



THE 2009 WPBA PACIFIC COAST CLASSIC

QUARTERFINALS #3

Story & Photos by Anne Craig – WPBA



Karen Corr

vs.



Jennifer Chen

October 17th, 2009: Lincoln City, OR

Quarterfinals #3 saw the return of Taiwan's Jennifer Chen to the WPBA stage. She's missed most of this season opening up her new billiard establishment, JC Billiards & Club. She's proven she hasn't lost a step though, as she tore her way through the brackets to reach her first TV round in quite some time. Meanwhile, Karen Corr is looking for her first WPBA Title in 2 years and has put herself in contention several times this season already, coming closest as the Runner-up at the WPBA's US Open 9 Ball Championships.

Jennifer won the lag and broke but made nothing and Karen stepped up to make her way through the tricky layout that resulted. With determination in her eyes, she made quick work of things to take the first game of the match, 1-0. She had the break advantage in game 2 and had a wide open table after pocketing two balls. She missed the 5 ball cut up the side rail, sending it wide but leaving Jennifer with a rail to rail cut shot that she missed, giving Karen another opportunity back at the table. The result was a long cut draw shot, with her cue ball perfectly coming off the side rail for shape on the 8 and the 9 to take the fast 2-0 lead.

Jennifer broke but made nothing. Karen had no shot so she played safe and was rewarded with ball in hand after Jennifer failed to hit the ball. Playing with a sure touch, Karen ran out and the score was 3-0 as Jennifer looked on, frowning in frustration. Karen broke but failed to pocket a ball. After a safety exchange, Jennifer gained the advantage but unfortunately a spectator's camera flashed just as Jennifer was shooting the 5 ball. She walked back to her chair in disgust. Karen had a kick shot on the 5 which to her credit she made, and ran out to make it 4-0. Steve admonished the crowd and warned that all cameras would be banned if it happened again.

Jennifer had something to prove as she broke, deliberately making her way through the rack. Her shape to the 7 was suspect, evidenced by the fact she missed the cut shot. Karen was forced to duck the cue ball behind the 9 and Jennifer pulled out her jump cue. She took dead aim, jacked up and nailed the 7 ball center into the side pocket! The crowd cheered, but then emotions ran the other way as they groaned in unison when Jennifer rattled the 8 ball in the corner pocket. Karen ran out and it was 5-0. With the break in game 6, Karen came up dry and Jennifer once again stepped up to try to post her first game of this match. She was forced to play safe on the 2 ball though it came up short of the mark. Karen could see enough of it to play a return safety and the chess game began. Jennifer blinked first, but there was no

easy run out for Karen. The 5, 7 & 9 were tied up with each other, and Karen played great shape from the 4 to the 5 for the safety. She locked Jennifer up with the cue ball snuggled behind the 7/9 and Jennifer just missed the 1 rail kick shot. Ball in hand for Karen with 5 balls left on the table; she sank each one to reach the hill in a dominating performance, 6-0.

Jennifer had the break in game 7, and although she made a ball, she was forced to play a safe. Karen hit the 1 ball but scratched, as the 9 crawled near the bottom corner pocket. There was no combination shot to be had as most of the balls were at the opposite end of the table, so Jennifer began the task of running out. Jennifer slow rolled the 7 ball and it drifted off, rattling in the corner pocket. Karen ran out to win 7-0 and advance to the Semi Finals.