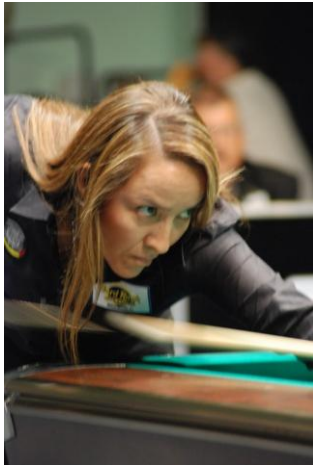




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## WPBA PACIFIC COAST CLASSIC THE COMMOTION BY THE OCEAN

### THE FINALS



**Vivian Villarreal**

vs.



**Kelly Fisher**

**October 5th, 2008 – Lincoln, City OR at the Chinook Winds Casino**

The crowd erupted in chants of "USA! USA" as Vivian Villarreal was introduced into the final match of the 2008 Pacific Coast Classic here at the Chinook Winds Casino. Meanwhile, Kelly Fisher's fans were vocal in their support of the #1 ranked player (who retains her ranking solo after defeating Karen Corr in a great hill-hill match).

Vivian won the lag but was forced to push out. Kelly stepped up and made a tough cut on the one and thus began the match between these players who were familiar with each other. Vivian looked to avenge her loss in the semi-finals versus Kelly Fisher. Kelly uncharacteristically missed the 4 ball but left the shot safe and Vivian's kick shot allowed Kelly another open look at the ball. She continued through the rack to win the opening game of the match.

Vivian made a critical error in game two after pocketing the one ball and leaving her cue ball right next to the 2 that was resting on the side rail. With a big sigh and a "Aye Chihuahua's man!" she was forced to play safe but left a long, spot shot for Kelly to make. Kelly pocketed the ball easily and came around for good position on the four. The 5 was lined up awkwardly with the 9 and the only shape Kelly could get was for a 5/9 combination. The 9 ball rattled out of the pocket and Vivian got another chance to step up and run out. With a very nice "Bless you" to someone in the crowd who had sneezed while she walked around the table, she finished off the rack to tie up the match at 1 all.

Kelly broke in game 3 but failed to make a ball but left nothing for Vivian to shoot at who had to push out. The two players locked horns in a safety battle on the 1, trading off several times until Kelly had an opportunity to pocket a thin cut which she did. Unfortunately, the cue ball came too far south of the 2 and she had to play safe once again. Vivian left Kelly with a jump shot and successfully hit the ball. Vivian finally gained the advantage but incredibly, missed an easy shot into the corner reminiscent of the 8 ball she missed at the US Open and Kelly came back to the table. Her shot making was evident as she made two balls in a row that were nearly straight in and stopped her cue ball dead in its' tracks both times for position on the subsequent ball. She ran out and took game 3 and the lead, 2-1.

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Vivian wasn't going to let Kelly get too far ahead of her and although her position play wasn't as crisp as it was earlier against Monica Webb, her shot making ability made up for it and she ran out to tie the match at 2 all. Kelly broke in game 5, pocketing the 5 ball and having a nice open layout to work with. Playing a touch slower than we're used to seeing from her, she deliberately made her way around the table and had no problems finishing the rack off to take the lead back, 3-2. Vivian stepped up to break, hoping to answer Kelly's break and run with one of her own. Instead, the cue ball got loose on her and she scratched in the side pocket, giving Kelly the opportunity to take a 2 game lead. Kelly had left herself less than ideal on the 4 ball and missed the ball, giving Vivian back the opportunity she'd given up to Kelly in the first place and without much ado, ran out to knot the match back up at 3 all.

Kelly's break proved successful as she pocketed a ball but perhaps nerves were getting to her and she missed the 1. Vivian's own focus seemed lacking as she played a poor safety attempt and left an open shot for Kelly to work with. Apparently neither player wanted to run out because Kelly missed the 3 and Vivian blew shape from the three to the four ball and was forced to kick after hooking herself. She hit the ball and left Kelly a shot but Kelly caught some of Vivian's "snooker-i-tis" and hooked herself behind the 9 for the 5 ball! She hit the ball after kicking at it one rail and left Vivian a shot into the side pocket which she made, leaving only the 7 & 9 balls between herself and a one game lead. The crowd cheered as Vivian made the 9 and the score was 4-3.

With an encouraging "9 Ball!" from Vivian, she stepped up and broke, but the stubborn object ball didn't even budge and nothing went in. Kelly stepped up looking at a short rail kick/cut at the 1, which she made beautifully but the cue ball came down, gently nudge the 2 and then scratched into the corner pocket, giving Vivian the chance to run out and extend her lead to two. She got poor shape from the 2 to the 3 ball and missed the 3 trying for awkward shape onto the 4 ball. Rubbing the top of her head, Vivian walked back to her chair as Kelly stepped up and decisively ran out the rack and we were back all square at 4-4.

Kelly broke but didn't pocket a ball and Vivian began the task of running out the rack. She was not about to let this match get away from her and took her time with each shot and ran out to regain the lead at 5-4 and go into game 10 with the break. After pocketing the four ball, Vivian exclaimed "What the heck am I going to do with the 5 ball" someone in the crowd said "Make it!" she said "Exactly!" She made the 2 then asked of the crowd "Should I go for the combination [on the 5/9]? What do I do?" Taking her extension, she surveyed the 3 to the 5 ball shape, and then just gave herself simple position on the 5/9, or would she cut the 5 into the opposing corner pocket? Or play safe? She went for the 5/9 and got very lucky as the 5 ball came around table to settle partially behind the 8, blocking Kelly from seeing the entire ball. Kelly kicked one rail, leaving Vivian jacked up over the 8 ball and a long shot up table. Vivian missed it badly and Kelly easily ran out the four remaining balls to once again tie up the match.

It was Kelly's break and after making the 8 ball, Kelly's safety attempt on the 1 came up short. She walked back to her chair holding her hand to her forehead while Vivian whistled and cut the 1 in. She came up about 2" away from the two ball and was forced to play a safe, sending the cue ball up table as far away from the two as possible, thus starting a back and forth between the two players. Vivian locked the cue ball squarely behind the 6 whilst the 2 ball went up table, and Kelly needed to throw a ton of English on the ball, kicking one rail and hitting the 2. Vivian could see the ball and contemplated a long cut up the rail, pocketing it cleanly. Out came the bridge for the 3 ball, caroming the cue ball off the 9 after making the 3. Unfortunately, she hooked herself behind the 5, with the cue ball showing no love this game. She successfully hit the ball after kicking at it, and left Kelly to play another safety which was unsuccessful as Vivian did have an open shot. It wasn't easy though and all she could say was "Wow". Her attempt to cut the ball into the left corner pocket failed and left Kelly with an easy shot. She made the 3 but missed the 5 ball as the crowd "awww'd" in unison. Vivian's shot wasn't easy though and her thin cut into the corner failed, but didn't leave Kelly an open shot. Kelly sent the 5 up table leaving the cue ball near the 9 and the bottom rail. Vivian hit the 5 to split the difference, sending each ball to their respective side rails. Kelly contemplated a bank, a thin cut or a safety as she took her extension deciding which to commit to. She chose the thin cut and made it with perfect position on the 6, then to the 7 and finally the 9 to reach the hill first.

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Knowing she was running out of time, Vivian broke strongly and made the 1 and 3 ball on the break. She easily made a short rail bank on the 2 ball into the corner pocket, gaining position onto the 4 ball. The key shot in this rack was position from the 5 to the 6, from one end of the table to the other. She sent the cue ball down table nicely but left herself straight in on the 6. She pocketed the ball, made a great shot on the 7 and ran out to the 8 getting straight in and forcing her to take the awkward position on the 9. Incredibly, she missed the 9, leaving a bank for Kelly to pocket and to win her 2<sup>nd</sup> title of the season.

Congratulations to Kelly Fisher on her 2<sup>nd</sup> win of the season and although Vivian is obviously disappointed, having made top 5 three times this season is an impressive feat and her ranking will improve this season going into the Tour Championships in Florida.

Many thanks go out to our hosts, the Chinook Winds Casino and Resort and the Siletz Tribe of Indians, Tribal Chairperson Delores Pigsly, Marketing Director Josh Blacketer, Assistant Marketing Director Kelli Duhamel, PR & Media Heather Hatton. To our American Poolplayers Association shot clock volunteers and the League Operators for the area, Merle & Boomer Humphries and their Area Manager, John Blue we offer thanks for all the hard work! Thanks to our Sponsors as always, Brunswick Billiards, Iwan Simonis Inc, The American Poolplayers Association, Cuetec Cues, Mueller Recreational and Aramith balls.

We'll see you at the WPBA Tour Championships, November 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino!