

The 67th Missouri 8 Ball Pool League Season in Review

Here we have supplied you with a narrative of (almost) everything you did or did not want to know about the 67th winter season of the Missouri 8 Ball Pool League of 2008 backed up by precise, varied and general information supplied to you by empirical and peripheral knowledge. Facts, figures and data have been presented by you... the captains, coaches, players, fans and railbirds rendered and turned in weekly from your score sheets, phone calls, faxes, e-mails and carrier Pidgeon.

Omitted, however, are unsubstantiated and nugatory remarks from a shadowy third-rate undercover wannabee calling himself-herself "deep Mole". We here at the Mo-8-Ball offices have no truck with such persons and wish it made perfectly clear we take pride in sharing all information given us to be true and accurate in (almost) every minute detail. We keep no secrets and spare no reputations.

And we believe only a little of what we see in the photographs received at our offices. About those recorded messages... we saved every one. Our technical experts are currently processing and deciphering voice patterns as this goes to press. As for fingerprints... you really should have worn gloves. Have a nice summer, heh, heh, heh.

As President Ronald Reagan said: "Information is the oxygen of the modern age. It seeps through the walls topped by barbed wire; it wafts across the electrified borders."

And now... for your perusal...

Division # 1 16 Weeks Tuesday

Hotshots Fenton #1 held on to beat Hotshots Fenton #2 to the finish line. Actually they tied 12-4. So the games won/lost percentage came into play. It was tight but No. 1 edged out No. 2, 162-137 .542 to 161-141 .533. That wasn't the only race between these two teams. Going for the Top Player Award was HS #1's Joe Maciocia and HS #2's Matt Auclair. Joe edged out Matt, 39-8 .830 to 35-8 .814. Two great races. Nice shooting guys.

Fandango's #1 got 3-games on the wire and with the 4 wins posted by Uncle Pete Mocca, Fandango's #1 parlayed that into a 12-9 victory over Hotshots Fenton #2, earning another trip to the big show.

Division # 2 16 Weeks Tuesday

Memoreze joined the ranks of that select group of teams that went undefeated for a 16-week season. They not only ran away with the division but ended 6-full games ahead of second place. That has never happened before from a 10-team division. With five players on the All-Star sheet and all with 23 wins or higher, I would say they more than dominated this division. Memoreze led in all categories with 174 wins, only 109 losses, the perfect 1.000 Pct., a .615 games won/loss percentage, and five players on the honor roll.

There's one more; Top Player Mike Poitras. Yep, Mike edged out former Champ Dan Manchanda (Shot Heaven), 34-8 .810 to 34-9 .791, just one loss difference.

First week playoffs went this way: Second place JR's Saloon went down to 5th place Ivory Coast #2 while 3rd place Hotshots SC was knocked out by Ivory Coast #1. Without stating the obvious, Ivory Coast Bistro #1 ousted sister team I.C.B. #2 for the second slot in the big show. ICB #1 spot ICB #2 five-games on the wire and for all intents and purposes that was it. ICB #2 won a single game for a 12-6 loss. Bob Wanner led Ivory Coast Bistro #1 with three wins sending them to the championships.

Division # 3 16 Weeks Wednesday

No surprise here. Fandango's has been riding rough-shod over this division several seasons. They once again led in all categories with a 12-4 team record and 169-130 .565 games won/loss Pct. Bill Harwell kept their streak going by also taking out the Top Player Award. Bill's 33-12 .733 was a little better than runner-up The Phoenix shooter Brian Riggles' 23-10 .697. Of the 15 players on the sheet, four are Fandangos and all with 28 wins are higher.

Playoff winner was JP's Corner. They knocked off Phoenix 11-5 to get to the big show.

Division # 4 16 Weeks Wednesday

21 Rock #3 slipped past 21 Rock #1 and Night Sky #2 by only one game, 11-5 to 10-6. Ironically neither 21 Rock #1 nor Night Sky #2 made the playoff spot. It was 21 Rock #2 defeating JP's Corner 11-8 for that honor. Jamie House shot a 4-0 night and got help from Donna Slayton who turned in a 3-win performance. Nice shooting guys.

Top Player honors went to Russ Sechrest (Night Sky #2). It was basically up for grabs the final week of play. Rick Andrade was in first place but went 2-2 the last week while Russ jumped into the lead with a 4-0 night. That last win put Sechrest's final record .007 over Rick's. Russ at 36-11 .766 to Rick's 41-13 .759. Congratulations to Donna Collins for being top female player with 25-20 .556.

Division # 5 16 Weeks Wednesday

Talk about close: Wedge #1 and Shot Heaven tied with 11-5 records. W-1 edged out Shot Heaven by a scant .006 games won/lost percentage for first place. Wedge #1 at 122-109 .528 to Shot Heaven's 120-110 .522. For the playoff spot Wedge #2 knocked off Jack Patrick's as Cotters eliminated Shot Heaven. The 2nd playoff week was a real squeaker as Wedge #1 beat Cotters, 11-10. But the rest of the story is with the score tied 10-10; Captain Kim Fried ('3') took the Hill game from Jason Miller ('6'). It was Kimberly's third win of the match. Top Player went to a Jason Wilson (a.k.a. Minnow) from Shot Heaven. It was a great race and Jason was constantly peeking over his shoulder. Teammate John Snyder was in hot pursuit. Jason's 21-6 .778 survived John's 30-9 .769.

Division # 6 16 Weeks Thursday

The Phoenix, by winning their final two matches, and JP's Corner #2 losing their final two matches, Phoenix took over the lead and got to the finish line one game ahead. And that wasn't the only race taking place. JP's #2 Tom Davidson was in front on the All-Star sheet while Phoenix Mike Renick was number two. For those final two weeks Tom went 4-4 while Mike muscled up at 6-1 overtaking first place (41-11 .788) and Top Player honors. First week of playoffs JP's #2 walloped JP's #1, 11-zip, while Fandango's barely edged by Stratford Inn, 11-9. JP's #2 earned their right for a spot in the big show by k.o.-ing Fandango's, 11-9, largely due to Rich Parshall slamming a 4-0 night on the opposition.

Division # 7 16 Weeks Wednesday

Pardella Club pulled off a couple good tricks. Getting to the finish line 2-games ahead of Rec Room was one but they did it with only one player making the All-Star sheet. But then Rec Room had only two players there. So? So this... the lone Pardella Club player was the Top Player, Jason Hinkle. Huh! Yep, Jason (a '3' level player) punched out a more than respectable 27-8 .771. Go figure.

**Hey Jason, you're no longer under the radar, dude. You've been found out.

In a division of many '4's, '5's and '6's, I think a change is about to come. Congratulations, Jason.

John Morton from Ivory Coast Bistro was runner-up at 38-15 .717.

Rec Room proved they weren't done. After knocking off John's Sports Bar, Rec Room went after Ivory Coast Bistro and eked out an 11-8 victory and now on their way to the big show. Tom Lucas went 4-0 and teammate Chris Medlin dropped a 3-0 night on them.

Division # 8 16 Weeks Thursday

Another race for Top Player went to the final two weeks of play. Libby's #2's Denis Dunbar was leading the parade .787 just a little ahead of Dan Manchanda's .774. But that was turned around when the last two matches witnessed Denis Dunbar going 5-2, while Dan Manchanda went 8-1 raising his record to 32-8 .800 to Dunbar's 42-12 .778.

Although Denis lost out on the Top Player award his team didn't. Libby's #2 (14-2) finished 2-games ahead of Wedge (12-4). Four player's from Libby's #2 made the All-Star sheet all 26-wins or above.

First playoff week saw two tough squeakers. Wedge spot Shot Heaven 2-games on the wire and pulled out an 11-10 victory. Curt Wisely led the gang going 4-0.

Over at Libby's, Libby's #1 played host to Foley's. Giving them a 3-game head start, the Lib's rallied for a 12-11 win. Dave Gibbs led the attack 4-0 and Gene Schauman added three wins.

Libby's kelp the pressure going by putting an 11-6 drubbing on the Wedgers. Steady Eddie Libby and Allan Ranay each kicking in with 3-wins each.

Division # 9 16 Weeks Thursday

Git'er Done lived up to its sobriquet. Git'er Done got it done (13-3) by two games over Filling Station's 11-5. It was a battle as GED placed four players on the All-Star sheet and Filling Station placed five. That's 9 of the 20. Nice percentage. John Doyle pulled a sneak around the 11th week by taking over first place and held on to lead the division and GED parade for Top Player. John's 38-10 .792 edged by Filling Station's Semir Ekic who ran a close second, 38-13 .745.

First week's playoff teams won by the same 11-7 scores. Fifth place Cotters knocked out second place Filling Station while third place Foley's were victorious over fourth place Wedge.

For the showdown for the 2nd slot, Foley's took an 11-8 decision from Cotter's largely due to Mike O'Neil's 4-win night and 3-wins thrown in by Ed Bolhofner. Nice shooting, guys.

Division # 10 15 Weeks Monday

Joe "Cozy" Lombardozzi once again led his Classic's gang through another Classic race. Classic's #1 (12-3) passed the finish line three games ahead of runner-up Fucifino's, 9-6.

The spry 78-year young Cozy Joe, one of Missouri 8 Ball's senior seniors and oldest registered shooting southpaw, banged out a .710 won/loss record. Joe's 22-9 .710 was 4th on the Top Player sheet.

Playoff week number one saw runner-up Fucifinos knock out Charlack Pub 12-6 (12-1) with Charlack Pub getting 5-games on the wire. Waddell Whitehead, Louis Erby and Billy Wimberly each with 3-wins apiece. Classic's #2 k.o.'ed Cocktails.

The following week Waddell Whitehead's Fucifino's gang met and prevented the second Classics team from going to the big show by defeating them, 12-9. Erby and Wimberly contributing 3-wins each again.

The All-Star sheet saw a rarity for the Top Player Award. Billy Wimberly and Charles Burrage ended the campaign in a flat-foot tie with 26-5 .839 records. And these guys are teammates. After the "shoot out" Billy was given first place honors followed by Charles and then 'fino's Captain Waddell Whitehead third with his 27-11 .711.

Two other Fucifino members shot their way onto the 15-player sheet. The only female to make the list was new comer Carla Granderson. Carla burst onto the scene like a keg of dyn-o-mite. She dropped a 4-pack on Classic's #2 the second week of play and was leading the All-Star sheet with a 9-1 mark after four weeks. Ms Granderson was shooting at '6' speed and ended the season with a very respectable 26-15 .634, good for 8th place. Carla beat out such notables as Uncle Pete Mocca, Roger Ellis and two teammates, Jeff Shelton and Louis Erby. I think it's safe to say we can expect big things from this lady. She may be new to Missouri 8 Ball, but without a doubt knows her way around a pool table. Nice shooting, Carla.

(* I've cautioned you guys about this before and it's worth repeating... don't take these girls lightly. These gals are mean. They play tough. They're like Black Widow spiders. Once you get bit by one of them you're dead meat. Don't be fooled by their cute little smiles or flirty little ways. And keep your minds on the game. That's all the advice you get. If you don't heed these warnings you'll be watching from your chair as another '8' ball drops for the girl you thought was a push-over. Heh, heh, heh,)

Division # 11 15 Weeks Monday

Jennings Station #2 jumped through the gate the first week of the season and led wire to wire. Their team record of 12-3 was two games over Classic's, 10-5. Week two saw J.S. #2's Birt Sibley hang a 4-win night against New Classic's #2 for an 11-9 win and the rest just fell into place.

Skipping ahead to week-9 we find that New Classic's #2 is playing Clubhouse #2 and spotting them 3-games on the beads. In addition, N.C. #2 is short one player which means that Clubhouse #2 will receive one forfeit game per round. N.C. #2 is holding their own and making up the difference when Calvin Niehaus finally makes an appearance for the 4th and deciding round. Calvin, like the Calvary, shows up in the nick of time, plays his only game, plays the 'hero' roll and N.C. #2 pull off a much needed 12-10 victory. This important win moved N.C. #2 from 7th place into a tie for 4th. Meanwhile Jennings Station #2 was rolling along behind the fine shooting of John Jimenez's 4-win night staying two games ahead of the field.

After week-11, when N.C. #2 lost two weeks in a row, it looked like they were about to sink faster than another Pamala Anderson marriage, Bill Masnica kept them afloat with a 4-win night putting N.C. #2 on track and back into the race.

Week-12: The middle teams tightened up like sardines in a tin can. From 3rd place to 7th five teams was only one game apart. And when Jennings Station #1 got a 3-game spot from Jennings Station #2, and jumped off for a 7-1 lead after round one, it seemed they had everything under control.

How does that old saying go? Oh, yeah, the roof caved in. J.S. #2 came roaring back taking the next 11 games for a 12-7 win that all but crushed the hopes of J.S. #1 making the playoffs. This 12th win secured first place for J.S. #2.

The same could be said of New Classic's #2 the following week. Giving N.C. #1 3-games up, the excellent shooting of Mike Remiger turning in another 4-win night helped N.C. #2 pull off an 11-10 squeaker. This much

needed win kept N.C. #2 in a 5th place tie with Jennings Station #1 with only one week to play. And wouldn't you know it... the all important 5th place playoff spot would be decided by these two teams bumping heads. N.C. #2 pulled off an 11-7 victory for a final 8-7 team record to J.S. #1's 7-8. What a great race.

The first week of playoffs N.C. #3 knocked out Cactus Inn 11-10, and N.C. #2 spot Classic's 5-games head start and edged out another 11-10 come-from-behind win. And their luck held. For the right to get to the big show N.C. #2 gave N.C. #3 three games head start. Although Mike Remiger sunk three '8' balls, this was Randy Sugar's night to grab the headlines. Dandy Randy turned in a 4-win night as N.C. #2 once again overcame the deficit by taking a 12-8 decision. I don't know if this comes under the 'thrill a minute' maxim, but now N.C. #2 can breathe easier. The race for Top Player went to the final couple weeks. Bob Nichols took top honors. Bob's 28-3 .903 edged out Tony Gregory's 31-4 .886. Tony had Top Player honors all to himself had he decided to sit out the final week. But his team had to win to have a chance for the playoffs. Tony went 1-1 that last week and dropped to second place.

Division # 12 16 Weeks Tuesday Call 'Ur Shot in-house

All I got to say is it's a good thing the Bookies knew enough not to bet against Call 'Ur Shot #3. They would have taken a bigger beating than the time the Cardinals beat out Philadelphia the last six days of the 1964 season to be National League Champs. And then the Red Birds knocked off the "M" squad 4 games to 3 in the World Series. CUS #3 kick-started the season with a 12-6 win and then literally crushed the field of this in-house division the rest of the 16-week schedule. Once they reached the 11-0 mark, the rest of the season was for exercise. No one could even come close to shutting them down.

After dropping a 12-8 decision to CUS #2 the 12th week, Call 'Ur Shot #3 cruised the final four weeks finishing out at 15-1. Do the math. That's a whopping 7 full games ahead of second place. Again, they completely crushed the other teams in this division. (Didn't your mommies ever tell you to play nice?) With four players in the first five positions on the All-Star sheet, I'd go so far as to say a few skill levels will be going up.

Top Player Award will be shared by Breckenridge Al Pruett and Art 'the Spark' Lohnes. Their friendly rivalry lasted till the end. When they defeated CUS #1 at week 13, both Art and Al sparked the team to a 12-11 victory by each going 4-0. They tied the final week of play at 31-6 .838. At least there was one race here. Coming in 4th on the All-Star sheet was Clayton Scott (26-11 .703) and 5th, Bob Waidmann at 24-15 .615. I don't want to say just how strong CUS #3 really is, but at one time seven members were hitting good enough to be placed on the All-Star sheet. Yep, some changes are definitely in order for this murderous row gang.

First playoff week saw CUS #1 getting a 3-game spot and cruised to a 12-3 win. They ran into a brick wall the second week. CUS #4 allowed them 5-games head start but that was about it. That lasted about as long as Pamala Anderson's last marriage. (In fact at last I heard she was now back with Tommy Lee.) CUS #4 won 12 of the 13 games played coming out (12-1) 12-6 winners and a spot in the main event thanks to a 4-win night from John Cook and three added by Danny Sugar.

Division # 13 16 Weeks Tuesday

When a player begins a season with 4 wins it's a sign of things to come and usually good things. Billy Wimberly is a prime example. B.W. may not have led the All-Star parade wire to wire but hovered around the top throughout. Many times when the lead changed it was a teammate that took over. For a while it was Leon Young. Then Lajuan Henry enjoyed the spotlight. Then back to Billy. And when the smoke had cleared and the final '8' ball was pocketed there was smooth strokin' Billy Wimberly taking the honors. Billy's 30-5 .857 was just enough to ward off close competitors Bob Ackley at 30-8 .789 and John Snyder's 35-10 .778. Nice race, guys.

After three weeks four teams were undefeated, 3-0. After four weeks three teams were 4-0. After five weeks of play it was down to two teams at 5-0. For the 6th week only Fucifino's #2 and Suwallers were undefeated. The race heated up the next two weeks as Fucifino's #2; Suwallers and Dorset Inn were running neck and neck and neck at 7-1. It was the 10th week Suwallers grabbed the division lead for good waltzing to a 13-3 first place finish. For the first playoff week Charlack Pub downed Fucifino's #2, 11-6, and Dorset Inn, giving Our Place a 5-game head start, brought out the heavy artillery. Dorset Inn all but smoked Our Place 12-2 (12-7 including the spot). Second week was between two very strong groups. Charlack Pub pulled out an 11-5 victory, which was a lot closer than the score indicates. Bob Ackley and Larry Jackson led the charge with 3-wins each.

Division # 14 16 Weeks Wednesday

Their first trip around this 10-team division Classic's #1 smoked the field for a 9-0 lead. After three more matches and a commanding 12-0 lead, Classic's #1 had no worries about not finishing first past the post. Basically the last four weeks was just for show and good times. Proof: They lost three of the four remaining matches and still ended the campaign 13-3; two games ahead of runner-up McDuffs.

For playoff honors 4th place Tigers Inn knocked out McDuffs, 11-6. Third place New Classic's #2 ended the Clubhouse run by the same 11-6 score. And ironies of ironies, 5th place Tigers edged by New Classic's #2, 11-9.

The story behind Tigers Inn rise to prominent playoff status began the 2nd week when Bob Bergfeld slammed a four-win night and Dan Hoormann kicked in three that resulted in an 11-8 win over Classic's #2. It continued the following week with Dan Sullivan joining the 4-win club in an 11-10 squeaker over New Classic's #1.

After dropping their next three matches their 2-5 record was mired way down in 9th place. That's when word spread that if they go down any further they would have to have daylight pumped to them. After splitting the next six matches for a 5-8 record Tigers was holding down the not so prodigious 8th place position. With only three weeks left to the season their chances seemed slim to none of getting to playoff status. To say their three remaining matches were against teams higher in the standings would at the very least be a redundancy. After all, when you are in 8th place in a 10-team division there just ain't toooooo many teams below you.

After Tigers took an 11-8 decision from New Classic's #2, then came back with a tough 11-9 win over Streiler's, things were looking up. Their last hurdle, however, would be against division leaders Classic's #1. Sometimes things just seem to work out. Playing the best team does have its advantages; like when you get 5-games on the wire. That was enough incentive to turn Tigers into tigers. They took the match 11-4. That not only put them into the all important 5th place playoff slot, but for the first time since week-2 it put their games won/lost percentage over .500 (.504).

Top Player honors went to... a drum roll if you please... thank you... Wayne Turner. Yep, this 8-ball burner turned in a whopping .930. Wayne's 40-3 beat out runner-up and teammate Julia Gabriel's 38-9 .809. Remember last session Julia barely edged Wayne out for Top Player. And their combined totals this season of 78-12 .867 was even better than their combined totals last season. Other teammates on the 25-player All-Star sheet were 4th place Kelly Ambrose (27-8 .771), 11th place Kickin' Kenny Martin (20-12 .625) and 17th, Uncle Pete Mocca (24-17 .585).

Read more about teammates Wayne Turner, Julia Gabriel and Kickin' Kenny Martin on Jay's Corner.

<http://missouribilliards.com/JaysCorner/>

Division # 15 16 Weeks Wednesday

T.J.'s Aliby-Inn produced another Top Player. This time it is Davie Smith. David not only carried his team to a three-way tie for first place (10-6) but turned in the most 4-win matches – 4. There were 17 total. Could be the reason Smith outlasted runner-up Josh Lawson for top honors. David's 40-12 .769 was a scant .037 better than Josh's 41-15 .732. Great race, guys.

The 3-way tie of Airport Billiards, Lehmann's Landing and T.J.'s, at 10-6, was decided by games won/lost percentage. Airport's .542 was a little better than Lehmann's .521 and T.J.'s .494. The 4th and 5th place teams were Pirates Cove and Hotshot NC.

Wait a minute Jay. It says here Cactus Inn finished 6th with a 6-10 record. How did they earn the right to compete in the playoffs? Ah... excellent observation. Firstly, the 6th, 7th and 8th place teams all had 6-10 records. It's that Cactus Inn's games won/lost percentage was the highest of the three at .503.

That didn't answer your question did it? What happened is, and here's the 'Rest of the Story': T.J.'s Aliby-Inn dropped out of the (playoff) running. That pushed the lower teams up a notch. Cactus Inn just happened to be in the right place at the right time.

As I.Q. Jones says, "It's like when an attractive woman has had too much to drink. Somebody gets lucky... right!" Moving right along: First playoff week results were Hotshots NC over Pirates Cove, 11-6, and Cactus Inn creamed Lehmann's, 12-5. The second week Cactus Inn took an 11-8 decision from Hotshots NC thus becoming the first 6th place team earning a spot in the 5-player team event. And now you know the... 'Rest... of... the... Story'.

Division # 16 16 Weeks Thursday

Team Fucifino's jumped the season with a 5-0 start and was never out of first place. They went to 8-2 then finished up 13-3, one-game in front of Jennings Station's 12-4.

A few good reasons were the constant jockeying for position on the top player sheet. For a couple weeks three of 'fino's shooters were one, two, three from the top. And then Lajuan Henry joined in the fun. With Billy Wimberly, Leon Young and George Allen keeping each other on their toes, they also kept other teams at bay.

So how did the Top Player sheet figure out? It was a solid and very tough race. And one of the highlights was Billy Wimberly going for the trifecta. (Billy already finalized Top Player from Divisions 10 and 13.) Leading the parade for 14-weeks don't get it in this tough 16-week Thursday night division. And when your teammate is pushing and breathing down your collar, it's twice as hard. This was the case and situation Billy felt as teammate Leon 'the Neon' Young applied steady pressure the final weeks.

With five weeks remaining Billy was 24-4, Doug Gibbons, 26-6, and Leon, 24-8. Down the home stretch Leon kicked it up a gear. While Wimberly was going 8-8 and George going 9-4, it wasn't enough to keep ahead of the charging Leon Young. He headed around the far curve and home winning 17 of the last 18 matches he played. And on the 15th week Mr. Young had sole position of first place. The late season surge put Leon over the wire with a great 41-9 .820 season. Nice shooting, guys.

First playoff week saw Just Bill's Place run over Mi Familia #1, 11-3, while Jennings Station put the knock on Mi Familia #2, 11-8. Week two was close but Just Bill's prevailed over Jennings Station, 11-9, with Peter Napoli, Larry Jackson and Chris Taylor firing in three '8' balls each.

Division # 17 16 Weeks Thursday

Fucifino's #1 came close to sharing a next to impossible feat, and that was to go undefeated for a 16-week season. How close? Glad you asked. New Classic's took an 11-10 decision from 'fino's #1 the opening week. That was it. No more losses. Darrell Toliver and his motley crew ran off the next 15 matches for a great-great 15-1 finish; good for another 'great' 6-games in front. The next four teams finished at 9-7. Yep, breaking even in this tough division didn't get it done as Nuts #1 (8-8) discovered.

When Darrell Toliver took over the top spot on the All-Star sheet, he was 24-3 .889. But three other players were hitting over .800 also. That was the 8th week. With another eight meetings left the spot was still up for grabs. And way down in 18th place was Darrell's teammate Tony Herrod with a so-so 13-8.

As week after week passed Toliver held as tightly to that first place position as Jack did to the golden goose. At the same time Tony was slowly moved higher up the ladder. He went from 18th to 16th to 12th to 10th. And after 14 weeks, Tony Herrod jumped right into the race at 3rd place. Week 15 saw teammates Darrell and Tony first and second on the honor roll. And after the 16th week it was official; Toliver first, Herrod second. One can't help but think had there been a couple more weeks added to the schedule Tony might have pulled off one of the greatest come-from-behinds in Mo-8 history.

But remember this; while Tony Herrod made a wild and fantastic run of 20-2 those final weeks, Darrell Toliver went 18-4 to keep pace. Long story short – Toliver 42-7 .857 to Tony Herrod's 33-10 .767. An honorable mention goes to Steve Croce for an excellent 3rd place finish, 26-8 .765.

And another honorable mention goes out to Rose Boul. This young lady finished 5th on the 30-player sheet with a very respectable 28-10 .737. Nice shooting, Rosie.

This was an outstanding season and first Top Player Award for Darrell. It wasn't but a short three years ago that Toliver joined the Mo-8-ball ranks as a non-rated '4'. Now he's going up the ladder of success. Kudos big guy!

First week's playoffs saw Gas Light Inn giving Aftershock 3-games head start. Gas Light overcame the spot and took an 11-8 decision behind the clutch shooting of Rick Peters dropping four '8' balls. Nuts #2 dropped an 11-8 hurt on Fucifino's #3. Brian Key led the attack with a 4-win night.

Week two saw Brian Key at it again. Mr. Key dropped three '8' balls along side partner John Goldschmidt's three and Nut's #2 ran over Gas Light Inn, 11-6.

Division # 18 16 Weeks Thursday Call 'Ur Shot in-house

This little 6-team in-house division is from Call 'Ur Shot (formally Player's Pub on Woodson Rd. in Breckenridge Hills). What can you say about an in-house division to make it interesting? You already know Call 'Ur Shot was first past the post and another C.U.S. took the playoff spot.

Okay, let's see. C.U.S. #3 lost their first match then ran off 12 straight wins. They finished with a 14-2 record with 181 W's and a .557 games percentage.

Here's something: To give you an idea of how potent this lineup is, the first four names on the All-Star sheet are also C.U.S. #3 teammates. Captain Steady Eddie Chier takes Top Player honors with an outstanding 36-8 .818.

Kenny 'Mo' Morisaki (37-9 .804), Kurt 'Slick' Liliensiek (36-10 .783) and Jeff 'Fairlane' Ford (31-11 .738) combined for 140 of the team's 181 wins.

First playoff week saw C.U.S. #4 get 6-games on the beads and carried the match to an 11-3 conclusion over C.U.S. #1. Meanwhile C.U.S. #2 stopped C.U.S. #5, 11-8.

The 2nd playoff week saw Christy Lancaster's group, C.U.S. #4, getting 7-games on the wire from the Bill Milligan gang, C.U.S. #2. After taking 9 of the first 10 games Bill's team took over the lead, 9-8. The Milligan gang struck again with four of the last six for a 13-10 victory sending them to the big show. Captain Bill dropped four '8' balls and teammate Jerry Jordan added another three.

That's about it. Check please.

Division # 19 16 Weeks Wednesday Rader's in-house

Rader's Sports Café & Bar ran a 5-team in-house division and brother it was a tough one. Team #4 went past the post first with a 14-2 record. After dropping their first match, #4 muscled up for 12 straight wins and a walk-away 3-game lead. Five members of this team making the 13-qualifying All-Stars on the sheet had a big part of it. And guess who Top Player was? If you said Rich Sager and his 25-5 .833... you LOSE.

However, a Rich Sager protégé is almost the same thing. Yep, Jeff Landherr edged out the teacher 21-4 .840. Now we aren't suggesting that any of you inundate Mr. Sager with phone calls, e-mails or carrier Pidgeon to sign up for lessons, but... Other teammates include Al Oliver, 24 wins, Jeff Ford, 21 wins, and Albert Graves, 15 wins.

First playoff match Pat Guittar's Rader's #3 gang were victorious over Rader's #5. Not so successful the second match. Last session's champions Rader's #1, led by Tim Mislark, spot #3 three-games head start and overcame that for a close 12-10 win. Chip Schmidt got the guys there with his 4-win attack.

Division # 20 16 Weeks Thursday Rader's in-house

Looks like Jeff Ayers is up to his old tricks. Putting together winnings teams has been a métier of his for many moons. This is just the latest accomplishment in his long and storied pool league career. Jeff led his Rader #4 team first past the post from this 6-team in-house division at Rader's Sports Bar. They were out of first place only two of the 16 weeks. Their 12-4 showing was 2-games over runners-up Rader #'s 5 & 2 at 10-6 each.

And talk about tough; this division has more '5's, '6's and '7' skilled level shooters per square inch than any Missouri 8 Ball division. You win this one, believe me pal, you've earned it.

With Jeff Ayers at the helm it's like having the other team's playbook. Knowing what's coming from his opponent, it's almost like being psychic. More often than not Jeff has already figured two shots ahead, has two run-out patterns, a build in safety and an escape route just in case.

And if you've ever paid attention you would have noticed that Jeff watches a pool match like a Hindu flute player watches a Cobra. Not much chance of missing something. Even though Jeff has the utmost confidence in his crew, he still hovers over them like Don Corleone. Nothing escapes his trained eye. He has a strong sense of what is right and cannot be swayed from a strongly felt position.

Jeff Ayres will never hesitate to call a stop to situations that require his attention. He will stop a game when there's concern even if it appears that his player is on the same page as to what the proper shot should be. He simply believes that it never hurts to talk. And when Jeff approaches the table for conversation it's like E.F. Hutton... everybody listens. Jeff sees it as an opportunity, not a wasted coach. It's better to be a little early than too, too late. That's a reality most captains learn after a few lost matches that could have been won, but lost due to not paying attention and *thinking* the player was about to do the right thing rather than *knowing* the player was about to do the right thing.

How much of the Ayres mystique is exaggerated? Not any of it. Jeff helped raise the standard of '8' ball play 20 years ago. You can keep an act up for 10-episodes or the run of the play. Ayres has been Ayres since 1986 when he won his first championship.

And one more thing: Jeff is one of just a handful of captain/coaches that has had 95 to 99 percent of his players go up in skill-level over the years than the average captain/coach. That, my friends, is a true testimony of his teaching ability. Pay attention. I guarantee you will learn and improve your game. Not listening means no improvement which means see ya later. Congrats again Jeff. Keep up the great shooting and teaching and many more division and league championships.

First playoff week saw Rader's #5 knock out Rader's #1, 11-6, behind the 3-win match by Mario Webster and Rick King. Then across the room Rader's #3 eliminated Rader's #2, 11-6 with Dustin Dunham, Jon Williams and Chuck Whitelex turning in three wins each.

The final showdown had #3 playing 32-points having to give #5 (29-points) two-games on the wire. Brian Kroeger led the attack with three wins pulling out an 11-6 victory.

When the Top Player hit (only) .707, you have to take into consideration and remember just how tough and competitive this division really is. As mentioned earlier I think they possess more of the higher skill-level numbers than any other. But whoever comes out on top you can be sure of one thing, they earned it.

So, we say congratulations to Dennis 'the Menace' Gallagher. Gallagher's 29-12 .707 was slightly better than teammate Dustin Dunham's 31-14 .689 and third place Mario Webster's 33-15 .688. Another great race, guys.

Division # 21 16 Weeks Thursday

Allstars #1 shot outta the gate hard and fast winning their first 8 matches. They had to. They were under steady pressure from Hotshots 94. Wire to wire is kinda tough but when you're pursued by a team that wants it just as badly as you, you have to turn it up a notch. Both ended the campaign 12-4. But the games won/lost percentage went to Allstars #1 139-116 .545 to Hotshots 94, 130-117 .526. Another factor here is Allstars #1 placed a total of four players on the All-Star sheet as did Hotshots 94.

Allstars got past the post first from the team angle, but a Hotshots 94 player took top honors for the Top Player Award. Actually the first three on the sheet were Hotshots' teammates. Tim Graves edged out Paul Spellmeyer 24-7 .774 to 24-8 .750. Yep, just a single loss was the difference. Also third was Phil Steimel coming in with his 20-9 .690 and 7th place partner Michael Rose at 18-12 .600.

First week's playoff had one match and one forfeit. Allstars #2 was a no-show and handed a forfeit win to Hotshots 94. Rader's #1 defeated Rader's #2 11-8 behind the fine shooting of Rob Vaughn's 4-win night.

For the second place slot Hotshots 94 spotted Rader's #1 five-games on the beads. If that big spot bothered Hotshots they didn't show it. By taking four games from each of the first two rounds Hotshots jumped ahead 8-7. Taking the first three in round three ended the contest 11-7.

Remember the old joke: Michael Rose sat on a tack... Michael rose? Well, Mike Rose rose to the occasion this night with three wins. Phil Steimel also pitched in with three wins of his own. Nice shooting, guys.

All Top Players received a Top Player Trophy plus a 30-dollar Cheque

Division	Top Player	Team	Record	Runner-up	Team	Record
Div. # 14	Wayne Turner	Classic's #1	40 3 .930 ***	Julia Gabriel	Classic's #1	38 9 .809
Div. # 11	Bob Nichols	Cactus Inn	28 3 .903	Tony Gregory	Clubhouse #1	31 4 .886
Div. # 13	Billy Wimberly	Fucifino's #2	30 5 .857	Bob Ackley	Charlack Pub	30 8 .789
Div. # 17	Darrell Toliver	Fucifino's #1	42 7 .857 ***	Tony Herrod	Fucifino's #1	33 10 .767
Div. # 19	Jeff Landherr	Rader's #4	21 4 .840 ***	Rich Sager	Rader's #4	25 5 .833
Div. # 10	Billy Wimberly	Fucifino's	26 5 .839 **tied	Charles Burrage	Fucifino's	26 5 .839
Div. # 12	Art Lohnes	Call 'Ur Shot #3	31 6 .838 **tied	Al Pruett	Call 'Ur Shot #3	31 6 .838
Div. # 1	Joe Maciocia	Hotshots Fenton #1	39 8 .830	Matt Auclair	Hotshots Fenton #2	35 8 .814
Div. # 16	Leon Young	Fucifino's	41 9 .820	Doug Gibbons	Just Bills #2	35 10 .778
Div. # 18	Ed Chier	Call 'Ur Shot #3	36 8 .818 ***	Ken Morisaki	Call 'Ur Shot #3	37 9 .804
Div. # 2	Mike Poitras	Memoreze	34 8 .810	Dan Manchanda	Shot Heaven	34 9 .791
Div. # 8	Dan Manchanda	Shot Heaven	32 8 .800	Denis Dunbar	Libby's #2	42 12 .778
Div. # 9	John Doyle	Git'er Done	38 10 .792	Semir Ekic	Filling Station	38 13 .745
Div. # 6	Mike Renick	The Phoenix	41 11 .788	Mark Wieland	JP's Corner #1	23 7 .767
Div. # 5	Jason Wilson	Shot Heaven	21 6 .778 ***	John Snyder	Shot Heaven	30 9 .769
Div. # 21	Tim Graves	Hotshots 94	24 7 .774 ***	Paul Spellmeyer	Hotshots 94	24 8 .750
Div. # 7	Jason Hinkle	Pardella Club	27 8 .771	John Morton	Ivory Coast Bistro	38 15 .717
Div. # 15	David Smith	T.J.'s Aliby-Inn	40 12 .769	Josh Lawson	Airport Billiards	41 15 .732
Div. # 4	Russ Sechrest	Night Sky #2	36 11 .766	Rick Andrade	21 Rock #1	41 13 .759
Div. # 3	Bill Harwell	Fandango's	33 12 .733	Brian Riggles	The Phoenix	23 10 .697

Div. # 20 Dennis Gallagher Rader's #3 29 12 .707 *** Dustin Dunham Rader's #3 31 14 .689
 *** Teammates for these divisions: #5, #14, #17, #18, #19, #20 and #21
 ** tied Div. # 10 Teammates Billy Wimberly & Charles Burrage tied. Billy wins the Shootout for Top Player
 ** tied Div. # 12 Teammates Art 'the Spark' Lohnes and Breckenridge Al Pruet

5-Player Team Championship Results – Payout - \$17,804

1st	Crystal City Billiards (Crystal City)	\$6,000 & Trophy	Members: Captain Mark Emmons, Charlie Black, Kevin Coplin, Mike Perryman, Terry Narsh & Jim Sales
2nd	Rader's Sports Bar #19 (St. Peters)	\$4,000	Members: Captain Rich Sager, Albert Graves, Al Oliver, Steve Schultz, Dan Nelson, Jeff Ford & Jeff Landherr
3-4th	Call 'Ur Shot #12 (Breckenridge Hills)	\$1,902	Members: Captain Josh Treadway, Art Lohnes, Al Pruet, Clayton Scott, Dave & Larry Stafford, Bob Waidmann & Steve Mitchell
3-4th	JP's Corner #3 (Sunset Hills)	\$1,902	Members: Captain Todd Lamwersiek, Don DeBrecht, Bill Owens, Dave Pope & Vicki Narez
5-8th	Call 'Ur Shot #18 (Breckenridge Hills)	\$1,000	Members: Captain Ed Chier, Jeff Ford, Ken Morisaki, Dan Nelson, Kurt Liliensiek, Steve Mitchell & Chris Zugmaier
5-8th	Fucifino's #10 (Berkeley)	\$1,000	Members: Captain Waddell Whitehead, Lenzie Russ, Jeff Shelton, Louis Erby, Charles Burrage, Billy Wimberly, David Tatum & Carla Granderson
5-8th	Libby's #8 (South St. Louis)	\$1,000	Members: Captain Ed Libby, Kenny Morris, Gene Schauman, Dave Gibbs, Allan Ranay, & Norm Berg
5-8th	Hotshots Fenton #1 (Fenton)	\$1,000	Members: Captain Joe Maciocia, Rod Boehlow, Chris Bavolar, Eric Clifton, Jack Bohnert & Mike Crump

The 5-Player board rundown went this way: It began at 8:00pm Friday night June 27, 2008. The first team to get to the final four was Crystal City Billiards. These guys have been trying for seven years to win this event and finally made that long hard trip to St. Peters pay off. It wasn't easy, it never is, and their first matchup was against a very tough Rader's team captained by Mike Ratliff. Even the strong shooting of Mario Webster going 4-0 didn't deter the guys from Crystal City. Mike's gang was ahead 10-8 looking to close it out when Crystal City players Mike Perryman, Mark Emmons and Jim Sales rallied with back-to-back-to-back wins taking the contest 11-10. From there they met Fucifino's Tony Herron and Company and sank them 11-5; then moved on to defeat Ed Chier's Call 'Ur Shot #18. It was kind-a over when the score got to 8-0 but finalized it 11-1.

The second team getting to the final four was Josh Treadway's Call 'Ur Shot #12. Giving Jennings Station 3-games head start was no problem. Oh my gosh Josh's boys fired back taking 12 of the 13 games played for a 12-4 walkover. Next they handed JP's Eureka 2-games and dropped them 11-8. The third round was a meeting against a very tough gang and captain Waddell Whitehead out of Fucifino's. They eked out a 12-11 decision. Along the way Dave Stafford rang up 7 consecutive wins.

Coming out of flight #3 was General... oops; I mean Captain Rich Sager and his Rader's raiders. First they jumped on Loreli O'Rando's Call 'Ur Shot #12 team 11-4, then moved on to another 11-4 victory over Mary Stillwell's Classic's #14. Another runaway 11-6 over Ivory Coast Bistro set up the 11-1 massacre over Libby's. At this stage captain Rich Sager was running away with the All-Star voting with an impressive 10-0 record. Flight #4 saw a JP's Corner bunch make the final four for the first time in many moons. Could be it was because there is a new sheriff over in Sunset Hills. Todd Lamwersiek put together a team that can play with the big boys and was here to turn things around and put JP's back on the paying board. Todd had to win a 12-11 squeaker over 21 Rock #4 the first round to get them started and it really kicked up their confidence. Their next victims was Mike Devers' Fandango's gang. Remember them? They won back-to-back championships last year. The 11-4 win pushed

JP's up another notch on the board to Donna's Git'er Done team. That went 11-6. Knocking off Hotshots Fenton, 11-9 got Todd and JP's to the final four.

The final showdowns saw Mark Emmons and Crystal City Billiards take on Josh Treadway's Call 'Ur Shot #12 on table 6, and Rich Sager's Rader's #19 against JP's Corner #3 led by Todd Lamwersiek over on table 12.

Crystal City edged out an 11-9 victory with Jim Sales winning 4 games and Kevin Coplin adding three sending them to the finals. Rader's handed JP's 3-games on the beads and overcame that for an 11-7 victory with Sager and Landherr winning 3-games each.

For the Grand Finale Crystal City Billiards got 2-games on the wire but really didn't need them. The players were up for the occasion and after seven years of competing finally got what they were going for – the Championship Trophy. Mark Emmons' guys shot their way to an 11-6 well deserved win. Congratulations and nice shooting.

5-Player Team Results				Top Players with 10 or more Wins						
	Team	Captain	W	L	Pct.	Player	Team	W	L	Pct.
First	Fucifino's #10	Waddell Whitehead	36	14	.720	1. Rich Sager	Rader's-19	15	1	.938
2nd	Rader's #19	Rich Sager	60	25	.706	2. Jeff Landherr	Rader's-19	15	2	.882
3rd	JP's Corner #3	Todd Lamwersiek	43	23	.652	3. Al Oliver	Rader's-19	13	5	.722
4th	Crystal City #22	Mark Emmons	50	29	.633	4. Jim Sales	Crystal City	10	3	.769
5th	Call 'Ur Shot #12	Josh Treadway	41	27	.603	5. Steve Schultz	Rader's-19	10	4	.714
6th	Call 'Ur Shot #18	Ed Chier	24	17	.585	6. Josh Treadway	Call 'Ur Shot	10	4	.714
7th	Hotshots Fenton	Joe Maciocia	39	33	.542	7. Jim Hopen	JP's #3	10	4	.714
8th	Libby's #8	Ed Libby	36	33	.522	8. Dave Pope	JP's #3	10	4	.714
						9. Allan Ranay	Libby's-8	10	5	.667
						10. Charlie Black	Crystal City	10	6	.625
						11. Kevin Coplin	Crystal City	10	6	.625

Longest Winning Streaks

- | | | | |
|------------------|----|--------------------|---|
| 1. Rich Sager | 14 | 4-7. Dave Stafford | 7 |
| 2. Jeff Landherr | 9 | 4-7. Dave Pope | 7 |
| 3. Kevin Coplin | 8 | 4-7. Al Oliver | 7 |
| | | 4-7. Jim Sales | 7 |

Players with a 4-0 match:

Rader's Sports Bar: Mario Webster; Crystal City Billiards: Jim Sales; Wedge: Joe Curlee; Libby's: Allan Ranay; Classic's: James Adkinson; Cactus Inn: Willie White; Call 'Ur Shot: Ed Chier; Fucifino's # 17: Joe Schieszer; Fucifino's #10: Waddell Whitehead & Charles Burrage (same game); JP's Corner: Bill Owens & Jim Hopen; Phoenix: Mike Renick.

Division # 101 15 Weeks Monday

Stratford Inn #3 jumped into the lead the 5th week and held on taking the division crown by one game over sister team Stratford Inn #1, 12-3 to 11-4. With three of their All-Star players in the top six positions and one, Joe Curlee, taking top honors, it really didn't surprise many. Week #9 was the turning point from two perspectives. One: Jumpin' Joe Curlee leapfrogged ahead of the pact taking over top spot on the All-Star sheet passing teammate Dave Collins. And two: The battle for first team honors was between Stratford Inn #1 and Stratford Inn #3. Both races were to be played out this way thanks to week #11.

Stratford Inn #3 was 8-2, but The Phoenix #2 had a .569 games won/lost percentage. So playing each other this 11th week The Phoenix is up 8-6 going into the final round needing only one more game to take over first place. Stratford Inn #3 rallies taking all three games for a come-from-behind 9-8 victory, opens up some daylight and holds onto first place by a single game. Oh, and I would be remiss if I didn't mention that Jumpin' Joe Curlee led the attack with a 4-win night parlaying that into Top Player stats.

Joe banged out a great 35-6 .854 for yet another Top Player trophy. Congrats, Joe. (And he wants to be lowered.) Can you dig it! Running 2nd was Mike Kissel (Hotshots SC #1) with his 31-9 .775 just slightly ahead of third place Dave Collins' 26-9 .743. Great race, guys.

For the playoff spot Stratford Inn #1 got their just rewards by knocking off both Hotshots SC #2 and then Hotshots SC #1. Both spots belonged to Stratford teams. Good shooting and good comebacks.

Division # 102 15 Weeks Monday

Jody T's #2 jumped ahead of the pack the 12th week and held on for the first place finish of 12-3, two-games over Sportsmans Bar and Jody T's #1, each at 10-5. The Blastenbrei gang, Eric (30 wins), Bill (21 wins) and Kyle (21 wins), plus sidekick Matt Niemeyer (17 wins), all made the All-Star sheet.

What was and is amazing about this race was that Jody T's #1 began the season 7-0. They were riding high, wide and handsome until the 3-match losing streak entered the picture. They managed a 3-5 record after the great start. But that was good enough for 3rd place and a spot in the playoffs. That winning hiatus didn't deter their hopes and when the playoffs began Jody T's #1 regained their composure by knocking off Keith's the first week then coming back to beat Libby's the second week. Both Jody T's teams will be at the big show. Great comeback, guys.

Sportsmans Bar stickman Allen Barnhart took Top Player honors. Allen jumped into the top spot the 5th week and literally ran away from the competition. His outstanding performance of 37-5 .881 was a whopping .167 ahead of second place. There was a tie for second place with Eric Blastenbrei (Jody T's - 30-12 .714) and Timmay Henderson (Libby's - 25-10 .714).

Division # 103 16 Weeks Monday

Git'er Done #1 beat out Git'er Done #2 by two games, 12-4 to 10-6, for first place honors. GED #1 placed four players on the All-Star sheet and Danielle Feeler was top female player, 19-15 .559. Nice shooting, girl.

Other GED #1's were Phil Dalton (26 wins), Joe Oberkirsch (24 wins), and Matt Feeler (20 wins).

The shootout for the second spot went to Wedge #1. They opened up the season by winning their first four matches; then hit a tailspin by going 5-7 the rest of the way. With only one player (Ray Ridenour 36-14 .720) making the All-Star sheet, some say it a minor miracle. Ray's effort was second only to Top Player Curt Wisely's 32-11 .744.

Wedge #1 knocked out Mary's Blue Ribbon the first week and came back to beat GED #2 the second week.

Curt 'the Big Hurt' Wisely took over the All-Star top spot the 10th week and cruised on in for his 30th or 40th Top Player trophy. It's easy to lose count once he got that many. Congratulations and nice going once again Curt.

Division # 104 16 Weeks Tuesday Fucifino's in-house

Talk about a Battle Royal: It's almost impossible to think that from a 16-week 5-team division four teams could end up winning 10 or more matches. Yep, I'm sure we have another 'first' here. This in-house division from Fucifino's produced their own special brand of competition. A race to the finish line isn't saying enough. To make a long story a little shorter: Fu #4 (Kenny Martin's gang) and Fu #1 (Bob Pendergrass' bunch) finished at 12-4. They were followed by Jay Carlton's Fu #3 at 11-5, then Lisa Crosby's Fu #5 at 10-6.

Now you know somebody had to take all the heat. Sadly it was John Shields and company, Fu #2. Johnny's team was 3-13, but all three wins were 'bye' wins. So, in essence, they went 0-13 for the session. We all know what happens when one of our better players, in this case Donald Rash, couldn't make game day because of work commitments. Don lost a lot of playing time; but as we know the bills come before pool. Johnny and gang, Lajuania, Slow, Lee and Arthur were really under a large handicap throughout.

It's a big credit to them and their fortitude to stick it out and keep their respect. In the past, several teams gave up and quit after a few weeks because they were going bad. But this team has been together several years and will always finish what they start. It's a real testimony to those who will stick it out when the going get tough. It takes a lot of determination and courage to hang in when you're getting your brains beat out week after long hard week and still show up for more. You've been around this block before. Things will get better. Thanks for hanging in there.

The games won/lost percentage shows us that Kickin' Kenny Martin's crew edged out Bob Pendergrass, 99-81 .550 to 102-89 .534. One more time Kenny is headed to the big show.

First playoff week Bullet Bob's gang got over on Johnny Shields, 10-8 with Pendergrass having a 4-win match and Terry Zlepper adding three wins. Across the room Jay's bunch beat out Lisa's, 9-6, with Jay and Howard punching out three wins each. The second week, playing even, Jay's team was successful over Bob's, 9-5.

Division # 105 16 Weeks Tuesday

After being all but humiliated and annihilated 9-1 the first week, New Classic's put their A-game together and ran off 13 straight matches. They began their run the 2nd week with the 10-7 win over Cocktails #2 with Don Carico leading the attack with a 4-win night backed up by Larry Wood and his 3 wins. New Classic's took sole possession of first place the 5th week and waltzed home 14-2, two-games ahead of runner-up Lehmann's Landing, the team

that gave them their opening-season loss. And they did it with only two players making the All-Star sheet. Dapper Dave Polson was 7th with his 21-10 .677, and Dandy Don Carico 9th at 27-13 .675.

The race for Top Player was between two Lehmann's players, Mike Doak and Dave Vaughn, and Larry Foust from Tigers Inn. It was tough but Mike Doak (31-9 .775) outlasted Dave's 27-9 .750 and Larry's 34-14 .708.

For the playoffs, week one, Lehmann's received a forfeit win when Clubhouse failed to show up to play. Tigers Inn took a 9-3 victory over Blockhouse setting up the Lehmann's – Tigers playoff. Larry Foust got rewarded after all for a fine season as his Tigers knocked off Lehmann's, 9-7.

Division # 106 16 Weeks Thursday

This division is one tough hombre. With five teams playing outta Classic's there's no surprise that one took first place and three others made the playoffs. Classic's #5 won 14 straight matches before losing the only one this season and ended with a 15-1 record. No surprise again that five of their members made the All-Star sheet and Devin Mays took Top Player honors again. Devin's 35-9 .795 skimmed past runner-up Kittyes Korner's Joe Branstetter, 41-15 .732. Other heavy hitters from Classic's #5, Tim Woodrome 27-wins, Winston Mayes 27-wins, Kelly Ambrose 26-wins and Frank Pace 21-wins. Mary Stillwell was top female again, 21-17 .553.

First playoff week saw Lehmann's #1 knock out Classic's #2, 9-2... and Lou Saurwein's Classic's #1, got 2-games on the wire and rode it to a 9-8 win over the very, very tough Dan Tucker gang, Classic's #3. For second spot honors the luck still held as Lou's bunch jumped on Lehmann's to the tune of 9-5.

Division # 107 16 Weeks Thursday

New Classic's #2, behind the perennial 41-game winner Gary Blacks, blasted their way past the post first again. New Classic's #2 began their surge taking the first 11 matches and ended the season 14-2. Gary's 41-14 .745 was second only to Top Player winner from Kittyes Korner, Rich Norris' 40-9 .816. Great race, guys.

From the 2-week playoff for second spot we have Kittyes Korner beating Kenny's Korner, 9-7, and New Classic's #3 over Brewskee, 9-5. For the showdown New Classic's #3 got 6-games head start and rode it to a 12-5 victory over Kittyes Korner

Division # 108 16 Weeks Thursday

Bottle Cap #2 took sole possession of first place the final week with a 12-4 season edging out both Suwaller's #'s 1 & 2. Mel Hendrix led the team to the division title with a 20-11 .645. Carl Dorton added 21 wins and J.R. Elliott kicked in 18. But it was Dale Fallon (Suwaller's #1) taking Top Player honors with a great season of 32-8 .800. Dale beat out teammate James Jensen's 22-8 .733.

First week's playoffs saw Suwaller's #2 defeat Bottle Cap #1, 9-4 behind the 3-win match of Mike Waller. Then Suwaller's #1, with the great performance of Nova Fallon winning 4-games, knocked out Airport Billiards, 9-6. For the payoff Suwaller's #2 defeated Suwaller's #1, 9-4 as Randy Turnbough and Tim Carey won three games each.

Division # 109 16 Weeks Wednesday Rader's In-house

With four members from Rader's #2 taking up four of the eight All-Star positions it's easy to figure how Rader's #2 ran away with the division. Their 12-4 finish was 3-games over Rader's #'s 4 & 1, at 9-7 each.

The first three players on the list were #2's. John Bissell took Top Player honors with his 36-8 .818. Second was Brian Kroeger (41-13 .759) and third was Wayne Ferrell (42-16 .724). The 7th was Kyle Kroeger, 29-21 .580.

The first playoff week saw Rader's #1 knockout Rader's #3. The second Rader's #4 took a 9-7 decision from Rader's #1, 9-7. Bullet Bob Pendergrass muscled up with four wins and Bobby McCulloch added three.

All Top Players received a Top Player Trophy plus a 30-dollar Cheque

Division	Top Player	Team	Record	Runner-up	Team	Record
Div. # 102	Allen Barnhart	Sportsman's Bar	37 5 .881	Eric Blastenbrei	Jody T's #2	30 12 .714
				Timmay Henderson	Libby's	25 10 .714
Div. # 101	Joe Curlee	Stratford Inn #3	35 6 .854	Mike Kissel	Hotshots SC #1	31 9 .775
Div. # 109	John Bissell	Rader's #2	36 8 .818 ***	Brian Kroeger	Rader's #2	41 13 .759
Div. # 107	Rich Norris	Kittyes Korner	40 9 .816	Gary Blanks	New Classic's #2	41 14 .745
Div. # 108	Dale Fallon	Suwaller's #1	32 8 .800 ***	James Jensen	Suwaller's #1	22 8 .733
Div. # 106	Devin Mays	Classic's #5	35 9 .795	Joe Branstetter	Kitty's Korner	41 15 .732
Div. # 104	Kipp Esteep	Fucifino's #4	23 6 .793	Victor Day	Fucifino's #1	33 12 .733
Div. # 105	Mike Doak	Lehmann's	31 9 .775 ***	Dave Vaughn	Lehmann's	27 9 .750

Div. # 103 Curt Wisely Wedge #2
*** Teammates - Div. 105 & 108 & 109

32 11 .744

Ray Ridenour Wedge #1

36 14 .720

4-Player Team Championship Results – Payout - \$5,420

- 1st *** Fucifino's #104 \$2,210 & Trophy Members: Captain Kickin' Kenny Martin, Dave & Larry Stafford, (Berkeley) Kipp Esteep, Josh Treadway & Chuck Buban
- 2nd *** Fucifino's #104 \$2,210 Members: Captain Jay Carlton, Joe 'Cozy' Lombardozzi, Mike Warfel, (Berkeley) Howard Lentz, Tina Foust & Amanda Fay-Ellen (Warfel) Tebeau
- 3-4th Wedge #103 \$500 Members: Captain Mac McDonald, Ray Ridenour, Phyllis Otto, (Lemay) Connie & Chris Falls & Debbie Fried
- 3-4th Rader's #109 \$500 Members: Captain Bullet Bob Pendergrass, Gentleman Jim Harrison, (St. Peters) Bobby McCulloch, Derrick Harrison & Joe (ABC) Abrewczynski
- *** See below

A short history of this tournament is as follows: Eighteen teams qualified for this event for a nice payout of \$5,400. Two matches were played Saturday night June 28, 2008. Bottle Cap edged by Git'er Done, 9-8, and Stratford Inn #101 took their double hill match from New Classic's, 10-9 behind the 4-win night by Bill Keith. Play continued Sunday June 29 at noon. To get to the final four Kenny Martin's gang, out of Fucifino's, gave Bottle Cap 3-games on the wire and allowed them only two games for a 9-5 win. They followed that up by giving New Classic's #105 3-games head start, allowing them only three wins, and took a 10-6 victory.

The Wedge #103 made the final four by first knocking off Suwallers, 9-6. Then after getting 6-games on the wire from Classic's #106, the Wedgers rode that out for a 12-4 run-over. Jay Carlton's Fucifino's #104 drew Kelly Ambrose's Classic's #106 the first round and took a 9-3 victory. They followed that up with a 9-6 win over Stratford Inn #101. Bullet Bob Pendergrass and his Rader's gang #109 took a 9-4 decision from Jody T's #102 their first round and then backed that up with a 10-6 victory over sister team Rader's also from Division #109. This match saw Bob's guys take the last five games to secure their place in the final four.

For the chance to get to the final two, Kenny Martin's Fucifino's boys had to give Mac McDonald and The Wedge 6-games on the beads; and suddenly found themselves down 11-6. Kickin' Kenny had his boys kick it up a notch or else get kicked outta the tourney. They did. They won the last seven games to take a real come-from-behind squeaker, 12-11. Two players, Dave Stafford and Kipp Esteep, stepped up by winning four games each. Meanwhile, across the room Jay's Fucifino's guys were having it (almost) as hard getting past Bullet Bob Pendergrass and his bunch out of Rader's. It went double hill and Mike Warfel pulled it out to send the final showdown between the two Fucifino teams from the same 104 division against each other into the finals.

*** As the hour was late and Rader's Sports Bar must close at midnight on Sundays the two Captains, Kenny Martin and Jay Carlton, agreed to call it a draw and split the first and second place winnings to \$2,210.00 per team. Both Fucifino teams play out of the same in-house division Tuesday mornings. Rusty needed a winner so as to which team's players names would go on the Trophy. The following Tuesday morning when the teams met to play their regularly scheduled match it was decided that Ken Martin would play a one-game playoff match with Mandi Tebeau. Ken won the one-game playoff (but Jay's team won the regularly scheduled match 9-8, heh, heh, heh.) So take that, Kenny. And would you believe that Kenny and Mandi drew each other all four times that morning! And Kenny beat up on her all four times. What a brute.

4-Player Team Results					Top Players with 10 or more decisions				
Team	Captain	W	L	Pct.	Player	Team	W	L	Pct.
Fucifino's #104	Ken Martin	31	11	.738	1. Kipp Esteep	Fucifino's 104	11	0	1.000
Fucifino's #104	Jay Carlton	26	15	.634	2. Bill Keith	Stratford Inn 101	10	1	.909

Stratford Inn #101	Steve Raymo	25	17	.595	3. Bob Pendergrass	Rader's 109	8	2	.800
Rader's #109	Bob Pendergrass	23	17	.575	4. Jay Carlton	Fucifino's 104	8	3	.727
					4. Dave Stafford	Fucifino's 104	8	3	.727
					6. Mike Warfel	Fucifino's 104	7	3	.700

Chicks with Sticks All Divisions

Division	Player	Team	Record		
Div. # 14	Julia Gabriel	Classic's #1	38	9	.809
Div. # 17	Rose Boul	Fucifino's #3	28	10	.737
Div. # 10	Carla Granderson	Fucifino's	26	15	.634
Div. # 14	Kellen Kinast	McDuff's	27	17	.614
Div. # 16	Lajuania Henry	Fucifino's	28	19	.596
Div. # 12	Loreli O'Rando	Call 'Ur Shot #4	24	18	.571
Div. # 103	Danielle Feeler	Git'er Done #1	19	15	.559
Div. # 4	Donna Collins	JP's Corner	25	20	.556
Div. # 106	Mary Stillwell	Classic's #4	21	17	.553
Div. # 9	Robin Rice	Filling Station	27	22	.551
Div. # 7	Mary Brockman	Iron Horse Saloon	23	19	.548
Div. # 9	Tina Wiedner	Git'er Done	25	21	.543
Div. # 108	Kimberly Sykora	Gas Light Inn	21	18	.538
Div. # 17	Chris Russell	Pirates Cove	17	15	.531
Div. # 17	Tina Wykoff	Pirates Cove	25	23	.521
Div. # 17	Jeanine Dunn	Aftershock	15	15	.500

Total Payout all Tournaments	
All-Star Singles	\$ 4,055.00
5-Player Board	17,804.00
4-Player Board	5,400.00
	\$ 27,259.00

67th Singles Tournament Results – Payout \$4,055

Place	Player	Skill	Winnings	Place	Player	Skill	Winnings
1st	Devin Mays	'7'	1,000 & Trophy	7-8	Mike Renick	'7'	200
2nd	Howard Lentz	'5'	700 & Trophy	7-8	Jason Hinkle	'3'	200
3rd	Victor Day	'6'	535 & Trophy	9-12	Jay Carlton	'6'	100
4th	Keith Valet	'4'	420	9-12	Pat McFarland	'6'	100
5-6	Dennis Gallagher	'6'	300	9-12	Rick Dycus	'5'	100
5-6	Todd Lamwersiek	'5'	300	9-12	Jeremy Wheeler	'3'	100

There were 118 players signed up at Rader's Sports Bar Saturday June 21st and Sunday the 22nd going for a chunk o' da cash. The payout of \$4,055 was split up amongst 12 players. Nice to see a few new faces taking home a slice of the prize money. Seven of the 12 that cashed were first-timers. Howard Lentz (affectionately known as St. Louis Howard) finished the highest (and the oldest at 60 summers) of the new-comers. Says he'll be back if his heart doesn't give out.

Devin Mays took top award this time after finishing second last session. Devin failed to make the cut his first time out, then came in second last session behind eventual winner John Bissell. Three times out and gone up every time. Now what, Devin? No where to go but down.

And speaking of last season's winner: It's always interesting to see how the previous champion did. John Bissell went two and out. And they say baseball is a funny game. You can put 8-ball pool right there with it. But it's a well-known fact that in a short race to '2' – it's a crap shoot. Put everyone in a bag, shake it up and the first one to roll out could take it. That's just the way it is in these short race to '2' gigs.

Devin Mays came out of the top skill-level section vying against such champions as Rich Sager, Kenny Vaughn, Mike Renick, Wayne Turner and Dustin Dunham. Then having to meet and defeat notables Leon Young, Pat McFarland, and Victor Day to get to the only other 'last man standing', St. Louis Howard Lentz.

Howard didn't have such an easy time of it getting to the hill. Mr. Lentz met and defeated Tim Graves, Rick Dycus, Todd Lamwersiek and Keith Valet. Then Devin beat Howard to become the lone survivor on the winners' side.

Meanwhile Victor Day was making another run and knocked out Dennis Gallagher and Keith Valet to meet Howard. St. Louis Howard eked out a 2-1 win over Victor for another chance at Devin Mays. But Devin was in dead punch and took a 2-0 match for his first Singles Championship win.

Congratulations to all that cashed and participated. See you at the next All-Star Singles event.

Thanks once again to all that make Missouri 8 Ball their Pool League of choice. Twenty-three years in operation says we must be doing something right.

Rusty Brandmeyer – Missouri 8 Ball Pool and Dart Leagues Operator

Dustin Brandmeyer – The best Magician in Mo-8 history

Roger Pheasant – Internet Specialist

Jay L. Carlton – Assistant to the Wheels