



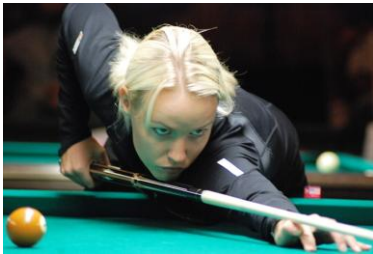
2219 E. Thousand Oaks Blvd Suite 102, #287  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362  
Office: 615-859-9722 Fax: 818-705-0967

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## WPBA CAROLINA CLASSIC

### Jasmin Ouschan vs. Vivian Villarreal in Semifinals' #1

September 14, 2008 – Durham, North Carolina – Photos and story by Anne Craig



Jasmin Ouschan



Vivian Villarreal

New & Veteran guard players meet up as the 1<sup>st</sup> of 2 Semifinals are underway here in Durham North Carolina at the American Tobacco Campus. Both competitors were focused and ready to show the first time crowd here a great match!

Vivian won the lag, broke and with her trademark whistle, pocketed a ball and began the match by missing a thin cut on the one. She joked "ah it's just the first game" but you could tell it was a wry comment. Jasmin stepped up and thinned the 1 into the corner pocket and continued to make her way through the object balls. Hitting with confidence and authority, she surveyed each shot, measured her position play, and took the first game of the match. Jasmin went into game 2 with the break advantage and nearly dropped the 9 ball in the corner pocket, she had pocketed 2 balls and made an easy 2/9 combination to win game 2.

Vivian broke in game 3, made a ball and was forced to push out but hooked the cue ball's view to the next object ball and Jasmin gave the option back. Vivian jumped the cueball and nearly made the 1 off a long rail bank. Jasmin came to the table looking to extend her lead to 3 and began picking her way through the rack. She easily maneuvered the table layout and Vivian, looking resolute, watched as Jasmin went up 3-0 in a matter of just a few minutes. Jasmin came up dry off her break in game 4, finally allowing Vivian a chance to run out a rack, but Vivian was forced to play safe. They played hide & seek with the 2 ball for several turns but Vivian blinked first and Jasmin came back to the table to run out: the 5 ball proved more difficult than either player anticipated, but Jasmin ended up back at the table with an open shot after Vivian missed, and ran out again. The score was now 4-0 and the tension began showing in Vivian's face.

(Cont'd)

Game 5 saw both competitors fighting over control of the rack via the one ball, back and forth it went until finally, Jasmin had an open shot. Unfortunately for her, she hooked herself behind the 7 trying for position on the 4 ball, and while she hit the 4, she left an open shot for Vivian. Vivian would not be denied and ran out to finally get on the board! Vivian was so excited she stepped up to break but it was Jasmin's break. The crowd laughed along with Vivian and Jasmin both. Jasmin broke, made a ball and confidently ran out to regain a 4 game advantage, 5-1.

Vivian broke, made a ball but as luck wasn't running her way this match, was hooked behind the 6 for the 2 ball and was forced to push out, leaving Jasmin with the option of a short rail bank or a re-safety. She chose the safety attempt, leaving Vivian with a long shot to hit another safety. She scratched off the attempt, giving Jasmin ball in hand. The 3 and 6 ball were tied up, and Jasmin made a great effort at breaking them up, but didn't leave herself an open shot, instead being forced to play safe. Vivian played a return safety, and commented with a smile "See, I can play safe, but....." as her voice trailed off. The safety battle continued for several rounds, but Jasmin was finally left with a long but makeable shot, which she pocketed easily. She ran into trouble though, when her cue ball came around the table short of the mark for the 7 ball which was 3" away from the 8 on the bottom rail. She caromed the cue ball off the 7, making the 8, and the 7 ball came down-table to rest against the rail by the 1<sup>st</sup> spot. Missing the tough long table cut, Vivian strode confidently back to the table, but missed the cut! She cried out in frustration and despair, as Jasmin ran out the last two balls to reach the hill.

Jasmin enjoyed the break advantage, pocketing the 7 ball, but the table layout forced her to play a safe which was successful in leaving Vivian a one rail kick. Although Vivian hit the one, the cue ball came off of the ball and scratched, giving Jasmin ball in hand. The 2 and 9 were tied up as were the 3 and 6, but not enough to prevent them from being pocketed. The 4 ball proved tight shape and Jasmin was forced to play safe, snuggling the cue ball up to the 8 and hiding the 4 ball from Vivian's view. Vivian's 2 rail kick shot missed the mark and Jasmin once again received ball in hand. Down went the 4, 5, 6, 8 and 9 balls, for Jasmin's first foray into the Finals this year! Vivian threw in the white towel as Jasmin was down on the 9 ball in concession.

Congratulations to Vivian Villarreal for a great tied for 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish.

Stay tuned for more updates and don't forget to check out the [tournament bracket](#)!