



## The Fearless Foe -

### “Denver” Danny Medina

35-year-old “Denver” Danny Medina is riding high in pool circles these days. First as a fearless foe on the professional tournament circuit and second as the new house pro at “The Pool Hall” in Aurora, Colorado. He is also a representative for Meucci Cues.

Medina is currently ranked 8th in the Professional Billiards Association’s Tour Point Standings. His fast shooting style combined with a smooth, steady, and methodical attitude at the table has won him many fans. What makes Danny a champion? That’s just what we asked him.

**•How come you’re so good, Danny?**

“Practice, practice, practice and fear no-one!”

**•No one?**

“No-one. I’m not afraid to play anyone, anytime. I love competition... I get high on it, you know? Especially when I’m matching up with a good player. I never give up. If I have to I’ll stay with him for 3 days, I’ll never quit, never leave the table.”

**•Who’s the toughest competition today?**

“They’re all tough. Nobody is easy. You must always play your own best game to stay on top.”

**•Like many of today’s pros, we understand you started playing at a very young age, is this true?**

“I was the Colorado State “Marble Champ” when I was 12- then I got too old for marbles and took up pool.”

**•How was that?**

“I worked at a grocery store and used to walk home past a pool hall. Finally when I was 15 I stopped passing it by and started going in.

“For six months everybody in the place beat me. I went home without my paycheck every weekend.”

But the talented youngster never gave up and pretty soon the room owner kicked him out, claiming Danny was chasing away all of the customers by continually beating them.

So Danny became a pool player and had to start traveling to Denver, the big city near his family’s suburban home in Brighton, Colorado, for competition. His first big tournament victory was on a bar table event in Washington state when he was 19.

Last August he beat David Howard in the finals of the Arlington Recreation Disneyland Hotel 9-Ball tournament for a top purse of \$8,000. In 1983, Medina won the 9-Ball Classic Cup III title in Chicago.

**•What gets to you when you’re playing Danny?**

“Slow playing. There should be a 30 second time limit on shots. Players who shoot slow throw my timing off.”

**•How do you counteract it when it happens?**

“I take my mind away from what they are doing so I don’t get aggravated over it.”

**•As house pro at “The Pool Hall”, what do you think students need to learn most?**

“Speed control.”

**•How do you teach speed control?**

“I show them various ways to control the cue ball. I teach them the diamond system and how far the cue ball will travel with english, etc.”

And finally, P & B Mag asked “Denver” Danny what he wanted to accomplish most as a professional player. In his easy manner, Danny responded good naturedly, “I just want to win a few tournaments every year. I don’t need to win all of them, a few a year and I’m happy.”