



Date: April, 2006

Event: National Singles Championships

Location: Riviera Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, NV



3rd Place, Purple Tier 8 Ball (Skill Level 6,7)
Melinda Huang and APA President Renee' Poelhman

April 26 thru 29, The Riviera played host to the APA National Singles Championships. With a total prize purse of \$300,000 up for grabs, our league area sent up 4 players in 4 different tier groups in hopes of grabbing some of that prize fund. Congratulations to Jun Tumabing, James Silva, Melinda Huang, and Celine Barrett for qualifying and earning you way there. As it turned out, our girls Melinda and Celine decided to show the boys up by booking some impressive wins to get them deep into the cash. Celine Barrett after dropping a disappointing first match, cruises through her next two for a 5th place finish earning \$2,000 in cash and prizes for her play. Melinda Huang, struggling past a tough first match - coming back from a 3-0 deficit, takes down her next 6 opponents in a very tough top skill purple tier (6-7) to finish 3rd. We are checking but we believe this is the best finish by a woman in this tier EVER. She takes home some hardware and \$4,000 in cash and prizes for her performance. The boys did not do as well but we want to congratulate them for getting to the show as it is a tough enough task just to get there. James Silva and Jun Tumabing (There's always next year!). We wanted to acknowledge our Jack and Jill participants Brian Feeney and Susan Isaacs as well for taking part in the action last week. The qualifying period for the 2007 singles program will begin soon so be on the lookout for qualifier boards and get involved in the action. You too can be there next year. We encourage everyone to get involved in this program as it is one of the more prestigious events and as you can see, "Everyone can play, Everyone can win". Again, congratulations Melinda and Celine, "ya dun us proud!"



Melinda is all business at the table



Celine and Melinda outside the Riviera



Birdseye view of the tournament



The tables are set



Practice begins



The trophies await



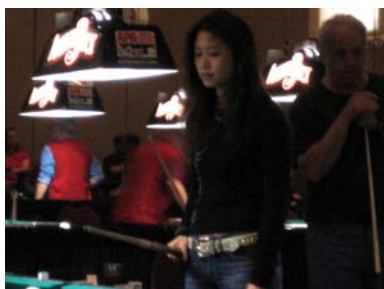
The crowd gathers



Play begins



Celine Barrett



Melinda Huang



June Tumambing



The tournament staff points



Mel, warming up in the semi



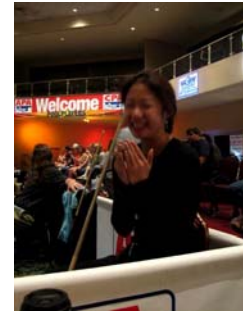
The big board



The finals arena



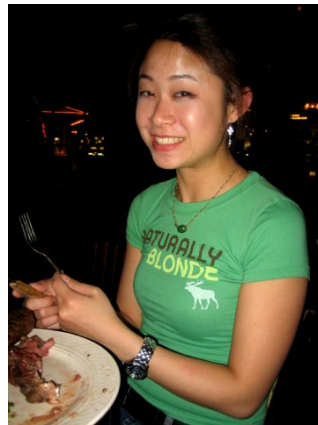
Watch the hit!



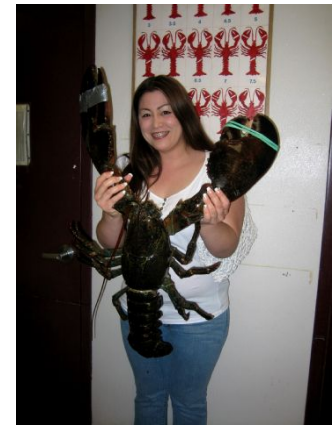
Mel, happy to be in the semi final.



Celine pondering....



Mel happy to be eating



Celine and her tiny lobster