

A CLASSY THANKSGIVING WEEKEND AT MICKEY'S

November 30, 2009 ~ by Amy C. Encinias, *vbb*



It was Mickey's 5th Annual 9-Ball Tournament and, once again, Shawn & Michelle Gresser made a long-lasting impression. From homemade food, unbelievably delicious custom cake (that Michelle spends hours making from scratch), goodie bags for all the players to extremely well maintained Diamond tables. The atmosphere is clean, friendly and enjoyable for everyone.

First round match-ups were so good, it was difficult to watch them all at once. Justin Whitehead vs. Mark Griffin, Sean Lane vs. Randy Kukla, Brad Huffman vs. Jason Bryan and Bill

Stock vs. Jerry Enos to name a few. In a race to 8 and winner breaks format, Mark Griffin, Randy Kukla, Brad Huffman, Jerry Enos, Trick Sixty and Debra Aarens all found themselves on the one-loss side right away. But that didn't discourage Debra Aarens as she went on to defeat Shack Ranganathan, Sunny Griffin, Sean Lane and Jeff Bartolo. Playing Sean Haviland and down 0-4, Debra fought till the bitter end and brought it hill/hill, but unfortunately that 9-ball just didn't want to drop in the pocket for her. She played a great tournament and finished 7-8th place. Also placing 7-8th was Walter Glass.



Justin Whitehead was flying quickly through the winner's side defeating Mark Griffin, Fred Boggs, Sean Haviland, Tyler Fleishman, Rocky Phipps and waiting in the hot seat. Mark Estes seemed unstoppable until he played Rocky, went to the one-loss side, made quick work of Sean Haviland and Tyler, and then couldn't get past Rocky AGAIN in the semi-finals.



Rocky having lost to Justin for the hot seat was back for redemption in the final match. At first it looked like Justin wasn't even going to give Rocky a chance and was up 9-2 in a race to 11. I can only remember Justin making 2 errors and Rocky took advantage creeping back up to make it 10-9! As Rocky was marking his 9th game, he began humming the 'Rocky Theme'. We all pictured him running up the Philadelphia Museum of Art steps. Unfortunately, he then tripped on a step and rattled the 6-ball in the 20th rack and Justin ran out for the win. These 2 players couldn't have made it more exciting and congratulations to them both for an outstanding tournament. Can't wait for next year!

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