

# Bowlers'



# Buzz

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News and Resources For Bowlers

October 2007 Vol. 2, Issue 10

Mission: To provide the bowling community with an unbiased resource

## WHO'S WINNING AND WHO'S STEALING?

By Evelyn Peoples

Who's winning and who's stealing is a question that we as bowlers must ask ourselves? If we are going to grow as a sport or league it is going to take all of us pulling and pushing together in the right direction.

There is an old saying that I truly believe in, "Stand for something or fall for anything." Cheating cannot be tolerated in any sport—and it certainly has no place in bowling. "Silence is golden" will not work here. Let's look at some things that bowlers may be involved in and not realize that it *is* cheating. Some may say it is okay to do these things, but any time money is involved, some people try to figure out how to get an advantage—fair or unfair.

I have been around bowling for three plus decades and have made a lot of observations. Whenever I hear that a bowling center is closing, I am truly saddened, but, when a league folds, I really feel a knot grow in my stomach. My first question is "What happened?" If the league folds due to a large number of cheating known as "sandbagging" then it is time for bowlers to speak up.

What is sandbagging and how is it done? Some will throw off in an effort to maintain a certain average. They can be found closely monitoring game scores to see if their team is winning in order for them to "miss" spares and keep their average low. Some bowlers will quit a league, although they are bowling very well, in order to keep a high average from going into the average books. Some bowlers agree among themselves to split a pot or bracket or some other cash prize in order for both bowlers to be able to "throw off" and still win money. There is no place in our sport for this type of behavior. These bowlers cause us all to become losers.

I overheard a young man tell his girlfriend to throw off in the last game of a tournament so he could win. She became furious. She wanted to win the tournament and enjoy the prestige of winning a tournament. His desire, however, was to win more money! The tournament allowed for a high percentage of a pot of gold to be paid to bowlers that bought into the pot. He had bought into the pot and she had not. So they would win more money if he won. Her refusal to throw off is to be applauded! It is not always about the money—it is about integrity and ethics.

Who's Continued Page 2

*Our Thoughts and Prayers Go Out to Shirley Tinnin, a Long Time GHUSBC Director, as She Mend's From Her Surgery. Hurry and Get Well, Shirley — You Have Work To Do!!*

**Bowlers Salute America's Troops** VISIT **BVA** THE BOWLERS TO VETERANS

*Will you volunteer to collect money in your league for the BVL? Contact Bowlers Buzz for more details.*

**Congratulations Magie Annab of Pasadena, Texas Winner of A \$100 Scholarship.** Magie Placed 7th in the 13-17 Age Division of the Essay Portion of the National Bowling Week Contest! Congratulations, Magie!

## 2007 WORLD TENPIN BOWLING ASSOCIATION WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Courtesy USBC

MONTERREY, Mexico. The Women's World Championships features 225 athletes from 43 countries competing in six events. The athletes compete in doubles, trios team, singles, all-events and Masters. The top 16 in all-events advance to compete in Masters play.

### Doubles Record Crumbles

The Korean team of Choi Jin-A and Nam Bo-Ra shot the highest doubles total in Women's World Championships history Saturday and held on after Sunday's final squad to win the gold medal.

The Koreans totaled 2804 on the opening day of the 2007 World Tenpin Bowling Association Women's World Championships at AMF Bol Obispado in Monterrey, Mexico. They beat the previous record of 2787, which *Women's World Continued Page 6*

## Asbaty is First Player in the History of the World Tenpin Bowling Association Women's World Championships to Win Two Masters Titles

Asbaty, who won her first Masters World Championship in 2003 in Malaysia, defeated Singapore's Jazreel



Asbaty becomes first two-time Masters Winner at WWC

Tan 3-2 in the championship match. The three-time U.S. amateur champion sealed the victory with a 234-173 win in the deciding game. "Even when I was a little girl I dreamed of one day becoming one of the best bowlers in the world," Asbaty said. "In 2003, I realized that dream and now four years later it's nice to know I've still got it." On the way to the title, Asbaty disposed of the top two seeds in the Masters. In the semifinals Saturday, she defeated fellow Team USA player and second seed Tennelle Milligan, 3-2. In the quarterfinals Friday, Asbaty took out top seed Choi Jin-A 3-1.

"This is really more about our team than it is about me," Asbaty said. "Team USA medaled in every event in this World Championships and that's a tremendous accomplishment." Asbaty shared the medal stand with Tan, who earned the silver, as well as Milligan and Kim Yeau-Jin, who tied for the bronze medal. In all, Team USA collected medals in every event - the first time the Americans have done that since 1971 - and came away with seven total medals. Milligan had the high individual total among Team USA with five medals (silver in trios, team and all-events and bronze in doubles and Masters). *Continued Page 6*



Diandra Asbaty and Tennelle Milligan

## BETTER BOWLERS....

By John Jowdy

Although bowling has experienced a gradual decline for the past 15 years, a bright future looms over the horizon. There is bad news and good news

First, let's face the bad news.

Membership in the ABC/WIBC/ (and now the USBC) tapered off at an alarming rate.

Phony high scores made a mockery of the game. 300 games, 800 series and averages ranging from 220 to 250 became routine. 900 series were being recorded regularly. Worse though, the ABC sanctioned these scores by mere average bowlers, yet refused to accept a 900 series by Glenn Allison, a Hall of Fame bowler.

Sport Bowling and "honest conditions" were slow in attempting to lure supposedly elite bowlers who opted to post averages of 230 upward.

The Ladies Pro tour lost its TV package.

Popular tournaments such as the High Roller and the Eliminator experienced huge drop-offs in entries.

Steve Sanders, one of the game's premier promoters, tarnished his reputation by defaulting on the guaranteed payoff of the Mini-Eliminator megabucks tournament. Furthermore, Mr. Sanders' Generations Senior Tour was a total disaster and in jeopardy of total extinction.

With all due respect to Steve Sanders, he was simply a victim of the times. In addition to the decline in megabuck tournaments, entries in amateur tournaments like the NABI and ABT have sagged, as much as 50%.

Bowling centers have been closing at a disturbing rate...for several reasons. First, some centers became dilapidated and were unable to compete with modern bowling establishments. Second, and more *Continued page 5*

## Texas Tenpin Bowling Association Annual Meeting

By Fred Wicker, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer

The Galveston Recreation Club (GRC) was awarded the 2009 state tournament of the Texas Tenpin Bowling Association (TTBA) at the annual meeting of organization directors in LaGrange Sunday, August 19.

At last year's general meeting, the Boerne Turn Verein was picked as host for the 92nd state club tournament in 2008. The tourney will be held on the Boerne lanes beginning March 1 and continuing until June 22.

Jerry Collins of Boerne was elected president; Ron Beath, Boerne, first vice president; Lorraine Adams, Galveston, second vice president, and Brett Hensley, Boerne, tournament manager.

Fred Wicker, Jr. of San Antonio, formerly assistant secretary was named secretary-treasurer, succeeding Harry Nixon, also of San Antonio, who did not seek reelection after serving in the role 39 years.

The Brenham Bowling Club, Rosenberg-Richmond Club and San Antonio Turner Club received the TTBA's Attendance Award for having the largest number of tournament entries this year.

An Award for Significant Achievement went to Elmer Entrop of Austin, who was Texas Tenpin tournament manager in 1995. Entrop has been active in the TTBA for many years. *TTBA Continued Page 2*

Inside the Bowler Buzz:

Pg 2: Ask Bea/USBC League News/GBT Future Plans/Who, Where, What

Pg 3: John Jowdy & Brian Voss

Pg 6: Recipe

Pg 7: Tournament Buzz & USBC News

Pg 8: Calendar

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**The Facts About Handicaps**

*Courtesy USBC as furnished to all league secretaries*  
 The USBC defines handicapping as the means of placing bowlers and teams of varying degrees of bowling skill on as equitable a basis as possible for their competition against each other.

**Hasn't this been accomplished in leagues, which use a handicap in their competitions?**

FACT: The results of an extensive four year study of all types of handicap leagues — mixed, all women and all men — disclosed that the handicapped percentages most widely used today — 75% , 80%, and 70%, with 66.6% a distant fourth — do NOT achieve this goal as illustrated by the results obtained in the study as follows:

Handicap Percent	Championship Won by Team w/Avg Below Median in the League	Championship Won by Team w/Avg Above Median in the League
66 2/3	0 out of 100	100 out of 100
70	0 out of 100	100 out of 100
75	0 out of 100	100 out of 100
80	0 out of 100	100 out of 100
85	6 out of 100	94 out of 100
90	11 out of 100	89 out of 100
95	24 out of 100	76 out of 100
100	30 out of 100	70 out of 100

**It seems to me that the handicap allowance would be 100% and at that percent every team should have a 50-50 chance of winning.**

FACT: Even at 100% handicap, as the chart shows, the higher average teams or bowlers still have a decided edge. An exact 50-50 distribution of league championships would result only if a 116% handicap was used.

**But isn't it a fact that when a 75% handicap is used, the higher average team is giving its lesser competitor 75% of the difference in team averages when they bowl against each other?**

FACT: True! But what of the other 25%? That is the real handicap, and it is given by the weaker team, to the stronger one! (The same "reverse handicap" situation is true at any figure less than 100%, which is why it is not until the handicap reaches 85% that lower average teams can win at all.)

**If a handicap percent of 116% would result in absolutely equalizing competition in handicap leagues, then why doesn't the USBC advocate the use of that percent of handicap to the exclusion of others?**

FACT: Nobody wants to deprive the more skillful of the benefits of their superior skill. If the more proficient bowlers have an edge, it is one they've earned. It is a premium, which comes from more diligent efforts to improve their capabilities. That incentive should not be taken away, regardless of the level at which a bowler competes.

**Is there any way I can check out the information you have furnished about handicapping without going through a lot of extra research on my own?**

FACT: Any study of this kind requires voluminous records involving a large number of leagues. However, you could check the final standings in handicap leagues where you bowl to see how the lower average teams fared. Or, better still, take your own league records, week by week, and determine what the standings would have been 100% (which is the simplest percent to work with.)

You'll be surprised at the results. And we know for a fact that your entire league will be pleasantly surprised at the increased competitiveness that will result throughout your entire league season if you change to the higher handicap percentages to decide the outcome of your league's matches.

**Who, What, Where, & When**

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*Who's Continued*

I urge each and every one of you to help protect our sport from these unscrupulous people. Take them aside and let them know you are on to them. Alert your league secretary and president! Demand that those scores be thrown out.

Sandbaggers! Beware! Honest bowlers want you out of our sport! Let the 2007-2008 competitions begin! Good luck and good bowling!

**Bowling Unopposed: The Facts**

*Courtesy USBC as furnished to all league secretaries*  
**The decision by the USBC Board to no longer award certain Honor Score awards for scores bowled in unopposed pre- and/or post-bowling sessions has created a number of questions. So that you're prepared when this comes up in your league—here's a quick guide to some of the most common issues you're likely to deal with. For a complete and current set of rules go to [www.Bowl.com](http://www.Bowl.com).**

**Q: What is bowling unopposed?**

**A:** Bowling unopposed is when a team or individual requests and is granted permission to bowl without its scheduled opponent at a time other than the regularly schedule league time.

**Q: Will this new rule affect my league?**

**A:** No, other than making bowlers aware that if they pre- or post-bowl unopposed, they won't be eligible for specific USBC High Score awards.

**Q: What if someone bowls a 300 or a 700 series while pre-bowling unopposed?**

**A:** The 700 series award will be issued because it is an average-based award. The 300 game will not be recognized.

**Q: Do unopposed scores count for average?**

**A:** Yes. Unopposed, pre- or post-bowl or not, the scores are official league scores and are included in a bowler's average record.

**Q: Are unopposed pre- or post-bowled scores eligible for league awards?**

**A:** Yes, unless the league has adopted a rule otherwise.

**Q: If two teams from the same league pre-bowl against each other, as scheduled, does this rule change apply?**

**A:** No, this is an example of teams pre- or post-bowling in direct opposition. Matches bowled in direct opposition are not affected by this rule change.

**Q: If two teams from the same league are not scheduled to bowl against each other, but pre-bowl together, does the rule change apply?**

**A:** Yes. While they are bowling together, the teams are not in direct opposition because their scores are not being compared against each other. This is considered an unopposed situation.

**Q: What if our league adopts a rule to have these scores count for all USBC awards?**

**A:** Sorry. USBC award eligibility is determined by USBC Headquarters and cannot be superseded by an adopted league rule.

**Q: What if the entire league session is cancelled and rescheduled at a time different from our regularly scheduled time?**

**A:** When the entire league session is rescheduled, it is treated as a regularly scheduled session. If teams choose not to bowl at the rescheduled time, and bowl their games unopposed at a different time, those games would be affected by the rule change.

**Q: Does this rule change affect both teams and individuals?**

**A:** Yes.

**Q: If our league has an uneven number of teams, will this rule change affect the team bowling against the non-existent team?**

**A:** Not if the games are bowled during the regularly scheduled time. If the team bowls at a time other than the regularly scheduled time, those games would be considered unopposed.

*TTBA continued*

Chosen as "Life Members" at Sunday's meeting were Lorraine Adams of Galveston, and Bob Staats and Wayne Roach, both of Austin. The designation is in recognition for their longtime contributions to the TTBA.

GRC last hosted the tournament in 1988. Boerne held its last previous tournament in 1989.

This year's tourney held at the Island Bowl in Galvestin, hosted by the Galveston Island club, had 217 teams entered, 122 men and 95 women, and distributed more than \$13,000 in trophies and cash prizes.

**Generations Bowling Tour Announces Future Plans**

The Generations Bowling Tour (GBT) has announced that it is restructuring its operation for 2008 to continue offering bowlers age 50 and over high-level competition. Although the GBT's first season had many successes the lower than expected entry levels made it obvious a second senior tour was not needed.

Steve Sanders, founder of the GBT, recently concluded meetings with industry leaders, players and proprietors and based upon their feedback and the bowler participation levels from last year, he concluded running a second season of the professional tour was not viable. There were not enough bowlers willing to commit to the tour and not enough corporate support to warrant a second season.

As a result, the GBT is organizing a series of 4 to 8 events for 2008 targeting a field of all levels of senior bowlers. The GBT member survey and follow-up discussions with players helped determine larger fields would become a reality if the tour lowered the entry fees and eliminated membership dues and guest fees. According to senior bowlers, affordability was the key factor in growing the tour.

The new GBT may also guarantee spots in the finals for "non-champions" to encourage more bowlers to compete. Many seniors indicated that did not participate last season because they could not compete on the same level as the top stars.

"We are currently in discussion with proprietors and hope to announce at least three two-event swings shortly," said Sanders. "Our goal for 2008 is to run two events in Florida, the midwest, and the west coast."

**Ask Bea!**

**Dear Bea:** I have a friend that is always taking over our plans. I told her that I would like to have a girls' night out. Before I knew what happened, she took over the reins and invited all of our friends and made an itinerary. She is taking all of the credit and I feel used. **Used**

**Dear Used:** What a great opportunity! Free drinks! Praise her efforts and tell everyone she is honoring your presence by buying you free drinks all night! When the special evening arrives let *everyone* know how much you appreciate her hard work. Make a toast to her, hug her, and order your drinks!

**Dear Bea:** A guy in my league that blurts out all sorts of foul language while bowling. That team has been warned that if it does not stop they will be kicked out of the league. Can they really do that? **Potty Mouth**

**Dear Potty Mouth:** Check with your !?\$\$! local !\$#!#\$ association.

**Dear Bea:** My friends and I bowl together on league but whenever I have a good night and have higher scores and want to talk about it they do they get jealous. They are difficult to be with and really ruin my night—what can I do? I can't help it I bowl so much better than they do. Please help. **Scorer**

**Dear Scorer:** You sound like a great bowler. Perhaps when you are bowling good you could *coach* your team and *really help them out*. Buy the team a round of drinks when you bowl good so they can talk about you!

**Dear Bea:** There is a lady on my league that wears extremely tight pants. Last week her pants ripped in the butt when she bent over to pick up her ball. How can I approach her and tell her she looks like a can of biscuits. **Dough Girl**

**Dear Dough Girl:** The rip says it all!

*Bowlers: Please send in your questions for totally useless advice. It probably won't solve the problem—but it could help you (or us) to laugh at yours.*

**TOM CLARK**

By John Jowdy

Last month, I expressed my personal views of the effects, results, and future of the newly formed United States Bowling Congress. I was both critical and laudable and made every effort to be fair and impartial. As previously stated, the long-termed success of the USBC remains to be seen. Consequently, I shall withhold any further comments and, as the old adage goes, I'll try to "accentuate the positive and eliminate the negative".

Shortly following my analysis of the USBC, unprecedented sweeping changes developed in the USBC hierarchy. Roger Dalkin and Roseanne Kuehn submitted resignations from their lofty positions. A number of Board members, including former WIBC President Sylvia Broyles, resigned and several veteran employees were terminated. While these major shifts in USBC operations may have been coincidental, it seems to indicate the upper command of the USBC may have conceivably suggested these resignations and firings. This is nothing new in today's business environment. It is referred to as "reorganization" and usually affects upper management and eventually filters down to the rank and file. As a bowling writer, I must laud the USBC head honchos who were savvy enough to recognize the outstanding communications personnel at USBC headquarters. One of the most strategic moves by the USBC was the addition of Tom Clark, a former sports reporter for USA Today. Clark, who has an unbelievable passion for bowling, occupies the role of Chief Officer-Marketing /-Communications. Clark oversees the direction of USBC's public relations, marketing, publishing, tournament media relations, sponsorship and electronic media, including bowl.com.

Clark's communications staff include Jerry Schneider, in charge of tournament events and Mark Miller, contact for Programs/Corporate Information. Bill Vint, is the latest addition to this talented team.

From a personal standpoint, Clark has done yeoman service in solidifying relations with the Bowling Writers Association of America. He has restored dignity to Hall of Fame ceremonies and added spice to press conference topics and issues. I believe his input on the televised Queens tournament produced one of the best bowling TV shows I have ever seen. I devoted an entire column on the interesting and informative innovations displayed in the televised event.

However, I cannot give Clark, or anyone involved in the recent Las Vegas Fashion Mall production, any high fives...not even a two-star rating. In my opinion, it was a fiasco, a joke, and represented more of a fashion show than a bowling event. I'm not sure who selected the participants for the event but the show was far short of bowling savvy and business acumen.

To begin with, it was far more costly than necessary. Bringing in foreigners from FAR AWAY Australia and South America did nothing to promote bowling in the USA. In my opinion, with the cessation of the Ladies Professional Bowling Tour, this supposedly extravaganza should have been reserved for American bowlers. Perhaps it was poetic justice that Australian superstar Cara Honeychurch carted off the bulk of the prize money. BUT worse than that, Wendy Mac Pherson, a native of Las Vegas, and one of America's all time great bowlers, was absolutely snubbed. Wendy, selected as the Bowler of the Decade in the 90's, is UNDOUBTEDLY one of, if not the best female bowler in the country.

Perhaps the promoters were more interested in promoting glamour. If this production was designed as a fashion show rather than a contest of elite bowling performers, and, if feminism was one of the principle requirements for selecting the field, Wendy should have been chosen. Wendy is a neatnik. Wendy is very presentable. Wendy not only has beautiful sparkling eyes; she is very easy on the eyes. Wendy may not possess the figure of super-model Elle Mc Pherson but Wendy Mac Pherson is far from an ugly duckling.

The other issue I previously had with Tom Clark was the format of the long-awaited Women's US Open in Reno August 18<sup>th</sup>, that is, UNTIL I ATTENDED THE TOURNAMENT. Although the finals of the TV show will take place in Reno, eight weeks after the qualifying matches, it did not diminish the incredible show put on by the world's foremost female bowlers....both professional and amateurs. I am fully aware that dragging out a TV presentation from August 18<sup>th</sup> to October 14<sup>th</sup> seemed a bit ridiculous. However, following the demise of the Pro Bowling Tour on ABC TV, the game has been forced to succumb to the evils of the boob tube. For example, witness the plight of the current ESPN TV Pro Bowler's Tour presentation, whereas, the show is slotted on Sundays against the country's most popular televised sport, the National Football League.

Simply put, bowling is television's stepchild; compelled to adhere to the network's chosen time slots, despite the fact that bowling's ratings are equal to, sometimes better than other supposedly elite sports.

Unfortunately, Clark's rendition of the Women's US Open has taken some big hits from a number of bowling writers, including publisher of Stars and Strikes, Jim Goodwin, Bowlers Journal editor Jim Dressel, and Matt Fiorito, super sports writer of the Detroit Free Press.

Prior to attending the Women's US Open in Reno, I also had serious doubts concerning the delayed presentation of the Women's US Open. However, after observing some of the greatest female bowlers I've ever seen, I was greatly impressed by the incredible talents displayed in qualifying rounds, particularly by Team USA amateur players Shannon O'Keefe, Linda Barnes, Amanda Burgoyne, Stefanie Nation, and Shannon Pluhowsky, all whom succeeded in reaching the top 16 finals.

Unfortunately, writers who failed to cover the tournament did not have the opportunity to appreciate my view of the tournament and, in particular, Tom Clark's latest innovation...an elevated seating area for industry leaders and special guests. It was fraught with food and an open bar, located just left of the bowling lanes. It was classic. Sadly, other than officials of the USBC and BPAA, there was a glaring absence of industry leaders at the most prestigious women's tournament in America.

Considering the significance the Women's US Open, a number of bowling writers felt it could have emulated the PBA's recent doubles event in St. Louis, whereas, the show was taped and scheduled for TV later on a series of succeeding weekends. Bowlers weren't required to return week after week or even at later dates. The PBA arranged to tape all the shows at one location, then scheduled the television shows accordingly.

Nonetheless, the results were never disclosed to the public. Yet these same bowling writers were not nearly as critical of the PBA show as they were of the Women's US Open. Perhaps some writers regarded the Reno tournament as a significant event. Yet ONLY four members of the Bowling Writers Association saw fit to attend this extravaganza....Dick Evans, Hazel McLeary, Joe Lyou, and myself.

Unfortunately, Reno is an extremely expensive trip for those who want to follow or cover the entire tournament. On the other hand, Reno houses the most prestigious bowling venue in the world and, despite the fact contestant's expenses will be paid, it still places a financial burden on relatives, friends, fans, and writers who want to cover the televised finals in October. Is Clark to blame? If so, he has been victimized like many other important bowling programs, including the Professional Bowling Association Tour. For far too long, bowling has been forced to cede to the inequities of televised sports.

Unfortunately, until bowling establishes itself as a genuine sport and an athletic endeavor requiring special skills and mental toughness, we must accept the only given options that will help promote our sport... regardless of the consequences.

**The Luck Factor**

By Brian Voss, Courtesy BowlersParadise.com

In just about every post-game interview with athletes in any sport, you hear some mention of luck playing a role in the outcome of the competition. "It was just my week." "The breaks all went my way today." "It was just my day to win today." It is almost enough to make you wonder why these athletes spend the countless hours training and practicing for success in their chosen sports, isn't it?

Bowling is no different and, in fact, I believe suffers from an even more biased perception that luck (rather than skill and athleticism) is a factor in determining the outcome of a competition than almost any sport today. Director of Sport Bowling, Steve Wunderlich, a highly accomplished PBA Tour player in the '80's and '90's once said after losing a close match for the title, "It's unfortunate that I've chosen a profession where luck plays such an important factor." (No wonder that he ended up as the head of the group probably most dedicated to rebuilding the integrity of the sport!)

The question is, then, how much of a factor does luck play in our sport? Are Walter Ray Williams and Earl Anthony and Pete Weber and Mark Roth and Parker Bohn just luckier than all of the other great players who have competed on Tour just because they were able to win more than 30 titles? How much of their success is simply because they were better than, or more talented than or simply work harder than, their competition?

You might be surprised to hear me admit that luck certainly does play a huge role in the success of these and countless other players. In fact, one could argue that the entire system is based upon luck. From a certain standpoint it is. The way I see it, bowling, like every other sport, boils down to a game of chance. I mean sure, there are fundamentals to master, training techniques to practice and knowledge to accumulate, but at the end of the day (or the week, in bowling) the one who wins is the guy (or gal) who has less 279's shot at him, who doesn't leave that stone-8 at the wrong time to cost him a match, and who maybe carries that one extra Brooklyn strike. But the thing about that which keeps us die-hard bowlers from going completely insane is that the better you get at bowling the more chances you give yourself to take advantage of those opportunities when they do arise.

There is a reason why Walter Ray has won 42 titles in his career - and it isn't because he's lucky. It's because he's made 160 shows in his career - in 664 career events that means he makes it to TV almost 25% of the time. But even then he only wins the title 25% of those times. But he's given himself so many opportunities to win that over time, he's won more than anyone else. But one might argue that Walter Ray has actually been incredibly unlucky in "only" winning 42 times. Compared to Tommy Jones, who's qualified for TV 17 times in 132 events (a TV percentage just better than half of Walter Ray's) and won 10 (a 58% conversion rate), Walter Ray has been downright snakebitten.

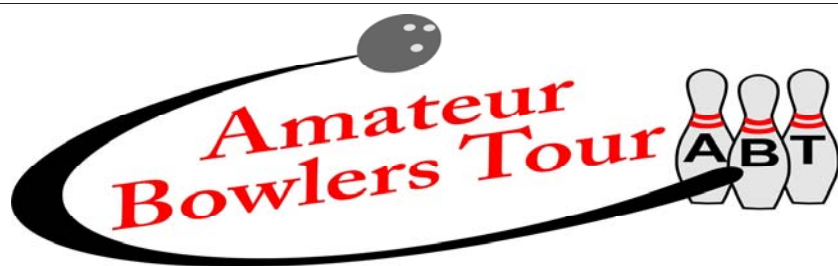
But taking it to another level of detail, it is also not a coincidence that Walter Ray gives himself so many opportunities to win. For those of you who don't know, Continued on Page 7

**USBC NATIONAL AWARD NOMINATION DUE NOVEMBER 1**

Nominations for the following four national honorary awards are being accepted by the USBC through November 1: the David Dahms Coach of the Year, USBC Youth Program

Volunteer of the Year, USBC Youth Ambassador of the Year and the Kerm Helmer Horizon Award. "Coaches, youth program volunteers, young bowlers who want to make a difference in our sport and visionaries who develop opportunities for our players are the lifeblood of USBC Youth bowling," said Kevin Dornberger, USBC's chief operating officer. "We are proud to offer ways to recognize these day-to-day heroes of the sport."

The David Dahms Coach of the Year Award recognizes one USBC Youth coach who has worked with certified promote youth bowling programs at the local or state level for the past decade or longer. Continued Page 4



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**OCTOBER EVENTS**

<p><b>MEGAPLEX LANES</b>                  6327 SPENCER HWY PASADENA, TX                  281-487-7327</p>	<p><b>DYNAMIC LANES</b>                  6121 TARNEF DR HOUSTON, TX                  713-772-1063</p>	<p><b>AMF KISSIMMEE</b>                  4140 W VINE ST KISSIMMEE, FL 34741                  407-846-8844</p>
<p><b>OCT 13-14,2007</b></p>	<p><b>OCT 20-21, 2007</b></p>	<p><b>OCT 25-28, 2007</b></p>
<p><b>SPECIAL \$40 ENTRY /\$500 1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE</b>  <b>SATURDAY SQUADS</b>                  1:30 3:00 4:30 6:00                  Saturday Cut is 1 in 5 for the <u>DAY!!</u>  <b>SUNDAY SQUADS</b>                  12:30 2:00                  Sunday Cut in 1 in 6 <u>BY SQUAD !!</u>  <b>SEMIS @ 3:30 SUNDAY</b></p>	<p><b>SATURDAY SQUADS</b>                  10:00 11:30 1:00 2:30                  Saturday Cut is 1 in 5 for the <u>DAY!!</u>  <b>SUNDAY SQUADS</b>                  12:30 2:00                  Sunday Cut in 1 in 6 <u>BY SQUAD !!</u>  <b>SEMIS @ 3:30 SUNDAY</b></p>	<p><b>\$10,000 FIRST PLACE</b>                  HANDICAP DIVISION W/ FULL PROGRESSIVE  <b>ABT SOUTHEAST FALL REGIONAL</b>                  \$2500 FIRST PLACE SCRATCH                  \$1500 FIRST PLACE DOUBLES  <small>MUST BE AN ABT MEMBER AND MEET ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE \$10,000 FIRST PLACE</small>  <b>FIRST PLACE \$5,000 GUARANTEED</b>                  FOR NEW ABT MEMBERS                  FOR ALL THE DETAILS CONTACT US                  ABT OF HOUSTON 832-754-5919  <b>SORRY NO PBA ALLOWED</b></p>
<p><b>ENTRY FEES \$45.00+PROGRESSIVE</b>  <b>FOR ALL COMBINATION EVENTS</b>  <b>AVERAGES UP TO 224 WELCOME</b>                  Qualifying is 3 games across 6 lanes                  ALL SEMI-FINALISTS CASH!!!  <b>SORRY NO PBA ALLOWED</b></p>	<p><b>OPTIONAL SCRATCH AT ALL EVENTS</b>                  \$50.00 ENTRY                  \$500 FIRST PLACE WITH 35 ENTRIES                  3 GAME BEAT THE BOARD                  NO SEMIS OR FINALS  <b>NO PBA MEMBERS</b></p>	

**SOUTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT HIGH SCHOOLS GO VARSITY**

Private school group brings total of states with letter recognition for bowling to 20

The South Carolina Independent Schools Association has selected bowling as its newest varsity sport effective with the 2007-08 season. The move by the private school group means the state is the 20th in the nation with some kind of varsity bowling recognition. Bowling was the No. 1 choice in a recent survey of member schools on new sports to consider. The SCISA has 103 members, 75 of which sponsor athletic programs.

"We were looking for other sports opportunities since kids don't all play football, basketball and baseball," said SCISA Athletic Director Mike Fanning. "I have a friend in Mississippi (a varsity state) who said bowling was real popular there so it was one of those things where we said let's start it and see how it goes. "Some kids are looking for that niche and this might be it. We also are trying to provide the kids more lifetime activities and bowling is clearly a lifetime activity."

The SCISA joins Alaska, Arkansas, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Kansas Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, New Mexico, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Tennessee with varsity boys and girls bowling, Washington and Iowa with girls bowling and Minnesota with adaptive bowling for students with physical or cognitive disabilities.

"We'll approach this first year trying to set up some regional activities, then have a statewide event," Fanning said. "We'll start slow. If we can get a half-dozen or dozen schools involved, that's a realistic goal this first year." Preparation and practice for South Carolina schools choosing to add bowling will be held in October and November with regional competitions set for December and January and a state tournament slated for February at a site to be determined.

Bowling is the fastest growing high school sport in this decade according to the National Federation of State

High School Associations. In the 2006-07 season, the 19 states offering statewide high school varsity bowling combined for 45,064 participants, 6 percent higher than the 2005-06 total of 42,482. Ice hockey had 43,305.

Will your school district be next? Start a dialogue with the athletic director for your school district.

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 2:00p.m., 3:30 p.m.  
 Finals: 5:00 p.m. with Calcutta

**ON SITE ENTRY FEE: \$55.00**

**EARLY BIRD: \$50.00**  
 (email bowlersbuzz@yahoo.com for an entry form also available at Max Bowl North)

High Game Pot,  
 Brackets & Eliminator Available  
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*Nominations Continued From Page 3*

youth bowling programs for at least seven years and has demonstrated outstanding commitment to coaching, sportsmanship and knowledge of USBC Youth rules.

The USBC Youth Program Volunteer of the Year Award recognizes an individual who has displayed outstanding efforts to foster, operate and

The USBC Youth Ambassador of the Year, formerly known as the Youth Leader of the Year, is an honor bestowed on one male and one female USBC Youth bowler for his/her exemplary contributions in the sport of bowling, academic accomplishments and community involvement. Each of the award winners will receive a \$1,500 scholarship. One of the two award winners may be selected to serve a two-year term on the USBC Youth Committee, and the quality of this person's service on the committee could lead to additional scholarship funds. Since it will be necessary for this person to travel independently to USBC Youth Committee functions, candidates for the 2007-08 USBC Youth Ambassador of the Year must be 18 or older as of Aug. 1, 2008.

The USBC Kerm Helmer Horizon Award recognizes leaders in the bowling community who have displayed the courage, determination and ability to develop far-reaching programs of national scope that provide fun and exciting opportunities for bowlers. Named in honor of the team founder and longtime bowling coach at Erie Community College and former president of the Young American Bowling Alliance, the Kerm Helmer Horizon Award aims to recognize leaders who exhibit Helmer's enthusiasm, commitment and persistence to turn ideas into reality.

Nomination forms for each of the awards may be downloaded from the Scholarships/Honors section of [bowl.com](http://bowl.com). People without Internet access may request forms by contacting USBC's Scholarships department at (800) 514-BOWL, ext. 3168, or [smart@bowl.com](mailto:smart@bowl.com). (GO FOR IT YOU MIGHT GET A SCHOLARSHIP—BOWLERS BUZZ!)

**Women's Bowling, Progress or Not**

*By Evelyn Peoples*

Sometimes I keep my opinions to myself. Okay, those of you that know me are probably already shaking your head in disbelief at that statement! But I did practice restraint as I watched the first women's tournament on television. I wanted to sit down and blast the "mall bowling" situation. I decided to remain silent.

My family and I gathered around the television in anticipation of finally seeing women bowling in a televised event again. I was surprised to see the Las Vegas Fashion Mall tournament set up in the *middle* of a mall. I was dismayed and very disappointed when the tournament was turned into a fashion show and makeover of a sort. But I kept telling myself that it was a step in the right direction, after all, any television coverage for women bowlers was good, right?

BUT, the more I watched the more disappointed I became. Yes, it was a positive step because women were bowling on television—but could we expect male bowlers to perform in a mall situation and deal with all of the distractions as well? I seriously doubt it.

At Bowl Expo, I again put my number nine shoe in my mouth. At a meeting, I let my opinion out of the bag. There were people at the meeting that were touting the positive aspects of women finally bowling on television. I spoke up very quickly and asked a question that had been on my mind for a while—can we get the PBA to bowl in a mall AND wear Speedos with or without muscle shirts in order jazz things up a bit? After all, we *are* looking for television coverage, right? Later, it was pointed out to me that the person I was spouting my opinion to was the founder of the tournament. Ooops! (Shoe leather is good!)

Watching the PBA bowl in that attire might not be the best idea—but on the other hand, I don't understand why whenever women bowl the "beauty card" has to be played. Women bowlers are awesome and entertaining to watch, in *my opinion* they should not have to bowl in a situation in which men would not be willing to perform.

There is a political firestorm surrounding the 2007 Women's US Open—but we should be proud—after all it *is* television coverage, *right?* I look forward to watching the finals on October 14th. Tune in and watch and let's hope it is not a bowling "beauty pageant."

If it is a beauty pageant, maybe in the future the guys will be wearing Speedos...hmm...maybe muscle shirts, hmm?

*Jowdy continued*

important, property values have become so attractive, proprietors are practically forced to accept "offers they can't refuse".

That's the bad news. Now let's examine the GOOD news. The dwindling membership has slowed down.

The USBC has done a remarkable job of addressing and attempting to harness outlandish high scores. The USBC Sport Bowling program enjoyed explosive growths across the board this past season, due principally to the remarkable popularity of PBA Experience leagues, which allow Sport members to compete on the same oil patterns as professional bowlers. The number of Sport bowling members rose 120 percent over the previous season. Sport Bowling leagues were up 134 percent while centers holding Sport events increased 155 percent. In PBA Experience leagues, bowlers compete on the same patterns used on the Denny's Professional Bowlers Association...named Chameleon, Cheeta, Scorpion, Shark, and Viper offer bowlers a unique challenge and comply with USBC Sport bowling guidelines, which allow a maximum of three times as much oil on the inside boards versus the outside boards. This oil application typically is described as a 3:1 ratio.

Although the Ladies Pro Tour vanished, the PBA opened its doors to top female bowlers. In doing so, the PBA and bowling overall, gained national attention when Kelly Kulick succeeded in qualifying for the PBA Tour through the Tour Trials. Additionally, Liz Johnson became the first female to appear on the PBA TV show by gaining a spot on the tour through the Pro Tour Qualifier. Moreover, female performers like Liz Johnson, Carolyn Dorin-Ballard and Missy Bellinder made their marks on the PBA Regional tours. As of this date, Missy Bellinder has annexed TWO Regional titles.

Furthermore, all female bowlers were give an additional opportunity to appear on PBA television by qualifying through the 2007 Women's US Open at Reno. Ladies had to pay an additional \$750 to qualify for 16 spots. Surprisingly, 65 ladies paid this fee. The 16 qualifiers would then bowl each other in match play on TV on succeeding Sundays to determine the final four for the Women's US Open Championship; on ESPN October 14<sup>th</sup>.

Although many bowling centers have closed, a majority of existing establishments have increased their incomes with glow and cosmic bowling, birthday parties, private parties, tournaments, and ever increasing open bowling. These innovations have made up for the lack of late league structure. Nevertheless, despite the closing of many bowling centers, they are being replaced by larger/modern establishments featuring state of the art equipment. In many cases, they are part of large sports

complexes financed by wise investors.

Another promising aspect for bowling is the ever-increasing acceptance of bowling as a letter sport and a credit in high schools as well as colleges.

A recent USBC news release revealed that bowling is the fastest-growing high school sport of this decade, according to the newest National Federation of State High School Association participation survey.

Since the 2000-01 season, bowling participation has more than doubled and the number of schools participating has nearly tripled

These young men and women represent the future of bowling. With this in mind, bowling programs can only get better and better, particularly in view of the low cost to school budgets. Unlike football, where size and speed are an absolute must, or basketball, where anyone shorter than 6'2" is considered a midget, bowling participants are capable of competing against each other, regardless of size or gender. Consequently, bowling affords students who lack the size or talent for major athletics an opportunity to become involved with their high schools and lay the foundation for a lifetime sport. Additionally, this helps athletes earn scholarships to bowl in college.

In my humble opinion, the good news far outweighs the bad news Mistakes of the past are being addressed. As I see it, the new USBC personnel seem hell-bent on restoring the game to its creditable position in the sports world. With this in mind, I vision a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow for bowling!

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**TROOPS BOWL WITH BVL CARPET KIT SENT TO IRAQ BY HOUSTON AREA BOWLERS**

Troops from Oklahoma and Texas are very thrilled to have a BVL Carpet Bowling kit. Thank you everyone that donated and/or made a bracelet. We have sold out a second bag and will be sending it to a soldier in the Middle East. We are working on the third bag—we need your help. If you are interested, please contact the Bowlers Buzz.

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*Women's World Continued*  
 was set early Saturday by teammates Gye Min-Young and Kim Yeau-Jin. Choi, a left-hander, fired the second highest six-game block in tournament history with 1437, an average of 239.5 per game, while Nam contributed 1367. Team USA's Diandra Asbaty holds the individual six-game block record with 1496, a record she set in 2003.

**Doubles Record Crumbles**

The Korean team of Choi Jin-A and Nam Bo-Ra shot the highest doubles total in Women's World Championships history Saturday and held on after Sunday's final squad to win the gold medal.

The Koreans totaled 2804 on the opening day of the 2007 World Tenpin Bowling Association Women's World Championships at AMF Bol Obispado in Monterrey, Mexico. They beat the previous record of 2787, which was set early Saturday by teammates Gye Min-Young and Kim Yeau-Jin. Choi, a left-hander, fired the second highest six-game block in tournament history with 1437, an average of 239.5 per game, while Nam contributed 1367. Team USA's Diandra Asbaty holds the individual six-game block record with 1496, a record she set in 2003.

The other Korean pair claimed the silver medal as Kim fired a perfect game - just the second woman to do so in the World Championships - and totaled 1406 for six games. Gye added 1381 on the short-oil lane condition. Both Korean teams beat the previous six-game doubles record of 2737, set in 2003 by England's Kristen Penny and Zara Glover.

The bronze medal went to the Team USA pairing of Tennelle Milligan and Lynda Barnes who finished with a total of 2729. Milligan shot 1371 while Barnes totaled 1358. "We bowled well but certainly not the best we could have," Milligan said. "We left an awful lot of pints out there. When the scores are this high in a six-game format like this, sometimes it's a crapshoot." Team USA's Diandra Asbaty and Shannon O'Keefe, competed on the final squad and finished in ninth place overall with 2628. O'Keefe fired 1337 while Asbaty added 1291. The third U.S. team of Shannon Pluhowsky and Stefanie Nation ended up in 20th place. Pluhowsky shot 1279 while Nation contributed 1255.

**Team USA Takes Silver In Trios At Women's World Championships**

Team USA had its highest finish in trios in 20 years Monday, claiming the silver medal at the 2007 World Tenpin Bowling Association Women's World Championships. The U.S. threesome of Lynda Barnes, Tennelle Milligan, and Shannon O'Keefe combined to shoot a six-game total of 3928, an average of better than 218 per game. In the final game, Sweden overcame a 43-pin deficit to top the Americans. The Swedes, who finished the event with 3970, shot 686 in the finale while Team USA could only muster 601. Korea claimed the bronze with 3898.

"Even though we came here to win gold medals, I'm not disappointed because we bowled really great and just hit a bad pair of lanes the last game," said Barnes, a three-time U.S. Amateur champion. "The last pair played so differently than the previous lanes we were on that it took us by surprise. We just didn't get matched up quickly enough." Barnes paced Team USA with 1351 and was followed by Milligan with 1315 and O'Keefe with 1262. Sweden was led by Helen Johnsson with 1393, Malin Glendert with 1329 and Nina Flack, who shot 1248. Since the United States threesome of Sue Holton, Karen Bender, and Nellie Glandon won the gold medal in Helsinki in 1987, Team USA has won the bronze medal twice (1999 and 2003).

"It surprises me that we haven't had more success in trios because I know how strong our teams have been in the past," Barnes said. "But I also know how great the international competition is and when you are only bowling six games, it really is a sprint." The

other Team USA threesome of Diandra Asbaty, Shannon Pluhowsky and Stefanie opened with two identical games of 589 before closing with 626. They finished with a 3637 trios total and ended up in 16th place. Asbaty led with 1295, Nation shot 1198 and Pluhowsky had 1144.

**Malaysia tops USA by Seven Pins to Win Team Gold at Women's World Championships**

Trailing the leaders by nearly 230 pins heading into the final round of team event, Team USA made a furious comeback Wednesday and settled for the silver medal. The US nearly snagged the gold, but Malaysia's Shalin Zulkifli converted the 4 pin in the final frame to lock up a narrow seven-pin victory and earn the gold medal. Malaysia finished the six-game event with 6323, an average of 210.7 per game, while Team USA ended with 6316. England took bronze with 6197.

It was another gut-wrenching loss for the Americans, who at the last Women's World Championships in 2005 finished second behind Chinese Taipei by just 11 pins. "We made a run at it when we were 230 pins down, and I thought we could get there," Team USA's Lynda Barnes said. "We have worked the past two years for this moment, and I feel like we did everything we could to prepare. We won today, but we lost yesterday. Next time around, we just have to win both days. It's a tough field, and you can't give up a day."

Entering the final round on the long-oil pattern, the United States trailed England by 228 pins and Malaysia by 136 pins. The second game Wednesday proved to be the turning point for Team USA as they totaled 1154, while England, competing on the same pair, shot just 904. Malaysia, however, stayed solid with 1079 to enter the deciding game with a 74-pin lead. The United States made a final push with the final three players throwing two strikes to start the 10th frame, but in the end they fell just short. "I was a little worried after we started the day with a 1030 game because physically, I just didn't have it today," said Barnes. "The second game everyone got some momentum. I thought we had a really good chance to come back and win the gold. We have a strong, deep team, and I knew if we could get it going we'd be OK."

Barnes, Team USA's anchor bowler, stepped up in the final frame and threw three strikes to force Zulkifli, Malaysia's final bowler who was competing six lanes away, to mark in the 10th frame. "I knew I had to maximize my shot, whether it was a spare or a strike," said Zulkifli, who will split \$20,000 from their country's government among her teammates for winning the gold. "I knew it was close, but I wasn't exactly sure how close it really was until it was over." Zulkifli single-handedly propelled her team to the gold medal. Her 1434 six-game total in team event is the third highest individual total in Women's World Championships history. Esther Cheah added 1335 and was followed by Zandra Aziela (1232), Sharon Koh (1165) and Wendy Chai (1157).

**O'Keefe Rolls to Singles Gold At Women's World Championships**

As the final squad of singles came to a close Thursday at the 2007 World Tenpin Bowling Association Women's World Championships, Team USA's Shannon O'Keefe sat nervously waiting in the stands to hear if she would hold on to win the gold medal. As the news got to her that she indeed had become just the second American woman in World Championships history to win the singles gold, O'Keefe gasped for air, threw her hands into her face and began crying.

"I don't think I can describe this feeling, it's so surreal," said O'Keefe, who posted a six-game total of 1362 on the third of four singles squads. "When I found out I won, I couldn't breathe and then I felt relief more than anything. There were so many good women bowling on that last squad, and I was a nerv-

ous disaster." When the dust settled after the final squad, it turned out O'Keefe didn't have much to worry about after all. The three medalists all competed on the third singles squad. Joining O'Keefe on the medal stand is Ann-Maree Putney of Australia, who took silver with 1336, and Malaysia's Wendy Chai, who earned bronze with 1302.

Since singles was added to the World Championships in 1978, the United States has had just one champion before O'Keefe's victory. Kelly Kulick won the gold medal at the 1999 championships in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. O'Keefe's teammate Tennelle Milligan had a shot at the gold medal in all-events. Needing 248 in the final game of singles, Milligan shot 214 and settled for the silver medal. Left-hander Choi Jin-A won the gold with a 24-game total of 5316, an average of 221.5 per game. Milligan finished with 5282 while Australia's Putney took bronze with 5256.

"In a way, I'm a little disappointed because I didn't bring home the gold," said Milligan, who finished singles in 33rd place with 1225. "I had a chance, but I just couldn't get it done. I was just lacking a little something today." Milligan is one of three Americans who advanced to the match-play Masters, which begins Friday morning and features the top 16 players in the final all-events standings. O'Keefe finished fourth in all-events with 5219 while Lynda Barnes was sixth with 5193. Diandra Asbaty ended up in a tie for 14th place with 5100. After O'Keefe, Shannon Pluhowsky was the next highest finisher for Team USA in singles. Pluhowsky finished in 14th place with 1262. Asbaty was 16th with 1259, Stefanie Nation was 42nd at 1215 while Barnes ended up 56th with 1194.

**CHICKEN SPAGHETTI**

- 2 Cans Family Size Cream of Mushroom Soup
- 1 Onion Chopped
- 1 Bundle Celery Chopped
- 4 Cups Shredded Cheddar Cheese or Mozzarella
- 4 Chicken Breasts
- 1 Package Spaghetti Noodles
- 2-4 Tablespoons Butter or Margarine



Boil chicken for one hour. Debone chicken and cut into bite sized pieces. Save the broth. Saute onions and celery in butter until soft. Boil noodles for 10-12 minutes—they should be al dente (gummy).

Stir together ingredients except 2 cups of cheese. Add broth until soupy (runny). Pour into 9X12 baking dish or larger. Add the rest of the cheese on top. Bake at 350 for 30 minutes.

**Bowlers Buzz—I have a "Toot" to share. WOW! (Photos must be digital—no cell phone photos.)**

Bowler's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Score(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Current Average: \_\_\_\_\_

Bowled @ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Center, City/State

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

# Tournament Buzz



<p align="center"><b>ABT of Houston Results</b> <b>Palace—Grand Opening Tournament</b></p> <p><u>Classic Division:</u> 1st. Robbie Bork 2nd. Edmond Lorts 3rd. Melvin P. Ford 4th. Tony Martinez 5th. Mario Martinez 6th. Esther Vodanovich 7th. Nicole Everitt</p> <p><u>Masters Division:</u> 1st. Carlos Gonzalez 2nd. Justin Maxwell 3rd. Tangela Doakes 4th. Israel Martinez 5th. Eric Acon 6th. Mark Evans 7th. Kz Jenkins, Jr. 8th. Luis Garcia, III</p> <p><u>Scratch Division:</u> 1st. Shawn Maldonado 2nd. James Briles II 3rd. Justin Maxwell 4th. Carlos Gonzalez 5th. Jason Peery</p> <p align="center"><b><u>Emerald</u></b> 1st: Justin Maxwell 2nd: Melvin P. Ford</p> <hr/> <p align="center"><b><u>Max Bowl North</u></b> 1st: Melvin P. Ford 2nd: Eric Acon</p>	<p align="center"><b>Houston Latin Stars Labor Day Weekend Tournament Results</b></p> <p align="center">1st Place Team: The Thompsons</p> <p align="center">1st Place Women: Donna Dreyer 1st Place Men: Omar Arnett</p> <p align="center"><b>Conroe Scratch Classic Results</b> (Note: Results are Shown In Bracket Format, therefore numbers are repeated intentionally.)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Shawn Maldonado</li> <li>2. Johnny Hanna</li> <li>3. Jason Gardner</li> <li>3. Randy Whitaker</li> <li>4. Melvin Oestreich</li> <li>4. Les Hare</li> <li>4. Bill Stayton</li> <li>4. David Tullos</li> <li>5. James Hobson</li> <li>5. Donald Robinson</li> <li>5. Corey Atkinson</li> <li>5. Cordell Wilder</li> <li>5. John Wukasch, Jr.</li> <li>5. Danny Incencio</li> <li>5. Eric Traylor</li> <li>5. Anthony Sheranko</li> </ol>	<p align="center"><b>1st Annual Bowlers Buzz Scratch and Handicap Tournament</b></p> <p align="center"><b><u>Scratch</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1st. Jason Peery</li> <li>2nd. Eric Traylor</li> <li>3rd. Larry Thompson, Jr.</li> <li>4th. Chris Barr</li> <li>5th. George Haley</li> <li>6th. David Sutton</li> <li>7th. Derik Palmer</li> <li>8th. Jason Boniaby</li> <li>9th. Everett Bubiak</li> </ol> <p align="center"><b><u>Handicap</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1st. Lisa Harlan</li> <li>2nd. Jim Andreau</li> <li>3rd. Renee Peoples</li> <li>4th. Janet Sutton</li> <li>5th. Jeremy Batson</li> <li>6th. Renaild Adams</li> </ol> <p align="center"></p> <p><b>USBC Tip of the month:</b> Mental focus - Take a deep breath Diaphragmatic breathing helps you stay physically relaxed and helps the mind focus. Before your shot take a deep breath in through your nose and exhale through your mouth. Some people prefer to do this before stepping on the approach while others do this as they're getting into the stance position.</p>
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<p><b>USBC TASK FORCE TO STUDY BOWLING LANE SURFACE ISSUES</b> <b>First meeting scheduled for November 17 in Greendale</b></p> <p>The USBC is forming a cooperative task force with companies that make bowling lanes to comprehensively analyze how issues relating to the sport's playing surface affect scoring and credibility. The USBC and Manufacturer Lane Surface Task Force will consist of USBC research technicians along with representatives from synthetic bowling lane manufacturers. The group's first meeting is scheduled for Saturday, November 17 at USBC Headquarters in Greendale.</p> <p>Discussion topics for the meeting are expected to include lane surface friction, lane hardness specifications, surface roughness, use of an optical testing device and submission of lane surface samples for annual renewal by USBC. "USBC is creating this task force to get the key people involved in the process for future testing and research we have planned in this area. Those studies may lead to new specifications or other changes in synthetic bowling lane surfaces," said USBC Technical Director Neil Stremmel.</p> <p>"Research and testing of bowling lanes is one essential function of maintaining the credibility of the sport," Stremmel continued. "A lane is the playing surface for bowling just as tees, fairways and greens are in golf. Like bowling balls and pins, lanes must meet strict guidelines so the sport is fair for all bowlers."</p> <p>USBC recently added a new specification relating to the hardness of a synthetic lane surface. All new synthetic surfaces submitted to USBC for testing and approval must meet a minimum Sward Hardness reading of 35. That specification is a result of a new test procedure developed by the USBC Specifications and Certifications team, which analyzes surface friction and bowling ball footprint size in the readings. A Gauge R &amp; R study, a statistical method recommended by the American Society for Quality, was used to determine the minimum limits. It was the first time USBC or its predecessor organizations developed a specification for the hardness of a lane surface.</p> <p><b>USBC seeks manufacturer volunteers for task force</b></p> <p>USBC is inviting manufacturers of synthetic bowling lanes to join the USBC and Manufacturer Lane Surface Task Force. Interested parties should contact USBC Senior Technician Dave Sprager at <a href="mailto:dave.sprager@bowl.com">dave.sprager@bowl.com</a> or (800) 514-2695, ext. 3410 no later than Wednesday, October 3. As with the ball task force, manufacturers agreeing to join the task force are responsible for making all arrangements and costs for attending meetings.</p>	<p><b>Bowling ball task force a working model</b> <i>Courtesy USBC</i></p> <p>One reason USBC is forming the bowling lane task force is because a similar study group created to address bowling ball research has been valuable and successful. The USBC Bowling Ball Specifications Task Force - comprised of representatives from 13 bowling ball manufacturing companies and USBC staff - was formed in 2005. Since that time, the task force has worked cooperatively to address bowling ball performance issues and their impact on the credibility and integrity of the sport.</p> <p>One major successful outcome of the bowling ball task force is the USBC Ball Motion Study that began in 2005. USBC and major bowling ball companies have teamed up to test the impact modern, high-tech bowling balls have on the credibility of the sport of bowling. USBC has been working closely with the major bowling ball manufacturers in the high-level testing being performed on the lanes at the USBC research facility with the robotic ball thrower nicknamed "Harry" and the Computer Aided Tracking System technology. The goal of this research is to better understand the motion of bowling balls using science and data analysis.</p> <p>Continued from Page 3</p> <p>Walter Ray actually tracks every frame of every game Luck Factor in competition, and breaks down his pocket percentage, his strike percentage, his split percentage and his spare percentage. (He also tracks his opponents as well!) The advantage to all of that extra work is that Walter Ray has the perspective that the breaks will eventually even out, and that as long as his pocket percentage and strike percentage and spare percentage is better than his competitors - all measures of skill and talent - that he'll win out in the end. And his results prove it.</p> <p>I believe that is a great lesson to all bowlers out there, those who want to pull out their hair or threaten to quit the game every time a ringing ten pin costs us a point in our Monday night league. As long as you keep it in the pocket, and keep giving yourself chances, eventually you will hit the jackpot. And hitting the jackpot is the best feeling in the world. It's why we keep coming back to the sport that we all love despite the pain it sometimes causes us. At the end of the day, practice and learning and training is our way of giving us those chances and increasing our odds of hitting the jackpot. As long as we all accept that, then the rough patches of "bad luck" are a lot easier to swallow.</p> <p>Brian Voss</p>
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# Bowlers' Buzz

Mission: To provide the bowling community with an unbiased resource

Has the bowling bug got you?

## October Calendar

Try One of these events!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6 UCan Bowl2 - 1st Anniversary Congratulations, Carol & Donna
7	8 Columbus Day	9 Leif Erickson Day	10	11	12	13 ABT Tournament See Ad Page 4  Conroe 300 Bowl No-Taps 936.756.8866
14 ABT Tournament See Ad Page 4  National Children's Day	15	16 Boss' Day	17	18	19	20 ABT Tournament See Ad Page 4  Max Bowl North No-Taps 281.540.2800  Sweetest Day
21 ABT Tournament See Ad Page 4	22	23	24 United Nations Day	25	26	27 ABT Tournament See Ad Page 4  SIMPLY S&B Max Bowl North Ad Page 4  Conroe 300 Bowl Super No-Taps 936.756.8866
28 ABT Tournament See Ad Page 4 Mother-in-law Day	29	30	31 Halloween	Nov 1	Nov 2	Nov 3

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Saturday: 10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

