



BOWL EXPO HEADLINERS



*James Carville
and
Mary Matalin*



LeAnn Rimes

Las Vegas MEGABUCK Winners



Mini Eliminator Main
Event Kari Schwager



High Roller Champ
Jason Belmonte



Brunswick Shootout
Robin Orlikowski



'A' Game Winner
Jay Nephew

PBA CHAMPIONS



**Jason, Mika
Chris, Patrick**



BOWL • • PINION

by Jim Goodwin

The editorial opinions expressed here are offered to provoke thought on important and sometimes controversial or provocative issues.

Agree or disagree, we'd like to hear from you:
starsandstrikes@sbcglobal.net

BOWL EXPO is Bowling's Can't Miss Event

It's a New Dawn; It's a New Day – and Things Don't Work the Same Old Way

At a recent PBA event, I ran into a friend I haven't seen in a while who is now in the pro shop business. When I asked her how bowling was doing in her area, she didn't have much good news. That was a day after we learned that Ebonite was taking over Columbia, and we agreed that the bowling industry appears to be shrinking.

Trying to put a positive spin on the conversation, I ended it by saying, "Look at it this way – for bowling to get better, it first has to hit rock bottom, and it's got to be getting very close to rock bottom!" She agreed, and we both had a good laugh.

Of course, how you choose to look at almost anything determines if it's good or bad. Perception is everything, and perception is often reality, whether we like it or not. It's the old 'half empty or half full' philosophy of living as an optimist or a pessimist.

For those who see the health of bowling controlled by the number of USBC members bowling in leagues these days, it's got to be very difficult to maintain optimism. I don't envy those who are on the front lines in centers that have lost most of the league customers they once enjoyed, especially pro shop operators who rely heavily on those frequent and avid bowlers to grow their business.

To be an optimist in this industry today, I believe you have to broaden your horizons and focus on a big pic-

ture. If you look only at USBC as a barometer of bowling, you may find it hard to smile, although there are very positive signs. Membership is still declining, but the Merger, the new PBA Experience Leagues, and a few other things are evidence that USBC leaders are working hard to get better and prepare for growth when membership finally does turn upward.

For all ya'll (that's the plural of you all) who want to feel really good about where bowling is going, find a way to attend 2007 B O W L

EXPO. In only a decade, the Bowling Proprietors Association of America has transformed their annual gathering from a relatively small affair for bowling center owners, to a huge international show and exhibition attended by over 5000 people involved in the industry and sport from all corners of the globe.

Without question, International Bowl Expo is bowling's biggest and best event, and anyone who has any intention of doing business or being involved in the industry cannot pass on this annual opportunity to see bowling portrayed in the most positive and optimistic light you can imagine. BPAA didn't pay me to say this. I say it because it is an undisputed fact.

This year, Bowl Expo will be held June 24-29 in Las Vegas. The event headquarters is the

famous Mandalay Bay Resort and Exhibit Center on the Vegas Strip, but the show has become so large in recent years, that more hotels have been added. This year, special rates are also available at the Luxor and Excaliber for attendees.

Who attends? Start with bowling center owners, managers and staff from centers across the United States, Europe, Asia and other parts of the planet. Add to that mem-

bers of the following organizations: the Armed Forces Bowling Conference, the International Bowling Pro Shops and Instructors Association (IBPSIA), BPA of Canada, the Bowling Writers Association of America (BWAA), the Bowling and Billiard Institute of America (BBIA), and exhibitors in over 800 booths representing more than 300 companies.

Probably more than half of all the goods and services purchased for bowling centers for the entire year are as a result of transactions that take place on the Bowl Expo Trade Show floor. During the two-day trade show, attendees can sample foods from dozens of suppliers, meet some of the best professional bowlers in the world and get their autographs in their company booths, and watch special exhibitions such as trick shots on pool tables, cooking demos and other interesting sites and sounds.

Bowl Expo also provides world renowned speakers and entertainers. This year, the keynote will be delivered by Washington DC's most famous couple, political insiders Mary Matalin and James Carville. LeAnn Rimes will entertain in a special 'Club Xpo' concert.

I've said for years that it would be great if BPAA could figure out a way to allow 'Joe Bowler' to attend Bowl Expo. We do far too much preaching to the choir in this industry, and I just wish the average person who really loves bowling could see and participate in this incredible event. Maybe BPAA could talk to USBC about bringing their convention to Bowl Expo. With no separate men's and women's conventions, and since their meetings are no longer tied to their annual tournament, it seems feasible to make USBC a part of Bowl Expo. If that happened, at least their delegates could witness this uplifting experience.

Perhaps the best aspect of Bowl Expo is that it recharges the batteries and lifts the spirits of thousands of bowling enthusiasts. It makes us proud to be involved in the bowling industry and sport.

We all need to feel good about bowling, and International Bowl Expo is the ultimate aphrodisiac. It shouts that bowling is a worldwide sport and activity that brings together people from countries and cultures around the entire Planet Earth. What could be better than that?



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Chuck Pezzano is the dean of bowling writers. His columns have appeared in newspapers and magazines nationally for over 45 years. He is a charter member of the Professional Bowlers Association, and is enshrined in both the PBA and American Bowling Congress Halls of Fame.

PEZZANO

Helping Grad Students May Be a Good Investment

It is amazing how many bowling scholarships are available, from tiny grants of \$10 to totos to figures in the \$5,000+ range that help bowling minded youngsters with their tremendous college fees.

Some bowlers are rewarded for their ability on the lanes their high finishes in scholarship tournaments, high averages, and other feats. Others receive help because of need, their involvement and contributions in one way or another.

But strangely, some of the most needy, those who later will make contributions to the betterment of all phases of life in the future, are overlooked.

I'm talking about the youngsters in medical, dental, law, business and other schools who are pursuing higher degrees and must spend two or three or more years after they obtain their basic college degrees. Their costs in many cases exceed \$50,000 per year and they are almost all deeply in debt when they start their professional careers.

When they are struggling to make ends meet in school, an extra thousand dollars

Idle bowling thoughts . . .

Dick Stoeffler died recently, causing those sadness lumps in the throats, tummies and hearts of so many. He was a bowler of superior ability, a bowling proprietor who led the way in so many ways, a TV commentator and analyst who lured you to listen intently less you miss a word of his powerful and passionate personality. As a writer he displayed a wit that could be as sharp as a rapier like thrust or as crude as a slashing bayonet plunge. He educated, criticized, loved and dreamed about what was best for his sport and the people- in it at all levels. Stoeffler's legacy? One that is short and sweet. He made people think - and he made them laugh.

• There's been much said and written about the fact that bowling is often overlooked by many major sponsors. I look at the TV commercials during the Super Bowl at \$2.6 million a spot and the sponsorships of competitions in various sports costing many millions and have to wonder, is all that money poured into single or special events as worthy as a similar amount spent in bowling that would guarantee a year's notice by the bowlers of the world?

here and there is a great help for incidentals, and some spare change for a little recreation - including bowling. Yes, we do have young people who bowled, and still bowl, though deeply involved in their uppermost level studies.

What better way to uplift the sport by giving some token aid to those in the professional schools?

And they are the ones who become the future movers and shakers in every field, and usually attain high income status, are charitable and have long memories.

They would recall with fondness that little help they received from bowling.

I'm amazed at how many professional people are at least aware of bowling. Businessmen who bowled at one time have long been sponsoring bowling teams or leagues. Bankers who once bowled are more inclined to make loans to future proprietors. Bowling lawyers are usually happy to help bowlers and bowling groups. The top men in major firms that have bucks for TV sponsorships and the ad agency decision

• One of the big needs in the sport is better high school bowling coaches. It doesn't matter if some of the student bowlers are better bowlers than their coaches, but the coaches should know more about the teaching of the sport, and all that goes with it.

• There's been much talk and much written over the fact that Del Ballard Jr. was not elected to the USBC Hall of Fame in the past two elections. My feeling? Ballard should be easily elected to any Hall of Fame for which he is a qualified candidate. His record screams for recognition.

• Today's top pros or high scoring amateurs are generally the products of many years of instruction and experience. Most start before the age of five and by the time they are old enough to vote have battled in hundreds of tournaments. There was a day when bowlers had to be 18 to get into a bowling center unless they had special permission and were with an adult.

• Only 13 bowlers have been skilled enough to win 20 pro tour events. The one who receives the least notice for that historic mark is Dick Ritger. He is universally recognized as one of the nice guys in bowling history, and one of the best instructors.

makers with a bowling leaning can be bowling's best friends.

Don't kid yourself, if there were more bowlers in those power positions than golfers, more dollars would flow to bowling promotions.

So what's the bottom line?
Simple.

We should open our many avenues of grants to include any and all students, including those who are in grad or professional schools. That might not include a huge number, but if we want to reach and respect all who have been involved in bowling, and still might be, let's allow them to apply for a little help when they need it most.

It is often noted that everyone bowls, has bowled or at least knows-a relative or friend who has been involved in bowling. Let's show them all we still care about them even though time and circumstance have taken them afar.

Once a bowler, always a bowler, so even if they rise to the greatest heights, let it be known that bowling helped them on the way up.

He should always get his due as one of the best bowlers, too.

• The boy wonders get younger. Chaz Dennis, at 10 years, two months and 27 days, is currently the youngest bowler to roll a sanctioned 300 game. Dennis is 20 days younger than the previous record holder, Michael Tang. And that's real bowling on real lanes, not bumper or game bowling. Don't be too surprised if we come up with a bowler who rolls a 300 before learning how to keep score.

• Kelly Kulick, named female Bowler of the Year, has had it difficult her first and the first year for a distaffer to compete as an exempt player on the pro tour. But she has wisely and properly chalked it up to a learning experience. She's right. In most cases the experience comes first - followed by the money and titles it reaps.

• The BVL, bowling's charity to help service veterans in various ways, has been active since World War II, more than 60 years, in days of peace or conflict, and many chapters have come up with thoughtful ways to keep renewing the services for today's and all past vets. BVL has rightfully gained respect and support in and out of bowling. Your help is always needed and appreciated.

Washington's Carville/Matalin Keynote Speakers at General Session: LeAnn Rimes to Entertain at Bowl Expo's 'Club Xpo' Event

Washington's best-loved couple, James Carville and Mary Matalin will be the main keynote speakers at International Bowl Expo 2007 General Session to be held in Las Vegas, Nevada. The General Session scheduled for Wednesday, June 27th at the Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino.

Carville's a die-hard Democrat, having served as chief strategist for Bill Clinton's presidential campaign, 1991-1992. Matalin's a loyal Republican and former Bush campaign strategist and on the surface the dynamic duo seems to share little common ground. But while their work is all about politics, their marriage isn't, and that, they say, makes all the difference.

In this highly popular joint presentation, James Carville and Mary Matalin - give audiences an enlightening and entertaining look at today's most important political issues as well as a behind-the-scenes look at Washington politics. Co-authors of the national best seller All's Fair: Love, War, and Running for President, both Matalin and Carville are key players on the national political stage, having between them worked for every president over the last 25 years. During their presentation, Carville and Matalin combine their unique experience as perennial political insiders to

provide audiences with a stimulating, candid and provocative analysis of the day's headlines and today's hot-button political issues from both sides of the political aisle for a lively and engaging exchange of views.



Club Xpo, sponsored by QubicaAMF Worldwide, with its 2007 Denim & Diamonds theme, and featuring Grammy-award winning superstar LeAnn Rimes, will open at 7 pm on Thursday, June 28th at the

Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino as attendees enjoy a nightclub-like atmosphere with a cocktail reception followed by a 'heavy hors d'oeuvres' dinner. Attendees are encouraged to wear their best denim and their biggest diamonds.

LeAnn Rimes emerged on the music scene a decade ago with an engaging voice that belied her age, 13, and an infectious, entertaining stage presence. At only 23 and with nine studio albums to date selling more than 37 million copies, LeAnn continues to astound audiences and win recognition around the world including Grammy awards and numerous other industry awards over her relatively brief career. From her debut hit "Blue", a song initially written for Patsy Cline, to number one hits like "How Do I Live", along with her numerous hits from the soundtrack of the

popular movie 'Coyote Ugly,' LeAnn continues to astound her fans and audiences worldwide. Throughout her career LeAnn has entertained on dozens of television programs, including The Tonight Show, Late Night with David Letterman, The Today Show, Larry King Live and on The People's Choice Awards, which in 1999 featured her memorable duet with Elton John on "Written in the Stars." Her most recent, "Whatever We Wanna," features the smash-hit "Some People," and demonstrates how far she has come since her groundbreaking releases of her early country classics. Today, LeAnn's range as a singer spans traditional country tunes where she started, an edgier rock sound, and soulful compositions she arranges herself.



When a stunning LeAnn Rimes takes the stage for what promises to be a spectacular performance at the 2007 Bowl Expo's Club Xpo, she will show once again what it means to be a cut above the rest. As LeAnn's horizons continue to widen, Rolling Stone's prediction rings ever more true: "Don't be surprised if her defining moment has nothing to do with country music at all. Just expect to have your socks knocked off."



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Kari Schwager Wins \$20,000 Mini Eliminator

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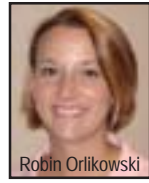
Ken Racette (Senior) \$5,000, Kari Schwager (35 & under) \$20,000, Iliana Lomeli (205 & under) \$2,500, Rhino Page (Open) \$10,000, Curt Guinn (36 to 49) \$3,000

Las Vegas, NV: Kari Schwager made history Friday night at The Orleans Bowling Center. The 26-year-old right-hander from Montgomery, Ill., doubled in the 10th frame to defeat second-place finisher Rhino Page of Clovis, Calif., 238 to 234. Schwager joined Robin Orlikowski, who won the Brunswick Shootout on Thursday night, to complete the women's sweep at the Mini-Eliminator. Schwager has been competing in

the Mini-Eliminator tournament for the last four years, with her top finish at eighth place. She admits that the tournament is difficult, "where everything has to match up just right." Schwager began bowling at age nine and continued in the sport through college at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where her team won the IBC Intercollegiate Bowling Championships in 2001. A massage therapist by trade, Schwager parti-

cipates in about ten bowling tournaments a year around the country. She is currently gearing up for the USBC Queens in Matthews, NC, April 28-May 2, and the USBC Open in Reno in May.

Schwager calls bowling "a sport where almost anyone can compete. I've made some great friends and everywhere I go I know someone in any state. It's a great way to experience life." She adds, "It can really be an exhilarating experience at times." The Mini-Eliminator finals began with 81 finalists who were all guaranteed a minimum of \$1,250. After four rounds of elimination the five division champions were crowned and all met to bowl a one game shootout to determine the top 5 positions.



Robin Orlikowski

Belmonte & Nephew Capture High Roller Titles



Jason Belmonte

Jason Belmonte will put his share of mileage up against anyone over the course of a normal year, bowling in just about any city that has an airport! The Australian, known for his unique delivery, was in his 12th High Roller event as he captured his 1st title. The \$25,000 prize was undoubtedly his largest ever and he was extremely pleased knowing that his banner will also be hanging in July.

The 23 year old, using both hands, ran past the other finalists in the Championship Shoot-Out blasting 279 as runner-up Scott Montealeone 243 for \$12,500, Ed Roberts 230 for \$11,000 and Lemire Schmeclar 165 for \$10,000, couldn't catch up.

Earlier in the week, the defending BIDSingles Champ Ron Nelson couldn't contain 2-time High Roller champ Terry Leong, Leong going on to defeat Nelson and finalists Virgilio Dela Cruz and Lee Limatoc to

win \$3,000 in the latest BIDSingles event. The BIDSingles will be replaced in July with the Las Vegas Red Hot. Leong has now won both the BIDSingles and a Red Hot.

Over 2,300 entries were recorded in the February High Roller qualifying squads. Storm, the presenting sponsor, awarded over 320 Special Agents, T-Road Pearls and their new Shift to players during the week.

Just hours before the Colts won the Super Bowl, Jay Nephew earned his 1st High Roller title, with an impressive match play performance in the \$75,000 "A Game". Nephew, 40 years old from Seneca, NY, was bowling in his 40th High Roller event, dating back to 1993. With his \$10,000 prize, Nephew is fast approaching \$100,000 in earnings. He has been a member of the prestigious \$10,000 Club since 1995.

Nephew led the way by averaging a blistering 235 for his 4 match games, firing a seven bagger in the middle of the match, on a non-forgiving condition. He had advanced from the Semis with 677 after qualifying from the Re-entry squad.

Dennis Psaropoulos, the 55 year old from Lake Worth, FL former High Roller Champ, has made a national name for himself in the 50 & Over ranks and took Nephew into the title match, losing 256 - 201. Add another \$5,000 prize to his credentials.



Jay Nephew

The BTM Rolls in Reno

The BTM presented by Bowling This Month and sponsored by Hammer is underway at High Sierra Lanes in Reno, Nevada and will run daily throughout the USBC Open championships. The BTM is entering its 5th year and is a USBC Sport certified event.

Every entrant will receive a bowling accessory bag courtesy of Hammer Bowling, the official ball sponsor. In addition bowlers visiting the Hammer booth at the National Bowling Stadium will receive a certificate for \$20.00 of reentries into the BTM.

The Peppermill Clean Block Pot returns with a guaranteed \$10,000 for bowlers who have 4 games with no open frames. The jackpot is expected to grow to \$15,000 during the 135 day event. The Peppermill Hotel and Casino is the official housing partner of the BTM.

Kegel bowling, the official lane maintenance partner, has provided the latest in lane maintenance equipment and assisted in determining the competitive lane condition that will assure all entrants a consistent shot throughout the entire tournament. The lane condition is posted at www.bowlingthismonth.com for bowlers wishing to practice on the tournament condition prior to coming to Reno.

Tournament rules and additional information is available at www.bowlingthismonth.com or by calling the tournament hotline 1-800-218-1667.



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Barnes Wins 8th PBA Career Title In Hometown

IRVING, Texas – Chris Barnes has had a lot of heartbreak and disappointment on television throughout his career, but all that seems to go away when he bowls in front of his home crowd.

pba photo



Chris Barnes with twins Troy and Ryan

Barnes won his eighth career Denny's PBA Tour title - and his second in the Dallas Metroplex - defeating John May, 235-216, to win the 2007 GEICO Classic at AMF Irving Lanes.

The nine-year veteran came into the day just 7-15 in title matches, but improved to 2-0 in the Metroplex after winning the 2003 Days Inn Open. He has also won back-to-back Motel 6 Roll to Riches crowns, a special event which has been held in the Dallas area the last two seasons and awards a winner-take-all \$200,000 top prize.

"Its euphoric any time you win. Finishing second as many times as I have, any time you do win it makes you appreciate it that much more," Barnes said. "Every title is sweet but there's no better environment than winning in front on your family and friends."

The Double Oak, Texas, resident controlled the match from the beginning, striking with his first three shots. After a nine-spares in the 4th, Barnes put together another turkey while May could not keep up. A spare in the 10th frame gave Barnes at least one title in six consecutive seasons.

Barnes advanced to the title match with a 229-192 win over 2005-06 PBA Rookie of the Year Bill O'Neill. O'Neill struck just

three times in the match, while an early turkey in frames 2-4 helped Barnes take a lead he never relinquished.

In the second semifinals, May defeated Mike DeVaney, 193-188. May, making his first TV appearance since 2001, had a turkey in frames 3-5 to take the early lead, but DeVaney stayed close until a five-count and

an open in the 9th frame. A strike and nine-spares in the 10th by DeVaney meant May only needed count in the 10th frame.

Barnes earned \$25,000 and an exemption for the 2007-08 season for the win, while May (Iron Station, N.C.) took home \$13,000 for second. O'Neill (Levittown, Pa.) earned \$6,500 for third and DeVaney (Temecula, Calif.) earned \$5,500 for fourth.

2007 GEICO Classic
AMF Irving Lanes, Irving, Texas - February 11, 2007

CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND	Totals	Prize
1. Chris Barnes, Double Oak, Texas	464 (2 games)	\$25,000
2. John May, Iron Station, N.C.	409 (2 games)	\$13,000
3. Bill O'Neill, Levittown, Pa.	192 (1 game)	\$ 6,500
4. Mike DeVaney, Temecula, Calif.	188 (1 game)	\$ 5,500

SCORES – In the first match, Barnes def. O'Neill, 229-192; in the second match, May def. DeVaney, 193-188; and in the final, Barnes def. May, 235-216. This is Barnes' eighth career Denny's PBA Tour title.

ROUND OF 8

Chris Barnes, def. Tim Criss (\$5,000), 4-2 (182-174, 197-218, 204-222, 219-216, 224-211, 257-254); Bill O'Neill, def. Steve Jaros (\$4,000), 4-1 (196-155, 221-175, 253-255, 193-146, 247-167); Mike DeVaney, def. Eugene McCune (\$3,500), 4-1 (198-187, 181-203, 225-209, 215-204, 230-173); John May, def. Chris Warren (\$3,700), 4-1 (245-191, 204-265, 205-187, 200-199, 211-175).

ROUND OF 16

Chris Warren, def. Jack Jurek (\$2,650), 4-2 (223-156, 163-227, 268-206, 169-265, 259-195, 250-245); Chris Barnes, def. Tommy Delutz Jr. (\$2,600), 4-1 (212-214, 248-225, 254-250, 216-200, 224-218); Mike DeVaney, def. Mike Machuga (\$2,900), 4-3 (209-210, 253-268, 214-214, 237-160, 216-217, 234-196, 205-194); Tim Criss, def. Walter Ray Williams Jr. (\$2,500), 4-0 (202-195, 223-178, 266-255, 258-215); Steve Jaros, def. Brian Kretzer (\$2,550), 4-1 (244-201, 166-208, 239-224, 213-198, 223-154); John May, def. Wes Malott (\$3,000), 4-3 (223-226, 204-237, 235-190, 249-237, 265-244, 223-268, 216-184); Bill O'Neill, def. Tom Baker (\$2,800), 4-3 (205-202, 224-182, 235-237, 215-221, 220-247, 249-206, 226-193); Eugene McCune, def. Mika Koivuniemi (\$2,700), 4-2 (180-234, 207-185, 198-163, 232-210, 225-258, 204-150).

ROUND OF 32 - (\$2,200 each)

Tom Baker, King, N.C., def. #18 Jason Couch, Clermont, Fla., 4-1 (202-190, 202-219, 255-177, 201-192, 225-181); John May, Lincolnton, N.C., def. Tommy Jones, Simpsonville, S.C., 4-2 (219-216, 189-206, 242-185, 237-246, 222-217, 222-221); Tim Criss, Bel Air, Md., def. Del Ballard Jr., N. Richland Hills, Texas, 4-2 (226-176, 220-223, 205-193, 186-225, 221-210, 246-209); Mika Koivuniemi, Hartland, Mich., def. Jay Ashbaugh III, Round Rock, Texas, 4-0 (237-180, 221-192, 243-184, 243-148); Steve Jaros, Yorkville, Ill., def. Mike Wolfe, New Albany, Ind., 4-1 (235-230, 263-246, 245-239, 225-265, 259-235); Jack Jurek, Lackawanna, N.Y., def. Brian Himmler, Cincinnati, 4-3 (204-213, 202-176, 204-168, 192-300, 191-233, 217-207, 244-235); Chris Barnes, Double Oak, Texas, def. Doug Kent, Newark, N.Y., 4-0 (300-202, 276-167, 236-209, 249-224); Mike DeVaney, Temecula, Calif., def. Joe Ciccone, Buffalo, N.Y., 4-1 (173-199, 187-178, 258-224, 219-187, 242-176); Bill O'Neill, Levittown, Pa., def. Brian Voss, Alpharetta, Ga., 4-2 (217-205, 192-237, 213-233, 214-202, 236-233, 216-204); Wes Malott, Argyle, Texas, def. Richard Wolfe, Vienna, Va., 4-3 (227-257, 195-237, 280-212, 256-200, 223-235, 195-174, 248-175); Walter Ray Williams Jr., Ocala, Fla., def. Pete Weber, St. Ann, Mo., 4-3 (212-236, 225-239, 258-236, 204-234, 234-171, 236-227, 279-235); Eugene McCune, Munster, Ind., def. arker Bohn III, Jackson, N.J., 4-2 (243-228, 235-250, 222-279, 267-237, 238-225, 205-180); Brian Kretzer, Dayton, Ohio, def. Patrick Healey Jr., Denton, Texas, 4-3 (215-188, 175-193, 237-174, 202-217, 248-224, 193-212, 256-211); Chris Warren, Grants Pass, Ore, def. Chris Loschetter, Avon, Ohio, 4-3 (232-204, 266-192, 218-232, 204-252, 237-192, 206-213, 225-190); Tommy Delutz Jr., Flushing, N.Y., def. Brian LeClair, Athens, N.Y., 4-1 (215-158, 238-207, 228-224, 244-246, 248-209); Mike Machuga, Erie, Pa., def. Dino Castillo, Carrollton, Texas, 4-1 (289-158, 218-162, 180-258, 236-227, 237-227).

ROUND OF 64 - (\$1,800 each)

Patrick Girard, Jonquiere, Quebec, 2,800; Rick Steelsmith, Wichita, Kan., 2,799; Steve Weber, Chalmette, La, 2,790; Riga Kalfas, Florence, Ky., 2,782; Brad Angelo, Lockport, N.Y., 2,776; Chris Johnson, Garland, Texas, 2,757; Tony Reyes, San Bruno, Calif., 2,751; Jeff Carter, Springfield, Ill., 2,751; Michael Fagan, Greenlawn, N.Y., 2,744; Mike Scroggins, Amarillo, Texas, 2,741; Chris Hayden, Orlando, Fla., 2,726; Paul Fleming, Bedford, Texas, 2,723; Michael Haugen Jr., Cave Creek, Ariz., 2,716; Ryan Shafer, Horseheads, N.Y., 2,715; Marv Sargent, Temecula, Calif., 2,711; Patrick Allen, Wesley Chapel, Fla., 2,710; DJ Archer, Mineral Wells, Texas, 2,702; Billy Oatman, Chicago, 2,700; David Traber, Hebron, Ill., 2,698; Mike Edwards, Tulsa, Okla., 2,688; Sean Rash, Wichita, Kan., 2,682; John Burkett, Southlake, Texas, 2,672; Gregory Thompson Jr., Dayton, Ohio, 2,664; Edward VanDaniker Jr., Essex, Md., 2,656; Dale Traber, Cedarburg, Wis., 2,650; Danny Wiseman, Baltimore, 2,648; Chad Kloss, Greenfield, Wis., 2,639; Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 2,630; Chris Collins, Savannah, Ga., 2,622; David Tessman, Lake Placid, Fla., 2,584; Jim Pratt, Glendale, Ariz., 2,555; Norm Duke, Clermont, Fla., 0, WD. 300 Games – Chris Barnes, Brian Himmler.

Patrick Allen Takes Title #9 in Iowa

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Iowa – Though the debate over who is the best left-handed bowler on the Denny's PBA Tour will never end, Patrick Allen can lay stake to that claim for at least one week.



pba photo

Patrick Allen

can lay stake to that claim for at least one week.

In a final round featuring the top three lefties currently on Tour, Allen captured his ninth career Denny's PBA Tour title and second this season with a

218-169 win over Parker Bohn III to win the 2007 Go RVing Classic at Thunderbowl.

Allen took advantage of some uncharacteristic mistakes by the 30-time titlist and PBA Hall of Famer Bohn, who missed a 7-pin conversion in the 5th frame and left a 6-8 split and opened in the 8th frame to give the top-seeded Allen the breaks he needed.

As the top seed, Allen exacted some revenge in stepladder finals. The previous three times a top seed had won in the stepladder format, Allen was the victim in the title match including this season's 2007 Dick Weber Open where he fell to Jason Couch in the title match.

"Parker bowled a good game even tough he shot 170. He only missed the pocket twice, but that open in the 8th frame was the real

momentum-swinger," Allen said. "Fortunately for me, I made a good ball change on the right lane and a marginal shot in the 9th carried and that was the difference."

The fourth-seeded Bohn flagged the 7-pin in the 5th while Allen was working on a double. Allen threw his third consecutive strike in the 6th, but then made a crucial mistake of his own, leaving the 4-6-8-10 split and opening in the 7th. Bohn responded with a double but then left the 6-8 and opened, allowing Allen to clinch the match with a strike in the 9th frame.

Bohn averaged 249 in winning the first

three matches to advance to the title match. He defeated second-seeded Jason Couch, who was looking for his third title of the season, 245-193, in the semifinal. Bohn also defeated third-seeded Riga Kalfas, 235-205, who was making his first career TV appearance, and fifth-seeded Mike Edwards, 267-191.

Allen (Wesley Chapel, Fla.) took home \$25,000 for the win while Bohn (Jackson, N.J.) earned \$13,000 for second. Couch (Clermont, Fla.) took home \$6,500 for third, Kalfas (Florence, Ky.) earned \$5,500 for fourth while Edwards (Tulsa, Okla.) earned \$5,000 for fifth.

2007 Go RVing Classic
Thunderbowl, Council Bluffs, Iowa - February 18, 2007

CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND	Totals	Prize
1. Patrick Allen, Wesley Chapel, Florida	218 (1 game)	\$25,000
2. Parker Bohn III, Jackson, New Jersey	916 (4 games)	\$13,000
3. Jason Couch, Clermont, Florida	193 (1 game)	\$ 6,500
4. Riga Kalfas, Florence, Kentucky	205 (1 game)	\$ 5,500
5. Mike Edwards, Tulsa, Oklahoma	191 (1 game)	\$ 5,000

SCORES – In the first match, Bohn def. Edwards, 267-191; in the second match, Bohn def. Kalfas, 235-205; in the semifinal, Bohn def. Couch, 245-193; and in the final, Allen def. Bohn, 218-169. This is Allen's ninth career Denny's PBA Tour title.

ROUND OF 16

Nathan Bohr, Wichita, Kan., 9-9-0, 7,660, \$4,000; Mike DeVaney, Temecula, Calif., 11-7-0, 7,644, \$3,700; Danny Wiseman, Baltimore, 10-8-0, 7,589, \$3,500; Pete Weber, St. Ann, Mo., 8-9-1, 7,551, \$3,000; Chris Barnes, Double Oak, Texas, 10-7-1, 7,517, \$2,900; Patrick Girard, Jonquiere, Quebec, 10-8-0, 7,502, \$2,800; Rick Steelsmith, Wichita, Kan., 7-11-0, 7,380, \$2,700; Michael Haugen Jr, Cave Creek, Ariz., 9-9-0, 7,319, \$2,650; Jack Jurek, Lackawanna, N.Y., 8-10-0, 7,312, \$2,600; Marv Sargent, Temecula, Calif., 7-11-0, 7,219, \$2,550; Michael Machuga, Erie, Pa., 8-10-0, 7,100, \$2,500.

ROUND OF 32 - (\$2,200 each)

Mike Scroggins, Amarillo, Texas, 5-4-0, 5,253; Chad Kloss, Greenfield, Wis., 5-4-0, 5,239; Sean Rash, Wichita, Kan., 2-7-0, 5,228; Ryan Shafer, Horseheads, N.Y., 5-4-0, 5,213; Dave D'Entremont, Middleburg Heights, Ohio, 4-5-0, 5,208; Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 5-4-0, 5,194; Tom Baker, King, N.C., 4-5-0, 5,172; Paul Fleming, Bedford, Texas, 5-4-0, 5,172; John May, Lincolnton, N.C., 4-5-0, 5,159; Dale Traber, Cedarburg, Wis., 4-5-0, 5,153; David Tessman, Lake Placid, Fla., 3-6-0, 5,097; Eugene McCune, Munster, Ind., 2-7-0, 5,059; Doug Kent, Newark, N.Y., 3-6-0, 4,987; Chris Warren, Grants Pass, Ore, 3-6-0, 4,970; Mike Wolfe, New Albany, Ind., 3-6-0, 4,956; Tony Reyes, San Bruno, Calif., 3-6-0, 4,925. 300 Games – Jason Couch, Patrick Girard, Michael Haugen Jr., David Tessman, Dave D'Entremont.

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Mar 7 Bill McCorkle
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Mar 21 Steve Wunderlich
Mar 28 Surprise Guest

April Schedule

Apr 5 Jim Dressel (quarterly review)
Apr 12 12 Anniversary Show (6th yr)
Apr 19 Jeff Carter
Apr 26 Mike Luongo



Couch Wins Back-to-Back PBA Titles

HENDERSON, Nev. – Jason Couch has done just about everything in his 15-year Denny's Professional Bowlers Association Tour career, but he can now add back-to-back titles to his already impressive resume.

Couch defeated 41-year-old rookie Billy Oatman, who was attempting to become the second African-American in history to win a Denny's PBA Tour title, 236-228, Sunday at Strike Zone at Sunset Station in a match



Jason Couch and wife Kim

that came down to the final shot.

Couch, who earned his 15th career Denny's PBA Tour title, captured his second title in as many weeks after winning last week's Dick Weber Open, becoming the first since Tommy Jones in 2005 to win back-to-back. A four-week hot streak has seen Couch go from 27th in the PBA World Point Rankings to 1st.

"I don't think I've ever had a run like this. In 1999 I made a show and two weeks later won my first Tournament of Champions, but never have I gone third, sixth, win, win," Couch said. "I had an opportunity to put a lot of heat on (Oatman) in the 7th frame and I left a 6-pin. Either way, I knew I'd have to get up in the 9th and 10th and do something

big. Billy is a phenomenal talent and I have no doubt in my mind he'll end up in the winner's circle."

Couch trailed early against Oatman, a Cinderella story who earned an exemption for this season only after exempt bowler Ritchie Allen deferred his exemption due to an injury. Oatman had finished 11th at the Denny's PBA Tour Trials, one spot shy of an exemption.

He showed a lot of poise in the title match, striking four consecutive times in frames 6-9 while Couch had a nine-spares in the 7th to let Oatman take over the lead by two pins. Showing why he's a future PBA Hall of Famer, Couch stepped up and struck twice in the 10th to put the pressure back on Oatman. Needing two strikes to win, Oatman struck with his first shot, and hit the pocket with his second shot, but the 10-pin stood up, giving Couch the win.

Couch advanced to the title match with a 238-230 win over Mike Scroggins. Couch struck in five of the first six frames to take

an early lead but Scroggins struck three times in frames 6-9 to force Couch to double in the 10th for the win.

Oatman advanced to the title match with a 207-181 win over Brad Angelo. Oatman took the early lead with three strikes in the first four frames while Angelo had 2-10 splits in the 1st and 4th frames. Oatman left a pocket 7-10 split in the 5th frame giving Angelo an opening, but he could not capitalize and Oatman struck with his first ball in the 10th to clinch the win.

Couch (Clermont, Fla.) earned \$25,000 for the win, while Oatman (Chicago) took home \$13,000 for second. Angelo (Lockport, N.Y.) earned \$6,500 for third and Scroggins (Amarillo, Texas) earned \$5,500 for fourth.

2007 Motel 6 Classic

Strike Zone at Sunset Station, Henderson, Nev. - January 28, 2007

CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND

1. Jason Couch, Clermont, Florida
2. Billy Oatman, Chicago, Illinois
3. Brad Angelo, Lockport, New York
4. Mike Scroggins, Amarillo, Texas

SCORES – In the first match, Couch def. Scroggins, 238-230; in the second match, Oatman defeated Angelo, 207-181; and in the final, Couch def. Oatman, 236-228. This is Couch's 15th career Denny's PBA Tour title.

ROUND OF 8

Billy Oatman def. Chris Barnes (\$4000), 4-3 (234-266, 207-246, 279-259, 265-203, 228-278, 253-227, 236-205); Brad Angelo, def. Andrew Cain (\$3500), 4-1 (275-200, 204-243, 214-197, 224-223, 247-229); Jason Couch, def. Eugene McCune (\$3700), 4-2 (247-220, 212-230, 246-259, 235-232, 236-228, 208-191); Mike Scroggins, def. Patrick Allen (\$5000), 4-3 (255-170, 217-268, 279-232, 221-258, 276-259, 227-251, 237-225).

ROUND OF 16

Patrick Allen, def. Tommy Jones (\$2550), 4-1 (258-204, 220-210, 243-242, 279-289, 245-176); Billy Oatman, def. Walter Ray Williams Jr. (\$2600), 4-1 (212-213, 207-195, 227-217, 238-215, 204-192); Jason Couch, def. Marv Sargent (\$2500), 4-0 (237-194, 257-236, 258-247, 245-234); Andrew Cain, def. Bill O'Neill (\$2650), 4-1 (257-209, 202-203, 248-213, 248-238, 213-188); Chris Barnes, def. Parker Bohn III (\$2700), 4-1 (217-258, 289-258, 226-213, 247-244, 266-247); Mike Scroggins, def. Steve Jaros (\$2900), 4-2 (257-246, 236-244, 239-221, 247-226, 257-268, 247-163); Brad Angelo, def. Dino Castillo (\$3000), 4-3 (167-268, 264-203, 247-202, 170-194, 212-223, 227-181, 259-236); Eugene McCune, def. Joe Ciccone (\$2800), 4-2 (182-190, 244-212, 216-178, 198-193, 180-220, 226-207).

ROUND OF 32

Brad Angelo, Lockport, N.Y., def. Troy Wollenbecker (\$2200), Toledo, Ohio, 4-2 (244-205, 225-226, 222-269, 244-162, 236-214, 235-204); Mike Scroggins, Amarillo, Texas, def. Joel Reyes (\$2200), Chula Vista, Calif., 4-2 (277-202, 221-278, 244-219, 237-235, 203-258, 227-205); Chris Barnes, Double Oak, Texas, def. Nathan Bohr (\$2200), Wichita, Kan., 4-2 (212-214, 238-201, 266-224, 266-203, 196-203, 279-225); Joe Ciccone, Buffalo, N.Y., def. Ryan Shafer (\$2200), Horseheads, N.Y., 4-2 (279-234, 186-213, 211-205, 227-212, 166-223, 221-202); Bill O'Neill, Levittown, Pa., def. Mike DeVaney (\$2200), Temecula, Calif., 4-1 (299-211, 212-190, 200-223, 227-212, 221-200); Patrick Allen, Wesley Chapel, Fla., def. Mike Edwards (\$2200), Tulsa, Okla., 4-0 (259-245, 278-258, 270-183, 268-218); Billy Oatman, Chicago, def. Brian Himmler (\$2200), Cincinnati, 4-0 (208-198, 235-176, 233-200, 238-183); Jason Couch, Clermont, Fla., def. Jack Jurek (\$2200), Lackawanna, N.Y., 4-1 (256-246, 225-233, 265-202, 258-255, 265-238); Dino Castillo, Carrollton, Texas, def. Danny Wiseman (\$2200), Baltimore, 4-0 (258-203, 226-195, 279-223, 237-211); Steve Jaros, Yorkville, Ill., def. Rick Steelsmith (\$2200), Wichita, Kan., 4-0 (299-248, 237-175, 247-188, 247-189); Parker Bohn III, Jackson, N.J., def. David Tessman (\$2200), Lake Placid, Fla., 4-2 (263-192, 212-215, 278-244, 269-238, 232-256, 245-189); Eugene McCune, Munster, Ind., def. Chris Hayden (\$2200), Orlando, Fla., 4-2 (248-244, 226-235, 204-233, 276-247, 246-236, 255-237); Andrew Cain, Scottsdale, Ariz., def. Riga Kalfas (\$2200), Florence, Ky., 4-3 (196-203, 257-234, 202-279, 254-202, 196-244, 259-226, 265-206); Tommy Jones, Simpsonville, S.C., def. Dale Traber (\$2200), Cedarburg, Wis., 4-2 (260-226, 144-220, 300-233, 199-231, 215-200, 258-203); Walter Ray Williams Jr., Ocala, Fla., def. Chris Loschetter (\$2200), Avon, Ohio, 4-1 (246-191, 268-216, 191-213, 247-244, 300-256); Marv Sargent, Temecula, Calif., def. Wes Malott (\$2200), Argyle, Texas, 4-2 (279-189, 234-289, 212-254, 205-203, 223-215, 264-258).

ROUND OF 64 (\$1800 each)

Tommy Delutz Jr., Flushing, N.Y., 3,073; Sean Rash, Wichita, Kan., 3,069; Mike Wolfe, New Albany, Ind., 3,051; Patrick Healey Jr., Mexico, 3,048; Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 3,048; Chris Collins, Savannah, Ga., 3,044; Richard Wolfe, Vienna, Va., 3,043; Dennis Horan Jr., Temecula, Calif., 3,040; Tom Baker, King, N.C., 3,035; Steven Villaneuva, North Las Vegas, Nev., 3,031; Pete Weber, St. Ann, Mo., 3,019, \$1,800; Tim Criss, Bel Air, Md., 3,014, \$1,800; Chris Warren, Grants Pass, Ore., 3,014; Tony Reyes, San Bruno, Calif., 3,013; Brian LeClair, Athens, N.Y., 3,004; David Traber, Hebron, Ill., 2,996; Del Ballard Jr., N. Richland Hills, Texas, 2,994; Brian Voss, Alpharetta, Ga., 2,983; Patrick Girard, Jonquiere, Quebec, 2,973; John May, Lincolnton, N.C., 2,968; Mika Koivuniemi, Hartland, Mich., 2,963; Eric Forikel, Las Vegas, 2,952; Mike Machuga, Erie, Pa., 2,932; Michael Haugen Jr., Cave Creek, Ariz., 2,909; Gregory Thompson Jr., Dayton, Ohio, 2,893; Jason Hurd, Titusville, Fla., 2,839; Chris Johnson, Garland, Texas, 2,787; Brian Kretzer, Dayton, Ohio, 2,787; Jim Pratt, Glendale, Ariz., 2,467; Jeff Carter, Springfield, Ill., 2,421, WD; Michael Fagan, Greenlawn, N.Y., 2,202, WD; Paul Fleming, Bedford, Texas, 1,633, WD, \$1,800.

Big Fin Returns to Win in Texas

EL PASO, Texas – The Big Fin is back. Mika Koivuniemi ended the longest title drought of his career, knocking off new roommate Chris Barnes, 214-185, to win the



Mika Koivuniemi

2007 Sun City Classic at El Paso Lanes for his seventh career Denny's Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) Tour title.

The Finland native and 2003-04 PBA Player of the Year won for the first time since the 2005 Baby Ruth Real Deal Classic, a span of 38 events. He and Barnes just recently became roommates and Koivuniemi treated him rudely in their first-ever match-up on television.

Barnes held a slim lead before leaving a 1-2-10 washout and opening in the 7th frame. Koivuniemi responded with four

consecutive strikes to take over the match, marking in the 10th frame for the win.

Koivuniemi has struggled this season by his standards, coming into the week with just one TV appearance and a No. 19 world ranking.

"It's been a long time. It really feels great," said Koivuniemi. "A guy like Barnes doesn't usually give you a chance, but he did give me a chance and luckily I took advantage."

"It was just an amazing week. I had to bowl a 246 the last game Thursday just to make match play and two of my matches went seven games and then I had to come from behind to win the title."

As the No. 30 seed Koivuniemi became the lowest seed to win a single elimination match play event since the format was implemented in 2001-02.

Koivuniemi advanced to the title match with a 214-202 win over Patrick Allen. Allen opened three times in the first four frames, but mounted a huge comeback with a five-bagger after his third open. A spare in the 10th, however, meant Koivuniemi only needed a mark in the 10th and he struck for his fourth win in six tries over Allen on TV.

Barnes advanced to the title match with a 269-257 win over Mike Edwards. Edwards ran off eight consecutive strikes after an open in the 2nd frame, but Barnes matched him shot-for-shot to maintain a one-pin lead. Edwards struck and spared in the 10th forcing Barnes to strike with his first ball in the 10th. He struck three times for good measure to deny Edwards his first title since 1994.

Koivuniemi (Hartland, Mich.) earned \$25,000 and an exemption for the 2007-08 season for the win. Barnes (Double Oak, Texas) took home \$13,000 for second while Edwards (Tulsa, Okla.) earned \$6,500 for third and Allen (Wesley Chapel, Fla.) earned \$5,500 for fourth.

2007 Sun City Classic

Oasis Lanes, El Paso, Texas - February 4, 2007

CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND

1. Mika Koivuniemi, Hartland, Michigan
2. Chris Barnes, Double Oak, Texas
3. Mike Edwards, Tulsa, Oklahoma
4. Patrick Allen, Wesley Chapel, Florida

SCORES – In the first match, Koivuniemi def. Allen, 214-202; in the second match, Barnes defeated Edwards, 269-257; and in the final, Koivuniemi def. Barnes, 214-185. This is Koivuniemi's seventh career Denny's PBA Tour title.

ROUND OF 8

Mika Koivuniemi, def. Dino Castillo (\$5,000), 4-3 (245-198, 222-208, 205-228, 200-229, 192-232, 255-223, 245-238); Patrick Allen, def. Brian Kretzer (\$3,500), 4-1 (227-209, 156-208, 214-214, 255-193, 268-169); Mike Edwards, def. Edward VanDaniker Jr. (\$3,700), 4-2 (187-189, 211-212, 257-204, 288-266, 205-182, 244-227); Chris Barnes, def. Steve Jaros (\$4,000), 4-2 (277-248, 203-260, 257-222, 278-246, 238-267, 259-258).

ROUND OF 16

Chris Barnes, def. Tony Reyes (\$3000), 4-3 (213-231, 247-168, 249-227, 225-227, 215-210, 246-248, 256-245); Mika Koivuniemi, def. Riga Kalfas (\$2800), 4-2 (237-246, 233-248, 247-225, 259-217, 257-213, 141-179, 233-194); Edward VanDaniker Jr., def. Del Ballard Jr. (\$2700), 4-3 (188-212, 246-213, 269-248, 197-255, 187-215, 178-160, 237-210); Dino Castillo, def. Sean Rash (\$2550), 4-1 (262-246, 239-244, 233-226, 265-240, 247-221); Brian Kretzer, def. Eugene McCune (\$2500), 4-1 (279-213, 237-238, 249-179, 236-225, 245-232); Steve Jaros, def. Chris Johnson (\$2650), 4-3 (160-193, 236-194, 276-277, 257-246, 207-225, 257-199, 255-217); Patrick Allen, def. Patrick Healey Jr. (\$2900), 4-3 (209-280, 267-196, 244-214, 198-191, 227-245, 235-236, 224-210); Mike Edwards, def. Ryan Shafer (\$2600), 4-2 (239-190, 237-255, 235-233, 267-255, 238-279, 236-235).

ROUND OF 32 - (\$2,200 each)

Patrick Healey Jr., Mexico, def. Brad Angelo, Lockport, N.Y., 4-3 (237-240, 237-275, 235-268, 248-202, 277-211, 279-225, 237-211); Steve Jaros, Yorkville, Ill., def. Jason Couch, Clermont, Fla., 4-1 (235-244, 246-201, 279-219, 204-181, 246-210); Dino Castillo, Carrollton, Texas, def. Ronnie Russell, Indianapolis, 4-3 (202-242, 134-269, 216-237, 300-221, 254-199, 227-178, 215-199); Ryan Shafer, Horseheads, N.Y., def. Wes Malott, Argyle, Texas, 4-3 (181-225, 242-204, 233-258, 224-256, 279-266, 258-243, 240-195); Brian Kretzer, Dayton, Ohio, def. Joe Ciccone, Buffalo, N.Y., 4-1 (235-243, 237-185, 268-191, 268-208, 290-155); Chris Barnes, Double Oak, Texas, def. Rick Steelsmith, Wichita, Kan., 4-2 (226-200, 280-206, 246-224, 221-253, 224-229, 289-248); Mika Koivuniemi, Hartland, Mich., def. Mike DeVaney, Temecula, Calif., 4-1 (206-195, 216-286, 163-154, 255-222, 219-180); Del Ballard Jr., N. Richland Hills, Texas, def. Tim Criss, Bel Air, Md., 4-2 (257-214, 247-194, 236-237, 213-263, 259-236, 221-193); Patrick Allen, Wesley Chapel, Fla., def. Mike Wolfe, New Albany, Ind., 4-3 (162-189, 211-246, 265-212, 168-205, 277-247, 235-234, 268-215); Chris Johnson, Garland, Texas, def. Doug Kent, Newark, N.Y., 4-3 (210-200, 241-232, 206-245, 224-265, 167-300, 258-258, 245-214); Sean Rash, Wichita, Kan, def. Chris Loschetter, Avon, Ohio, 4-2 (177-244, 244-198, 236-198, 247-236, 232-249, 266-225); Mike Edwards, Tulsa, Okla., def. Jack Jurek, Lackawanna, N.Y., 4-3 (200-230, 250-220, 255-237, 248-179, 245-262, 226-259, 233-232); Eugene McCune, Munster, Ind., def. Tommy Jones, Simpsonville, S.C., 4-2 (218-226, 210-244, 247-215, 226-178, 216-188, 232-197); Tony Reyes, San Bruno, Calif., def. Tommy Delutz Jr., Flushing, N.Y., 4-3 (254-212, 187-253, 215-242, 264-239, 266-278, 290-279, 289-259); Riga Kalfas, Florence, Ky., def. Brian Voss, Alpharetta, Ga., 4-2 (221-216, 227-268, 265-225, 177-242, 258-221, 300-241); Edward VanDaniker Jr., Essex, Md., def. Chris Collins, Savannah, Ga., 4-1 (258-209, 198-227, 258-176, 218-188, 213-181).

ROUND OF 64 - (\$1,800 each)

Marv Sargent, Temecula, Calif., 3,103; Michael Haugen Jr., Cave Creek, Ariz., 3,102; David Traber, Hebron, Ill., 3,096; Tom Daugherty, Tampa, Fla., 3,093; Troy Wollenbecker, Toledo, Ohio, 3,086; Michael Fagan, Greenlawn, N.Y., 3,085; Tom Baker, King, N.C., 3,083; Jeff Carter, Springfield, Ill., 3,073; Steve Weber, Chalmette, La., 3,069; Gregory Thompson Jr., Dayton, Ohio, 3,065; Mike Scroggins, Amarillo, Texas, 3,054; Paul Fleming, Bedford, Texas, 3,030; Dale Traber, Cedarburg, Wis., 3,029; Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 3,017; Danny Wiseman, Baltimore, 2,996; Bobby Stives, El Paso, Texas, 2,984; Chris Hayden, Orlando, Fla., 2,953; Patrick Girard, Jonquiere, Quebec, 2,946; Brian LeClair, Athens, N.Y., 2,933; Dave D'Entremont, Middleburg Heights, Ohio, 2,933; DJ Archer, Mineral Wells, Texas, 2,930; Brian Himmler, Cincinnati, 2,918; Richard Wolfe, Vienna, Va., 2,915; Bill O'Neill, Levittown, Pa., 2,914; Mike Machuga, Erie, Pa., 2,903; Chad Kloss, Greenfield, Wis., 2,897; Parker Bohn III, Jackson, N.J., 2,886; Chris Warren, Grants Pass, Ore., 2,882; Billy Oatman, Chicago, 2,802; Jim Pratt, Glendale, Ariz., 2,780; John May, Lincolnton, N.C., 2,775; David Tessman, Lake Placid, Fla., 2,775.

300 games – Chad Kloss, Chris Collins, Ronnie Russell, Doug Kent, Tim Criss, Dino Castillo, Doug Kent.

The Big Show Returns

The PBA Tour returned to Las Vegas after an absence of several years for the Motel 6 Classic at the StrikeZone in Sunset Station. Many of the tour veterans reflected back on their memories of the Showboat Invitational and all the glitz that surrounded that special week. It all dated back to 1960 and for many years was always known as the oldest stop on the PBA tour. If you were a spectator or a former participant, the one thing that always comes up in conversation was the wheelbarrow full of silver dollars being delivered to the winner. Looking back I'll bet many of them wish they had kept the coins that have increased in value over the years.

The talented and popular Jason Couch, who is currently one of the hottest players on tour, posted his second win in a row by defeating 41-year-old PBA rookie Billy Oatman 236-228. Couch said he figures it won't be long before Oatman wins a tournament.

The pros generated a lot of excitement with the local rollers. It prompted a former pupil to call me late one night to tell me how excited he was to meet and talk with Walter Ray Williams. He phoned later on to go over the list of pros he was paired with in the pro-am including Pete Weber - who he will always remember being fun and helpful. The pro-am format called for the pros to move every five frames - that gave everyone a chance to be paired with six top professionals. I heard by the grapevine that the PBA and the StrikeZone are to continue for two more years.

This year's High School State Bowling Championship was held at The Orleans and featured a strong field of outstanding prep bowlers. Bob McKee, coach of the defending girls champions from Coronado had some anxious moments going into the final match. His young

ladies had won a perfect 42 games during regular season and a perfect 9 in the regionals. In the championship match against Palo Verde, they got off to a fast start in the 1st game and never looked back winning by over 300 pins. With only one senior on his 1st team, they will definitely be the team to beat next year.

In the boys division, Clark High School chargers slipped by Chaparral in a match that went wire-to-wire with Clark taking home their first Nevada 4A State Championship. I'm sure many of these young prepsters will go on to make a name at the collegiate level.

Entries are coming in on a daily basis for the 17th Annual National Golden Ladies Classic set for March 5-8 at The Orleans in Las Vegas. I'm deeply indebted to

veteran writers Dick Evans and Joe Lyou for the kind words they have written about my tournament. I know it's played a major roll in attracting response from people that said they had never heard of the event until this year. Three time GLC winner Shirley Levens, who has a center in Florida, was in town for a little R&R and said she was still battling a knee injury and said she will not be able to participate this year. The good news, the expansion of her bowling center is starting to pay off.

The bowling industry is still mourning the recent passing of Dick Stoeffler, who made his mark both on and off the lanes, and passed away a victim of cancer. He won many honors over the years, but the one that surprised him the most was the presentation in 2003 as the recipient of the prestigious Sam Levine Flowers for the Living Award. (editors note: Jeanette Robinson is also a recipient of the Flowers for the Living Award.)

A thought for today
I will refrain from improving anybody but myself.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
LIVE FROM LAS VEGAS
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Jeanette Robinson



Jeanette Robinson is a PWBA champion and member of seven Halls of Fame

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Feb 16-June 30 **The BTM**, High Sierra Lanes, Reno, NV
- Feb 17-June 30 **USBC Open Championships**, National Bowling Stadium, Reno, NV
- USBC Bowler's Journal Championships**, Grand Sierra Lanes, Reno, NV
- SASBA South Central**, TimberLodge Lanes, Monticello, AR
- GBT Michigan Open**, Royal Scot Lanes, Lansing, MI
- National Golden Ladies**, The Orleans Bowling Center, Las Vegas, NV
- GBT Ft. Wayne Open**, Georgetown Lanes, Ft. Wayne, IN
- PBA Circle City Classic**, Woodland Bowl, Indianapolis, IN
- GBT Columbus Open**, HP Lanes, Columbus, OH
- SASBA M/M Doubles**, 300 Bowl, Conroe, TX
- PBA Denny's World Championship**, Spectrum Lanes, Wyoming, MI
- SASBA South Central**, Southern Lanes, Bowling Green, KY
- PBA Tournament of Champions**, Bradley Bowl, Windsor Locks, CT
- High Roller Senior Easter Classic**, Samis Town, Las Vegas, NV
- GBT Wichita Open**, Northrock Lanes, Wichita, KS
- SASBA M/G Doubles**, Dynamic Lanes, Houston, TX
- GBT Texas Open**, Interstate Lanes, Round Rock, TX
- USBC Women's Championships**, Charlotte, North Carolina
- GBT Houston Doubles Open**, Emerald Lanes, Houston, TX
- SASBA SS Champs/SS Non-Champs**, Fiesta Lanes, New Braunfels, TX
- PBA Senior Manassas Open**, Bowl America, Manassas, VA
- USBC Queens and Senior Queens**, AMF Carolina Lanes, Matthews, NC
- SASBA**, Bowlarama, Rowlett, TX
- PBA Hammer Ladies & Legends**, Cherry Bowl, Rockford, IL
- SASBA South Central**, Conway Family Bowl, Conway, AR
- PBA Senior Northern Illinois Classic**, Fairhaven Lanes, Mundelein, IL
- SASBA Firecracker**, Plano Super Bowl, Plano, TX
- International Bowl Expo**, Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas, NV
- July High Roller**, Samis Town Bowl, Las Vegas, NV
- SASBA SS**, All Star Lanes, Shreveport, LA
- SASBA South Central**, Playmor Lanes, Huntsville, AL
- PBA Senior Tucson Open**, Golden Pin Lanes, Tucson, AZ
- PBA Senior U.S. Open**, Suncoast Bowling Center, Las Vegas, NV
- PBA Senior Epicenter Classic**, Epicenter Lanes, Klamath Falls, OR
- USBC Senior Championship, National Bowling Stadium**, Reno, NV
- PBA Senior Northern California Classic**, Harvest Park Bowl, Brentwood, CA
- SASBA SS/Senior Doubles**, Holiday Lanes, Oklahoma City, OK
- USBC Junior Gold Championships**, Buffalo, NY
- USBC Senior Masters, National Bowling Stadium**, Reno, NV
- SASBA**, 300 Bowl, Conroe, TX
- SASBA South Central**, Dixie Bowl, Meridian, MS
- PBA Senior Council Bluffs Open**, Thunderbowl, Council Bluffs, IA
- SASBA**, Copperfield Bowl, Houston, TX
- PBA Senior Hammond Open**, Olympia Lanes, Hammond, IN
- SASBA South Central M/G Doubles**, Winchester Bowl, Memphis, TN
- PBA Senior Decatur Open**, Spare Time Lanes, Decatur, IL
- PBA Senior Dick Weber Invitational**, West Country Lanes, Ballwin, MO
- SASBA**, All Star Lanes, Shreveport, LA
- SASBA South Central**, Millennium Bowl, Little Rock, AR
- SASBA South Central Labor Day Blowout**, Lafayette Lanes, Lafayette, LA

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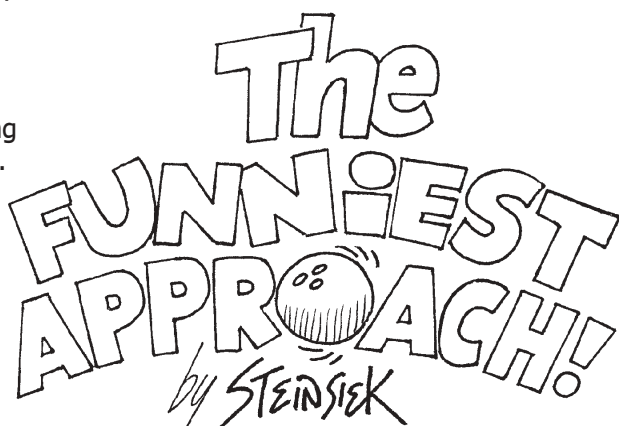
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THE FUNNY PAGE

Richard Millhouse Nixon was the first U.S. president whose name contains all the letters from the word "criminal." The second?
William Jefferson Clinton
(Please don't tell me you're SURPRISED!!!)

XXX

Sometimes, we just need to remember what the rules of life really are: You only need two tools - WD-40 and Duct Tape. If it doesn't move and should, use the WD-40; if it shouldn't move and does, use the duct tape.

XXX

The Blonde In The Snow

It was snowing heavily and blowing to the point that visibility was almost zero when the little blonde got off work. She made her way to her car and wondered how she was going to make it home. She sat in her car while it warmed up and thought about her situation.

She finally remembered her daddy's advice that if she got caught in a blizzard she should wait for a snow plow to come by and follow it. That way she would not get stuck in a snow drift. This made her feel much better and sure enough in a little while a snow plow went by and she started to follow it.

As she followed the snow plow she was feeling very smug as they continued and she was not having any problem with the blizzard conditions.

After an hour had passed, she was somewhat surprised when the snowplow stopped and the driver got out and came back to her car and signaled for her to roll down her window.

The snow plow driver wanted to know if she was all right as she had been following him for a long time. She said that she was fine and told him of her daddy's advice to follow a snow plow when caught in a blizzard.

The driver replied that it was ok with him and she could continue if she wanted, but he was finished with the Wal-Mart parking lot and was going over to Sears next.

XXX

A Polish immigrant went to the DMV to apply for a driver's license. First, of course, he had to take an eye sight test The optician showed him a card with the letters

'C Z W I X N O S T A C Z.' "Can you read this?" the optician asked. "Read it?" the Polish guy replied, "I know the guy."

XXX

Marriage is a relationship in which one person is always right, and the other is a husband.

XXX

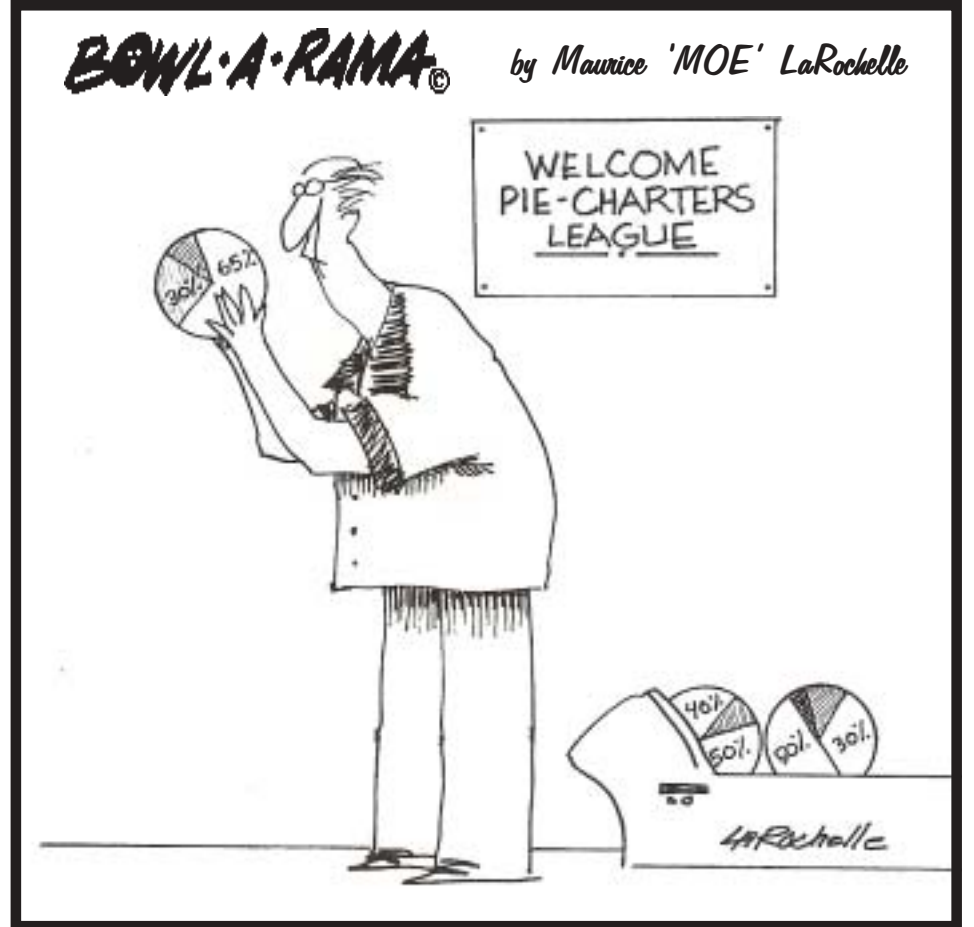
WARM MILK

The 98-year-old Mother Superior from Ireland was dying. The nuns gathered around her bed trying to make her last journey comfortable.

They gave her some warm milk to drink but she refused. Then one of the nuns took the glass back to the kitchen. Remembering a bottle of Irish whiskey received as a gift the previous Christmas, she opened and poured a generous amount into the warm milk.

Back at Mother Superior's bed, she held the glass to her lips. Mother drank a little, then a little more and before they knew it, she had drunk the whole glass down to the last drop.

"Mother," the nuns asked with earnest, "please give us some wisdom before you die." She raised herself up in bed and with a pious look on her face said, "Don't sell that cow."



THE BOTTLE OF WINE

For all of us who are married, were married, wish You were married, or wish you weren't married, this Is something to smile about the next time you see a Bottle of wine:

Sally was driving home from one of her business Trips in Northern Arizona when she saw an elderly Navajo woman walking on the side of the road.

As the trip was a long and quiet one, she stopped The car and asked the Navajo woman if she would like A ride.

With a silent nod of thanks, the woman got into The car.

Resuming the journey, Sally tried in vain to make A bit of small talk with the Navajo woman. The old Woman just sat silently, looking intently at Everything she saw, studying every little detail, Until she noticed a brown bag on the seat next to Sally.

"What in bag?" asked the old woman.

Sally looked down at the brown bag and said, "It's A bottle of wine. I got it for my husband."

The Navajo woman was silent for another moment or Two.

Then speaking with the quiet wisdom of an elder, She said: "Good trade...."

XXX

Kids are Quick

TEACHER: Maria, go to the map and find North America .

MARIA: Here it is.

TEACHER: Correct. Now class, who discovered America ?

CLASS: Maria.

TEACHER: John, why are you doing your math multiplication on the floor?

JOHN: You told me to do it without using tables.

TEACHER: Glenn, how do you spell "crocodile?"

GLENN: K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L

TEACHER: No, that's wrong

GLENN: Maybe it is wrong, but you asked me how I spell it.

TEACHER: Donald, what is the chemical formula for water?

DONALD: H I J K L M N O.

TEACHER: What are you talking about?

DONALD: Yesterday you said it's H to O.

TEACHER: Winnie, name one important thing we have today that we didn't have ten years ago.

WINNIE: Me!

TEACHER: Glen, why do you always get so dirty?

GLEN: Well, I'm a lot closer to the ground than you are.

TEACHER: Millie, give me a sentence starting with "I."

MILLIE: I is...

TEACHER: No, Millie.... Always say, "I am."

MILLIE: All right... "I am the ninth letter of the alphabet."

TEACHER: George Washington not only chopped down his father's cherry tree, but also admitted it. Now, Louie, do you know why his father didn't punish him?

LOUIS: Because George still had the ax in his hand.

TEACHER: Now, Simon, tell me frankly, do you say prayers before eating?

SIMON: No sir, I don't have to, my Mom is a good cook.

TEACHER: Clyde , your composition on "My Dog" is exactly the same as your brother's. Did you copy his?

CLYDE: No, teacher, it's the same dog.

TEACHER: Harold, what do you call a person who keeps on talking when people are no longer interested?

HAROLD: A teacher

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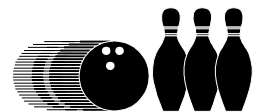
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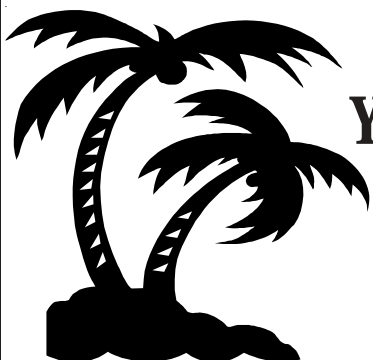
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