



# The OPAL 'GEM' EXPRESS

NLSU2012-02

May 28, 2012



## 9 Spring 9-Ball Tri-Cup Results

May 25-27 at KC's Midway and Rodders in Oregon City graciously co-hosted our OPAL-APA Fall Session 9-Ball Tri-Cup. KC's Midway hosted the Sunday finals. The Hosts and crews of both places did a nice job making sure their provided service was both quick and excellent, and the food and drink was both plentiful and refreshing.

There were 44 division 9-Ball finalists teams competing in the Modified Single elimination format,— which is double elimination through the first 2 rounds transcending into single elimination beginning the third round. It was a weekend of close competition with many of the team matches going right down to the last rack to decide a winner. However, if a team reached 50 points with three match wins, or 51 points the match was declared over.

We had a total payout fund of \$18,920 (Up a little over \$1500 from this time last year) which was dispersed throughout the entire field. 77% of the total matches came down to double hill and almost 60% of those came down to the last rack. We ran one round on Friday night, three rounds on Saturday, and concluded on Sunday with four rounds finishing up at 7:30 PM. An amazing statistic this time around was that half of the teams that lost on Friday lost their very next match to be put out of the tournament. Statistically translated this means the competition was both keen and evenly matched. The results are as follows:

**FINISHING 33-44th** and winning \$175 were: Cascade Bar's "Vantucky Pocket Pounders," Fortune Star's "City Hunters," Aloha Station's "Free Ballin'," Jo Saloon's "Gladiators," Park City Pub's "Bluebirds," Wichita Town Pub's "Game On," Daily Planet's "Chalking Smack," New Hing's "Happy-Go-Lucky," Wichita Town Pub's "Kiss Kiss," Cascade Bar's "Billiard Ballers," Gresham Inn's "Shot Effect," and Back Alley's "Bald Eagles."

**FINISHING 25-32nd** and winning \$250 was Southern Division's "Mike's Place," Cleary Sport's "Blinker Fluid," Gator's "For The Win," Long Branch's "Rac & Wack "Em," Blitz Ladd's "Drunken Wanderers," Corner Spot's "Corner Pockets," West Union's "Spicier Pickled Tacos," and Shamrock's "Version 2."

**FINISHING 17-24** and winning \$350 was: Falco's "Secret Society," Nite Hawk's "Ball Breakers," Rodder's "OC Bomb Squad," Fortune Star's "Masse' Hall," Back Alley's "Break 'N Run," 505's "Felt Up," Home Turf's "Wait For It," and Aloha Station's "Don't Talk To My Balls." (Continued Pg. 2.)



**HIDDEN** (Except when in parenthesis) somewhere in this Newsletter are "5" new APA Membership numbers just waiting to be discovered. From last week's May 21st newsletter one brilliant observer so far has found her number and called in. Ta Daaah! It was: **Melody Barker** (97218026) who plays for the Golden Horse's Renegades" in the Farside Double Jeopardy division.

There is still one more week & we discovered more than four un-found numbers still yet to be found (Guess someone didn't proof very well last week!) (plus the 5 new ones from this week's newsletter) before the losers corner comes into effect. All you have to do if you find your hidden number is to call the league office with the magic words "Gimme My Shirt" and you'll avoid the week-long camping trip to the back page where you'll be in full visibility of all your peers. Which possibly means, that they'll be able to point their fingers, laugh & snicker, giggle & snort, at you — 'cause they will know that there will be a shirt waiting for them in the box simply because YOU weren't observant enough to find yours & avoid the embarrassment!

**BE AN OPAL WINNER INSTEAD**

**SUCCESSION: The KISS of DEATH**



# TRI-CUP

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**FINISHING 9-16** and winning \$515 was: Sam's "Smack 'N Cheese," West Hill Division's "Leo's Lair," Ringo's "Why So Hard?," Midway's "The Landsharx.," Shamrock's "Dragon's Fury," Jin's "All In The Family," Rodder's "No Drama," and Scotty's "Kiss Of Death."

**Special Notice:** Though the "**KISS OF DEATH**" missed out on winning a medallion, they still earned a spot in Regionals by right of succession as the team that beat them in the Sunday morning medal round—"STR8 CATS"— were already regionally qualified from the previous Summer Session. Therefore, by the right of succession, (since a team cannot win two regional spots and deprive another team from going and competing in regional play) **Scotty's "Kiss Of Death"** from the Skyline Double Jeopardy division— with Team Captain: **Paula Meza**, and teammates—, **Steve Armijo, Stuart Clough, Patrick Moon, Yami Aguilar, Chris Beebe, Dalani Sugino** and **Jason Jung** will get to continue on to regionals and compete for one of the coveted slots to Las Vegas Nationals.

**FINISHING 5—8th** and winning "Bronze Medallions" while taking home \$750 were: Twilight Room's "Beyond The Influence" from the Northern DJ division— with Team Captain: **Shannon Hilands**, and teammates—**Mark Hilands, Jimmie Leverich, Cheryl Pye, David Hoggatt, Hazel Hoffpauir, Greg Fuqua**, and **Marianne Fisher**; Jake's "Crusaders" from the River City-APA 9-Ball division with Team Captain: **Kevin Barry**, and teammates—**Zeb Stern, Doug Radke, Gary Russell Jr., Tim Hall, Heather Morrow, Kerry Copeland**, and **Michael Nottingham**; McAnulty & Barry's "Pooligans" from the Willamette Double Jeopardy division with Team Captain: **Leonard Duval**, and teammates—**Scott Bean, Barbara Duval, Adam & Cassie Baker, Andrew Dalbey**, and **Warren Johnson**; and Fortune Star's "The Other Guys" from the Columbia Double Jeopardy division with Team Captain: **Daniel Weeks**, and teammates— **Jason Alexander, Michael Nytsch, Tyrell Pinder, Andrew Rice, Chris Curl, David Starr**, and **Shannon Jenkins**.

**FINISHING 3-4** and winning Silver Medallions and \$1,000 was: Back Alley's "STR8 CATS" from the Columbia DJ division with Team Captain: **Allen Paulson**, and teammates— **Yvonne Moscoe, John Duncan Ron Paulson, Tammy Howles, Valerie Mather, Antonios Kontonakis**, and **Richard Guild**; AND Back Alley's "The Ravens" from the Northern DJ division— with Team Captain: **Helen Hahn**, and teammates—**Jonathan Hahn, Brian Newcomb, Anthony Bittner, Brett Usher, Lindy Taylor, Kevin Randall**, and **Daniel Olson II**.

**FINISHING 2ND** and winning Gold Medallions and \$1,300 from the Gateway division was Park Rose Double Jeopardy division's "Fortune Star" with Team Captain: **Jamie Bui**, and teammates: **Patrick Branham, Cole Malivanh, Edward Truong, John Phanthalangsy, David Seech, Chris Limbrick**, and **Noi Malivanh**.

**FINISHING 1ST** and winning the bragging rights—the coveted Platinum Medallions— and the top money prize of \$1,600 was: Touche's "Leftovers" from the Central 9-Ball division with Team Captain: **Kenneth Romer**, and teammates—**Hope O'Connor, Ryan Phelps, Eric Wittinger, Susan Wright, Abigail LaMontagne, Kevin Cochran**, and **J.D. Stubenberg**.

"Fortune Star" played with a lot of heart but had sort of a topsy-turvy Cinderella journey towards the (Continued on Pg 3.)



**BRONZE -- BEYOND THE INFLUENCE**



**BRONZE -- JAKE'S CRUSADERS**



**BRONZE -- POOLIGANS**



**BRONZE -- The OTHER GUYS**



# TRI-CUP

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finals. Drawing a "Bye" on Friday Night at KC's Midway, they began on Saturday morning by getting ambushed by the eventual Bronze winning "**The Other Guys**" and sent over to the one loss side to face yet another "BYE" in the 1 PM round. By the time Saturday's 5 PM round rolled around they had refocused, "**Fortune Star**" took the win away from "**For the Win**" and sent them right out the door. Now at days end, it was off to a good night's sleep and then back to the Midway for the 9 AM Sunday morning medal round.



**SILVER -- STR8 CATS**

Sunday morning they dramatically overwhelmed "**No Drama**" in a double hill thriller to guarantee themselves a spot in the 2012 June Regionals. In the 1 PM round the Fortune stars out-witted and outplayed "**Jakes Crusaders**" leaving them behind with the Bronze while they went on to face "**The Ravens**" in the 3 PM team match-race for the Silver/Gold. That match was fought all the way down to double hill before the fortunate stars managed to clip the wings of **the Ravens** and leave them behind holding the Silver while they—**the Fortune Stars**—traipsed off down the last little segment of the trail to the finals.



**SILVER -- The RAVENS**

Meanwhile Touche's "**Leftovers**" sorta took a very sililiar defeated parallel path to the finals. Except for the fact that they didn't have a "BYE" on Friday night, and their journey began up at Rodder's, They started out Friday night by knocking the "Happy" out of "Happy-Go-Lucky" sending them sadly to the one-loss side. Right out of the gate on Saturday morning though the "**Secret Society-Falco's**" ambushed them and tossed their carcasses over to the one-loss side to ponder on what had just happened ! During the 1:00 PM round they barely got past "**Kiss Kiss**" and go on to the 5 PM round where they would end up battling Shamrock's "Version 2" all the way into double hill sudden death and right down to the very last ball before receiving their pass to Sunday's 9 Am round.



**GOLD -- FORTUNE STAR**

In the Sunday 9am round the "**leftovers**" softened up Ringo's "**Why So Hard?**" to claim the bragging rights, to at least a Bronze Medallion and a slot to regionals.

In the 1 PM Sunday the "**leftovers**" wiped out the "Other Guys" and left them behind holding the Bronze, and in the 3 PM round "**Leftovers**" twisted the tails of the "**Str8 Cats**" sending them "meowing" out the door with the Silver, and so now it was off the finals for the "**Leftovers**" with only "**Fortune Star**" being the last team to be standing in their way.

The finals started out on 4 tables simultaneously (*It would have been 5 tables but we were short one scorekeeper*) with a simultaneous "Color of Money" break, and the double hill final results between Touche's "**Leftovers**" and the Park Rose Division "**Fortune stars**" were as follows:



**PLATINUM -- The LEFTOVERS**

On Table 6: Star's SL-5 **John Phanthalagasy** slaughtered Over's SL-5 **Ryan Phelps** 35-14 for an applied score of 18-2.

On Table 1: Star's SL-4 **Cole Malivanh** clobbered Over's SL-2 **Susan Wright** 31-11 for an applied score of 15-5 bringing the two table total to 33-7 in favor of the Fortune Stars.

On Table 2: Star's SL-4 **Christopher Limbrick** got his butt kicked by Over's SL-4 **Hope O'Connor** 31-14 for an applied score of 17-3. Match now 36 to 24 in favor of the Fortune Stars.

On table 4: Star's Captain — SL-3 **Jamie Bui** got eaten by Over's Captain— SL-4 **Kenneth Romer** 31-15 for an applied score of 15-5, bringing the comeback total to 41-39 still in favor of the Fortune Star.

On table 3: for the deciding factor—Star's SL-4 **Edward Truong** got his butt totally spanked by Over's SL-3 **Abigail LaMontagne** 25-11 for a 18-2 applied score for the Leftovers bringing the total match score to **57-43** in favor of Touche's "**leftovers**" (Continued Page 4.)



**TRI-CUP** (Continued from Page 3.) —all grinning from ear to ear were absolutely delighted that they were able to claim the victory, along with the coveted Platinum Star Medallions, a \$1,600 check, and all the bragging rights to being crowned the 2012 Spring Session 9-Ball Team Tri-Cup champions.

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The next step will be at KC's Midway on June 8-10th 2012 for the 9-Ball Regionals where all of the pictured winners will compete along with the other finalists from both the Summer and Fall 9-Ball Tri-Cups for what still appears to be 6 possible team slots that will be allocated to us this year into the APA National 9-Ball Team Championship at Las Vegas August 16-20, 2012.

Special Thanks again to **Rodders** and **KC's Midway** for being such Gracious hosts! And our many thanks to the hard work and dedication put in by our OPAL Referees: "Derby" **Dan Fendall**, **Corey Bananto**, **Ron Pfingston**, **Terry Pinto**, **Charlie Walker**, and **Don "Coyote" Walker**, &, of course, bunches of some help from little **John Blue** as well.



**Tony Kontonakis** who plays for **Back Alley's STR8 CATS** is Very proud of his New **Eagle Pool Tattoo** which Shows the **Eagle holding A Pool Cue With a closed Bridge over a Rack of nine-Ball** (See Detailing Far Left) **Eventually the tattoo artist Will be adding Color to make it more lifelike.**



**Chris Beebe** who plays for **Scotty's "Kiss Of Death"** **BEAT THE MERLE** at **Chinook Winds** & won a nice **Cuetec Breaking Cue!**



Submitted By:  
**Les Walden**

One winter morning a husband and wife in New York were listening to the radio during breakfast and they heard the announcer say, "We are going to have 8 to 10 inches of snow today..so you must park your car on the even-numbered side of the street, for the snowplows to get through."

So the wife went out and moved her car. A week later while they are eating breakfast again, the radio announcer said, "We are expecting 10 to 12 inches of snow today; so you *must* park your car on the odd-numbered side of the street, so the snowplows can get through."

The good wife went out and moved her car again. Three days later they are again having breakfast, when the radio announcer says, "We are expecting 12 to 14 inches of snow today. You *must* park....." Then the electricity went out! . . . all power was gone.

Quite obviously panicking . . . and with a worried look on her face... she said, Honey, I don't know what to do!?! Which side of the street do I need to park on so the snowplows can get through?"

With the love and understanding in his voice, that all married men truly possess, the husband replied: "Dear, why don't you just leave it in the garage this time?"



Irrefutable proof that  
a good woman can  
bring balance and  
stability to your life



There is no loser's corner until next week! But, there are still 4 numbers unclaimed from week #1 plus 5 new ones from this week-So, get looking !!

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