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Pezzano Remembers Pluckhahn





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

GOLDEN MEMORIES - A lifetime of enjoying PBA events

Me and the Professional Bowlers Association go way back. Technically, all the way to the beginning. I first laid eyes on a bowling center in 1957, the year I became a junior bowler, and the year that the famous Falstaff Team made an exhibition appearance at Circle Bowl in Dallas, a center my family would later own and manage.

The following year, Eddie Elias got "his boys" together to officially launch the PBA; and to be honest, I don't really recall much about those first few years. As a kid who was more into little league baseball than bowling, the start of bowling as a professional individual sport didn't hit my radar.

I am amazed that some of my octogenarian friends can cite chapter and verse about those early days, but my first vivid memory was seeing a few of the new pros perform in the National Bowling League in 1960, and of course, that had nothing to do with the PBA, except to provide a little competition. It may have also given Elias a little incentive to work harder to find success.

Back then, the Dallas Broncos bowled inside the beautiful Bronco Bowl Arena, and the team included greats like Jack Biondolillo, Carmen Salvino, Tony Lindeman, Jack Aydalotte, and local stars J.B. Solomon and Ronnie Diamond. After the NBL folded, a few of them found success in the PBA. Biondolillo won three PBA titles. Solomon won a pair, and Salvino, with 17 titles, became a superstar and arguably the most enter-

taining player in PBA history. He will be honored this month among the 50 greatest PBA players of all time at the PBA 50th Anniversary Gala in Las Vegas. I will be there as a journalist, and as a fan whose life has been enriched by these legends of our sport.

By 1964, I was watching the tour on television, and that was also the year the All Star Tournament came to my hometown. Some may recall that as the year American Airlines flew Dick Weber and Sylvia Wene from New York to Dallas in one of their shiny new 707's, equipped with a bowling lane, to promote the event and the airline. Weber loved to talk about the match, which was billed as the "Highest" scoring match of all time. It was reported that Wene won 159-157, and Weber always laughed when he claimed "the pilot tilted the plane every time I was up to bowl."

I was 13 years old in '64, and for the first time, I found myself more interested in becoming a bowler than a baseball player. As I watched those great men and women in Dallas' Fair Park Coliseum during that All Star, bowling seemed like a very cool sport. Bob Strampe won the men's title, but it was the Women's champion who got most of the attention. In those days, when journalists were not required to hide their sexism, "the blonde bombshell" Laverne Carter took the crown.

A few years ago, when we hosted a "Ladies and Legends" banquet in Las Vegas in conjunction with the PWBA Regional Players Championship, Laverne enjoyed telling the story about her husband Don

watching her win that title with his good friend Mickey Mantle sitting beside him. She said they almost missed it because they barely made it back from the golf course in time to watch her win.

In the 1970's, the PBA really took off. It was a good decade for us as well. In 1971, I married the love of my life, and CJ learned a lot about bowling very quickly. We spent Saturday afternoons watching Chris and Bo on TV, and the rest of the week in one bowling center or another, bowling in a league or tournament.

By the middle of the decade, I was becoming a pretty good bowler, but still not good enough to be a PBA player. My thoughts then revolved around work and starting a family. Some of the local hot shots were giving the tour a shot, but I was happy just bowling locally and following the tour's progress.

In the middle of the decade, a great lady turned the entire North Texas region on to the joy of partnering with the PBA to promote the sport and the business. Seeing the earlier success of Jamie Brooks in Houston, Jeannie Hulsey brought the 1975 and '76 U S Open Tournaments to her 60-lane Forum Bowl in Grande Prairie, in the heart of the DFW metroplex. Richard Altman took a page from her book to later host several events at his Boulevard Bowl in Oklahoma City, but it was Hulsey who had the longest running and most rewarding relationship with the PBA.

Hulsey raised the bar for host centers everywhere by making the players the center of atten-

tion. She treated them like golfers. To this day, many of the players will say she treated them like family. In addition to the U.S. Opens, she hosted a Women's U.S. Open, the 1979 Great and Greatest Tournament, and The PBA Quaker State Open from 1977 through 1996. It was an incredible era, and thousands of bowlers owe her and her family a huge debt of gratitude for what she did for them and the PBA.

I am one of them. I seriously doubt I ever would have become a bowling writer had she not made my hometown of Dallas one of the landmarks of professional bowling.

In 1980, I finally bit the bullet and joined the PBA. Honestly, even though I had averaged over 200 for several years, I was still not good enough to compete with the big boys. By that time, CJ and I had three rug rats. ... er, children crawling around our carpet, and I needed an excuse to get away!

Seriously, I was about to be 30, and decided to jump in. I was proud to be a PBA member, but because of family and business commitments, I limited my events to regionals only. In '82, I attended PBA School in St Louis. I remember Marshall Holman was a classmate. The highlight of that trip, taken with my friend John Martin, was bowling in a Midwest regional event in Dick Weber's center in Florissant, Missouri. I'm proud to say I took home a check with my Columbia Yellow Dot from that event. I have since found out my

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America's Bowling
Newsmagazine
2850 Red Valley Run
Rockwall, TX 75087

Voice or Fax
(972) 722-8885

Email:
starsandstrikes@sbcglobal.net
website:

starsandstrikesbowling.com



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Publishers & Founders

Jim Goodwin
C.J. Goodwin

Editor

Heather Merryman

Associate Editor

Sue Strickland

Cartoonists

Walt Steinsiek
Moe LaRoche

Technical Advisor

Robert Strickland

Photography

Pete Fedynich
Lou Anne Moore

Columnists/Reporters

Chuck Pezzano
Jeanette Robinson
Bob Rea
Walt Steinsiek
John Jowdy
Susie Minshew

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RECORD TURNOUT EXPECTED FOR 2009 USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

The final numbers are in, and more than 17,000 teams will head to Las Vegas for the 2009 United States Bowling Congress Open Championships, making it the second-largest tournament in the event's 106-year history.

With 17,200 teams, the 2009 event will just miss the all-time high of 17,285 teams, set when the National Bowling Stadium in Reno, Nev., opened its doors in 1995, but will easily eclipse the non-Reno record of 13,222 teams, which was set at the 2005 event in Baton Rouge, La., the tournament's first visit to Louisiana.

The 2009 USBC Open Championships will begin Feb. 21 and run for a record 154 consecutive days before concluding on July 24. During that time, more than 85,000 bowlers will make the journey to Las Vegas to compete for more than \$7 million in prize money. Competition will run from 7 a.m. until 2 a.m. daily.

The event, which has been held in 48 cities in 26 states, will make its first trip to the Entertainment Capital of the World since 1986 when it featured more than 10,000 teams for the first time (10,019). It again will be held at Las Vegas' Cashman Center and feature 60 lanes for the first time outside of the National Bowling Stadium, where the tournament has been held every third year since 1995.

Just like Las Vegas, the Open Champi-

onships has changed and grown in the last 23 years, and the tournament will unveil brand new state-of-the-art video scoreboards in 2009. It will be the first upgrade of its kind since the introduction of automatic scoring at the 1979 event in Tampa, Fla.

"Certainly, the entry numbers speak well for the event as well as the location," said Jack Mordini, USBC Vice President of Tournaments and Events. "Taking the tournament to the entertainment-rich environment in Las Vegas has shown the popularity of the Open Championships and the strong draw that is Las Vegas."

Construction on the one-of-a-kind tournament venue began on Dec. 15 and is expected to conclude on Feb. 1. The amount of lumber used is enough to construct at least five three-bedroom homes, and more than six miles of wiring also is required to handle the tournament's electrical needs.

Bowling fans now have the opportunity to watch the transformation of the venue from an empty convention center to bowling's grandest stage with five interactive cameras placed throughout Cashman Center. The cameras can be accessed through USBCopen.com and will be available throughout the Open Championships so families, fans and friends can keep an eye on the action.

BOWL-O-PINION cont. from pg 2

friend Charlie Allen, publisher of the Ohio and NY Bowler newspapers, was also there, but we didn't know each other at the time.

In the 1980's, I attended every Quaker State Open, and covered some of them as the editor of Joe Gennaro's Bowling News, my first job as a writer. The three that stand out are the 1985, '88 and '89 events. In '85, it looked like Oklahoma City's Mike Edwards would win his first title, but left a devastating 4-9 split in the 10th frame of the title game to hand the title to Mike Durbin.

In 1989, our local boy wonder, Del Ballard Jr. won in front of his hometown fans. But 1988 was the most amazing moment I've ever witnessed in my career. That was the year that my former league teammate Bob Benoit defeated the great Mark Roth 300-255 to win the QSO title and a \$100,000 bonus.

When it was over, Roth and Johnny Petraglia were the first to congratulate the unlikely new champion. Roth told Bob "That was amazing - you are on your way." Indeed he was. Bob bowled on tour for 11 more years and won three more titles. Today, his younger brother Rick, who was there that day, is one of the most respected coaches and ball experts in the world as he represents Brunswick on the tour.

Starting in the mid 80's most of my focus was on women's professional bowling, but we still followed the PBA with passion and tried to emulate their success. In '84, when my friend Wyatt Slaughter introduced me to John Falzone and John Sommer, I was proud to help them start the LPBT regional program. The first event was held in Wyatt and Sherrie Slaughter's Alpine Lanes.

It was a privilege to be associated with John Sommer from '84 through 2003, and against all odds, the women's tour under his leadership lasted 22 years. Here's hoping the recent efforts by the PBA and USBC can bring a new women's tour where young women can aspire to be a professional on the same level as the men.

For a while, it looked like the PWBA might outlast the PBA, but in 2000, Chris Peters came along and rescued the tour from certain bankruptcy. Since then, we have seen tremendous changes and adjustments to a new economy and a new and more challenging world of sports marketing.

But one thing has not changed. The PBA tour is still the best and most exciting form of bowling in the history of the sport. Congratulations PBA, on your 50th, and thanks for the lifetime of memories.

XXX

True Amateur Tournaments Adding New Tournament to the February Event Being Held at the Orleans in Las Vegas

The Open Championship tournament will be a separate Tournament with a separate prize fund and will be bowled in the same squads as the Amateur TAT event. The Tournament will be open to almost everyone, the only restrictions are 2008-09 exempt PBA players and PBA bowlers that have won a national title in the last 5 years are not eligible, everyone else is eligible including all the PWBA women bowlers. There will be 2 separate age divisions 50 and younger and 51 and older.

Qualifying and the other Free events will start on February 3rd and the Finals will be held on Friday February 6th at 8:00pm and the Top 8 will finish on Saturday February 7th starting at 11:00am and finish by 1:30pm.

The finals have been scheduled as to not interfere with any other Tournaments that week.

The entry fee for the new event will be \$295 and will include 5 separate squads (with 4 separate ways to cash) 2 Chance squads (2 games each), 2 Qualifying squads (3 games each) and 1 Free Sweeper entry (2 games ea) pay out for the sweepers will be a 1 in 6 ratio with last cash at \$100 and have a re-entry fee of \$80. Top prize in the main event is \$10,000 with second being \$5,000, bowlers who make the finals are Guaranteed a minimum of \$400. The main event will have a cut ratio of 1 in 8 advancing to the finals by squads, (2 cuts per day) Daily leaders will receive 1 bye in the finals. The prize fund will be based on 150 bowlers and prize funds will increase (just like the TAT) with more entries.

The Chance tournament squads have been designed just in front of the qualifying squads as a warm up for the bowlers and will have a prize fund of \$2500 will pay the top 20 spots. Bowlers will be allowed to bowl in both tournaments (TAT AMATEUR NATIONALS, TAT OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP) as long as they meet the restrictions that the TAT has for eligibility in the Amateur National event.

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Chuck Pezzano is the dean of bowling writers. His columns have appeared in newspapers and magazines nationally for over 50 years. He is a charter member of the Professional Bowlers Association, and is enshrined in both the PBA and USBC Halls of Fame.

PEZZANO

REMEMBERING BRUCE

Bruce Pluckhahn died November 14 at 84, but he gave thousands of years to bowling.

Always a newspaperman at heart, he loved the print media, tolerated TV and even conceded that computers had their place. After his days as a sports-writer and editor at newspapers he became part of the public relations staff of the American Bowling Congress under pioneering Eli Whitney, who was instrumental in founding the ABC Hall of Fame and various bowling publications for the rapidly growing organization. Bruce took on all sorts of tasks.

He became ABC Public Relations Director in 1957, but not before he worked the ABC tournament, wrote, edited – and dreamed of bigger and better recognition for his sport.

Pluckhahn was executive director of the ABC Hall of Fame board and held every position in the Bowling Writers Association of America as well as other writer, public relations and Hall of Fame groups. In 1976, he became the museum curator and became the most important person in the creation of the exhibits, assembling the memorabilia and such person-to-person achievements as convincing the late Chris Schenkel, then one of the most

popular and well known sportscasters in the world, to become the Hall's spokesman, making appearances, short films, and commercials to boost the baby Hall.

Prior to his passion with the Hall, Bruce loved to visit historic spots, and all types of museums. That was my bag too, but I also had great interest in touring cemeteries, and easily got him to add them to our sightseeing, along with our constant trip companion, Mort Luby Jr.

Bruce was given almost complete freedom by his top boss, Frank Baker, and his other superiors over the years, the wisest move they could make.

He attended as many tournaments as he could, got close to writers, PR people, advertisers, and industry officials, in and out of bowling. Never was a trip a single purpose event for him. If he was covering a tournament or a business conference he always made it a point to call or visit local media outlets so that he probably knew more people than anyone before or after him.

Once he became involved with the bowling hall and museum, our trips became search missions for anything and everything connected to bowling.

I remember one long day in New Orleans. We visited 15 antique shops. Our discoveries for about 10 hours were one beer serving tray and the cover of a late 19th century magazine that featured a woman bowling as a cover topic.

Pluckhahn was a smart, witty guy who could speak well on any topic. He was a gourmet cook who astounded all with his knowledge and antics, such as the time he and

buddy Whitey Harris went to a fine restaurant and ate the classy means backwards, starting with dessert and ending with appetizers.

Bowling never had a better lover or faithful servant.

Sadly the Hall and Museum in St. Louis is now closed because it is being moved to a complex in Texas, so the flag can't be flown as half mast in his honor.

But thousands of hearts have been beating at half power in memory of this true giant of bowling.



Idle bowling thoughts . . .

One of the greatest entertainment sows of all time, hailed around the world, featured the three tenors, opera legends Jose Carreras, Placido Domingo and Luciano Pavarotti. In a TV interview Domingo explained that you need a certain kind of breathing to reach the high notes, and when Pavarotti was singing, Domingo and Carreras would sort of breathe with him to help him along. Then he added that it was like when you are bowling, and you are behind the bowler, and you move from side to side to help the bowler steer the ball.

What happens when one bowler sticks on the lane and complains, and the other bowler says he slides too much on the same lane and complains? A UN like debate ensues and the centers league and bowling officials wished they had stayed home that night.

Your bowling troubles aren't as bad as they seem. They couldn't be.

Like it or not, we learn by looking, copying and repeating, and we naturally imitate winners, not losers. Almost every successful person you meet uses something from role models with track records of success of some kind. That's true of bowling too. Top pros, male and female, and top amateurs must

realize that they are heroes to others, young and old, whether the stars like it or not.

Needling and baiting can be fun, interesting and even productive at times. That's fine, as long as you can take it as well as you give it.

In a rush of entries some senior tournaments are lowering the minimum age to 45 or lower from the usual 50. There are super senior divisions for bowlers 60 or over and super super divisions for 70 and up. Is bowling going to get like boxing? Boxing once had eight divisions - period. Now there are junior and super groupings added to the original, making 24. And there are at least three sanctioning groups and that's why there are so many boxing champions, 72 and counting, as other newly created weight divisions and boxing associations pop up. In bowling, in most cases, youngsters and oldsters, what counts is average, not age.

Whenever a so-called unknown wins a bowling event just remember that many a nobody who isn't known by anybody becomes a somebody and is known by everybody, and everybody tells him they knew him when he was a nobody and they knew he would be a somebody someday. Huh?

Pure fiction is the story of a head to head bowling match - as told by the participants two weeks later.

In the more than 40 years pro bowling has been on TV, the event that caused the most comment and excitement and got the most exposure was not a specific thrilling match or perfect game or a big money purse - it was Mark Roth's conversion of the 7-10 split.

All bowlers have their bad outings. It has been said that those bad times will be matched by an equal number of good times. Most bowlers I know have a lot of good days coming. In the meantime have a good bowling day - or at least a good day - every day.



The Bowling News Network (BNN) is a group of bowling publications (mostly newspaper/tabloids) that distribute more than 110,000 combined copies of these publications whether through subscriptions or placing them in more than 800 bowling centers across the United States.

For BNN advertising rates and information contact: STE at 800-871-7869 or email: bnn@bpaa.com.

TWO NEW TAT TOURNAMENTS

#1 NEW!! TAT OPEN Championship Tournament - \$10,000 1st \$5,000 2nd

There will be an added Tournament to the upcoming TAT event being held at the Orleans in February. The TAT Open will be bowled on the same lanes as the TAT at the same time.

Totally separate from the TAT Amateur Nationals, separate prize fund, separate finals.

PBA Players are welcome - only PBA exempt players and National title holders (last 5 years) aren't eligible. All PWBA women are welcome.

2 Separate Divisions - 50 years old & younger - 51 and older.

Entry fee \$295 includes 2 Qual Squads, 2 Early bird Squads, 1 Free Sweeper 1 in 6 cash (4 ways to cash) Re-entries \$140.

\$10,000 First place, \$5000 2nd place \$400 minimum for making the finals Starts on Feb 3rd to Feb 6th finals start at 8:00pm. Top 8 finish on Sat Feb 7 11:00am. Finals don't interfere with other tournaments. Based on 150 bowlers (Prize fund increases with entries.)

Qualifying ratio 1 in 8 by squads 6 or over will add 1. High qualifier daily gets 1 bye.

Early bird (Chance Squads) pays top 20 spots high single game \$2500 prize fund.

Bowlers can enter both TAT events as long as they meet TAT restrictions can bowl both in 1 squad.

Any questions or if you want an entry

form email or call Ed at 1 888 828 2695 or tatbowl@hotmail.com

#2 NEW!! EBONITE/ORLEANS — BEAT THE BOARD TOURNAMENT RUNS IN CONJUNCTION (SAME TIME) AS USBC CHAMPIONSHIPS.

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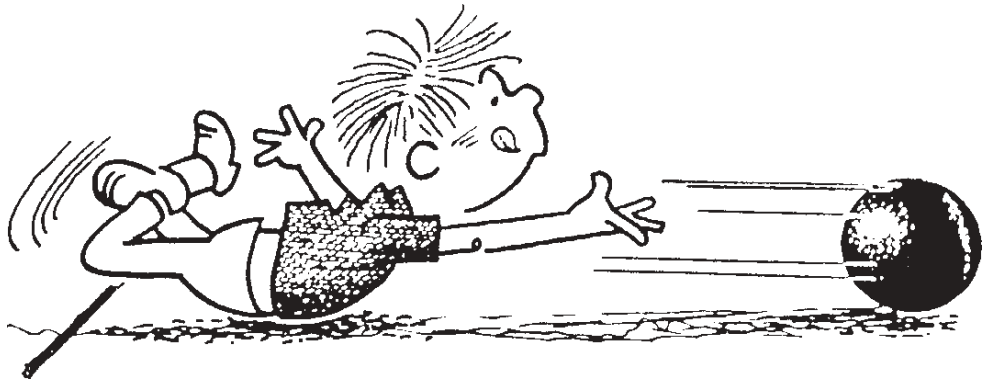
All doubles scores bowled in doubles will be used for singles

Doubles \$80 entry fee - 2 division Hndicap is 80% of 410 entering averages for the 1st division (1) 410 and under - (2) 411 and higher is scratch max entering averages 440. Highest book average from 2007 - 2008 no average use 225 everyone must bowl doubles 3 games doubles no entry limit - singles 10 entires max.

Prize fund - cash ratio 1 in 8. 100% prize fund returned.

Eligibility: everyone except PBA Exempt players 2007, 2008, 2009, and bowlers who won a National title the last 5 years.

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John Nolen Wins 2008 PBA Regional Players Invitational

RENO, NV - John Nolen had his mind set on playing in the Tournament of Champions in Las Vegas next month, and he did everything in his power to make sure that happened. Nolen led all but one round of the three-day, five round tournament and finished atop the field to earn his ticket into the TOC as well as an exemption for the 2009-10 PBA season. This is the first year in its 40-year existence that the tournament offers eight Lumber Liquidator's PBA Tour exemptions to the top regional players.

"It's definitely a surreal moment," said the 29-year-old from Waterford, Mich. "I don't even know if it's quite hit me. It wasn't until the fourth block today when I was so far ahead that I realized I had earned an exemption. And now I get to bowl in Vegas in three weeks."

Nolen finished with 6,945 pins over the 30 games, in which the 83-player field bowled six games apiece on the Cheetah, Chameleon, Viper, Scorpion, and Shark oil patterns. He averaged 231.5 and bested second-place P.J. Haggerty of Clovis, Calif. by 219 pins.

Haggerty, 23, finished with a score of 6,726 and was also thrilled to receive his first Tour exemption.

"I was just tired of bowling in TQRs honestly," Haggerty said. "I was determined to bowl well out here and I did. I had help from some guys on the Tour like Chris Barnes, Wes Malott, Dino Castillo as well as Rick Benoit and Chris Schlemmer. Also, this is a big day for me because my coach at school (Fresno State), Glenn Carlson, passed away last year and today was his birthday."

Brothers Lonnie and Brian Walicek finished in third and seventh place, respectively. They are just the third set of brothers to earn exemptions in the same year. They follow in the footsteps of Dale and David Traber and Mike and Mark Scroggins.

"I know what it's all about (playing on the Tour), so that part won't be new to me," said Lonnie Walicek, 38, of Wichita, Kan., who was exempt 2000-2004. "I felt I had to stay with it because I had a little bit more to give. It's good to be back on the stage I felt I should be playing on."

About playing with his brother: "I'm excited," said 30-year-old Brian Walicek of Birch Run, Mich. "Lon's been working his tail off and now I have a roommate. It's exciting to do it with

him. It wouldn't have been as sweet without him."

Also, earning exemptions were former exempt player Dave Arnold of Reno, Nev. who finished in fourth, John May, 36, of Lincoln, N.C. in sixth, Derek Sapp, 29, of Keokuk, Iowa in eighth and Wayne Garber, 41, of Modesto, Calif. in 10th (fifth and ninth place finishers Dave Wodka and Eric Forkel did not play for exemptions).

May is returning to the Tour after a two year absence.

"I think my girlfriend (Casie) is more excited than me," he joked. "I know have six months

to get ready for the life of the Tour, the travel and such. Honestly though I wouldn't be in this position if it wasn't for her pushing me."

Sapp is joining the Tour for his first time.

"I don't know if relief is the right word," said Sapp. "My attitude was that I had a job, if I didn't get it, that's OK and I think that helped take the pressure off. "It's a good feeling to be considered one of the best."

Garber narrowly nabbed the last and final exemption

by striking out in the 10th frame of his final game, to edge out Troy Wollenbecker by two pins.

"I knew I needed to fill 29 in the 10th to pass him (Wollenbecker) and luckily I did," said Garber who manages Yosemite Lanes in Modesto, Calif.

Garber is not only happy for the exemption, but happy to just be bowling again. During the summer of 2007, Garber had an accident which severely injured both knees.

"I was laid out five months and had three surgeries, and now I'm bowling better than I ever have."

This is the 40th annual RPI and the 10th consecutive year that the Sands Regency Casino Hotel and the National Bowling Stadium have teamed up to bring the event to Reno.

In order to qualify for the RPI, PBA regional bowlers have competed all season trying to earn their spot in this event. The top 25 point leaders from each of the seven PBA regions advanced to compete.

Tom Hennessey, a member of the famous Budwesier Bowling Team back in the late 50s and 60s, won the inaugural RPI in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1969.

PBA 2008 Regional Players Invitational National Bowling Stadium, Reno, NV, 12/9-11/2008 - Final Standings

Nolen, John - Waterford, Mich. 6945 \$7500; Haggerty, P.J. NW - Clovis, Calif. 6726 \$4000; Waliczek, Lonnie SW - Wichita, Kan. 6699 \$3000; Arnold, Dave - Reno, Nev. 6625 \$2500; Wodka, Dave - Las Vegas 6607 \$2000; May, John S - Lincoln, N.C. 6594 \$1700; Waliczek, Brian C - Birch Run, Mich. 6592 \$1500; Sapp, Derek MW - Keokuk, Iowa 6577 \$1400; Forkel, Eric M. - Las Vegas 6561 \$1350; Garber, Wayne W - Modesto, Calif. 6527 \$1300; Wollenbecker, Troy - Toledo, Ohio 6525 \$1250; VanHees, Jonathan E - Newport, R.I. 6485 \$1200; Wojnar, Jason MW - Chicago 6483 \$1150; DiBenedetto, Leo NW - Sydney, Austral 6480 \$1100; Davidson, Bob - Seattle 6461 \$1050; Swanson, Sean - Springfield, Mo. 6437 \$1000; Frankos, Jeff W - San Francisco 6414 \$950; Vanderhoef, Lee S - Greenville, S.C. 6408 \$900; Gaiher, Michael - Corpus Christi, Tex 6399 \$850; Anthony, David SW - Austin, Texas 6398 \$787.50; Jensen, Tyler SW - Ft. Worth, TX 6398 \$787.50; Kalfas, Riga C - Florence, Ky. 6391 \$737.50; Carter, Ed - Akron, Ohio 6391 \$737.50; Abel, Ryan - Bel Aire, Kan. 6381 \$700; Edwards, Ray E - Middle Island, N.Y. 6342 \$675; Boresch Jr., Lennie - Kenosha, Wis. 6341 \$650; Roberts, Kip S - Glenallen, Va. 6329 \$625; Estrada, Ramon - Connellsville, Pa 6326 \$600; Zicha, Gregg - Glen Ellyn, Ill. 6320 \$575; Thompson Jr, Gregory - Dayton, Ohio 6308 \$550; Beres, David MW - Waukesha, Wis. 6307 \$525; Mora Jr., Emilio C - Defiance, Ohio 6291 \$525; LeClair, Brian E - Athens, N.Y. 6290 \$525; Horton, Ronnie S - Christiansburg, Va 6282 \$525; Schlegel, Ernie - Vancouver, Wash. 6278 \$500; Thompson, Anthony M. - Redding, Calif. 6277 \$500; Uyehara, Chad NW - Fresno, Calif. 6252 \$500; Collins, Chris S - Fayetteville, N.C 6248 \$500; Gallick, Tommy - Harrisburg, Pa. 6247 \$475; Hall II, Bobby - Landover, Md. 6241 \$475; Slavich IV, John - Schaumburg, Ill. 6237 \$475; Levendosky, Jim C - Jenison, Mich. 6233 \$475; Hunt, Jeremy - Sikeston, Mo. 6231 \$450; Jellsey, Zack - Fullerton, Calif. 6229 \$450; Hibbits II, Chris SW - Fort Worth, 6200 \$450; Albert, Dale W. - Kenton, Ohio 6194 \$450; Archabal, Scot NW - Boise, Idaho 6184 \$450; Laughlin, Ben W - Glendale, Ariz. 6166 \$440; Paluszek, Joe E - Bensalem, Pa. 6162 \$440; Fehr, Jeff - Cincinnati 6155 \$440; Campbell II, Jeff SW - Amarillo, Tex 6149 \$440; Poli, Jason MW - West Des Moines, Io 6124 \$440; Hess, Thomas MW - Urbandale, Iowa 6104 \$430; Sorce, Thomas - Blasdell, N.Y. 6062 \$430; Husted, Corey - Clackamas, Ore 6053 \$430; Brandon, Jon W - Santa Clarita, Calif 6045 \$430; Graham, Eddie C - Centerville, Ohio 6045 \$430; Tomek Jr., Jim - Camp Hill, Pa. 6037 \$420; Patterson, Andy - Tyler, Texas 6031 \$420; Vazquez, Noel - Sacramento, Calif. 6029 \$420; Cooper, Brett R - Aurora, Colo. 6020 \$420; Spangler, Brett - New Castle, Ind 6019 \$420; Kunkle, Eddie - Daly City, Calif. 5983 \$415; Goldstein Sr, Joe - Hayward, Calif 5953 \$415; Newell, Scott - Deland, Fla. 5935 \$415; Furey, John E - Freehold, N.J. 5926 \$415; Nogle, Jeff - Tigard, Ore 5911 \$415; Boyd, David D. - Clearwater, Fla. 5898 \$410; Croucher, Kevin - Grants Pass, Ore. 5889 \$410; Wunderlich, Jason - Homestead, Pa 5884 \$410; Sherman, Mason W - Moorpark, Calif 5875 \$410; Hewlett, Bill - Meridian, Idaho 5835 \$407.50; Plouff, Nick - Tomahawk, Wis 5835 \$407.50; Allen III, Don NW - Vancouver, Wash. 5822 \$405; Croinex, Neil P - Ormond Beach, Fla. 5809 \$405; Aleksinski, Bob - Hillsboro, Ore 5795 \$405; Behrendt, Timothy - St Louis 5794 \$405; Young, Corey - Steelville, Ill. 5779 \$400; Vega, Noel - Brooklyn, N.Y. 5775 \$400; Wade, Chris - O'Fallon, Mo. 5615 \$400; Buchanan Jr., Dean O. - Snohomish, Wash. 5576 \$400; Hurd, Jason - Titusville, Fla. 5459 \$400; Scroggins, Mark - Amarillo, Texas 4217 \$400



John Nolen



Jowdy's Journal by John Jowdy

The Most Impressive Bowler I Have Ever Known?

BILL LILLARD!

In over 65 years in the bowling game, Bill Lillard stands out to me as the most impressive bowler I have seen.

Sounds pretty strange coming from someone who has watched such performers as Don Carter, Dick and Pete Weber, Earl Anthony, Don Johnson, Buddy Bomar, Carmen Salvino, Marshall Holman, Mike Aulby, Mark Roth, Norm Duke, Walter Ray Williams and almost every superstar since the 40's...that is, with the exception of Junie McMahon.

Interestingly, in conversations with Lillard, the affable Texan often expressed admiration for Don Carter and Junie Mc Mahon as two of his most impressive contemporaries.

Although Bill Lillard was a PBA charter member, he had but one victory on the PBA tour, the 1966 Miller Beer Championship in Milwaukee. Years ago, the PBA Hall of Fame committee put three one-time winners from the pioneer's category on the PBA ballot. One was Lillard, but he failed to garner the required number of votes. Consequently, Lillard may never be inducted in the PBA Hall of Fame. Nonetheless, Bill Lillard was recently selected as one of the Top 20 Bowlers of the 20th Century.

After winning the All-Star tournament and four titles in the 1956 ABC Championships, Lillard was named Bowler of The Year. As a result, Lillard bowled tournaments, exhibitions, and grand openings as a member of the Falstaff and Busweiser teams and a member of the Brunswick staff. In 1968, Lillard moved to Houston where he has had a very successful career operating bowling centers.

It was Lillard's brilliant performances in the National All-Star Tournament, now known as the BPAA US Open, and his fantastic American Bowling Congress record that assured him a spot in the ABC Hall of Fame.

His ABC record includes:

EIGHT ABC titles

Lillard has an ABC/USBC tournament average of 200 for 61 consecutive years. Bill, now 81 years old, continues to compete in this event. His lifetime total of 113,404 pins is second only to Joe Norris, who amassed a total of 123,770 for 71 years.

Although he never won the ABC Masters, he led the qualifying three times, finished second to Dick Hoover in 1957, and posted an ABC Masters average of 202 for 152 games. Keep in mind that these averages were achieved during times that 200 averages and 700 series earned headlines; an era that an 800 series commanded national attention.

During his 20 years of competition in the All-Star Tournament, he posted the highest composite average of any and all participants... an incredible 206 for 1,607 games.

It must be noted that this tournament featured ONLY 16 finalists instead of 24. Furthermore, champions won with averages ranging from 200 to 208. Here is Lillard's incredible All-Star record: He cashed in ALL 20 All-Star events.

He made the finals in 14 of the tournaments.

He won once, finished second twice, third once and fifth twice.

He also posted averages of 207.16 for All-Star Events. (team, doubles)

He averaged 205.61 for 376 games in the old World Invitational Tournament that was held at McCormick Place in Chicago.

In reviewing Bill Lillard's resume', impressive is a vast understatement. I call his feats extraordinary.

Prior to Bill joining Buddy Bomar's bowling juggernaut in Chicago in 1951, my most memorable impressions of Lillard center around the Texas area. He first caught my attention in 1946 in Houston, Texas. Lillard, a 19 year-old Dallas resident and student at Southern Methodist University, drove to Houston to participate in the Charlie Earhardt Memorial Tournament. The tournament drew entries from throughout the southwest and featured bowling stars from miles around.

Undaunted by the presence of the biggest names in the area, Lillard carted off the title in an almost easy fashion. During this period, and the late 1940's, challenge matches, state tournaments, interstate games, and various competitions flourished in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Louisiana.

My late, younger brother Frank, one of San

Antonio's most proficient match-game performers, issued a challenge to anyone for a singles match. Lillard accepted the call for a tidy sum with no stipulations regarding lane choices. Consequently my brother chose lanes 7-8 at Main Bowling Center...a pair of lanes considered his "pie alleys", an affectionate term denoting one's favorite pair. Normally, it was risky business locking horns with Frank on lanes 7 and 8, where Frank seldom experienced any setbacks. But Frank wasn't facing an ordinary bowler. He was facing Bill Lillard!

The three-game match was a battle of strikes during an era that 190 to 197 averages were league elites. Averages of 200 were almost non-existent at that time, including Lillard, whose highest average in Dallas was 197.

As expected, Frank crushed the pins for a whopping 768! Lillard fired his final shot of the three-game match, walked over to Frank, shook his hand, and at the same time, collected his winnings with his left hand.

The impression left on me was that of a super human being bashing the pins to the tune of 803. This total may seem insignificant by today's standards, particularly in view of the record high 700's and 800's night after night. But for then, this was meritorious.

Callous critics and bumper-bowl jokers that pooh-pooh Lillard's feat cannot appreciate or comprehend the more difficult conditions and the talent required to achieve the score of 803 fashioned by Lillard. It was an artistic performance, finessed on un-doctored lanes.

Perhaps finessed is misleading to those who construe Lillard's execution as a soft delivery. But nothing could be further from the truth. Bill Lillard possessed one of the most explosive balls in the history of the game.

More impressive, Lillard used a rubber ball, drilled with a conventional grip. He could hook a ball on ice... going uphill. Bowling on oil was his forte; the more oil, the better. And he did it better than anyone I have ever seen. He had no slide. He braked on his last step and applied incredible rotation on the ball.

The lane dressing procedures during Lillard's era have practically vanished. The heavy oil dressings separated the men from the boys in that wonderful period of bowling. It was never more evident than the time my San Antonio team drew an 8 a.m. assignment in the ABC tournament. The early shift was generally regarded as the death squad, simply due to the fact that early morning shifts were flooded with oil. As a matter of fact, big-name bowlers and teams ALWAYS requested evening shifts. They were granted these times because ABC officials realized that showcasing the bigger stars at later hours would surely attract a greater attendance.

At any rate, my team consisted of five classic league bowlers, four of whom tossed strong hooking deliveries. Our other bowler, Pete Hauser, relied on a straight ball off the corner. However, the heavy oil on the morning shift negated our normal stances for entry into the pocket. We were all forced to move right and point the ball to the pocket. Anything other than a full back-up ball was a morale-booster as oil gushed from the ball track. Five-pins, 8-10's, 5-7's and buckets popped up with regularity throughout the arena...with ONE exception. Several lanes away, Bill Lillard stood left of center, swung the ball about three to five boards, and watched his ball drive back into the pocket with thunderous impact.

"Humbling" was too meek a word to express our feelings. It was downright belittling; transforming would-be bowlers into neophytes suffering from inferiority complexes.

Oh, I forgot to mention ...Pete Hauser, our straight-ball shooter, NEVER hit the head pin in any of his first six frames; that is, not on the strike ball, nor on the spare ball.

This was a day of recollection. It was an experience I have never forgotten. It was a day my eyes were fixed on a rare talent; a super-star, a future Hall of Famer.

"Impressive", according to Webster's Dictionary, is eliciting wonder or admiration.

And, in all my years in the game, NO ONE ever elicited my admiration more than the talents exhibited by Bill Lillard during his heyday!

XXX

JOHNSON, SCHAUB CLAIM TITLES AT TEAM USA TRIALS

HENDERSON, Nev. - Liz Johnson of Cheektowaga, N.Y., and Cassidy Schaub of Polk, Ohio, emerged as the champions Friday at the 2009 United States Bowling Congress Team USA Trials after a 36-game marathon put their skills to the test.

look, but I was able to make it work. I started with a ball that was smooth and gave me a little room left and right and kept jumping in from there.”

The top three men and top three women in the final standings earned automatic

Finally, four spots on Junior Team USA 2009 were up for grabs at the Team USA Trials. The top two boys and top two girls who are 20 years old or younger as of Jan. 1, 2009 earned automatic spots.

Szczerbinski finished on top among the boys, earning a spot on both teams, while Chris Pierson of Waukesha, Wis., took second with 7,687. For the girls, Josie Earnest of Vandalia, Ill., led the eligible field with 7,568, and Jennifer Boisselle of Valrico, Fla., finished second with 7,453.

The National Selection Committee polished off the Junior Team USA 2009 roster by adding Angela Reynolds of Shickshinny, Pa., Dayna Galganski of Orlando, Fla., Jake Peters of Decatur, Ill., and Paul Hogan of Manteca, Calif., to the team.

At the USBC Junior Gold Championships in Detroit last July, 12 players earned spots on Junior Team USA. The boys group includes Geoffrey Young, Daniel Spink, Pfeifer, Andrew Koff, Brent Bowers and Jarret Mizo, while the girls team includes Kristie Petravich, Christine Bator, Ricki Williams, Kim Yioulos, Brittini Hamilton and Jessica Earnest.



Liz Johnson and Cassidy Schaub

Johnson led from Game 1 all the way until the end, concluding the tournament with 7,959 (221.08 average), while Schaub, a left-hander who uses a two-handed approach, topped the men's field with 8,192 (227.56 average) at Sunset Station Hotel and Casino's Strike Zone Bowling Center.

“There are a lot of great bowlers here and any of them could have caught me, so I feel fortunate,” said Johnson, who earned a spot on Team USA for the second straight year. “This is very satisfying because I came out to prove that I belong here, and I think I did that.”

The players competed on four USBC Sport Bowling certified lane conditions this week, and Schaub pulled away on the Masters condition, which was used in Friday's final round.

“This is a great feeling, especially after not making the team last year,” said Schaub, a Team USA member in 2007. “Coming into this pattern today, I was really nervous because I didn't have a good

spots on Team USA for 2009. Among the men, David Haynes of Las Vegas finished second with 8,051, while John Szczerbinski of North Tonawanda, N.Y., took third with 8,049. For the women, Shannon Pluhowsky of Phoenix was second with 7,891, and Shannon O'Keefe of Arlington, Texas, finished third with 7,820.

The National Selection Committee also picked Tim Pfeifer of Cranberry Township, Pa., Nathan Bohr of Derby, Kan., Diandra Asbaty of Chicago and Stefanie Nation of Orlando, Fla., to round out the final roster for Team USA in 2009.

Heading into the Team USA Trials, 10 players had already secured spots by virtue of their selection earlier this year. Walter Ray Williams Jr., Tommy Jones, Chris Barnes, Rhino Page and Patrick Allen make up the remainder of the men's team. On the women's side, Tennelle Milligan, Lynda Barnes, Carolyn Dorin-Ballard, Kim Terrell-Kearney and Wendy Macpherson were selected.

2009 USBC TEAM USA TRIALS
Strike Zone Bowling Center
Sunset Station, Henderson, Nev.
Final results

WOMEN - (36 games)

Top 10

1, Liz Johnson, Cheektowaga, N.Y., 7,959. 2, Shannon Pluhowsky, Phoenix, 7,891. 3, Shannon O'Keefe, Arlington, Texas, 7,820. 4, Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, 7,746. 5, Stefanie Nation, Orlando, Fla., 7,657. 6, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 7,644. 7, Amanda Vermilyea, Mansfield, Texas, 7,602. 8, Josie Earnest, Vandalia, Ill., 7,568. 9, April Ellis, North Richland Hills, Texas, 7,525. 10, Brittini Hamilton, Webster, N.Y., 7,494.

MEN - (36 games)

Top 10

1, Cassidy Schaub, Polk, Ohio, 8,192. 2, David Haynes, Las Vegas, 8,051. 3, John Szczerbinski, North Tonawanda, N.Y., 8,049. 4, Tim Pfeifer, Cranberry Township, Pa., 7,961. 5, Nathan Bohr, Derby, Kan., 7,921. 6, Brett Cooper, North Richland Hills, Texas, 7,877. 7, P.J. Haggerty, Clovis, Calif., 7,839. 8 (tie), John Janawicz, Winter Haven, Fla., and Dean Richards, Tacoma, Wash., 7,827. 10, Brent Bowers, Mulvane, Kan., 7,748.

SPORTS MARKETING SPECIALIST BRANDI BLOODWORTH CONNOLLY NAMED USBC DIRECTOR OF MARKETING

ARLINGTON, Texas - Brandi Bloodworth Connolly has been named director of marketing for the United States Bowling Congress by USBC Vice President of Media Pete Tredwell. Connolly will lead a team focused on creating innovative marketing strategies and partnership activation plans for USBC. She begins her duties Jan. 5.

Connolly recently served as the director of sponsorship and marketing for the Super Bowl XLII Host Committee in Scottsdale, Ariz., where she oversaw local marketing, sponsorship activation, hospitality and merchandising. Her management led to the development of multiple marketing campaigns attracting thousands of volunteers and generating millions of dollars in revenue ahead of the event.

Previously, Connolly was special projects manager at Squires Sports Group (now Hawkeye Sports and Entertainment) in Dal-



Brandi Bloodworth Connolly

las, where she created and directed “health-active” sports campaigns for Michelob ULTRA, Westin Hotels & Resorts and Rodale, Inc. She also has served as a freelance market research and strategic analysis consultant to numerous properties and agencies.

“Brandi's experience with sponsorship and marketing of high-profile sports is exactly what we need,” Tredwell said. “She's a rising star in the sports marketing industry, and we're extremely pleased to have her on board.”

Connolly completed her Master of Business Administration degree with a specialization in sports business at the W.P. Carey School of Business at Arizona State University and her Bachelor of Arts in corporate communications and public affairs at Southern Methodist University.

“I am thrilled to be joining the USBC at such an exciting time for the sport of bowling,” Connolly said. “As one of America's favorite pastimes, bowling's potential for rejuvenation and growth is boundless. I am confident that our team will shine a new spotlight on the sport, grow the USBC's memberships and partnerships and provide an even higher standard of service and satisfaction to existing USBC members and partners.”

Connolly resides in Dallas with her husband Brian and their dog Buster.

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UPCOMING GUESTS

Jan 14 - Brad Edelman
Jan 21 - Mark Baker
Jan 28 - John Jowdy
Feb 4 - Charlie Allen
Feb 11 - Gary Beck
Feb 18 - John Fantini
Feb 25 - Tom Kouros

Phantom



Radio

Wes Malott and Michelle Feldman Earn CLR Carmen Salvino Scorpion Crowns

VERNON HILLS, ILL. - Wes Malott and Michelle Feldman captured the CLR Carmen Salvino Scorpion Championship at Brunswick Zone Hawthorn, the sixth stop on the Lumber

seed Brad Angelo of Lockport, N.Y., 289-199. Simard did have two perfect games in the tournament earlier in the week. In the first match, Angelo defeated No. 4 seed Jason Couch of



Wes Malott, Carmen Salvino, Michelle Feldman

Liquidators PBA Tour.

In a tight championship match, top seed Wes Malott watched as No. 2 seed Ken Simard had the chance to win the match with two strikes in the 10th. However, Simard threw the first strike but left a solid 10-pin in his second attempt giving Malott the victory, 216-211.

"It's not the way you want to win, I have four titles now and none have come from striking out ... I was either sitting on the bench or the game was over in the eighth (frame)," Malott said. "I just have to keep plugging away, be patient. My goal is to keep winning a title each year, maybe multiple titles. Hopefully this is just the beginning."

It was Malott's third TV finals appearance in six weeks and his fourth career victory; he has now won one title in each of his four seasons on the Tour. Malott was also victorious in Vernon Hills two years ago at the 2006-07 Discover Card Windy City Classic which also featured the Scorpion pattern.

The Scorpion pattern, one of six different oil patterns on the Lumber Liquidators PBA Tour, can yield a wide variety of strategies depending on the type and condition of the lane surface; however, Scorpion incorporates a larger volume of oil placed further down the lane, which often demands a more direct line.

In the second match, Simard of Greenville, S.C. was just shy of a perfect game, leaving the 8-pin in the 11th frame, to handily defeat No. 3

Clermont, Fla., 225-212.

In the PBA Women's Series, sponsored by the United States Bowling Congress (USBC), Michelle Feldman of Auburn, N.Y. defeated Missy Bellinder of Fullerton, Calif., 200-147 in the championship match. It was Feldman's third consecutive TV finals appearance and her second consecutive title.

"I have no idea how I'm doing this," Feldman joked. "I just feel fortunate that I'm bowling well. Hopefully I can keep this up and do it again next week."

The CLR Carmen Salvino Scorpion Championship is the third event in the PBA's six event "Versatility Swing," in which players can earn separate points based on their performance in each of the six events. These events include the five events on the named "animal" patterns (Viper, Chameleon, Scorpion, Cheetah and Shark) as well as the Earl Anthony pattern that will be used in Medford, Ore. Much like tennis has a "Clay Court Championship" or a "Hard Court Championship," the PBA features these events on different oil patterns. Today's event marks the only time all season the Scorpion pattern will be used as the sole pattern for an event.

Both Feldman and Bellinder qualified for the Women's Series Showdown, in which the winners (and runner-ups if there is a multiple winner) will participate in a season-ending dedicated broadcast on ESPN.

CLR Carmen Salvino Scorpion Championship
Brunswick Zone Hawthorn, Vernon Hills, IL

Stepladder Game 1

Brad Angelo of Lockport, N.Y. defeated Jason Couch of Clermont, Fla. (\$5,500), 225-212.

Stepladder Game 2

Ken Simard of Greenville, S.C. defeated Brad Angelo (\$6,500), 289-199.

Finals

Wes Malott of Argyle, Texas (\$25,000) defeated Ken Simard (\$13,000), 216-211.

Women's Series Championship Match

Michelle Feldman of Auburn, N.Y. (\$10,000) defeated Missy Bellinder of Fullerton, Calif. (\$6,000), 200-147.

Men's Round of 16

Steve Jaros, Yorkville, Ill., 10-6-2, 7,973, \$5,000; Walter Ray Williams Jr., Ocala, Fla., 10-7-1, 7,949, \$4,100; Ryan Ciminelli, Cheektowaga, N.Y., 10-7-1, 7,927, \$3,700; Ritchie Allen, Columbia, S.C., 13-5-0, 7,868, \$3,400; Michael Fagan, Patchogue, N.Y., 10-8-0, 7,843, \$3,200; Mike Scroggins, Amarillo, Texas, 10-8-0, 7,830, \$3,000; Mika Koivuniemi, Hartland, Mich., 11-7-0, 7,781, \$2,900; Ken Abner, Cincinnati, 8-9-1, 7,734, \$2,700; Tommy Delutz Jr., Flushing, N.Y., 8-10-0, 7,695, \$2,750; Pete Weber, St. Ann, Mo., 8-8-2, 7,676, \$2,600; Bill O'Neill, Southampton, Pa., 9-9-0, 7,578, \$2,550; Joe Ciccone, Buffalo, N.Y., 6-12-0, 7,574, \$2,500

Women's Round of 10

Carolyn Dorin-Ballard, N. Richland Hills, Texas, 4-5-0, 5,361, \$5,000; Jennifer Petrick, Canton, Ohio, 5-3-1, 5,304, \$4,000; Liz Johnson, Cheektowaga, N.Y., 4-5-0, 5,287, \$3,500; Shalin Zulkifli, Malaysia, 5-2-2, 5,194, \$3,000; Shannon O'Keefe, Arlington, Texas, 5-3-1, 5,183, \$2,500; Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, 4-5-0, 5,174, \$2,200; Jodi Woessner, Oregon, Ohio, 5-4-0, 5,131, \$2,100; Brenda Mack, Indianapolis, 1-8-0, 4,861, \$2,000

Round of 64 (\$1800 each)

Mike Wolfe, New Albany, Ind., 3,185; Chris Loschetter, Avon, Ohio, 3,171; Mike Edwards, Tulsa, Okla., 3,162; Dino Castillo, Carrollton, Texas, 3,156, \$1,900; Michael Machuga, Erie, Pa., 3,155; Peter Spreadbury, Oak Forest, Ill., 3,147; Patrick Allen, Wesley Chapel, Fla., 3,146; Parker Bohn III, Jackson, N.J., 3,145; Chris Warren, Grants Pass, Ore, 3,139; Tony Reyes, San Bruno, Calif., 3,126; Brian LeClair, Athens, N.Y., 3,118; Craig Tuholski, Washougal, Wash., 3,112; Billy Oatman, Chicago, 3,107; David Traber, Hebron, Ill., 3,106; Eugene McCune, Munster, Ind., 3,094; Tom Baker, King, N.C., 3,075; Steve Harman, Indianapolis, 3,072; Norm Duke, Clermont, Fla., 3,071; Tim Mack, Indianapolis, 3,067; Andrew Cain, Scottsdale, Ariz., 3,067; Rhino Page, Topeka, Kan, 3,058; Tommy Jones, Simpsonville, S.C., 3,058; Todd Book, Wapakoneta, Ohio, 3,041; Jason Lundquist, Delaware Water Gap, Pa, 3,040; Ronnie Russell, Indianapolis, 3,033; Jason Sterner, McDonough, Ga., 3,023; Nathan Bohr, Wichita, Kan., 3,015; Joe Bailey, Pittsburgh, 2,992; Sean Rash, Wichita, Kan, 2,982; Robert Smith, Columbus, 2,975; Randy Weiss, Columbia, S.C., 2,970; Dave D'Entremont, Middleburg Heights, Ohio, 222, \$1,000

Women's Round of 16 - (\$1800 each)

Wendy Macpherson, Henderson, Nev., 2,963, \$1,890; Trisha Reid, Columbus, Ohio, 2,958; Adrienne Miller, Buffalo Grove, Ill., 2,955; Stefanie Nation, Arlington, Texas, 2,933; Shannon Pluhowsky, Phoenix, 2,931; Joy Esterson, Annapolis, Md., 2,900

Parker Bohn III and Carolyn Dorin-Ballard Win at Cheetah Championship

CHEEKTOWAGA, N.Y. - Two of the greatest to ever throw a bowling ball, Parker Bohn III of Jackson, N.J. and Carolyn Dorin-Ballard of N. Richland Hills, Texas, took home titles at the Cheetah Championship, the seventh stop on the 2008-09 Lumber Liquidators PBA Tour. The final round was telecast live from AMF Thruway Lanes.

Bohn III's 32nd career title came after defeating No. 3 seed Mike Scroggins of Amarillo, Texas 242-198 in the televised championship round.

"I had one ball that worked all week, my Twisted Fury; I had tried to use others, but it was almost impossible to get through the pins," said Bohn III, who is currently fifth on the list of all-time PBA Tour titlists.

Bohn III was the top seed entering the final round after defeating No. 2 seed Patrick Allen of Wesley Chapel, Fla. in Friday's final position round 279-237.

"If it's a stepladder format, I want to be No. 1 every week, that's the way I like it" said Bohn III, who only had to win one match on Sunday's telecast to win the championship.

Scroggins advanced to Sunday's championship match by climbing the ladder in the stepladder format, first defeating No. 4 seed and local fan favorite Jack Jurek of Lackawanna, N.Y., 235-175, then No. 2 Allen, 222-200.

PBA Women's Series Dorin-Ballard defeated No. 2 seed Stefanie Nation of Arlington, Texas, to take home the Cheetah Championship trophy and her 2nd career PBA Women's Series title.

"This was a very emotional day for me," said Dorin-Ballard. "It's Pearl Harbor Day, and my dad was a P.O.W. in World War II, and I felt like he was looking out for me."

Dorin-Ballard defeated Nation 208-204 in the close championship match. Dorin-Ballard threw a clutch strike the first shot in the 10th frame

and then left a 1-2-4-10 washout, sparing it to force Nation to strike the first shot in the 10th frame. Nation left a stubborn 10 pin to give Dorin-Ballard the title.



Carolyn Dorin-Ballard and Parker Bohn III

"Stefanie did really well in the 10th, but I got a break and took it," said Dorin-Ballard. "The lanes were tight and if I didn't catch it the way I needed to, I wouldn't have gotten the strikes."

For the first time in PBA history, the Women's Series final was shown first on the telecast, followed by the men's stepladder competition and men's championship round.

PBA CHEETAH CHAMPIONSHIP
AMF Thruway Lanes, Cheektowaga, NY

Stepladder Game 1

Mike Scroggins of Amarillo, Texas, (\$13,000) d. Jack Jurek of Lackawanna, N.Y., (\$5,500), 235-175.

Semifinals

Mike Scroggins of Amarillo, Texas, (\$13,000) d. Patrick Allen of Wesley Chapel, Fla., (\$6,500), 222-200.

Finals

Parker Bohn III of Jackson, N.J., (\$25,000) d. Mike Scroggins of Amarillo, Texas, (\$13,000), 242-198.

Women's Series Championship Match

Carolyn Dorin-Ballard of North Richland Hills, Texas (\$10,000) d. Stefanie Nation of Arlington, Texas (\$6,000), 208-204.

Round of 16

Chris Barnes, Double Oak, Texas, 12-6-0, 7,512, \$5,000; Chris Loschetter, Avon, Ohio, 9-9-0, 7,470, \$4,000; Ryan Shafer, Horseheads, N.Y., 8-9-1, 7,437, \$3,800; Brad Angelo, Lockport, N.Y., 8-10-0, 7,432, \$3,400; Rhino Page, Topeka, Kan, 8-10-0, 7,382, \$3,200; Tommy Delutz Jr., Flushing, N.Y., 12-4-2, 7,372, \$3,000; Bill O'Neill, Southampton, Pa., 9-9-0, 7,369, \$2,800; Wes Malott, Argyle, Texas, 8-9-1, 7,302, \$2,700; Pete Weber, St. Ann, Mo., 8-10-0, 7,277, \$2,650; Billy Oatman, Chicago, 9-9-0, 7,269, \$2,600; Mika Koivuniemi, Hartland, Mich., 5-13-0, 7,206, \$2,550; Norm Duke, Clermont, Fla., 6-12-0, 7,057, \$2,500

Round of 32

Mike DeVaney, San Diego, 4-5-0, 5,118, \$2,340; Joe Ciccone, Buffalo, N.Y., 6-3-0, 5,094, \$2,240; Danny Wiseman, Baltimore, 6-3-0, 5,088, \$2,230; Tony Reyes, San Bruno, Calif., 4-5-0, 5,083, \$2,220; David Traber, Hebron, Ill., 5-3-1, 5,074, \$2,210; Jason Lundquist, Delaware Water Gap, Pa, 5-4-0, 5,060, \$2,200; Nathan Bohr, Wichita, Kan., 3-5-1, 5,044, \$2,190; Ritchie Allen, Columbia, S.C., 3-5-1, 5,040, \$2,180; Steve Jaros, Yorkville, Ill., 2-7-0, 5,038, \$2,170; Dino Castillo, Carrollton, Texas, 5-3-1, 5,036, \$2,160; Ken Abner, Cincinnati, 2-7-0, 4,997, \$2,150; Walter Schaub II, Schaumburg, Ill., 4-5-0, 4,966, \$2,140; Jeff Carter, Springfield, Ill., 3-5-1, 4,958, \$2,130; Dave D'Entremont, Middleburg Heights, Ohio, 2-7-0, 4,955, \$2,120; Mike Edwards, Tulsa, Okla., 4-5-0, 4,936, \$2,110; Walter Ray Williams Jr., Ocala, Fla., 3-6-0, 4,871, \$2,100

WOMEN'S SERIES Round of 10

Shannon Pluhowsky, Phoenix, 5-4-0, 5,095, \$5,000; Jennifer Petrick, Canton, Ohio, 4-5-0, 4,892, \$4,000; Shannon O'Keefe, Arlington, Texas, 5-4-0, 4,870, \$3,600; Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 4-5-0, 4,861, \$3,000; Missy Bellinder, Fullerton, Calif., 4-5-0, 4,827, \$2,500; Michelle Feldman, Auburn, N.Y., 4-5-0, 4,753, \$2,200; Shalin Zulkifli, Malaysia, 4-5-0, 4,739, \$2,100; Adrienne Miller, Buffalo Grove, Ill., 2-7-0, 4,650, \$2,000

Round of 64

Sean Rash, Wichita, Kan, 2,965; Mitch Beasley, Puyallup, Wash., 2,964, \$1,890; Jason Couch, Clermont, Fla., 2,961; Ronnie Russell, Indianapolis, 2,957; Mike Wolfe, New Albany, Ind., 2,952; Randy Weiss, Columbia, S.C., 2,952; Craig Tuholski, Washougal, Wash., 2,934; Steve Harman, Indianapolis, 2,927; Edward VanDaniker Jr, Essex, Md, 2,908; Tommy Jones, Simpsonville, S.C., 2,904; Joe Bailey, Pittsburgh, 2,903, \$1,900; Doug Kent, Newark, N.Y., 2,896; Tom Baker, King, N.C., 2,887; Liz Johnson, Cheektowaga, N.Y., 2,886; Eugene McCune, Munster, Ind., 2,881; John Nolen, Waterford, Mich., 2,854; Andrew Cain, Scottsdale, Ariz., 2,854; Brian Kretzer, Dayton, Ohio, 2,851; Todd Book, Wapakoneta, Ohio, 2,844; Dave Guindon, West Seneca, N.Y., 2,837; Chris Warren, Grants Pass, Ore, 2,836; Michael Fagan, Patchogue, N.Y., 2,830; Chester Rogers Jr, Milwaukie, Ore, 2,823; Chad Kloss, Greenfield, Wis, 2,783; Ken Simard, Greenville, S.C., 2,781; Scott Newell, Deland, Fla, 2,776; Jeff Zaffino, Warren, Pa., 2,762; Jason Belmonte, Orange, NSW, Australia, 2,750; Jason Sterner, McDonough, Ga., 2,748; Terrance Reeves, Valrico, Fla, 2,714; Michael Machuga, Erie, Pa., 2,686; Robert Smith, Columbus, 547, \$390

WOMEN'S SERIES - Round of 16

Tennelle Milligan, Costa Mesa, Calif., 2,802, \$1,890; Jodi Woessner, Oregon, Ohio, 2,795; Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, 2,794; Joy Esterson, Annapolis, Md., 2,736; Trisha Reid, Columbus, Ohio, 2,683; Brenda Mack, Indianapolis, 2,634

Rhino Page and Jodi Woessner Win Lumber Liquidators Shark Championship

Woessner claims first PBA Women's Series Title

BALTIMORE, MD. — Baltimore has been very good to both Rhino Page and Jodi Woessner and proved no different as each claimed titles in Lumber Liquidators Shark

and top seed Carolyn Dorin-Ballard of Keller, Texas, 247-189 in the championship match. Woessner struck in the first six frames and jumped out to a quick lead en



Rhino Page and Jodi Woessner

Championship at AMF Country Club Lanes, the eighth stop of the Lumber Liquidators PBA Tour. Page broke the PBA's seven-game scoring record in the Tournament Qualifying Round (TQR) and made his televised finals debut in this tournament last year and Woessner won her first regional (Professional Women's Bowling Association) title in Baltimore 15 years ago.

Top seed Page, of Topeka, Kan. defeated No. 2 seed Wes Malott of Argyle, Texas, 197-189, to claim his second career title. Malott opened in the second and third frames, and despite both competitors' struggles to strike, it left the door open for Page. Last season's PBA Rookie of the Year needed a mark and a count in the 10th to edge Malott which he did with a spare and a strike.

"I felt like I needed to take advantage of the situation," Page said. "Any time a guy has an open frame, I feel I can really try to pound on him ... unfortunately I didn't. But luckily he was down early and I was able to hang in there."

Page, who had struggled early in the season, was making his first televised finals appearance of the season.

"I can't tell you how much confidence this brings," the 25-year-old said. "Three weeks ago I was pounding my head into the wall. But I went back to what made me, me. I didn't realize I had gotten away from it. But just because I won, doesn't mean I can let up know."

In the second match, Malott, who was making his fourth TV finals appearance in eight events, had a near-perfect game, defeating last week's champion and Sunday's No. 3 seed Parker Bohn III, 290-204. In the first match, Bohn III of Jackson, N.J. advanced by defeating defending champion Patrick Allen of Wesley Chapel, Fla., 244-233.

In the PBA Women's Series, sponsored by the United States Bowling Congress (USBC), No. 2 seed Jodi Woessner of Oregon, Ohio defeated last week's champion

route to her first career PBA Women's Series title. It was Woessner's second televised finals appearance of the season, previously losing to Michelle Feldman in the championship match of the Chameleon Championship in Taylor, Mich. on Nov. 16. "I just tried to make good shots and kept my arm swing loose," Woessner said. "Last month when I was on the show, I think I pressed too hard. I've bowled Carolyn several times and I've had success against her. I don't know if I bring my game up a notch when I play her, because she's an amazing player."

The Lumber Liquidators Shark Championship is the fourth event in the PBA's six event "Versatility Swing," in which players can earn separate points based on their performance in each of the six events. These events include the five events on the named "animal" patterns (Viper, Chameleon, Scorpion, Cheetah and Shark) as well as the Earl Anthony pattern that will be used in Medford, Ore. Much like tennis has a "Clay Court Championship" or a "Hard Court Championship," the PBA features these events on different oil patterns. Today's event marks the only time all season the Shark pattern will be used as the sole pattern for an event.

The Shark pattern is the longest of the five patterns, measuring 44 feet of oil. Typical to the length and design, professionals will migrate more towards the center of the lane as the ball normally will not hook back to the pocket if it strays too far outside near the gutter. This pattern usually requires extreme inside angles to get to the pocket after five or six games. The scoring pace is normally low for this pattern.

With her appearance in Sunday's finals, Woessner also qualified for the Women's Series Showdown, in which the winners (and runner-ups if there is a multiple winner) will participate in a season-ending dedicated broadcast on ESPN, sponsored by the United States Bowling Congress (USBC).

PBA Shark Championship
AMF Country Club Lanes, Baltimore, MD
Final Results

Stepladder Game 1

Parker Bohn III of Jackson, N.J. defeated Patrick Allen of Wesley Chapel, Fla. (\$5,500), 244-233.

Stepladder Game 2

Wes Malott of Argyle, Texas defeated Bohn III (\$6,500), 290-204.

Finals

Rhino Page of Topeka, Kansas (\$25,000), defeated Wes Malott (\$13,000), 197-189.

Women's Series Championship Match

Jodi Woessner of Oregon, Ohio (\$10,000) defeated Carolyn Dorin-Ballard of Keller, Texas (\$6,000), 247-189.

Men's Round of 16

Mika Koivuniemi, Hartland, Mich., 12-6-0, 7,538, \$5,000; Mike Scroggins, Amarillo, Texas, 11-7-0, 7,498, \$4,000; Mike DeVaney, San Diego, 13-5-0, 7,428, \$3,700; Ronnie Russell, Indianapolis, 9-8-1, 7,389, \$3,400; Tommy Jones, Simpsonville, S.C., 9-9-0, 7,350, \$3,200; Tom Baker, King, N.C., 10-8-0, 7,338, \$3,000; Steve Harman, Indianapolis, 9-9-0, 7,293, \$2,800; Chris Barnes, Double Oak, Texas, 8-10-0, 7,271, \$2,700; Steve Jaros, Yorkville, Ill., 10-8-0, 7,264, \$2,650; Eugene McCune, Munster, Ind., 8-9-1, 7,250, \$2,600; Randy Weiss, Columbia, S.C., 4-14-0, 7,191, \$2,550; Chris Loschetter, Avon, Ohio, 9-9-0, 7,123, \$2,500

Women's Round of 10

Michelle Feldman, Auburn, N.Y., 5-4-0, 5,024, \$5,000; Liz Johnson, Cheektowaga, N.Y., 7-2-0, 4,978, \$4,000; Trisha Reid, Columbus, Ohio, 6-3-0, 4,918, \$3,500; Stefanie Nation, Arlington, Texas, 4-5-0, 4,891, \$3,000; Shannon Pluhowsky, Phoenix, 3-6-0, 4,871, \$2,500; Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 2-7-0, 4,771, \$2,200; Brenda Mack, Indianapolis, 3-6-0, 4,691, \$2,100; Tennelle Milligan, Costa Mesa, Calif., 3-6-0, 4,658, \$2,000

Round of 32

Tom Baker, King, N.C., 5-4-0, 5,190, \$3,000; Dino Castillo, Carrollton, Texas, 6-3-0, 5,166, \$2,340; Jason Couch, Clermont, Fla., 4-5-0, 5,127, \$2,240; Edward VanDaniker Jr, Essex, Md, 2-7-0, 5,126, \$2,230; Ken Abner, Cincinnati, 5-4-0, 5,124, \$2,220; Danny Wiseman, Baltimore, 5-4-0, 5,117, \$2,210; Joe Ciccone, Buffalo, N.Y., 4-4-1, 5,115, \$2,200; Sean Rash, Wichita, Kan, 4-5-0, 5,064, \$2,190; Michael Fagan, Patchogue, N.Y., 2-6-1, 5,034, \$2,180; Doug Kent, Newark, N.Y., 4-5-0, 5,032, \$2,270; Joe Bailey, Pittsburgh, 3-6-0, 5,031, \$2,260; Walter Ray Williams Jr., Ocala, Fla., 5-4-0, 4,999, \$2,150; Nathan Bohr, Wichita, Kan., 2-7-0, 4,960, \$2,140; Bill O'Neill, Southampton, Pa., 3-6-0, 4,945, \$2,130; Tom Daugherty, Tampa, Fla., 2-7-0, 4,866, \$2,120; Chad Kloss, Greenfield, Wis, 3-6-0, 4,850, \$2,110; Pete Weber, St. Ann, Mo., 2-7-0, 4,780, \$2,100

Men's Round of 64 (\$1800 each)

Dave D'Entremont, Middleburg Heights, Ohio, 2,978, \$1,890; Mike Edwards, Tulsa, Okla., 2,969; Chris Warren, Grants Pass, Ore, 2,968; Andrew Cain, Scottsdale, Ariz., 2,968; Mike Wolfe, New Albany, Ind., 2,962; Tommy Delutz Jr., Flushing, N.Y., 2,959; Ken Simard, Greenville, S.C., 2,950; Brian Kretzer, Dayton, Ohio, 2,946; Brian Valenta, Lockport, Ill, 2,945; Chester Rogers Jr, Milwaukie, Ore, 2,939; Jeff Carter, Springfield, Ill., 2,921; Billy Oatman, Chicago, 2,921; Jason Sterner, McDonough, Ga., 2,919; Todd Book, Wapakoneta, Ohio, 2,909; Ryan Shafer, Horseheads, N.Y., 2,900; Norm Duke, Clermont, Fla., 2,868; Terrance Reeves, Valrico, Fla, 2,864; Thomas Wall III, Fayetteville, N.C., 2,863; George Lambert IV, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, 2,862; William Barlow, Edgewood, Md., 2,855; Mitch Beasley, Puyallup, Wash., 2,851; Jack Jurek, Lackawanna, N.Y., 2,840; Jason Lundquist, Delaware Water Gap, Pa, 2,809; Derek Payne, Capitol Heights, Md., 2,775; Ritchie Allen, Columbia, S.C., 2,764; Brandon Robertson, Clinton, CT., 2,744; Tony Reyes, San Bruno, Calif., 2,737; Mark Roth, Fulton, N.Y., 2,719; Richard Fairley, Christiansburg, Va, 2,685; Craig Tuholski, Washougal, Wash., 2,668; David Traber, Hebron, Ill., 2,629; Brad Angelo, Lockport, N.Y., 2,660

Women's Round of 16 (\$1800 each)

Wendy Macpherson, Henderson, Nev., 2,853, \$1,890; Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, 2,749; Jennifer Petrick, Canton, Ohio, 2,718; Missy Bellinder, Fullerton, Calif., 2,689; Joy Esterson, Annapolis, Md., 2,677; Adrienne Miller, Buffalo Grove, Ill., 2,627



Lady Shockers Keep Rolling Win 4th Straight

Another weekend tournament and once again another title for the WSU Shocker women. The Lady Shockers grabbed their fourth title in as many tournaments this season at the Leatherneck Classic in Rock Island, Ill. this weekend. However, this weekend wasn't easy for the Shockers as they played from behind in the most critical parts of the tournament.

After the first six team games of qualifying the Shockers closed the first day of competition leading the field of 14 women's teams. However, the Shockers slipped a position in the final 16 qualifying games of baker bowling the following day, leaving them as the second seed in the top four team bracket finals.

The women entered the first round of the finals against third seeded Robert Morris College and came out on fire with a 244-177 victory. Robert Morris rebounded as they handed the Shockers two straight losses; 204-213 and 184-211. Needing to come from behind and win two straight matches, the Shockers came through with wins of 184-147 and 225-178; sending them to the championship match against Lindenwood University.

The championships played out in a familiar and identical fashion for the Shockers. After winning the first game 236-185, the Shockers lost the following two; 175-190 and 177-191. Once again the Shockers rallied from behind and shot two excellent games (245-145 and 222-213) to claim their fourth title of the season and remain undefeated.

For the first time this season the Shockers competed in a tournament that consisted of qualifying bowling followed by head to head bracket matches which is the same format as the National Championships.

"This was a good experience in match play for the women," said Head Coach Gordon Vadakin. "It's always good to have success to draw from later in the year."

The Shocker men had their fair share of excitement in their division as well. The Shockers led qualifying out of the 30 team field and entered match play as the top seed. In their opening match against Webber International, the Shocker men followed the same pattern as the women. After a big 244-224 win, the Shocker men dropped the next two matches 192-207 and 212-225. How-

ever, the team rebounded with a close 204-190 victory and then closed the match with ease in a 224-156 blowout to advance to the finals against Newman University.

In the championship match, there was no time to get comfortable for either team as all five matches went down to the wire. In the opening game, Newman struck in the first eight frames while WSU started with a spare and then an open in the first two. The Shockers refused to be intimidated and rallied striking from the third frame through the second shot in the tenth frame. After an open by Newman in the ninth, the Shockers had the chance to win in the final shot but were unable to convert and lost a heartbreaker, 253-254. After a 185-219 loss in the second match, the Shockers came out fighting to avoid elimination and won 259-246 after Newman's anchor was unable to strike out. In the championship match the Shockers placed themselves in a position to win but Newman was able to throw three strikes in the tenth frame to close the match and end the tournament with a 224-226 victory.

"The guys played with some real guts down the stretch," said Vadakin. "We had a good performance, led the tournament and saw a little more improvement. We are really encouraged by how the men are playing right now."

One man who has been playing well has been junior John Szczerbinski as he made his third consecutive All-Tournament Team appearance averaging 226 over six games. Also making the All-Tournament Team in the women's division was junior Sandra Gongora and senior Melissa Hurst who finished second and third respectively. Gongora averaged 215 over six games and Hurst averaged 214; both made their first All-Tournament Team of the season.

The Shockers will now turn their focus to school as they finish the fall 2008 semester in the coming two weeks. After final exams, the Shockers will hit the bright lights as they spend the Christmas break in Las Vegas with the Sam's Town Collegiate Shoot Out (December 20-21) and the Las Vegas Invitational (December 22-23); both Tier 1 tournaments. The women will look to finish 2008 undefeated as last season the Lady Shockers claimed titles in both tournaments.

PBA Commemorative Merchandise Raises Money for Good Cause

Proceeds to benefit The Bowling Foundation

In celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Lumber Liquidators PBA Tour, a commemorative 50th Anniversary towel is available for purchase, with portions of the proceeds going to charitable causes.

The PBA is donating one dollar from every 50th Anniversary towel sale to The Bowling Foundation, a not for profit organization serving as the premier charitable arm for the sport of bowling.

"Every bowler needs a new towel for their bag. What a great way to commemorate this historic 50th Anniversary season of the PBA Tour," said Tom Clark, PBA Chief Operating Officer. "And bowlers will be proud to know that portions of the proceeds from their purchase of this great towel will go to the great causes supported by the Bowling Foundation."

The Bowling Foundation supports charities such as: the "Special Olympics,"

"Bowl for a Cure," which raises money to fight against breast cancer with Susan G. Komen for the Cure, "Bowlers Salute America's Troops," which is governed by the Bowlers to Veterans Link (BVL), "Bowl for Kid's Sake," a program designed to help Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, and "Get Ahead with Bowler's Ed," a special program designed to help physical education teachers teach bowling to their PE students.

"We are excited to partner with the PBA on this project and continue to raise money within the bowling industry to support our remarkable charitable causes," said Troy Greisen, Executive Director of The Bowling Foundation.

The black microfiber 50th Anniversary PBA towel bears the 50th Anniversary logo and can be purchased for \$14.95 by visiting www.pbastore.com or on site at any Lumber Liquidators PBA Tour event.

Team USA's Hoffman, Ballard To Join USBC's International Development Team

In an initiative to help grow the sport of bowling both domestically and worldwide, the United States Bowling Congress has hired Team USA members Bill Hoffman and Del Ballard Jr. to join the International Development team.

Hoffman, formerly of Columbus, Ohio, joined USBC as International Development team leader Dec. 5. Ballard, a former Professional Bowlers Association touring player from North Richland Hills, Texas, begins Dec. 29. By joining the USBC staff, both are leaving the USBC Board of Directors with replacements to be announced after voting at a later date by the USBC Athletes Advisory Council.

"Our International Development team will be challenged with the goal of not only promoting bowling worldwide, but also developing partnerships to help cover the costs of the program," USBC Chief Operating Officer Kevin Dornberger said. "It is my expectation that the International Development team will be self-sustaining."

Hoffman has been involved with the sport of bowling for more than 20 years. The 1999 and 2003 U.S. National Amateur champion is a six-time Team USA member. The former full-time amateur bowler has served as a delegate to the Federation Internationale des Quilleurs, World Tenpin Bowling Association and on the USA Bowling International Relations Commit-

tee. He currently is a member of the WTBA Tournament Committee.

"The initial step is learning what other countries need, then developing programs to help grow the sport in their countries," said Hoffman before leaving on his first assignment in Qatar. "My international bowling experience has led me to develop relationships with WTBA member federations, athletes and some proprietors. That combination puts me in a unique position to help them understand their needs."

Ballard is a 13-time PBA titlist and a member of USBC Team USA in 2008. Among his pro titles are four majors - the 1987 U.S. Open, 1988 USBC Masters, 1989 Firestone Tournament of Champions and 1993 U.S. Open. All of his championships came in a seven-year span from 1987 to 1993. With his first career victory at the 1987 U.S. Open, Ballard became the first player in the history of professional bowling to win a six-figure prize.

"This is such an exciting and pivotal time for USBC, and I feel it is important for me to get more involved," Ballard said. "We are going to put programs together to assist other countries in start coaching programs and help federations develop further. Growing the sport around the world will continue to strengthen USBC in the years to come."

PBA and OnTheBallBowling.com Team Up to Commemorate 50th Anniversary of PBA Tour

In celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Lumber Liquidators PBA Tour, OnTheBallBowling.com and the Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) have teamed-up to create a limited edition series of bowling balls featuring the 50 Greatest Players in PBA History.

OnTheBallBowling.com is the first company dedicated to creating customizable bowling products, including bowling balls and pins. With the limited edition series of the 50 Greatest Players in PBA History, each ball in the collection will feature one of the 50 Greatest Players on one side of the bowling ball and the PBA 50th Anniversary logo on the other side. Production is limited to 50 balls of each player. Each ball will be individually numbered and will come with a Certificate of Authenticity signed

by the bowler or a representative of his estate. The first edition of each ball will be given to that specific player at the 50th Anniversary Gala taking place, Jan. 24 at Red Rock Resort, Casino and Spa in Las Vegas, Nev.

The cost of each bowling ball is \$180. Bowling fans can purchase the commemorative bowling balls through www.ontheballbowling.com. A 15% discount will be offered with the promotion code "PBA."

The PBA is also working with OnTheBallBowling.com to create an affiliate website where fans will be able to purchase customized bowling balls, including ones created from Pro-Am pictures taken at PBA events. More information regarding the affiliate website will be released at a later date.



Four Aces and a Kicker; new holders of the Women's Colorado State records for scratch series and scratch game; records set at Kingpin Lanes in Colorado Springs on Tuesday, November 11, 2008.

Team members pictured are from left to right: Lisa Nielsen, Alison Raines, Karen Ciesiolka, Kerri Perra and Patsy Dew.

PBA Highlights First Half of 50th Anniversary Season

Top 10 Moments Revealed

While some of the greatest highlights from the first half of the 50th Anniversary of the Lumber Liquidators PBA Tour season may have literally been the classic highlights shown during the weekly ESPN countdown of the 50 Greatest Players in its history, new action on the lanes has created fresh memories.

Over the opening half of the season, there have been plenty of moments, stories and developments to supplement the ongoing celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the PBA.

Here's a top ten list from the first half of the year:

10. "Big Nasty" Wes Malott's emergence as Mr. Versatility.

If anyone thought Malott's high-revolution, powerful style of play was one-dimensional, they don't anymore. For the first time ever this season, the PBA named champions on each of the five PBA Experience lane conditions and while Malott won one title (the CLR Carmen Salvino Scorpion Championship), he made it all the way to The Show at three other pattern championships: The Viper, Chameleon and Shark. Throughout the PBA's Versatility Swing during the first half of the year, no matter how the lanes were dressed, Malott (the season's point leader at the break) has risen to the top.

9. The PBA Women's Series will culminate with a special Showdown.

It was announced the six winners (or highest finishers if a player wins more than one) of the Women's Series singles tournaments would advance to made-for-TV dedicated PBA ESPN telecast for women (the first of its kind) sponsored by the USBC. Meanwhile, five players have emerged from the "sweet 16" exempt women to get already secure extra face time on TV this year. Past PWBA stars Michelle Feldman and Carolyn Dorin-Ballard, emerging star Stefanie Nation and Jodi Woessner have all won (Feldman winning twice) and made the show more than once. Missy Bellinder has also qualified for the Showdown, finishing second to Feldman at the CLR Carmen Salvino Scorpion Championship.

8. An amateur makes The Show; meets up with familiar face on TV.

Anthony LaCaze, who didn't even have a "name" shirt to begin his week, in an unbelievable story advanced all the way from TQR to The Show at the Lake County Indiana Golden Anniversary Championship. He ultimately fell only in the semifinal and the fact his opponent in his TV match had been the best man at his wedding (exempt pro Bill O'Neill), well, you can't make a story like that up.

7. The first PBA Senior event final in 7 years was broadcast on ESPN.

Upstart journeyman senior pro Timothy Kauble captured the title at the Golden Anniversary Championship, but it was his reaction to his first strike that was the most memorable moment. It seems the last time Kauble was on TV prior to his win, it was when he was a teenager participating in a "Dick Clark-style" teeny-bopper dance show. Kauble's mistake was telling ESPN bowling announcer Rob Stone about his previous "TV experience," but after striking in his first shot on television, Kauble preempted any chance for Stone to embarrass him by doing a little boogie dance right there at the foul line.

6. Players are sporting a new look this season as official PBA jerseys are unveiled.

For most PBA players, uninspired golf shirts with sticky patches made way for stylish, dye-sublimated sports jerseys sporting fresh designs and dramatic logos by Gemini Sport Marketing. The jerseys set the pros apart, give them a better avenue for branding themselves and connecting with fans and offer a better opportunity to sell valuable real estate on the jerseys. Tour and player sponsors also began taking advantage of the improved, greater exposure the jerseys provide. And the best thing is fans at home can design their own jerseys on Gemini's web site in the mold of their favorite PBA stars and wear them in their own leagues and tournaments.

5. A lesson to all opponents: Never give Parker Bohn III even more motivation to win.

Spurred on to a renewed determination in his preparation for the Tour this offseason by being passed over for a spot on the first-ever "Dream Team" Team USA travel team that won gold in Thailand this summer, Bohn made two shows in the first half, winning one (the Cheetah Championship). The Hall-of-Fame Bohn, falsely rumored to be on the downside of his remarkable career, sits in third place on the points list (top left) and appears to be playing with an uncharacteristic chip on his shoulder since the Team USA snub – which once again makes him a threat to win every week.

4. Forget the Energizer Bunny. It's Walter Ray that keeps going and going.

Walter Ray Williams Jr., nearing his 50th birthday and already solidified as the all-time winner in PBA Tour history, won the Golden Anniversary Championship, appropriately enough, to bring his lifetime record of wins to 45. At once, he served notice to two groups of players: 1) the exempt touring pros he's dominated for decades, reminded again that he isn't going away; and 2) the Senior Tour players who better win quick before he turns 50.

3. The improbable series of events leading to Mike Machuga's victory at the Chameleon Championship.

During Friday night's position round, Machuga seemed assured the fourth seed in the four-man stepladder finals. But an unprecedented and untimely scoring malfunction lead to Sean Rash getting to bowl his last position round game over, needing a 256 to move past Machuga into fourth. Rash, as Murphy's Law would demand, actually did. But after officials pondered the fairness of the situation from Machuga's perspective, the decision was made to change the TV finals into a 5-man stepladder, pitting Machuga and Rash in the first match. An extra half-hour was added to the ESPN telecast and after Machuga defeated Rash, he marched through the field playing an outside line while the others played in. The unpredictable events gave Machuga another title and gave the fans on site the treat of his signature move, the Machuga Flop. Once again, you simply can't make this stuff up.

2. LeBron James' PBA debut.

James, yes, THE LeBron James, needing a strike in 9th frame to give his doubles partner Jason Couch and he a commanding position in the title match of the inaugural Chris Paul PBA Celebrity Invitational over host Paul and his partner Chris Barnes, fires an unstoppable rocket to the 1-2 pocket and strikes an unforgettable pose at the line, signaling victory. The close, high scoring match, filled with smack talk, capped the first-ever PBA celebrity televised event. Not only NBA stars James and Paul but Dwyane Wade, Kevin Durant and Rudy Gay (all on the NBA scoring leaders first page this year) paired with PBA stars including Ebonite's Tommy Jones, Doug Kent and Mitch Beasley in the event that secured more mainstream media for the PBA than any event in recent memory. It's the PBA's most-watched YouTube match so far this year. Avid bowler Paul's charitable foundation and hometown of Winston-Salem benefited from the event, but it was LeBron, who also treated fans with his signature "chalk" move prior to bowling who stole the show this time.

1. Norm Duke wins third straight major championship.

Last season, "Duuuuuuuuuke," as the fans affectionately call him everywhere he goes, won the PBA World Championship and U.S. Open to close out the campaign. Then, he picked right up where he left off, winning the PBA World Championship in Wichita to start this season. It is the first time in the history of the PBA that a player has won three consecutive Major championships. Unbelievable. But does anyone doubt Duke will be a threat to win four straight next month at the H&R Block Tournament of Champions? Duke was also voted into the PBA Hall of Fame this season.

NEW YORK BOWLER WINS BOWLING "STRIKE BIKE"

Custom motorcycle designed by famed Orange County Choppers featured on TV show

The Bowling Proprietors' Association of America (BPAA) Beverage Committee congratulates Steve Arndt II of Waterloo, NY, on being selected as the GRAND PRIZE winner in the 2008 "Win the Strike

I'd be the one holding the winning number."

A soon-to-be newlywed, Steve Arndt and his fiancée are big bowlers and huge Orange County Chopper fans. As part of



BPAA's "Win the Strike Bike" Grand Prize Winner Steve Arndt II

Bike" promotion Arndt is a league bowler at Falcon Lanes, a 16 lane center in Auburn, NY. The custom-designed bowling-themed motorcycle was built by the famed Teutul family at their Orange County Chopper facility in Newburgh, NY.

Participants in the nationwide contest received a special code whenever they purchased a 44-oz Pepsi beverage in specially-marked Strike Bike cups that were only available in BPAA-Pepsi centers. During the 45-day promotion, over 52,000 entrants logged on to www.GoBowling.com and entered their number for a chance to win.

"I bought several soft drinks between September 15 and October 31, 2008," said a still-beaming Arndt. "But I never thought

the package Steve and several of his family members traveled to the headquarters of Orange County Choppers to meet up with the Teutuls who custom made the Strike Bike which was featured in a 2008 episode of their TV show, American Chopper, on the Learning Channel.

"I still can't believe it," Arndt said while taking a private tour of the Newburgh, NY facility where the TV show is filmed. "I mean, I was flipped out about winning the bike and meeting the OCC guys!

The Strike Bike was by far the largest and best received promotion that the Beverage Committee provided to centers that participate in the BPAA-Pepsi national program, and plans are already in the works for 2009's promotion.

\$50,000, \$25,000 Plus Many Changes in February High Roller!



More Games, More Finalists, New Divisions!

Greetings from Las Vegas! If you would

like to receive emails about our Senior Classics or our Military events, please reply and let us know. If you would rather not receive any emails, reply to this and put Unsubscribe in the subject line.

It's nice to receive the great reaction we have been getting about the changes for the upcoming February High Roller!

High Roller week starts with the "A Game" on January 31 & February 1 with the High Roller rolling February 2 - 7. Qualifying is now a 2-gamer with 96 players advancing to the Grand Finals instead of 68! Once in the Grand Finals, you will bowl match play for Top Prizes of \$50,000 & \$25,000 with each of the 4 divisions guaranteed at least a \$10,000 winner! Also new is the 215 Average & Under division replacing the "205". Good news is that the entry fee stays the same, \$260 for your 1st entry with \$180 re-entries. And that isn't all as the Sweeper purses are all increased as well!

Call Sam's Town now at 1-877-593-5993 and mention High Roller to take advantage of great room rates! And visit Sam's Town's new Sports Room to make all of your Super Bowl wagers! It's the best place in town to watch the big game!

Hundreds of new Storm balls will be distributed during the February High Roller And the Storm staff will be onsite for information and layout all week.

Reminder for anyone interested in a great-tasting and healthy way to get your daily vitamins and minerals, go to www.high-roller.com and click on the Verve logo. All High Roller proceeds from Verve sales go towards prize money!

Welcome also to co-sponsors 3G High Performance Shoes, Vise Inserts and Enterprise Auto Rental!

Walk-ins are welcome but expect some squads to fill early. High Roller has now paid \$81,242,146 in prizes to bowlers since the inaugural event in 1982! For more info and brochures, call us toll free 1-800-257-6179 or visit us at www.high-roller.com. Download a full brochure and enter online - it's fast, easy & secure!

An Infamous Piece of History Comes to Life at PBA Cheetah Championship

CHEEKTOWAGA, N.Y. – While the Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) recognizes its 50th Anniversary in myriad ways this season, Del Ballard Jr. gave fans at the PBA Cheetah Championship a startling, unprecedented throwback experience while competing in the Tournament Qualifying Round on Wednesday at Thruway Lanes, just outside Buffalo.

The background: A display case filled with artifacts from the Lumber Liquidator's PBA Tour's storied past accompanies the Tour into each city it visits as it celebrates its 50th birthday. In the case are items such as legendary original PBA member Dick Weber's Hall of Fame ring and the ball Earl Anthony used to become the first PBA player to earn \$1 million.

But the most talked about item in the display case came from perhaps the most infamous moment in the history of PBA action. It is the Blue Hammer bowling ball Ballard used in the 1991 nationally-televised finals of the Fair Lanes Open, when he rolled the gutter ball heard around the world.

Looking back, the 1991 Fair Lanes Open was an exciting title match, with fellow Hall-of-Famer (and son of Dick Weber) Pete Weber forcing Ballard to get the first two strikes and seven in the 10th frame to win. Ballard got the first two clutch strikes in the 10th, but then needing only the seven-pin count to earn the title, inexplicably threw the ball into the right gutter to hand the victory to Weber.

The remarkable events can be relived on YouTube: Del Ballard Jr. vs. Pete Weber, 1991 Fair Lanes Open

Wherever Ballard, one of the all-time greats of the game who will be inducted into the PBA Hall of Fame at a ceremony held Jan. 24 in conjunction with the 50th Anniversary gala dinner celebrating the 50 Greatest Players in PBA history, goes, fans ask about the gutter ball, to this day.

And Ballard had never used that Blue Hammer ball again since that fateful day 17 years ago – until Wednesday.

Bowling in the seven-game Tour Qualifying Round at the PBA Cheetah Championship, Ballard had started the day with his current equipment (far more technologically advanced than his equipment from 1991). Ballard tossed two disappointing games of 187 and 132, finding himself well out of contention to qualify.

As soon as he was done with the second game, Ballard asked PBA tournament director Corey Kistner if he could use the famed "gutter ball" that was resting in the display case. Kistner was agreeable, saying, "Well, it is your ball." After unlocking and opening the case in just a minute, the "gutter ball" was ready for Ballard to use for the third game.

A crowd at Thruway Lanes formed around Ballard as word spread that he was actually using the infamous, historic ball in competition.

And Ballard's scores immediately went up. He fired a 661 series for the next three games (247-225-189) with the Blue Hammer before switching back to another ball and just missed cashing in the event by 11 pins.

"I needed a ball that would go straight, so I thought myself, 'Man, I wish I had that ball (the gutter ball)'," Ballard said. "I asked (Tournament Director) Kirk von Krueger if that ball was still legal and he said it was, so I used it. I wish I had started the tournament with it! I'm glad the ball travels with the tour in case I need it."

When Ballard was finished, he returned the ball to the PBA, which promptly put it back in the display case. It makes its way to Baltimore next week for the Lumber Liquidators Shark Championship.

Ballard Jr. of Keller, Texas has 13 career PBA Tour titles to his credit, including four Majors. With Ballard's career earnings totaling \$1,300,357, he became the 11th PBA player to hit the \$1 million mark during the 1994 season. Ballard won the prestigious U.S. Open two times (in 1987 and '93) and his four career Major victories puts him tied for seventh on the all-time PBA Majors list.

Bowlers staying at The South Point will receive many extra benefits. The first big advantage is all bowlers will be allowed to ship their bowling equipment directly to the bowling center prior to their travels. All packages will be accepted for FREE if you have a reservation. Those not staying at South Point must pay a \$25 per package fee. Other benefits for staying at South Point include free hourly shuttle service from the airport, \$100 in bonus match play coupons, and two free entries into the \$6,000 early bird tournaments.

The 2009 Mini-Eliminator at The South Point will feature 13 qualifying squads that will run over 4 days; February 5-8. Top prizes of \$20,000 and \$10,000 are guaranteed regardless of entries and all finalists will take home a minimum of \$500. The Mini features a 3-game scratch qualifying format with 3 separate divisions; 49 and under, 50 and over, and bowlers with an average of 205 or less. The finals use a beat-half-the-field elimination format by division.

The Mini-Eliminator is sponsored by Columbia 300, Kegel, VirtualTournaments.com, South Point Hotel & Casino, shirts4bowling.com and Contour Power Grips. For more information please visit www.minieliminator.com or call our toll-free hotline 1.877.900.6464.

PBA TO INDUCT NORM DUKE, DEL BALLARD JR. AND JOHN HANDEGARD INTO PBA HALL OF FAME

New inductees added to PBA Hall of Fame for first time since 2000

Norm Duke, Del Ballard Jr. and John Handegard join bowling's elite as each player will be inducted into the PBA Hall of Fame during the PBA 50th Anniversary Gala at Red Rock Resort and Casino in Las Vegas, Nev. on January 24, 2009. The induction marks the first time since 2000 that the Lumber Liquidators PBA Tour will add new inductees into the Performance Category of the PBA Hall of Fame.

Norm Duke of Clermont, Fla. currently owns 30 career PBA Tour titles, including six career Majors, recently becoming the first player in PBA history to win three consecutive Majors as he captured the PBA World Championships in Wichita, Kan. earlier this season. Duke started his career on the right path becoming the youngest player in PBA history to win a PBA Tour title at the young age of 18, when he captured the 1983 Cleveland Open. Duke, who is a two-time PBA Player of the Year (1994, 2000), also has been in the top 20 of both earnings and average every year since 1991, winning the George Young High Average Award four times (1991, 1994, '2005-06, '2006-07). Duke is currently sixth on the all-time TV appearances list with 100 singles appearances and ranks fourth on the all-time career money leaders list.

"To be inducted into the Hall of Fame, it's a requirement that you be a top notch bowler for a number of years," Duke said. "In my mind I look back at all the years that I struggled in my career and it was a learning process ... that's really what I'm getting credit for."

"This induction is so special," Duke added. "About 30 years ago I was bowling as a teen with Del Ballard Jr. and to be inducted alongside him is really something special. It will be something I will never forget."

Del Ballard Jr. of Keller, Texas has 13 career PBA Tour titles to his credit, including four Majors. With Ballard's career earnings totaling \$1,300,357, he became the 11th PBA player to hit the \$1 million mark during the 1994 season. Ballard won the prestigious U.S. Open two times (in 1987 and '93) and his four



Norm Duke

career Major victories puts him tied for seventh on the all-time PBA Majors list.

"I'm extremely excited but out of respect for a couple other guys that I feel also deserve to be in the Hall of Fame, I'm trying to be humble about it," Ballard Jr. said. "It's been a long road as I've been nominated before and I was disappointed when I didn't make it in the first time. But I'm glad that I'm going in with Norm. He and I have a long history together, we both came up together in Texas, went to the same PBA school in Denver, roomed together and known each other a long time."

John Handegard marks the first player to be inducted in the PBA Senior Hall of Fame. Handegard is the PBA Senior Tour's all-time titlist with 14 career PBA Senior Tour titles, including one Major title. A three-time PBA



Del Ballard

Senior Player of the Year (1991, '95, '96), Handegard also made PBA history by becoming the oldest PBA Tour Champion at age 57, capturing the 1995 Northwest Classic in Kennewick, Wash., defeating Mark Williams 278-

247 for the title.

As part of the 50th anniversary celebration of the PBA Tour, the PBA created a new Hall of Fame induction process to honor its greatest players of both past and present. The most notable changes to the process include that a bowler now may also become eligible for selection to the Hall of Fame on the basis of five PBA Tour Titles, if two of those titles were Major championships and 20 years of PBA membership, rather than retirement from the Tour for five years.

The PBA also unveiled a new Senior Tour division to the Hall of Fame to honor those players whose rise to greatness took place after they moved on to the PBA Senior Tour. The criteria for the PBA Senior Hall of Fame are as follows: a minimum of eight PBA Senior Tour titles or a minimum of five PBA Senior Tour titles including two Majors with a minimum of 10 years membership in the PBA.

With these changes, 12 bowlers became eligible for induction. The eligible inductees were voted on by a 65 person committee comprised of the PBA Hall of Fame Board, current Hall of Fame members and selected media representatives, ultimately selecting three inductees for 2009. A two-thirds vote was required for induction.



John Handegard

Baltimore's Rich Jerome Jr. Rolls 900 Series

Baltimore's Rich Jerome Jr. became the 12th bowler to roll an approved 900 series Dec. 22. The 29-year-old right-hander had three consecutive 300 games in the Monday Night Mixed League at Brunswick Perry Hall Lanes in Baltimore.

He was the first bowler in two years with 36 consecutive strikes in the same series. The last 900 was rolled Dec. 23, 2006 by P.J. Geisfeldt in Milwaukee.

"I started realizing I might have a shot at it in the seventh frame of the last game," said Jerome, now in his 11th year on the lanes. "It seemed from then on that people started standing around my lanes but I tried to watch the pins. I also tried to watching the football game on TV to take my mind off it."

"After I finished, I looked around and it seemed like everyone there was on the settee area with me. It was very exciting."

Jerome had 10 previous 300 games and five earlier 800 series. Two of his perfect games came as part of his previous career-high 857 series Nov. 3 in the Drug Trade League, also at Perry Hall. The Drug Trade is USBC's oldest certified league dating back to the 1896-97 season.

Previous 900 shooters are: Jeremy Sonnenfeld, Lincoln, Neb., Feb. 2, 1997; Tony Roventini, Milwaukee, Nov. 9, 1998; Vince Wood, Moreno Valley, Calif., Sept. 29, 1999; Robby Portalatin, Jackson, Mich., Dec. 28, 2000; James Hylton, Salem, Ore., May 2, 2001; Jeff Campbell II, New Castle, Pa., June 12, 2004; Darin Pomije, New Prague, Minn., Dec. 9, 2004; Robert Mushtare, Fort Drum, N.Y., Dec. 5, 2005 and Feb. 19, 2006; Lonnie Billiter Jr., Fairfield, Ohio, Feb. 13, 2006; Mark Wukoman, Greenfield, Wis., April 22, 2006; and Geisfeldt.

Stay at South Point For Free!

Las Vegas, NV - The world famous Mini-Eliminator is so excited that it has moved to The South Point it is including a FREE mid-week room night with everyone's first two entries! This means if you share a room with another Mini-Eliminator entrant, and you both bowl two squads, you will have a total of four free midweek room nights while in Las Vegas!

If you are looking to enjoy a vacation while bowling the megabuck tournaments The South Point is a must stay! There are 2,100 mini-suites all with huge flat screen televisions. A beautiful spa, pool, exercise room, showroom, and over 10 restaurants make this a very special place. The location is perfect; right on Las Vegas Blvd., about 5 miles past Mandalay Bay. The South Point is right off Las Vegas' major highway I-15 and is very close to the airport and rental car station.

Room rates for bowlers and guests have been discounted to \$55 midweek and \$95 weekends. This special rate will run for two weeks, February 1-15, to accommodate bowlers staying for The USBC Masters tournament. To reserve a room at South Point go on-line to www.minieliminator.com or call reservations directly at 1.866.791.7626 and tell them you are bowling the Mini-Eliminator.

GIVING THANKS

You can't hold back father time, but the period from Thanksgiving to New Years seemed to be a good time to reflect on the events and people who have touched your life in the past months.

Las Vegas is truly a melting pot; so it affords somebody in our industry an opportunity to meet and compete with individuals from all over the USA.

The Golden Ladies Classic Tournament in March welcomes many new faces, especially from the midwest and east coast. They are truly a testimonial to the old saying – there is life after 50. Using them as a barometer, our sport is in good

health despite the economy. The first entry for the 19th Annual Golden Ladies (March 9th-12th, 2009), was from one of our all-time top women bowlers – Virginia Norton, who still enjoys an 'A' game. These ladies have all played an important roll in building and keeping their sport alive in their respective areas. What wonderful role models, and I'm grateful that I have one week each year to meet and enjoy hearing their experiences.

Circumstances didn't permit me to attend this year's Flint (Michigan) Bowling Hall of Fame banquet, but the 40th Annual booklet sent to me by Gary Schlicht afforded me the opportunity to take a trip down memory lane. My twenty years with the association was filled with many wonderful moments, and I was happy to see that many from that era are still participating and keeping the association among the top in Michigan.

The Southern Nevada Hall of Fame banquet held at the South Point provided me with a chance to chat with Del and Carolyn Ballard, who were up beat about the feedback they get in their travels representing the USBC and the PBA. Carolyn foresees a great future for Jun-

ior and High School bowling.

Kris Zahn, who formally headed up the USBC High School program stopped by the Orleans to extend 'Holiday Greetings' and bring me up-to-date on her latest venture. She is currently owner and operator of a Pilates studio in Tempe, Arizona. She sees this form of exercise and therapy as a new wave in the health field. Kris, a former pro bowler, points with pride to all the new high schools across the country that she introduced to our sport.

The bowling writers who take the time and make an extra effort to attend our GLC or other

tournaments also bring with them valuable news and information about what's going on in other parts of the country. Their association has kept our sport in the front for many years. I'm pleased that long time friend, Tom Kouros, is being inducted into the USBC Hall of Fame. He is not only an author, but considered one of the top bowling instructors and has penned a couple of best selling books 'Par Bowling' and 'Par Bowling the Challenge'. I have loaned them out on occasion because of their valuable instructions.

Bowling and this writer lost a great friend and supporter with the passing earlier this year of the legend Joe Lyou. He covered the bowling beat from all levels for some fifty years. He was fair and accurate and a joy to be around. His last assignment was the Golden Ladies at the Orleans, and unfortunately, he died a few days later. We hope that the association one day will name a regional in his honor.

I'm looking forward to the new year with high hopes for not only bowling, but the country overall. I thank all of you that have touched my life both on and off the lanes and wish you one and all good health and happiness. XXX

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



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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan 14-18 **PBA Earl Anthony Classic**
- Jan 17-18 **PBA Women's Series**, Lava Lanes, Medford, OR
- Jan 18-22 **SASBA**, Lightning Lanes, Pasadena, TX
- Jan 19-25 **SASBA South Central**, Cotton Bowl, Memphis, TN
- Jan 31-Feb 1-4 **Military Championships**, Gold Coast Bowling Center, Las Vegas, NV
- Jan 31-Feb 7 **PBA H&R Block Tournament of Champions**, Red Rock Lanes, Las Vegas, NV
- Feb 1-8 **SASBA**, Holiday Lanes, Oklahoma City, OK
- Feb 1-8 **High Roller "A" Game**, Samis Town Bowling Center, Las Vegas, NV
- Feb 3-8 **High Roller**, Samis Town Bowling Center, Las Vegas, NV
- Feb 5-8 **True Amateur Tournament**, The Orleans Bowling Center, Las Vegas, NV
- Feb 7-8 **TAT Open Championships**, The Orleans Bowling Center, Las Vegas, NV
- Feb 8-15 **PBA Denny's Dick Weber Open**, Fountain Bowl, Fountain Valley, CA
- Feb 9-13 **Mini Eliminator**, South Point Bowling Center, Las Vegas, NV
- Feb 20-July 23 **SASBA**, Metro Bowl, Baton Rouge, LA
- Feb 21-July 23 **USBC Masters**, Cashman Center, Las Vegas, NV
- Feb 18-22 **USBC Masters Side Event**, South Point Bowling Center, Las Vegas, NV
- Feb 21-22 **The Forty Frame Game USA**, Samis Town Bowling Center, Las Vegas, NV
- Feb 23-Mar 1 **USBC Open Championships**, Cashman Center, Las Vegas, NV
- Mar 2-8 **Bowlers Journal Championships**, Gold Coast Bowling Center, Las Vegas, NV
- Mar 7-8 **PBA GEICO Plastic Ball Championship**, Brunswick Zone Wheat Ridge, Wheat Ridge, CO
- Mar 9-12 **SASBA South Central**, Pinnacle, Clarkesville, TN
- Mar 18-22 **TAT Beat The Board Tournament**, The Orleans Bowling Center, Las Vegas, NV
- Mar 21-22 **PBA Etonic Marathon Championship**, Woodland Bowl, Indianapolis, IN
- Mar 25-29 **PBA Don Johnson Buckeye State Eliminator**, Sequoia Pro Bowl, Columbus, OH
- Mar 27-July 4 **SASBA M/M Doubles**, Redbird Lanes, Duncanville, TX
- Mar 28-29 **19th Annual Golden Ladies Classic**, The Orleans Bowling Center, Las Vegas
- Mar 29-Apr 5 **PBA GoRving Match Play Championship**, Norwich Bowling & Entertainment Center, Norwich, CT
- Apr 5-12 **SASBA**, Lone Star Lanes, Sherman, TX
- Apr 17-19 **PBA Bowling Foundation Long Island Classic**, AMF Babylon Lanes, West Babylon, NY
- Apr 18-19 **The Forty Frame Game Ladies**, Starlite Lanes, Reno, NV
- Apr 18-21 **Bowlers Journal Women's Championships**, Starlite Lanes, Reno, NV
- Apr 25-26 **USBC Women's Championships**, National Bowling Stadium, Reno, NV
- Apr 25-28 **SASBA M/G Doubles**, All Star Lanes, Shreveport, LA
- Apr 30 **66th Lumber Liquidators U. S. Open**, Brunswick Zone Carolier, North Brunswick, NJ
- May 2-3 **High Roller Senior Easter Classic**, Samis Town Bowling Center, Las Vegas, NV
- May 3-6 **MAMBO**, Astro Bowl Sports Center, San Antonio, TX
- May 9-10 **SASBA SS Singles**, Bandera Super Bowl, San Antonio, TX
- May 9-13 **SASBA South Central**, Dixie Bowl, Meridian, MS
- May 16-17 **PBA Senior Jackson Open**, Jackson, MI
- May 30-31 **SASBA Trio**, AMF Euleess, Euleess, TX
- June 7-12 **PBA Senior Dayton Classic**, Dayton, OH
- June 14-19 **Bowling's Clash of Champions**, Reno Events Center, Reno, NV
- June 20-21 **SASBA South Central**, Galaxy Lanes, Columbia, TN
- June 21-24 **PBA Senior Mooresville Miller High Life Classic**, George Pappas Victory Lanes, Mooresville, NC
- June 21-26 **SASBA**, Fiesta Lanes, New Braunfels, TX
- June 27-July 4 **PBA Senior Sun Bowl In The Villages**, Spanish Springs Lanes, The Villages, FL
- July 4-6 **SASBA**, All Star Lanes, Shreveport LA
- July 10-12 **SASBA South Central**, Lightning Strikes, Trussville, AL
- July 11-17 **SASBA SS Singles**, Millennium Bowl, Little Rock, AR
- July 16-25 **USBC Senior Masters - Golden Pin Lanes**, Tucson, AZ
- July 18-19 **PBA Senior U.S. Open**, Suncoast Bowling Center, Las Vegas, NV
- July 25-26 **SASBA South Central**, PlaMor Lanes, Huntsville, AL
- July 25-Aug 2 **PBA Senior Northern California Classic**, Harvest Park Bowl, Brentwood, CA
- July 31-Aug 5 **International Bowl Expo**, Mandalay Bay Convention Center, Las Vegas, NV
- Aug 1-4 **July High Roller**, Samis Town Bowling Center, Las Vegas, NV
- Aug 8-9 **SASBA Firecracker**, Plano Super Bowl, Plano, TX
- Aug 8-11 **MAMBO**, South Point Bowling Center, Las Vegas, NV
- Aug 13-16 **USBC Junior Gold Championships**, Indianapolis, IN
- Aug 15-16 **USBC Youth Open Championships**, Indianapolis, IN
- Aug 15-18 **SASBA South Central**, Funquest, Collierville, TN
- Aug 22-26 **SASBA M/G Doubles**, Diamond Lanes, Odessa, TX
- Aug 29-30 **WTBA Women's World Championships**, Cashman Center, Las Vegas
- Sept 5-7 **Teen Masters National Championships**, South Point Bowling Center, Las Vegas
- Sept 19-20 **PBA Senior Lake County Indiana Open**, Olympia Lanes, Hammond, IN
- Sept 26-27 **SASBA**, Copperfield, Houston, TX
- Oct 10-11 **SASBA South Central**, Savannah Bowling Center, Savannah, TN
- Oct 17-18 **PBA Senior Decatur Open**, Spare Time Lanes, Decatur, IL
- Oct 24-25 **6th New Mexico Open**, Tenpins & More, Rio Rancho, NM
- Nov 7-8 **SASBA**, All Star Lanes, Shreveport, LA
- Nov 14-15 **PBA Senior Ladies & Legends**, Town & Country Lanes, Joliet, IL
- Dec 5-6 **PBA Senior Dick Weber Open**, Royal Scot Golf & Bowl, Lansing, MI
- Dec 19-20 **SASBA**, 300 Bowl, Conroe, TX
- Dec 19-20 **SASBA Labor Day Blowout**, Lafayette Lanes, Lafayette, LA
- Dec 19-20 **SASBA Champ/Nonchamp**, Bandera Super Bowl, San Antonio, TX
- Dec 19-20 **SASBA Over 70/Over 60 Doubles**, Corsicana Super Bowl, Corsicana, TX
- Dec 19-20 **SASBA Annual Championship**, AMF Euleess, Euleess, TX
- Dec 19-20 **SASBA South Central**, Paris Family Center, Paris, TN
- Dec 19-20 **SASBA**, Oil Bowl, Longview, TX
- Dec 19-20 **SASBA Foursome**, Plano Super Bowl, Plano, TX
- Dec 19-20 **SASBA**, Del Mar Lanes, Houston, TX
- Dec 19-20 **SASBA**, Cityview, Fort Worth, TX
- Dec 19-20 **SASBA Annual Team**, Plano Super Bowl, Plano, TX

BANQUETS-FUNDRAISERS-CHARITIES-SOUVENIRS

The latest cartoon book by Stars & Strikes cartoonist

Walt Steinsiek

is now available, and the author is currently accepting orders by phone and email.

Individuals may obtain copies of

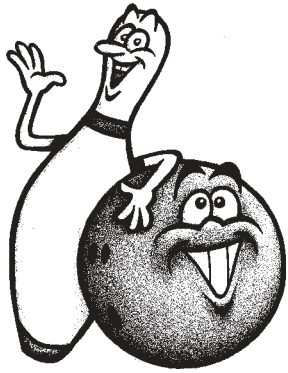
The Funniest Approach!

for **\$8.95** each (postage paid),

and discounts will be available for organizations and for leagues that purchase 12 or more copies.

To email Steinsiek: ztlaw98@hotmail.com, call 772-664-5564 or send a check to: 5337 Bison St., Micco FL 32976-7790.





THE FUNNY PAGE

Birthdays are good for you.
The more you have, the longer you live.

XXX

An elderly gentleman had serious hearing problems for a number of years. He went to the doctor and the doctor was able to have him fitted for a set of hearing aids that allowed the gentleman to hear 100%.

The elderly gentleman went back in a month to the doctor and the doctor said, 'Your hearing is perfect. Your family must be really pleased that you can hear again.'

The gentleman replied, 'Oh, I haven't told my family yet. I just sit around and listen to the conversations. I've changed my will three times!'

XXX

When everything's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.

XXX

High School Government class

The following is a funny and true story shared with me by KC Williams who teaches AP Government at Santa Fe High School. In one of KC's classes, they were discussing the qualifications to be president of the United States. It was pretty simple.

The candidate must be a natural born citizen of at least 35 years of age.

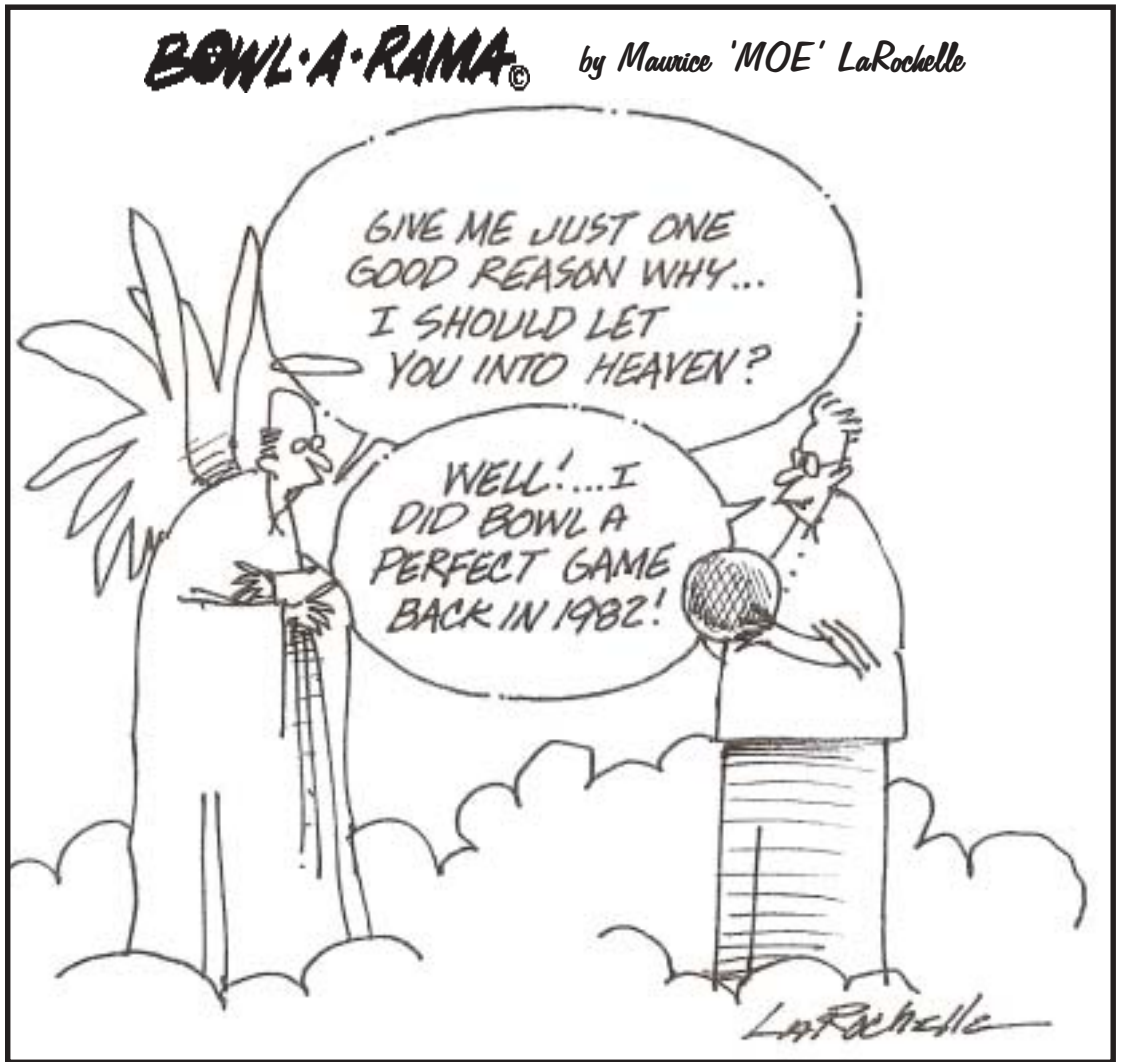
However, one girl in the class immediately started in on how unfair was the requirement to be a natural born citizen. In short, her opinion was this requirement prevented many capable individuals from becoming president.

KC and the class were just taking it in and letting her rant, but everyone's jaw hit the floor when she wrapped up her argument by stating ...

"What makes a natural born citizen any more qualified to lead this country than one born by c-section?"

XXX

Wonder how many they have found



BOWL-A-RAMA by Maurice 'MOE' LaRockelle

Miss Sally Edwards is a highly esteemed third grade teacher at Jacksboro Elementary. In an effort to prepare her students for the all-important TAKS test, she compiled an exam consisting of 20 questions, which she administered to her class last Tuesday. The exam purposely covered a broad array of topics. I call your attention to question # 11, which simply read:

LIST, IN ANY ORDER, THE FOUR SEASONS: 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____

Now, could you possibly imagine that 67% of the students gave the following answer?

1. DOVE SEASON 2. DEER SEASON 3. DUCK SEASON 4. TURKEY SEASON

XXX

'You can say what you want about the South, but I ain't never heard of anyone wanting to retire to the North.

XXX

A government which robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul.
-- George Bernard Shaw

XXX

I urgently needed a few days off work, but, I knew the boss would not allow me to take leave.

I thought that maybe if I acted 'Crazy' then he would tell me to take a few days off.

So, I hung upside-down on the ceiling and made funny noises.

My co-worker (who's blonde) asked me what I was doing.

I told her that I was pretending to be a light bulb, so that the Boss might think I was 'Crazy' and give me a few days off.

A few minutes later the Boss came into the office and asked, 'What in the name of good GOD are you doing?'

I told him I was a light bulb.

He said, 'You are clearly stressed out. Go home and recuperate for a couple of days.'

I jumped down and walked out of the office...

When my co-worker (the blonde) followed me, the boss asked her, 'And where do you think you're going?!'

She said, 'I'm going home too. I can't work in the dark.'

XXX

Two elderly gentlemen from a retirement center were sitting on a bench under a tree when one turns to the other and says: 'Slim, I'm 83 years old now and I'm just full of aches and pains. I know you're about my age. How do you feel?'

Slim says, 'I feel just like a newborn baby.'

'Really!? Like a newborn baby!'

'Yep. No hair, no teeth, and I think I just wet my pants.'

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