \$\$ added, 7:30 pm
Greenfields	8-Ball, bar tables, 8 pm
▲ WEDNESDAY	
BC's Sports Pub	9-Ball, 1 pm start, \$5 entry
Wynkoop Brewing Co	10-Ball Tournament, \$\$ added
▲ THURSDAY	
BC's Sports Pub	8-Ball, 1 pm start, \$5 entry
▲ FRIDAY	
Antique Billiards	9-Ball, Colo Spgs, 719-597-9809
BC's Sports Pub	8-Ball, bar table
Felt	9-Ball, bar table, \$\$ added, 7:30 pm
Hank's Billiards	8-Ball, 7pm start
Love's Shack	8-Ball, bar table, 2 pm start
Match Ups, Ft. Collins	8-Ball, bar table, \$100 added, 7:30 pm
▲ SATURDAY	
BC's Sports Pub	9-Ball, bar table, 8pm start
Felt	8-Ball, bar table, \$\$ added, 4:30 pm
Greenfields	9-Ball, bar table, 9pm start, \$5 entry
Hank's Billiards	9-Ball, \$\$ added, 2pm start
Love's Shack	8-Ball, no AAA's, \$\$ added, 7pm

The Tournament Trail is free for advertisers (\$15 for Tournament Trail listing **only**). Listing of tournaments does not guarantee the event will take place.

Special Events

October 6th

BC's Sports Pub
Greenfields

Open 8-Ball, 2pm start
BCA Tourney, 1pm start

October 7th

Felt

One Pocket, 9' tables, 2pm, \$\$ added

October 13th

Greenfields

APA Summer End Invitational

October 20th

BC's Sports Pub
Felt
Greenfields

Open Scotch Doubles, 2 pm start
Stay In Stroke 8- and 9-ball, see Felt ad
8-Ball Thunder, APA rules

October 24th

Wynkoop

A Night with Legendary Mike Massey

October 27th

BC's Sports Pub
Felt
Greenfields

9-Ball Tournament, 2pm start
Halloween Broomstick Doubles Tourney
Halloween Broomstick Tourney, \$\$ added

October 28th

Felt

APA 8-Ball Tourney, see pg. 10 for details

Upcoming Events

Nov. 3	Hank's	Stay In Stroke Tourney, 9-ball, \$\$ added
Nov. 3	Greenfields	Pure X - All American Tour
Nov. 9-11	Antiques	BCAPL/USAPL State Championship
Nov. 21	Hank's	Turkey Shoot, 8-ball, bar tables, \$\$ added

See ads for more information

3 Simple Tips to Remain the Favorite

by Samm Diep
April 2011 ©



Sometimes, being the clear favorite to win in a match can feel like just as much pressure as when you're the underdog. Many times you and your opponent are pretty evenly matched but there are other times when there's a clear favorite.

And when that favorite is you, there's a natural expectation to feel you should win. Often times those expectations can result in unnecessary pressure.

What can you do to remain the favorite? Keep reading...

How do you identify the lower-level player? Usually, he/she is the one who:

- Makes more mistakes.
- Does not break as well.
- Is often careless.
- Rushes shots.
- Is more aggressive.
- Plays fewer safeties.
- Misses more.

The time will come when you lose a match where you felt you should've won. These are those

matches where, instead of getting beat, you feel like you beat yourself. Your opponent has nothing to lose. They may not even expect to win.

It could've been that you underestimated your opponent or maybe you put *too* much pressure on yourself to win. Whatever the case may be, you were technically the more skilled player but you did not perform to your potential. It can take just as much discipline and concentration to defeat a weaker opponent as it does the tougher one. If you don't take them and the match just as seriously, you'll find yourself as the weaker of the two.

Here are three simple tips to help you remain the favorite in a match:

1. **Challenge yourself not to give up one single game.** Watching your opponent miss and scratch can be contagious. If you begin to get careless, that three game lead can easily turn into a hill-hill match. Don't let the match be closer than it should. When you feel like you should win, don't just win. See if you can play a perfect set.
2. **Do not change your game.** There are few things worse than a false sense of security. It can be very easy to take your opponent for granted and start making aggressive decisions. Have the discipline to play the safety

versus the fun, low percentage shot.

3. **Be thankful for the opportunity to warm up.** Instead of getting hasty, really bear down and be deliberate with your decisions and execution. Don't put unnecessary pressure on yourself. Utilize this match as an opportunity to get in stroke for your next match.

When you're the better player, more often than not you will come away the victor. The less experienced players reveal flaws that will eventually cost them games and then the match. In most cases, the player that demonstrates the fewest weaknesses is the one that prevails. The next time you find yourself the clear favorite in a match, keep these three tips in mind to ensure you remain the favorite.

Samm Diep, "Cherry Bomb" (SammDiep.com)
House Pro at Felt Billiards, Englewood, CO

Executive Director for the Billiard Education Foundation
(BilliardEducation.org)

Author of "You Might Be A D Player If... (101 Classic Moves That All Pool Players Can Appreciate)"

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WESTMINSTER

92ND AVENUE TAVERN - 7701 W 92nd Ave, 303-422-6353
BLITZ SPORTS BAR - 8468 Federal Blvd, 303-426-0260, Pool Leagues
CHARLIE’S WEB - 8364 Sheridan Blvd, 303-412-8120
DAVIE’S LOCKER - 8855 Lowell Blvd, 303-429-0096
HOFFBRAU BAR & GRILL - 7699 W 88th Ave, 303-422-7755
HICC UPS - 7980 Sheridan Blvd, 303-429-9523
OUTPOST - 6921 Lowell Blvd, 303-429-5737
PARK CENTRE LOUNGE & GRILL - 12011 N Pecos, 303-450-9913
REAR INN LOUNGE - 4991 W 80th Ave, 303-426-4500
SWEETWATER - 9975 Wadsworth Pkwy, 303-420-1004
TOMMY’S - 6801 Lowell Blvd, 303-426-4167

WHEAT RIDGE

44TH AVENUE GRILL – 7605 W 44th Ave, 303-421-4544, Pool Leagues, Full Kitchen
CLUB CORNER – 6551 W 44th Ave, 303-424-5424
HANK’S BILLIARDS - 5250 W 38TH Ave, 303-424-1822
HOPPERS - 1-70 Frontage Rd N of Kipling, 303-456-0257
JAMMIN JOE’S - 4700 Kipling St, 303-428-4597
LONGSHOTS BAR & GRILL – 4400 Ward Rd, 303-403-0227, Pool Leagues, Texas Hold’em,
ROCKETTE - 10006 W 44th Ave, 303-422-9163
STAN’S CARAVAN - 11221 W 44th Ave, 303-467-3557

Places to Play

*** *Around Colorado* ***

ALAMOSA

BANK SHOT SPORTS BAR - 1212 8th Street, 719-589-9895

ASPEN

ASPEN BILLIARDS - 315 E Hyman Ave, 970-920-6707

BOULDER

28th STREET TAVERN - 2690 28th St, 303-444-1562

PEARL STREET PUB - 1108 Pearl St, 303-939-9900

FOUNDRY, THE - 1109 Walnut St, 303-447-1803

OUTBACK SALOON, THE - 3141 28th St, 303-444-0081

‘ROUND MIDNIGHT - 1005 Pearl St, 303-442-2176

SUNDOWN SALOON - 1136 Pearl St, 303-449-4987

WALRUS - 1911 11th Ave, 303-443-9902

BRIGHTON

BILLIARDS C & E - 122 N Main St

J DAWG’S DD SALOON - 245 S Main St, 303-659-9948

JERRY’S BAR - 130 N Main St, 303-659-3788

JORDINELLI’S CAFE - 25 N Main St, 303-659-1055

COLORADO SPRINGS

ADAM’S APPLE - 3302 Austin Bluffs Pkwy, 719-528-6525

ANTIQUE BILLIARDS MUSEUM - 3628 Citadel Dr, 719-597-9809

CJ’S SPORTS BAR - 3535 N. Carefree Cir, (719) 572-1860

CLEAT’S LOUNGE - 6624 Delmonico Dr, 719-548-8267

DIAMOND BILLIARD LOUNGE - 3780 E. Boulder St, (719) 596-9516

DUFFY’S TAVERN - 4861 N. Academy Blvd., (719) 599-7739

FINISH LINE - 1812 E. Monument St., (719) 634-9870

FRANKIE’S BAR & GRILL - 945 N Powers Blvd, 719-574-4881

GEE CUES SPORTS BAR - 3906 San Miguel, 719-638-6855

GOLDEN CUE - 2790 Hancock Expressway, (719) 390-7633

HARMONY BOWL - 3845 N Academy Blvd, 719-591-1000

HOT OWL LONGE - 6437 Omaha Blvd, 719-596-9771

JOE’S BAR - 4763 Flintridge Dr, 719-599-8382

MURRAY STREET DARTS - 609 N Murray Blvd, 719-573-0467

ON THE BOULEVARD - 2855 N. Murray Blvd, (719) 471-4424

PAUL’S BAR - 310 S. 8th St #B, (719) 520-9737

PHANTOM CANYON BREWING CO-2 E Pikes Peak Ave, 719-635-2800

RASCALS - 1785 B St, 719-576-2238

RILEA’S PUB - 5672 Union Blvd, 719-598-6622

THIRSTY’S - 2028 Sheldon Ave, 719-444-8515

TIME OUT LOUNGE - 3721 Brennan Rd, 719-390-7257

STUDEBAKERS BAR & GRILL - 1840 N. Academy Blvd., (719) 637-8412

WILLIE’S SOUTH - 1865 N Circle Dr, 719-389-0607

YUKON TAVERN - 525 S Circle Dr, 719-475-0050

COLORADO SPRINGS AREA

CORNER POCKET BILLIARD LOUNGE - 6502 S US Hwy 85-87, Fountain, CO (719) 392-9480

SILVER TONGUE DEVIL - 10530 Ute Pass Ave, Green Mountain Falls, 719-684-2555

TOWNHOUSE LOUNGE - 907 Manitou Ave, Manitou Springs, 719-685-1085

UTE INN - 204 W Midland, Woodland Park, 719-687-1465

CRAIG

MATHER’S BAR - 420 Yampa Ave, 970-824-9946

DURANGO

COLORADO PONGAS - 121 W 8th St, 970-382-8554

ESTES PARK

ESTES PARK REC CENTER - 555 S Saint Vrain, 970-586-8625

TRIPPERS LANE 110 W. Elkhorn St. 970-586-4346

EVERGREEN

CACTUS JACK’S TAVERN - Evergreen Pkwy, 303-674-1564

FORT COLLINS

COOPERSMITH BREWERY & BILLIARDS - 5 Old Town Square, 970-498-0483

HATRIX - 6013 S College Ave, 970-229-1599

MATCH UP’S - 625 S Mason, 970-482-2337, Pool Leagues

PITCHERS! SPORTS RESTAURANT - 1100 W Drake Rd., 970-493-5374

GRAND JUNCTION

BANK 8 BILLIARDS– 2460 F Road Ste #3, 970-255-8808

BRASS RAIL – 476 28 Road, 970-241-8686

GREELEY

BARLEYCORN’S - 2385 W 27th St, 970-339-5901

IDAHO SPRINGS

BARD CREEK INN - 409 E Parker Ave, 970-569-9827

HANSON’S LODGE - 1601 Colorado Blvd, 970-567-9391

INDIAN SPRINGS RESORT - 302 Count Rd 140, 970-567-9475

TOMMYKNOCKERS BREWERY PUB - 1401 Miner St, 970-567-1022

WEST WINDS - 1631 Miner St, 567-2029

JOHNSTOWN

LEO’S PLACE, - 191/2 S Parish, 970-587-4866

LEADVILLE

SILVER DOLLAR SALOON - 315 Harrison Ave, 719-486-9914

LONGMONT

A BIT OF BILLIARDS - 700 Ken Pratt Blvd #105, 303-776-3952, Leagues, Tournaments, & Great Food

GROUP THERAPY - 1644 N Main St, 303-776-9541

LOVELAND

GRAY’S - 143 S. E. 14th St., 970-663-6133

NIGHT SHOTZ - 3329 Garfield Ave, 970-669-3727

PUEBLO

BIG DADDY’S SPORTS BAR - 4111 Club Manor Dr, 719-546-3636

CLASSIC Q’S - 1715 South Prairie Avenue (719) 924-8250

CLUB ENVY SPORTS BAR - 4065 Club Manor Drive Pueblo, CO 81008 (719) 696-8698

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

VFW POST #4264 - 924 Lincoln Ave, 970-879-9959

VAIL

ALTITUDE BILLIARD CLUB - Evergreen Lodge, 970-476-7810

*** *Wyoming-Places to Play* ***

CHEYENNE

MINGLES - 1618 Stillwater Ave, 307-632-9966

PLUSH CUE BILLIARDS - 1715 Pioneer Ave, 307-632-9615

CASPER

BEACON CLUB - 4100 W Yellowstone Hwy, 307-577-1503

HORSESHOE BAR - 7515 W Yellowstone Hwy, 307-472-5770

MOONLIGHT LIQUORS - 2305 E 12th, 307-234-7787

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

MINGLES BILLIARDS - 3206 E Grand Ave, 307-721-2005

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

JAKES TAVERN - 5201 S Douglas Hwy, 307-686-3781

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

RIVERCITY BAR - 910 S Federal Blvd, 307-856-4652

RAPID CITY, SD

BREAKROOM BILLIARDS - 355 11th St, 605-716-7676

*** *Where To Buy* ***

ACE GAMES INC - 12200 W 52nd Ave, 303-432-9876

ALL BILLIARDS SERVICE - 2417 N Academy Blvd, Colorado Springs, 719-597-7974

ALPINE BILLIARDS SALES & SERVICE - 380 S Potomac St, Aurora, 303-617-0220

BEST QUALITY BILLIARDS - 10405 West Colfax Ave, Lakewood, 303-233-2557,

www.bestqualitybilliards.com

BIG BREAK BILLIARDS - 6920 S. Jordan Rd. #E, Centennial, 720-270-1444

BLACK HILLS NOVELTY-209 Stocktrail Ave, Gillette,WY 307-686-2111

BMW BILLIARDS (Vending) - 970-391-7664

BROADWAYS BILLIARD CUES & SUPPLIES - 303-781-5755

3978 S. Broadway, Englewood

CABIN FEVER SPORTS – 107 W 6th St, Pueblo, 719-584-3660

CAL SPAS - 1035 Zuni, Denver, 303-623-0100

CAREFREE SPAS & POOLS - 7450 W 52nd Ave Unit V, Arvada, 303-422-0100

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

CHAMPION POOL LEAGUES - Richie Cunningham & Angela Jackson, 303-647-4282, BCA, VNEA,

USAPL, richie.angela@championpoolplayers.com

DENVER POOLPLAYERS ASSOCIATION, Charlie Ray, BCA, 303-902-3014, playdpa@gmail.com

GAMES PEOPLE PLAY– Cindy Plank, 720-289-1471

MILE HIGH TAP LEAGUE - Bill Davis, 303-817-6996, Adams & Arapahoe counties in Denver Area

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



15 Rack LLC

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