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WPBA SAN DIEGO CLASSIC
THE BEST OF THE WEST
Semi Final #1



Jeanette Lee

vs.



Monica Webb

April 5th, 2009 – Alpine, CA at the Viejas Casino

The final day here at the 2008 WPBA Pacific Coast Classic got underway starting with our first Semifinals at 1:00pm Pacific time. Both Jeanette Lee and Monica Webb came to this point undefeated, although for Monica the road wasn't without some close calls. She faced Texas native, Kim White, in the 2nd round and went hill-hill, toe-to-toe with Monica, but Monica prevailed. Then, in Saturday evening's Quarterfinal match versus South Korea's Yu Ram Cha, they traded games through 7 all, but due to a couple of errors on Yu Ram's part, Monica came out ahead 9-7. It's great to see two U.S. players facing off in these semi-finals which guarantee's one for the Final Match, continuing the trend from the year-end Tour Championships where Monica won. Monica's looking to start this season off strong, but Jeanette's looking to win her first tournament in over 6 years.

The crowd cheered both competitors as they entered the arena and after Jeanette won the lag, Semi-Final #1 was underway. Jeanette came up cold on the break and Monica pocketed a tough 1 ball, snookering herself on the 2. She reached for her jump cue, lined up the shot and made it in the side without blinking her eyes. She was forced to play a safety which she executed perfectly, leaving Jeanette solidly behind the 9 ball with only the long rail to kick at. She barely missed the ball and Monica received ball in hand to continue the game. She played a beautiful break out shot position shot from the 4 to the 5 ball which was tied up with the 8 and ran out to win the first game of the match.

Monica broke but luck was against her as the 8 ball gently nudged the cue ball into the corner pocket giving Jeanette ball in hand. Jeanette only needed to pocket 7 balls, but nearly scratched after a momentary adrenaline rush caused her to over draw the cue ball off the 2 to the 3. She took her extension to calm down but to no avail as she missed the 3. Monica took advantage of the mental error, staying focused to run out and take the 2-0 lead.

Jeanette came to the table with the break knowing she couldn't make any more errors or the match would get away from her fast. She came up dry, shaking her head as she walked back to her chair, disappointed with herself. Monica was forced to push out and Jeanette took the option and attempted a safe. She left Monica with just enough room to cut the ball into the corner which was successful but she ended up scratching in the side pocket. Jeanette came back to the table with ball in hand and an open layout, methodically pocketing each ball. She was forced to play a bank shot on the 5, and ended up with a double bank as the crowd encouraged her with whoops and hollers. She mumbled to herself before she shot the 6 to the 7, "keeping it exciting" and ran out to post her first game of the match. (Cont'd)

It was Monica's break, but nothing dropped and Jeanette came back to the table looking to tie the match up. She was forced to push out and Monica gave the option back to her. Jeanette played a perfect safety, bringing the cue ball uptable off of the 1 and watching as it settled behind the 2. Monica missed the kick shot allowing Jeanette ball in hand. She missed shape on the 3, leaving herself a thin cut which she missed, but didn't leave Monica an open pocket. A safety battle began between them, with Monica blinking first. Unfortunately, she missed shape from the 3 to the 4 and overcut the ball. The 4 had no open pocket but Monica sized up a 4/6 side pocket combination. She made the shot and the 4 ball traveled around the table ending up on the end rail and Monica played safe. She'd left Jeanette a side rail bank into the corner pocket which she pocketed easily, but Jeanette overcut the long side rail cut shot on the 7. Monica made the ball with confidence, ran out to once again take a 2 game lead, 3-1.

Jeanette broke but once again came up dry and you could see the frustration in her eyes as she walked back to her seat. Monica began the task of running the rack with an open shot on the 1 which she made. After pocketing the 2 ball, she successfully made a 3/8 combination ending up with perfect shape back on the 3 to continue through the layout. She never looked back, finishing off the rack to go up 4-1 and go into game 6 with the break advantage. After making 2 balls on the break, she was forced to play a safety, locking up both the cue ball and the 1 ball at opposite ends of the table. Jeanette, ever aware of the crowd, dryly noted "Oh, not bad" and took her extension surveying her options. She needed to go 3 rails but sorely misjudged her angles, scratching in the side pocket. Monica was once again back at the table ready to shoot, breaking out the small cluster of the 1, 4 and 9 balls. Every ball she pocketed dropped in the center, never missing a beat to run out and take the lead 5-1.

Jeanette is never to be counted out and came to the table ready to bust the rack up, and finally pocketed a ball. The layout wasn't ideal though as there were several clusters to deal with, but first she had a long, straight in 2 ball to make. Hitting it dead center, she continued with the 3 but snookered herself behind the 7 for the 4 ball. She played a good safety, hiding the cue ball behind the same 7 and one rail kicking the 4 to the opposite side rail. Monica went one long rail, kicking into the 4 and the crowd thought she may have made the shot but came up just short of the mark. Jeanette, grabbing the bridge, made the 4 to continue a run-out in order to stem the tide. Unfortunately, she came up short from the 8 to the 9, leaving herself the dreaded 50 yard line shot long rail. She played a safety, sending the cue ball uptable and leaving the 9 just off the bottom rail. But the bank shot was there and without batting an eye, she made the shot to reach the hill, 6-1 and went into game 8 with the break advantage. After pocketing a ball, Monica eyed the table, ready to finish this match out to advance to her 2nd finals in a row. As if it were the most natural, effortless thing in the world, she played perfect position from one ball to the next, coming up on the 5/9 combination that lay at the end rail. She was a perfect 3 for 3 on combinations to win the match 7-1. She moves on to her 2nd finals in a row. Congratulations to Jeanette Lee on her 3rd place tie finish.