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Bowlers' Buzz

News and Resources For Bowlers

March 2010 Vol. 5, Issue 3

Mission: To provide the bowling community with an unbiased resource

She Did It!

By Evelyn Peoples

Shannon O'Keefe did it! Watching her bowl, it was obvious something was going on inside her mind. It looked like she didn't think she deserved to win. She was beaming and crying as she won the tournament. Most of competitors and fans did not know the challenges she had faced two weeks before she entered into the PBA Regional for non-winners. Shannon was sure at one point she would not continue her bowling career. The agony of losing and bowling bad was beginning to hurt too much emotionally and she didn't want to continue doing anything that would make her feel that bad deep inside. She was questioning her reasoning for continuing and had made up her mind to finish this year's scheduled ladies' tour and then quit.

Shannon stood at a horrible breaking point. Bowling made her feel bad and she wanted to quit the game she has loved for many years. She came to the conclusion that she would bowl one more ladies' stop and complete the year. Her focus for the regional was to work on being more competitive and stay positive.

Many bowlers have the same feelings that Shannon experienced, they give in to those negative thoughts and feelings and quit bowling. Shannon was still reeling from bowling bad and beating herself up mentally. She said, "I asked Stephanie Nation after Dublin, 'How do you do it? How do you let it go?'" She told me I had to let it go—to leave it right there in the airport before I got on my plane. I took her advice and left it there. When I got back home, I started to practice and wanted to get ready to bowl in Denver.

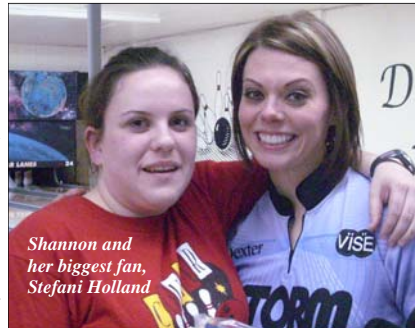
Shannon said, "I idolize Nation. She is amazing! She is a very good friend and I appreciate her advice that got me through a tough time."

Shannon wants to encourage women in bowling. She believes women need to be more open and then to bowl. She said, "Women have to start somewhere. They should not be afraid to want it. They should not be afraid to get a coach."

Shannon says, "I understands now that sometimes you have to go through the agony of defeat in order to give herself permission to fail, permission to lose—that's what makes each of us a better bowler."

Shannon may help put bowling in perspective for all bowlers that may be thinking of quitting. She said, "After all, one bowler doesn't win all of the tournaments all of the time. They win two or three tournaments on the tour and they are the greatest bowler. They are great bowlers and I don't want to take anything away from them but we have to remember there aren't that many tournaments offered in a year therefore two or three wins is a lot—but we cannot let bowling define us as a person or allow our inability to be the tournament winner hurt us deep inside like I did."

Editor's note: Shannon, all bowlers will appreciate your insight and honesty. Congratulations, Shannon!



Shannon and her biggest fan, Stefani Holland



Presenting Awards: Stefani Holland-Delmar Lanes, Pete McCordic, PBA Southwest Regional Director, and Winner Shannon O'Keefe



Shannon and her littlest fan, Madeline Briles

He Did It!

By Evelyn Peoples

Bob Richardson did it! He has been nominated as the Texas USBC Youth Coach of the Year. He deserves this award! He works relentlessly for all of the bowlers and parents in his program at Conroe Bowl.

It is impossible to be around Bob more than a minute or two before he starts talking about his youth and their next tournament, fundraiser, or event. He puts his efforts into raising money to defray any costs a parent or bowler may need to ensure that the bowler will be able to participate in any tournament that they desire. He holds silent auctions, bake sales, and sells sports memorabilia to help raise the necessary funds. He sincerely believes that youth bowlers should be able to compete without worrying about how to pay their entry fees or tournament expenses. He makes it happen for the kiddos in his program.

Bob designs tournaments for the parents and kids to bowl together. He has designed a Spring Fling to help bring the community in Conroe together. Bob has taken this small league in Conroe, Texas and turned it into the second biggest youth program in the state of Texas. He has become a role model for the kids in the program. The bowlers look up to him and they are very grateful to have him as a coach and the president of their league. He also coaches each kid to bowl to their maximum bowling ability. Bob believes in treating each child as an individual with integrity and respect. The students wanted to take this picture with Bob. They had a great time at State and could not wait to swarm around Bob to pose for the picture.

Bob Richardson has worked through ownership and management changes at Conroe Bowl and he was able to keep his focus and the youth's focus on being successful. Ginger and Nick Jarvis, Melvin and Lynn Oestreich, Ray Walters, Jason Fox, and Larry Thompson, Jr. can speak volumes about Bob and his program's success. They have witnessed Bob's hard work and determination first hand. Bob's wife, Jill, and his family are very proud of him and his accomplishments.

Go to www.bobsbaseballmuseum.com to be part of this coach's dream and the hopes and desires of the Conroe Youth Program. Kay Smith, Tournament Director says it best in a letter to Bob: "Dear Bob, I wish to extend heartfelt congratulations to you on being selected Texas USBC Youth Coach of the year for 2009. The credentials sent to Texas USBC youth were very impressive and I cannot think of anyone more deserving than you. I am pleased and honored to notify you of your selection. The award will be handed out at the State Delegate convention in May."

Congratulations, Bob Richardson, you are a beacon for all of the youth you touch. Thank you for all of your hard work and efforts.



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Ask Bea!

Dear Bea: My friend went to the national tournament in Reno. The pocket on one of his bags got snagged and ripped but the airline said they do not cover any outside pockets. I am going to Reno next month what can I do to keep that from happening to my bowling bag? **Fearful**

Dear Fearful: Use a 3-ball tote without pockets or use your friend's bag—it's already torn.

Dear Bea: A person on my team is always sick—a good bowler—but sick! There is always a stack of tissues on the table. I don't want to touch them, any suggestions? **Sanitary Sally**

Dear Sally: Don't or wear rubber gloves!

Dear Bea: A member of my team has really stinky feet and socks. When he takes his bowling shoes out of his bag, I almost gag. What can I do? **Gagging**

Dear Gagging: Step away from the bag or bring air freshener!

Dear Bea: I bowl with a team but I do not want to bowl with them next year. I named our team. I want to use the name for my new team next year. Is that acceptable? **Namely**

Dear Namely: Leave the team—leave the name.

Dear Bea: I bowl with three men on a team. We're all single. They buy me drink after drink in "beer frames." After bowling they want to go and party more but I am hungry and want to go eat dinner. **Buzzed**

Dear Buzzed: Party now, eat later. Think drive-through.

Bowlers: Please send in your questions for totally useless advice. It probably won't solve them—but it could help you (and all of us) to laugh at them. Life is too short to take it all seriously—let us laugh with you.

Have an Interesting Story? Share it in the Bowlers' Buzz!

Meet your honey bowling? Someone do something funny while bowling? Share, share, share!

Email it to the Bowlers Buzz at bowlersbuzz@yahoo.com, mail it, or fax it to 281-931-5515. Please send your contact information. Anonymous stories will be considered *only* when contact information is included.

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Quick Corn Casserole

By Gloria Smith, Westfield Teacher

Gather the following ingredients:

- 1 Stick of Butter Melted
- 1 Can Cream Corn
- 1 Can Kernel Corn—Drained
- 1 Small Carton of Sour Cream
- 1 Box Jiffy Cornbread Mix
- 1 Buttered Casserole Pan



Mix all ingredients in a mixing bowl. Pour into the casserole pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 30-35 minutes. Serves 6-8.

Great side dish!

Pork Chops Main Dish

Gather:

- 1 9x12 Casserole Pan
- 1 Large Package of Pork Chops
- 1 Package of Lipton Onion Soup Mix
- 4 1/4" Sliced Potatoes
- 1 Medium Onion Sliced Thin
- 1 Can Mushroom Soup
- 1/3 Cup Milk

Season with salt and pepper to taste. Brown chops on both sides and lay in casserole pan. Layer with onions and top with potatoes. Sift and remove the Larger pieces of onions from the soup mix. Put soup mix, soup, and milk in a bowl and mix well. Pour over the chops. Cover pan with foil. Bake at 350 degrees for one hour or until pork chops are fork tender. Serve hot. Serves 6.

Quick Chicken Noodle Soup

By Evelyn Peoples

Gather:

- 1 Package of Chicken Ramen Noodles
- 1 Can Chicken Noodle Soup
- 1 Can Water
- 1/2 Package of Ramen Noodle Spice Mix

Put all ingredients in a pot. Cook until noodles are tender. Serves 2.

Awesome Green Beans

Use other half of the spice mix from recipe above in one or two cans of green beans. Serves 4-8. Enjoy.

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The Storm Golden Ladies Classic Tournament

By John Jowdy

The Storm Golden Ladies Classic tournament will be held at the Orleans Hotel-Casino and Bowling Center in Las Vegas will be held from March 8-10. The tournament is open to all women over the age of fifty.



The Storm Golden Ladies Tournament isn't just an ordinary bowling tournament. This year, almost 80 bowlers entered the event and, although it is a highly competitive event, it is a social event. It is more like a tea party, and a chance for old friends to gather and enjoy themselves in friendly competition. Nevertheless, the Golden Ladies tournament goes a long way in determining the Senior Woman Bowler of the Year. It is a USBC sanctioned event.

This Golden Ladies tournament is the brainchild of golden-haired Jeanette Robinson and ably aided by her silver-haired hubby, Dick Porter. Of course it is obvious that the entire Orleans staff, led by Mike Kaufman, is behind the tournament to help make the women feel at home.

I've known Jeanette since she lived in Flint, Michigan. I had the distinct pleasure of coaching her at the BPAA All-Star tournament back in the 70's. Jeanette, surely one of the greatest ambassadors of the game, inaugurated this tournament back at the old Showboat Hotel, Casino and Bowling Center in Vegas. This occasion mark the 20th anniversary of this classic event. Make no mistake; the Golden Ladies Classic is strictly a two-person production. While Jeanette tends to all the details regarding the tournament, Dick scampers all over the place making sure all the ladies are being served water or whatever drinks they desire, and, if needed, any medical attention.

The Orleans management arranged special room rates of \$40. The entry fee is \$150 with 100% of the entry fee returned with prize money distributed on a 1 to 5 basis. The winner is guaranteed \$2000. All bowlers must wear proper attire...no jeans permitted and tournament director shall rule on all disputes. There will be a Super Senior Division for ladies over 60 and also a 70 plus Shoot Out for non-qualifiers for match play who are 70 years or older. There is also a second chance sweeper for bowlers who failed to qualify for match play. Eighteen states will be represented. Unfortunately, due to the current economic situation, there will be no entries from England... for the first time in years.

The almost eighty participants in the over-50 ladies competition vie in what I consider the friendliest competitive bowling tournament I have ever witnessed. The ladies actually pull for each other, as if they were teammates. Nonetheless, the competitive juices are still there and the talent is evident. No less than six Hall of Famers will be shoeing up, including defending champion in the regular division, Jeannie Naccarato, plus Pam Buckner, Fran Deken, Dana-Miller Mackie, Virginia Norton and Robin Romeo. Returning to defend her Super Senior Crown (over 60) is Andi Whitlock. And not to be overlooked is perhaps the BEST, yet least publicized bowler in the game, Sandy Postma, a past winner of the Golden Ladies tournament, a consistent finalist in this event, and one whose resume includes the WIBC Queens championship in 1995.

One of the highlights of the tournament is the traditional cocktail party Tuesday night where prizes are awarded and pizza and drinks are served by Jeanette and Dick. The Storm Golden Ladies Classic is truly golden and not only gladdens the heart of the Golden Lady herself, Jeanette Robinson; it certainly enriches the memories of all participants.

Halls of Fame

By Chuck Pezzano



The American Bowling Congress Hall of Fame was founded in 1941, becoming the third oldest sports shrine, following baseball in 1936 and golf in 1940.

Halls of Fame in all sports create plenty of interest and controversy based on who gets in and who doesn't and almost every sport boasts a hall.

It's a good bet that bowling has more Halls of Fame than any other or sport. No exact count exists but there probably are 800 or more bowling

Halls at different levels around the world. Don't be too amazed by so many. At its peak bowling had 3,009 men and 2,910 women's local bowling associations. Once the ABC Hall was established many of these groups liked the concept and started local, state and regional Halls.

Hall of Fame committees number from three people to dozens and induction ceremonies range from lavish dinners to brief presentations during meetings or prior to tournaments. Those honored are remembered proudly with plaques or displays in bowling centers or at local association offices.

After years of planning, searching for the proper site and fund raising, the International Bowling Museum and Hall of Fame was were opened in 1984 in St. Louis. There, ABC Hall of Famers were represented by bronze busts, Women's International Bowling Congress members featured in painted 'portraits and Professional Bowlers Association Hall members depicted in drawings by some of the nation's leading artists, including the Record's Charlie McGill.

The Hall and Museum, now a part of the bowling campus in Arlington, Texas, recently opened to the public. Visit if you ever have the opportunity.

Some sports Halls add more than a dozen new members each year while others go years without adding any. The same is true in bowling because there are no set rules and they vary greatly in how they choose new members.

There was one association years ago that staged an annual picnic. To boost ticket sales they gave each ticket buyer a vote in the annual Hall of fame election. That kind of gimmick is long gone and most Halls have solid procedures. The USBC has one of the best.

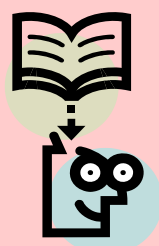
The USBC Hall of Fame Board has 18 members, six Hall of Famers, six members of the media, the Bowling Writers Association of America, and six USBC officials. Terms are staggered, guaranteeing new members and some new thinking each year.

The board elects the new Hall of Famers in the meritorious and veteran categories. It also comes up with the candidates for the performance classification. Those candidates are then voted on by a panel of more than 100 experts from every area of bowling.

The system works well and many local groups have copied this type of committee.

Bowling competitors start very young and retire real old. Therefore there are many young bowlers in the PBA Hall of Fame. Many in their 30s have 20 years of competition, and few ever really retire.

Threats to win on the pro tour any week include dozens of young, and old members of various national halls.



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USBC Smart Program Challenged

By Evelyn Peoples

In an effort to keep our readers factually informed, I am presenting an email I received that stated that the Smart program was not honest in its handling of funds that have been entrusted to them. I immediately contacted the USBC and received a prompt response. I would like to present all of the information to you so that you can be informed. Please take the time to go to the USBC website and look at the audited statements. The SMART program is designed to benefit our youth and must be maintained to do so.

Your comments are always welcome on stories such as this one. Do your research **BEFORE** drawing your own conclusions and sending in a response please.

The following is an email I received that was originated by **Gary Beck from KillerB Promotions** via Beau Chander.

"Sometimes, it is silence that is the loudest. Often, it is what is "not said" that communicates the most.

It began innocently enough - a short email sent on September 2nd containing two simple, direct questions. I had already been exchanging emails with USBC officials that morning, so when I typed out the email, copied four USBC officials, and pressed Send, I fully expected a timely response. But instead, I was greeted with silence. Nearly 48 hours later, I sent the email a second time, but the result was the same. Silence.

It was on September 2nd I learned the \$295,000 I have on deposit with USBC's SMART program had not earned any interest during the past year. Not a single penny. So I asked, "Where is SMART money held, and in what type of accounts?"

I have made numerous attempts to find answers to my SMART questions including two trips to USBC headquarters in Arlington and two formal requests for SMART documentation made through an attorney. But in each instance, USBC has been either unable or unwilling to respond with answers.

USBC broke its silence this past week by sending out a letter that characterizes SMART as "healthy and safe" but didn't say that SMART is fully funded. I have reached my own conclusions regarding SMART, but I encourage you reach your own by examining the following statements from USBC's letter:

- **USBC Statement:** "USBC paid \$3,998,100.62 in scholarships in 2009 to worthy recipients. USBC anticipates paying in excess of \$4,300,000.00 in scholarships in 2010, and has the SMART funds on deposit to make the payments. The SMART funds are more than sufficient to meet all current and anticipated scholarship payment obligations.

Fact: The financial report from USBC's auditors shows published on February 12th shows that as of July 31, 2009, SMART had over \$31.4 million in obligations, but only \$30 million in assets. According to USBC data, SMART is underfunded by over \$1.4 million.

The same report also shows that USBC lost over \$5 million from general operations last year, not counting the loss in value suffered to its investment portfolio and real estate holdings.

- **USBC Statement:** "All SMART funds are conservatively invested with responsible financial institu-

tions."

Fact: On July 31, 2008, USBC records show that 100% of SMART's \$30 million in deposits were invested in stocks, bonds and mutual funds. The last available SMART report is dated August 2008, the month before the stock market collapsed. According to USBC documents dated July 31, 2009, SMART money is still invested in stocks, bonds and mutual funds.

- **USBC Statement:** "Mr. Beck and his affiliated entity, Killer B. Promotions, promised participants in the 2009 Teen Masters that \$142,941.98 would be deposited in SMART from the prize list. Mr. Beck has deposited only \$78,077.32 of the total amount."

Fact: The 2009 Teen Masters awarded a total of \$163,603.98 to its participants of which \$99,787.32 has already been deposited with SMART. Additional funds have already been directly distributed to the schools of 2009 participants already in college.

- **USBC Statement:** "In fact, the 2010 Teen Masters is not currently certified by USBC due to Mr. Beck's refusal to provide proper financial reports and his decision not to submit the promised funds to SMART from the 2009 tournament."

Fact: All of the reports have been duly filed, and USBC was informed in September that the Teen Masters will not certify in 2010 unless SMART's issues are resolved.

I will consider SMART healthy and safe and happily return to using the program once the following four steps are taken:

1. USBC brings its SMART accounting current.
2. USBC brings SMART deposits up to a fully funded status.
3. USBC adopt and publish written policies regarding where SMART funds can be invested, and that these policies limit SMART to risk free instruments.
4. USBC allow SMART scholarship providers monthly access to the SMART "financial statements", just like they require of adult league presidents to verify monthly bank statements to be covered by USBC bonding.

After receiving this email, I immediately contacted the USBC and received the following email from **Stu Upson, Executive Director, USBC**, dated February 16, 2010.

The USBC recently received inquiries from providers to the SMART fund, parents of scholarship recipients and others interested in the SMART Program. The inquiries have been made as a result of email messages sent by Gary Beck of Killer B Promotions. The purpose of this message is to provide each of you with an accurate statement of facts concerning the SMART Program.

As of this date, the USBC is administering \$33 million of funds which have been contributed to the SMART Program. We feel it is important for you to be aware of the following:

- All of the funds are Restricted Funds. The funds are not employed for any purpose other than funding promised scholarships less the costs of administering the Program, which are modest.
- USBC paid \$3,998,100.62 in scholarships in 2009 to worthy recipients. USBC anticipates paying in excess of \$4,300,000.00 in scholarships in 2010, and has the SMART funds on deposit to make the payments. The SMART funds are more than sufficient to meet all current and anticipated

scholarship payment obligations.

All SMART funds are conservatively invested with responsible financial institutions.

- The audited financial statements of USBC disclose the amount and status of the SMART funds. Those financial statements are audited annually by an independent certified public accounting firm. The audited financial statements are published annually on bowl.com and are always available to interested parties. The independent accountants have completed their annual audit of USBC for fiscal year 2009, including the SMART funds, and their report is now available on bowl.com.

As a result of the communications from Mr. Beck, we believe it is necessary to make the following facts available to you:

- Mr. Beck and his affiliated entity, Killer B. Promotions, promised participants in the 2009 Teen Masters that \$142,941.98 would be deposited in SMART from the prize list. Mr. Beck has deposited only \$78,077.32 of the total amount. The balance past due is \$64,949.66 for the 2009 tournament. Those contributions were due September 7, 2009. Despite several requests from USBC, these promised funds have not been deposited with the SMART Program. If the contributions are not made by Mr. Beck, USBC cannot provide outstanding scholarships to those tournament participants.

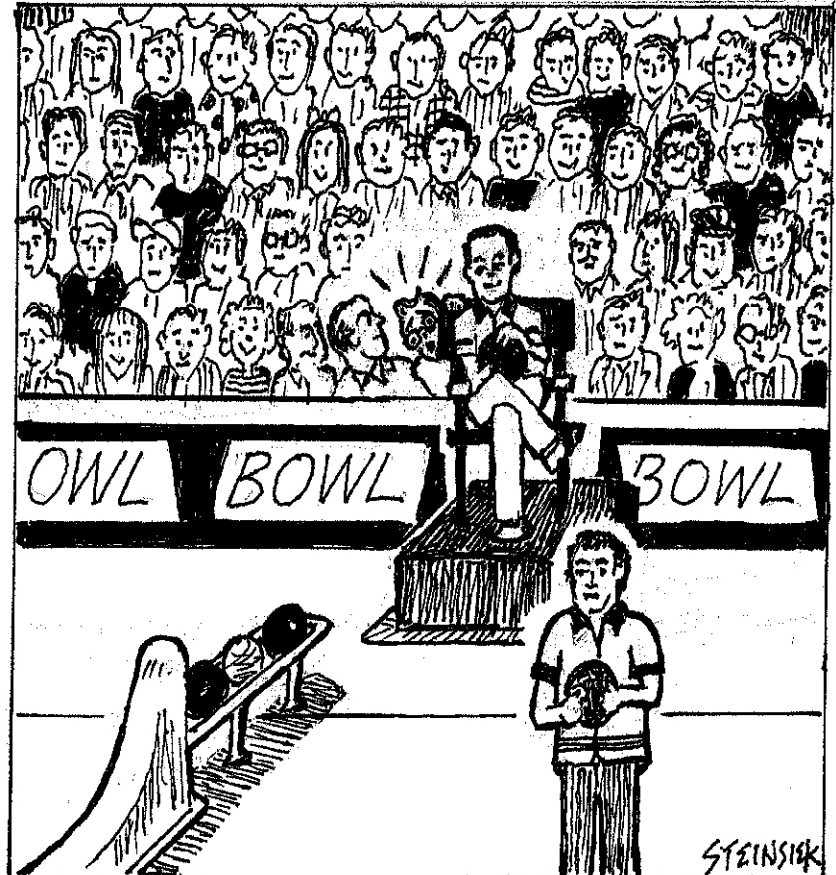
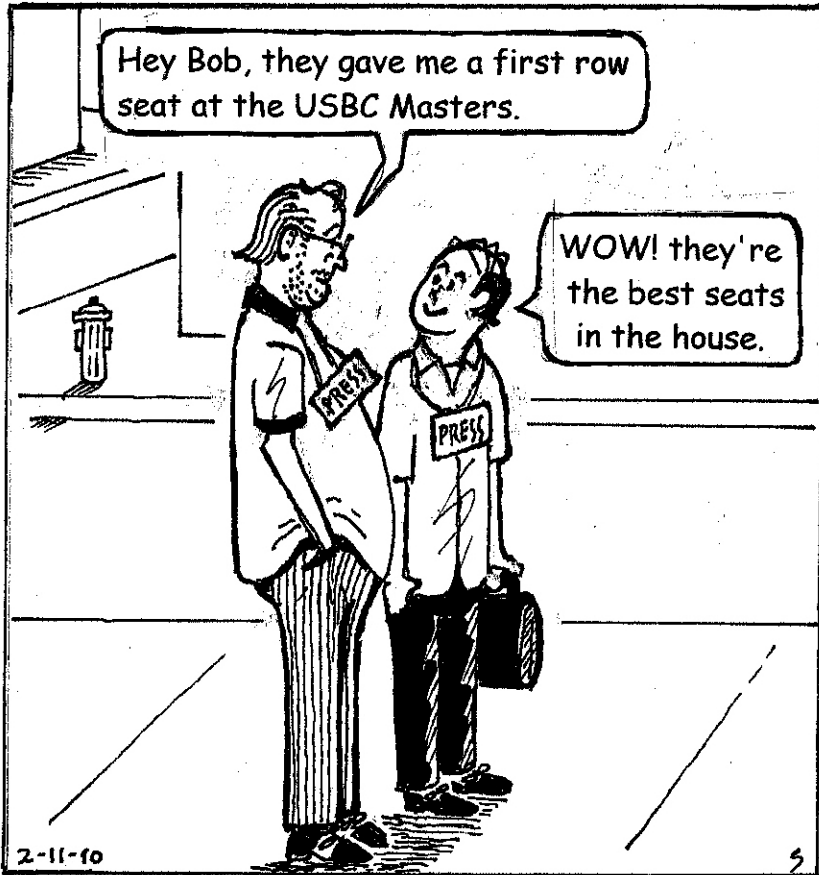
- Because of Mr. Beck and his affiliated entities' refusal to deposit the promised contributions to the SMART Program, participants in future tournaments sponsored by such persons should not assume tournaments promoted by such persons will be eligible for the SMART Program. In fact, the 2010 Teen Masters is not currently certified by USBC due to Mr. Beck's refusal to provide proper financial reports and his decision not to submit the promised funds to SMART from the 2009 tournament. If the event is not certified by USBC, we cannot assist bowlers and their families, and the prize money will not be mandated to be deposited in SMART.

The statements made in this message are fact. Any communication you may receive from Mr. Beck which implies anything to the contrary is simply not true. If you have any questions, we encourage you to obtain the correct facts by contacting the Administrator for the SMART Program: Denise Smyser, USBC SMART Administrator, phone 813-385-8292, fax 813-385-8266 or email denise.smyser@bowl.com.

Thank you for taking the time and effort to support the SMART Program. The SMART Program is healthy, and the funds are safe. We are currently working on further enhancements to the SMART Program which will benefit all providers and recipients of scholarship funds. We will provide further details in the near future.



Have an interesting story? Send it in to our email: bowlers-buzz@yahoo.com - read you later!



Question? Why did the PBA put the opposing bowler's seat on a platform of about 18 inches from the floor and blocking the view of a VIP customer?



STRIKE TEN ENTERTAINMENT ANNOUNCES A FREE GAME OF BOWLING PROMOTION IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MAKERS OF TONY'S® PIZZA!!!



Strike Ten Entertainment is pleased to announce a new partnership with the makers of **Tony's®** Pizza. This exciting program officially begins as soon as the products hit the shelves in mid-April, 2009. **A Free Game of Bowling Coupon** will be featured on a variety of **Tony's®** Frozen Pizzas.

This **Free Game of Bowling** offer is designed to drive additional traffic to your centers during the traditionally slower **daytime** hours. It can also help to generate new bowler visits and incremental revenues for Strike Ten member centers.

Promotion Dates: April 15, 2009 – May 31, 2010

- **A Free Game of Bowling Coupon** is featured on a variety of **Tony's®** Frozen Pizza Products.
- Free Game Coupons can only be redeemed at Strike Ten member centers and are **only valid during daytime hours between 8:30am and 6:00pm** when lanes are available (holidays are excluded). Coupon use is limited to one free game per person per day. (other restrictions appear on coupon)



- The makers of **Tony's®** Pizza are supporting the program with bowling-specific packaging and TV advertising on ESPN PBA and USBC telecasts.
- Consumers can find participating Strike Ten centers at www.GoBowling.com and www.Bowl.com.

Tony's® Pizza is distributed by Schwan's Consumer Brands North American, Inc., a subsidiary of the Schwan Food Company, one of the largest providers of branded frozen food in the world. With 18,000 employees worldwide, the Schwan subsidiaries are the leading producer of frozen pizzas and other popular frozen products.

Young Guns Take Texas Titles

By George Bishop

Shawn Maldonado, Houston, and Anita Manns, Austin, were victorious in their quest to win the 2010 Texas State Masters and Bluebonnet Queens Tournaments held February 20-21 at Wonder Lanes in San Antonio. Like the senior tournaments, both events are held the same weekend with separate qualifying squads. The semi-finals and finals are bowled simultaneously, and spectators have the advantage of watching the best of the best compete at the same time.

Bluebonnet Queens Tournament

Anita Manns, qualifying second after Saturday's competition, moved into the top spot after winning her first game of match play Sunday morning 209-179. Manns remained in the top spot winning seven of her nine games of match play, totaling



2013 pins, plus 240 bonus points, for a grand total and winning score of 2253. In addition to the first place prize money of \$1300, Mann will have a paid entry to compete in the national USBC Queens tournament held in conjunction with the USBC Women's Championship Tournament in El Paso, Texas.

Manns has had a successful bowling career to date for her young age. She has received the Alberta E. Crowe Award, was a former member of Team USA (02-03), as well as Jr. Team USA (03-04), and was a member of the National IBC Championship Wichita State Shockers team in 2005. In addition, the smiling all star was Academic All American the four years she attended college, and was selected '05 BWAA Collegiate Player of the Year.

In the final position match, Manns defeated Catie Jensen, Ft. Worth, 217-168, and opened the door for April Ellis, Ft. Worth, to take second place honors by winning her match against Lisa Lea, Ft. Worth, 216 - 179 and 30 bonus pins. Other finalists were Marcia Kloempken, Ft. Worth, Jessica Hirschmann, San Antonio, Jennifer Chewens, Wichita Falls, Laura Godfrey, San Antonio, Heather Jones, Ft. Worth, and Crystal Boutotte, Montgomery County. Boutotte was high qualifier.

Texas State Masters

Two handed bowler Shawn Maldonado, Houston, started his qualifying round with a 260 game, ended with 1883 total to advance to semi's and finished the day with 2739 total pins and high qualifier to start Sunday's match play competition. Sunday's match play match play continued with Maldonado winning eight of ten matches for 240 bonus pins and a grand total of 2349 and the title. In addition to first place prize money of \$2,000, Maldonado has qualified for a paid entry for the USBC Masters in 2011.



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"I have been bowling with two hands since I first started bowling at the age of 3. My father helped me through the years, I do not have a coach, most of what I have learned has come from reading all the information I can and watching all the bowlers I can. I work in a pro shop and I have opportunities to talk with a lot of bowlers. I make my living bowling." commented Maldonado. "I came out of the youth program about five years ago, did not go to college but I bowl in a lot of tournaments and get a great deal of experience bowling three times a week".

In the final position round, Maldonado defeated William Alexander, San Angelo, 226 -209, while bowling on the next pair of lanes in third place, Ron Boroff, Ft. Worth, won his match with a 280 game, plus 30 bonus pins for second place. Other finalists include Andy Patterson, Longview; Adam Martinez, San Antonio; Xeno Garcia, Ft. Worth, Michael Phillips, San Antonio, Chris Watson, San Antonio, Everett Bubak, Houston and David Eubanks, Austin.

The Texas State USBC conducts four annual scratch events. In addition to the Bluebonnet and Masters events, the state conducts the Texas State Senior Masters and Senior Queens Classic. All four 2011 tournaments will be held in Houston - Senior events scheduled for January 29-30 and Bluebonnet and Masters scheduled for February 26-27. Lanes have not been selected.

Editor's Note: For a complete prize list go to www.bowlersbuzz.com.

For Whom The Bell Tolls

Mr. Danny Douglas Haley, Sr.

By Evelyn Peoples



March 4, 1951—February 16, 2010. It is said that we are known by the dashes between our birth date and our death date and Mr. Haley certainly knew how to fill the dash in his life. I called him Mr. Haley as most people did. Mr. Haley lived his life very respectably. He raised his family in the same fashion and they are a delightful family to be around.

I visited with Mr. Haley at Northwest Hospital after he was diagnosed with cancer. He was very poised and serene. While we talked, I commented to him how calm he seemed. He said he didn't have anything to worry about and that he was ready to go when the Good Lord was ready for him.

Mr. Haley loved to bowl in league, tournaments, and no-taps. He had a lot of friends that enjoyed his company and his good bowling as well. He embraced the challenge and enjoyment bowling presented to him.

He summoned his family members to come and visit with him one last time when he knew his time on earth was short. He said he wanted to spend time with them while in his final days. He was a man that was in control of his life in a quiet loving way. He touched so many people in the dignified manner in which he lived his life.

Mr. Haley was raised in New Caney and graduated from New Caney High School. He was one of seven children born to the late Douglas and Sarah Haley and was the beloved husband of Genevieve for 37 years. Mr. Haley lost his courageous battle with cancer and passed away peacefully in his home. He will forever be remembered by his devoted brothers Willie, Sam, Grant, loving sister Linda Emmons, beloved children Danny and Julie Haley, Denise and Matthew Byers, David Haley, Danielle Haley, Douglas and Alma Haley and Dustin Haley, treasured grandchildren Lance, Halie, Faith, Tessa, Carson, Jonathan, and soon to be Danny III, along with countless other family and friends whom were blessed to know him. Mr. Haley loved bowling, laughing, being with his family, and having fun with life. Mr. Haley touched the lives of many people with his smile and generosity, and maintained his trademark sense of humor all the way to the end.

Mr. Haley, gone—but never forgotten.



844—More Than Just Another Pretty Face

By Evelyn Peoples

Julie Pollett-Haley is more than “just another pretty face.” She is a mother, candy maker, cake baker and decorator, an office worker and a great bowler!

Julie is a very humble and gifted bowler. She throws a very powerful ball with plenty of revs. She makes the game look easy.

On Wednesday, February 10, Julie bowled amazing scores of 286-300-258 for an 844 series.

Julie could not wait to share the news with Danny Haley, Sr., her father-in-law. Mr. Haley was very proud of Julie's accomplishment. He beamed with excitement as she told him the scores she rolled! He was as proud as if he had bowled those scores himself.

Her husband, Danny, Jr., could not wait to email the Bowlers' Buzz with the good news. Her family is full of pride for Julie. Julie's series is a GHUSBC record. (Texas Association has not confirmed if it is a state record.) *Congratulations! Great bowling, Julie!*



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College News

UMES — Rolls to Third Place in Morgan State Invitational

It wasn't first place, but the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) will take it. After winning their last three events, UMES was hoping for a fourth but will settle for a third place finish and a 7-3 record at the Morgan State Invitational.

"We didn't bowl all that well," said Head Coach Sharon Brummell. "We still took third and finished the first day in second place. It is a good sign when you can be a little off and still do fairly well."

The Hawks opened with a two-pin loss to no. 4 Fairleigh Dickinson University (FDU) (934-932) before rattling off four wins on the opening day. They topped North Carolina Central (893-770), no. 9 New Jersey City (972-857), no. 20 Morgan State (905-781) and Virginia Union (939-562).

That earned them a second place seeding with a pinfall of 6,915, just 47 pins behind top qualifier Nebraska.

Entering day two the Hawks topped North Carolina A&T (722-585) and Elmhurst (744-618) both in four-game Baker sets. They then ran to the defending National Champion Nebraska Huskers. UMES was bested once more, 806-824, this time by just 18 pins. That earned them the third seed in a best four out of seven Baker final round. UMES fell again to FDU, this time 4-1 before rebounding to topple no. 10 Saint Francis (N.Y.) 4-0.

That secured UMES the third place title, giving SFU fourth. Nebraska would top FDU for the tournament win.

Individually **Maria Rodriguez (Ibague Tolima, Colombia)** and **Paula Vilas (Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic)** were named to the All-Tournament Second Team. Rodriguez was sixth overall with an average of 195.6 and a pinfall of 969. Vilas was ninth, averaging 193.2 and a pinfall of 966. **Kristina Frahm (Oswego, Ill.)** was 12th, averaging 188.4.

As a team the Hawks totaled just six games over 200 on the tough shot. Only three bowlers in the 166 athlete field averaged 200 or better. UMES got 200 or better games from Frahm who threw a 216 over Virginia Union, Rodriguez who posted a 213 and 211 over NJCU and Virginia Union respectively, Vilas, who posted a 213 and a 210 against FDU and NCCU and **Stacy Parsons (Delran, N.J.)** who rolled a 214 against NJCU.

Sarah Palin Keynote Speaker at Bowl Expo

By Ron DeRoxtra, BPAA



The Bowling Proprietors' Association of America (BPAA), the bowling industry's leading trade association, announced today that the bowling industry rolled a strike, securing Sarah Palin as the keynote speaker at this summer's International Bowl Expo 2010.

"Sarah Palin is a great friend to the bowling industry and we're so proud and honored to welcome her as our keynote speaker at International Bowl Expo 2010," said Steven Johnson, executive director of the BPAA. "Regardless of your political affiliation, Ms. Palin is a force in American politics and culture. Her presence underscores the impact and importance of bowling, one of our country's leading national pastimes and a growing \$10 billion industry."

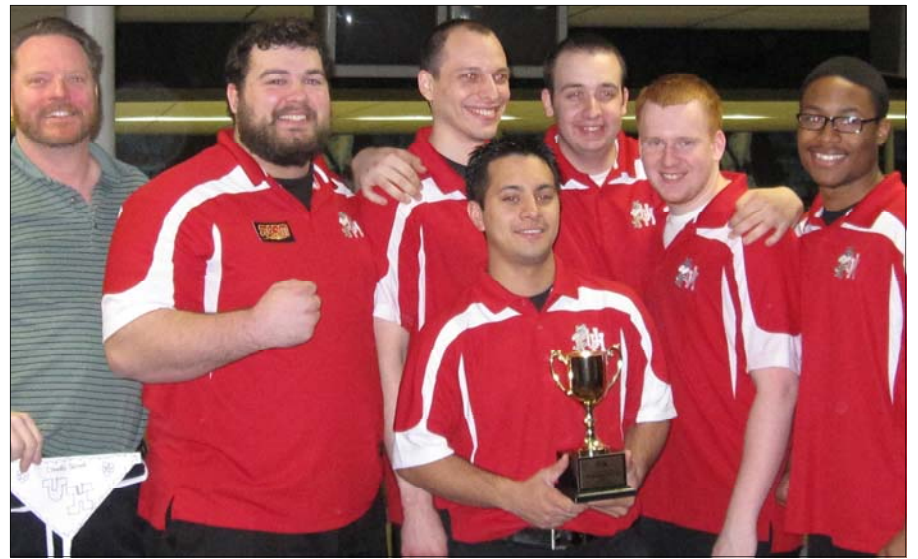
The International Bowl Expo 2010 is to be held from June 27 to July 1 at the Las Vegas Hilton and Las Vegas Convention Center. Ms. Palin's keynote speech is to take place during the general session on the morning of June 30 at the Las Vegas Hilton.



Losing Sleep... looking for the Bowlers' Buzz? If you can't find the Bowlers' Buzz at your local bowling center, ask your manager/owner to get it for you or get your own subscription and have it delivered to your mailbox every month. \$20.00/year! See page 2.

U of H — Valentine's Day Lovely for the U of H Bowlers!

The University of Houston Men's Bowling Team finished on a high note this past Valentine's Day by capturing the SWIBC (Southwest Intercollegiate Bowling Conference) Championship Tournament held at home town Palace Lanes. Seeded first after nine games of qualifying, the Houston bowlers continued their torrid pace and swept the University of Louisiana-Lafayette in a three game baker match. Finishing third was West Texas A&M University, followed the University of North Texas, Texas A&M (Maroon), University of Houston (Red), Louisiana State University, Texas Tech, Texas A&M University (White), Sam Houston State University and Our Lady of the Lake. University of Houston bowler's Frank Papandrea, Philip Wong, and Drew Musch were named to the All Tournament Team.



The Lady Cougars qualified second after their nine games and finished third after the baker semi's. West Texas A&M were the eventual winners, followed by Louisiana State University, the Lady Cougars, North Texas State University, Texas A&M University and Our Lady of the Lake. Angela Guevara was the lone Lady Cougar making the All Tournament Team.

Rick Minier Inducted into Houston Hall of Fame

By Evelyn Peoples



Bowlers' Buzz File Photo

Rick Minier is inducted into the Houston Hall of Fame. He is a very deserving bowler. He is an avid bowler and a fierce competitor while maintaining his composure. Rick welcomes the challenge that tournaments and competitive leagues present. He can be found bowling SASBA and local tournaments on the weekends.

His son, Paul Minier, also a Houston Area elite bowler was very proud of his dad's accomplishment. He said, "When I heard my dad was getting inducted into the GHUSBC Hall of Fame, I was impressed. There are so many great bowlers from this area that are not in the Hall of Fame yet. However, the group that he gets to join in the Hall of Fame is filled with bowling icons. It is his fourth hall of fame, but it has to be one of the best." *Congratulations, Rick Minier!*

Bill Satterfield Inducted into Houston Hall of Fame

Bill Satterfield is inducted into the Houston Hall of Fame for his meritorious service. Many Houston bowlers will remember Bill as the manager of Big Texan Lanes. He was manager during the 1970s when the PBA came to Houston.

It was a busy time for Big Texan and Houston bowlers as well.

Bill is currently an owner of a bowling center in Beaumont, Texas.

Congratulations, Bill Satterfield! (Photo not available.)

Are you still paying Christmas bills? Need extra cash? Need new bowling equipment? Want to go on a vacation? Need to make money? Join Avon's team and get discounts on items you purchase regularly — make money too! Call now and leave a message. 281.821.1588

Williams Continues to Re-Write PBA Record Book

By Bill Vint, PBA

With his second USBC Masters title, Walter Ray Williams, Jr. continues to write his own version of the PBA Record Book:

- The Masters was Williams' record 47th PBA Tour title, increasing his edge over the late Earl Anthony's 43 to four titles.
- The 2010 Masters victory gives Williams eight major championships, moving him into a tie with Pete Weber and Mike Aulby for second place on the all-time list beyond Anthony's 10 career majors.
- As the first two-time winner during the 2009-10 Lumber Liquidators PBA Tour season, he became the first in PBA Tour history to win multiple titles in 13 different seasons. He had been tied with Pete Weber at 12 multi-title seasons (for the record, Anthony won multiple titles 10 times).
- Williams is now the second-oldest player to win a PBA Tour major title. Ernie Schlegel was 53 when he won the 1996 USBC Masters. Oldest player records for the other majors are:

Tournament of Champions: Joe Joseph, 44 years, 49 days, in 1962.

U.S. Open: Pete Weber, 44 years, 196 days, in 2007.

PBA World Championship: Tom Baker, 49 years, 192 days, in 2004.

- Thanks to his \$50,000 Masters first prize, Williams has jumped into the 2009-10 PBA Tour earnings lead with \$120,070, a record 19th time in his career he has exceeded \$100,000 in single-season earnings. It would have been 11 years in a row, but last season he just missed, earning \$99,680.
- Williams also has taken the lead in the 2009-10 Chris Schenkel PBA Player of the Year points race with 50 points (Chris Barnes and Bill O'Neill are tied for second at 32). Williams is trying for a record seventh PBA Player of the Year title. He is currently tied for the lead with Anthony with six each.

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Now, let's roll for them.**



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USBC Announces Recognition Awards

By Jason Overstreet, USBC

Minnesota state and local association leader Harry Stewart, Texas proprietor Jamie Brooks and California local leader Tina Martin have been named winners of the 2010 USBC Recognition Awards.

Stewart was selected as winner of the Helen Baker Outstanding Association Service Award, Brooks the Proprietor of the Year Award and Martin the Joyce Deitch Trailblazer Award.

"The success of USBC depends on dedicated volunteers, engaged proprietors and innovators in the sport," USBC Executive Director Stu Upson said. "We are truly appreciative of all the great things these award winners have contributed."

The Helen Baker Outstanding Association Service Award is named for the former Women's International Bowling Congress' fifth president. It annually recognizes an outstanding bowling leader who has made invaluable contributions to local and state associations as an innovator, creator and mentor of adult programs.

Stewart has been a member of his local association in Minneapolis for nearly 50 years, serving as an officer at the state and local level. His motto is, "Service to the Bowlers" and Stewart focuses his efforts to ensure fair conditions and opportunities for all bowlers. Stewart initiated a new Most Improved Bowler Tournament in the Minneapolis area to help keep new members engaged in the sport. Also serving as office manager for the local association, Stewart diligently keeps accurate financial records and facilitates support of local youth programs and charities.

The Proprietor of the Year Award annually recognizes an outstanding bowling center proprietor for his/her enthusiastic support of local and state bowling associations and of national programs.

Brooks has actively worked in support of local, state and national associations for decades, serving on many boards and councils. His centers have a strong focus on league bowling and encouraging participants to enter USBC tournaments. Brooks also places a priority on having certified USBC coaches available to assist bowlers on the lanes. His center in Plano, Texas recently hosted the state high school championship and Brooks consistently supports the local high school programs near his centers.

The Joyce Deitch Trailblazer Award is named for the seventh president of the WIBC. It recognizes organizations and individuals who have made important contributions to bowling by being motivators, visionaries, leaders and innovators.

A bowler for more than 40 years, Martin has shown a passion for the sport as organizer and innovator in the San Francisco Bay Area for the past two decades. Martin takes an active role in youth programs serving as the primary leader bringing teams to national and state events. An active member of the Bowling Writers Association of America, Martin skillfully engages the local media leading to consistent coverage of bowling in Marin County.

PBA Battle—Fans Can Play

By Bill Vint, PBA

Professional Bowlers Association fans will have an opportunity to play a new PBA Bracket Battle, bowling's version of "March Madness," during the Go RVing Match Play Championship March 17-21 at Norwich Bowling and Entertainment Center in Norwich, Connecticut.

Borrowing from the same tradition millions of Americans follow in filling out their annual NCAA basketball brackets in March, the PBA is creating its own 64-player "pick the winners" contest that will allow bowling fans to try to pick winners of matches from start to finish in the Go RVing Match Play Championship. It's free to enter and there will be prizes to win.

"March Madness got its name because of the almost magical attachment sports fans develop in following their NCAA brackets," said PBA Deputy Commissioner Tom Clark. "People who may know very little about some of the teams and players get involved and pay attention to the NCAA basketball finals because of the bracket frenzy."

"The PBA thought it would be great fun to engage bowling fans in the same way," he continued. "Fans can follow the progress of the players they select on pba.com, living and dying with their picks. The best place to watch each round unfold is pba.com's live streaming coverage of the event all week on Xtra Frame."

The PBA version of the bracket game will be hosted and automatically tabulated on pba.com, the PBA's official website. Prizes will include a bowling pin autographed by all Round of 8 survivors in the Match Play Championship for the PBA Bracket Battle winner, a \$100 gift certificate to the online PBA Store for second place, an autographed PBA Tournament of Champions poster for third place, and complimentary one-year subscriptions to pba.com's Xtra Frame for fourth and fifth places.

The idea is simple: 64 Lumber Liquidators PBA Tour competitors will be seeded into the bracket. The top 56 spots will be based upon where players rank in the PBA World Points Ranking list at the conclusion of the Etonic Don Johnson Eliminator March 7 in Columbus, Ohio. Those 56 and their seeding positions will be announced when the bracket game officially goes online on Wednesday, March 10, at noon Eastern.

The 57th seed will go to PBA Senior Tour star Tom Baker of King, N.C., who will join the Go RVing field as a Commissioner's Exemption. The seven remaining seeds – 58 through 64 – will be awarded to players based upon their finishing position in the Go RVing Tour Qualifying Round on Wednesday, March 17.

Once the entire field is set, fans will select the player they think will win each best-of-seven-game, single-elimination match during the entire Go RVing Match Play Championship. The only matches that will not be best-of-seven will be the semifinal round and championship match, which will be a three-game, total pinfall. The championship match will air live on ESPN on Sunday, March 21, at 1 p.m. Eastern.

Chris Barnes of Double Oak, Texas, won the 2009

Go RVing Match Play Championship, rallying to defeat PBA Hall of Famer Walter Ray Williams Jr. of Ocala, Florida, 772-693.

Scoring for the bracket contest will be one point for correctly picking each winner in the Round of 64 (32 matches, 32 possible points), two points each winner in the Round of 32 (16 matches, 32 possible points), four points for each winner in the Round of 16 (eight matches, 32 possible points), eight points for each winner in the Round of 8 (four matches, 32 possible points), 16 points for each winner in the semifinal, or Round of 4 (two matches, 32 possible points), and another 32 points for selecting the correct winner of the title match. Each contestant also will be asked to predict the three-game series bowled by the winner as a tie-breaker.

Along with the entry form, complete rules will be posted on pba.com. Entries must be submitted by no later than the start of the first Go RVing matches at 11 a.m. Eastern on Thursday, March 18. Provisions will be made for last-minute withdrawals due to injury.

USBC Announces New Pin Verification Requirements

By Jason Overstreet, USBC

The USBC has approved a new specification for bowling pin permit renewals. The change is designed to ensure that pins manufactured annually are comparable to the material of the originally approved pin.

The new specification requirement will be enforced for the 2010-11 season and only affects manufacturers. "This specification will confirm that the materials within an approved pin do not change from year to year," USBC Vice President-National Governing Body Neil Stremmel said. "This includes the pin coat, clear coat and pin base material. It is important to verify that the scoring consistency of an approved pin does not change as the manufacturers produce pins for the start of each season."

Verification for the new pin specification utilizes infrared spectroscopy technology; specifically, an instrument called a Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FT-IR). FT-IR uses energy to examine molecular bonds. When certain infrared wavelengths of light are absorbed, the instrument can confirm that a particular molecular bond is present.

"There are three main pieces in infrared spectroscopy: a light source, a sample and a detector," Stremmel said. "The source produces the energy, or light, needed to wiggle molecular bonds. The sample may absorb some of the radiation and the detector measures the light that is not absorbed. FT-IR is a useful laboratory technique for measuring the likeness of one material to another."

USBC researchers used several primary steps in the developmental phase of this specification. First USBC performed a repeatability study to determine the measurement accuracy of the instrument itself. Additionally, USBC examined manufacturing variability of the material used throughout the pin itself and from one pin to another. With this data, USBC knows a quantified percent similarity that should be expected from pin to pin.

"Our team spent months scientifically determining and verifying a pin's expected percent of similarity," USBC Research Chemist Lanna Longorio said. "We have since notified the pin manufacturers of their new requirements and we expect this will add another layer of scoring integrity to the sport."



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Fans to Decide

Terry Bigham, USBC

Most people who play sports can only dream of having a chance to compete against the pros on national television with thousands of dollars at stake. For 18 bowlers, their chance to compete against some of the best professionals on the Lumber Liquidators PBA Tour, including star Norm Duke, is closer to becoming a reality through the PBA Experience Showdown.

The PBA Experience Showdown is a unique competition for United States Bowling Congress Sport Bowling members. Sport bowlers compete in leagues which use many of the same lane conditions that are used on the PBA Tour. For the last six months, the top bowler (highest scratch series) each week in those leagues was eligible to be entered in the PBA Experience Showdown.

More than 1,300 entries were sent to USBC from Sport Bowling leagues. From those qualifiers, 18 competitors were randomly selected as finalists. The entries were divided into six groups based on what lane conditions they bowled on when they qualified, and three finalists were randomly selected from each category.

Bowling fans can visit BOWL.com and vote for their favorite bowler from each of the six lane patterns – Chameleon, Cheetah, Scorpion, Shark, Viper and Other Sport Patterns – and the top vote-getter from each pattern will advance to the PBA Experience Showdown finals. Fans can vote one time (for each oil pattern) per day.

The finals of the PBA Experience Showdown will be held April 6-7 at the International Training and Research Center in Arlington, Texas. The finals will be taped for television and are scheduled to air April 11 on ESPN. The six finalists will compete in a six-game qualifier, with each game being contested on a different PBA lane pattern. The finalist with the high score earns a spot to compete on TV against the five winners of the 2009-10 PBA Tour Versatility Swing events – Duke, Rhino Page, Bill O'Neill, Mike DeVaney and Jack Jurek.

Below are the final 18 qualifiers and the patterns on which they qualified. More information on each bowler also is available at BOWL.com.

PBA EXPERIENCE SHOWDOWN FINALISTS

With name, hometown, and bowling center

Chameleon winners Joseph Petrowski, East Syracuse, N.Y., Bowl-Mor Lanes Mandy Wilson, Dayton, Ohio, Capri Bowling Lanes Max Gross, Dallas, USA Bowl

Cheetah winners Patti Riddle, Palatine, Ill., Brunswick Zone-Hawthorn James Fugitt, Grapevine, Texas, AMF Showplace Lanes Dan Keenan, Endicott, N.Y., Midway Lanes

Scorpion winners Jeffrey J. Owens, Ithaca, N.Y., Patel's Bowl-O-Drome Bill Matovina, Clearwater, Fla., Seminole Lanes Kyle Casey, Kennewick, Wash., Spare Time Lanes

Shark winners Holly Harris, Pasco, Wash., Spare Time Lanes Stan Thrift, Lavaca, Ark., AR Bowling World Brent Watson, Parkersburg, W.Va., Emerson Bowling Lanes

Viper winners Jon Scarano, Raleigh, N.C., Buffalo Lanes North Kevin Reuer, Hoffman Estates, Ill., Beverly Lanes Andy Tomita, Elmhurst, Ill., Beverly Lanes

Other Sport winners Larry Darvas, Keller, Texas, USA Bowl Bobby Wenger, Wooster, Ohio, Triway Lanes Rick Bates, Manteca, Calif., West Lane Bowl.

O'Neill Wins First Major Title

By Bill Vint, PBA

Bill O'Neill of Southampton, Pa., who earned a "can't miss" tag after his 2005-06 PBA Rookie of the Year season, cruised past defending champion Mike Scroggins of Amarillo, Texas, 267-207, to win his first major title in the 67th Lumber Liquidators U.S. Open at Woodland Bowl Sunday.

O'Neill, who won his first Lumber Liquidators PBA Tour title earlier in the season in Detroit, had a spare in the first frame, failed to convert the 2-10 split in the second, and then threw 10 strikes in a row to race away to victory. Along with his title, he earned \$60,000 and a three-year PBA Tour exemption.

"This title means everything to me. I can't begin to explain it," he said. "It's the most difficult title on tour to win. To have my name up there will the guys who have won it is amazing."



"I can't believe I bowled a game like that on this lane condition," the 28-year-old O'Neill said. "I found a little hold area and that's all I needed. It was just a matter of bearing down and making good shots."

"It was the most relaxed I've ever been on TV," he continued. "I don't know why, but from the time I got up this morning and came into the center, everything felt great. Even after throwing that split in the second frame, I knew I was going to throw the ball great."

"Scroggins has beaten me, like, the last 34 times I've bowled him, so it was nice to get some payback."

Scroggins never found a solid line to the pocket, failing to put two strikes together until the 10th frame. But it was a pocket 7-10 split in the eighth frame that clinched the win for O'Neill.

"At start of the match, my thumb shrunk just a bit and I was afraid to add a piece of tape because I didn't want to hang up in the ball," Scroggins said. "I was losing it just enough, so when I put the tape in the ball in the seventh frame, I got back to the pocket."

"But Bill bowled well. All of the strikes looked the same, so you know he was throwing the ball well," Scroggins added. "It's hard to beat 267 on an easy condition, let alone the U.S. Open oil pattern."

With his victory, O'Neill also jumped into the thick of the PBA Player of the Year race with only four tournaments remaining in the season.

"I picked up a couple of points on Walter Ray (Williams Jr.), but you know he'll make a couple of more TV shows before the season is over," O'Neill said. "I'll just have to try to win another one."

O'Neill earned his berth in the title match by defeating Tommy Jones of Simpsonville, S.C., 203-152, after Jones romped past Jason Couch of Clermont, Fla., 245-192, in the opening match. In the first game, Jones threw seven strikes in the first eight frames to win easily, but when the oil began to move, he got lost against O'Neill, leaving and failing to convert four splits.



Texas Bowler Reaches Top Spot at USBC Open Championships

Larry Thompson Jr. of Spring, Texas, may be small in stature, but he had no trouble reaching the top of the leaderboard at the USBC Open Championships on Sunday, February 28. Larry is a Hammer staff member. He was bowling with his Hammer Sting.

The 5-foot-7-inch right-hander fired games of 215, 248 and 279 at the National Bowling Stadium and moved into the top spot in Regular Singles with a 742 series. Thompson added 610 in team and 603 in doubles for a 1,955 all-events total, which puts him in second place in Regular All-Events, and teamed up with Craig Diver to move into a tie for third place in Regular Doubles with 1,267.

"I had a bunch of friends watching on the Web cams," said Thompson, who bowls regularly at AMF Woodlands and Conroe Bowl. This made his fourth appearance. "I couldn't do it without their support."

Thompson belongs to a group of bowlers who refer to themselves as the "Texas Midgets," which makes reference to their home state and lack of height. The four bowlers have collected accolades across Texas, and all Thompson wanted to do was make them proud.

The 32-year-old had his best look of the day on his singles pair and used his knowledge, and lessons he learned during doubles, to his advantage.

"On my singles pair, I had four or five boards to the right to go back and square up a little bit compared to the doubles pair," Thompson said. "I eventually made a move left, which allowed me to control the ball on the backend. I made an adjustment about every four or five frames so the ball could stay clean through the front part of the lanes and to get some early roll."

Despite a couple of splits that left him just short of the all-events lead, Thompson is satisfied with his overall performance and how far he's come since making his Open Championships debut at the 2007 event, also at the Stadium.

"My first event in Reno, I learned a lot because I didn't really know how to play the lanes," said Thompson, who shot 1,842 in his debut. "After the event, I went back home and began to bowl really well. I was able to learn more about equipment by making adjustments here and there to understand it better, which ultimately led to me being able to make better shots as a bowler."

Editor's Note: Way to go, Larry, we're Bowlers' Buzz Texas Proud!





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Try One of these events!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 28 	March 1 Beer Day Peace Corp Birthday Pig Day	2 	3 National Anthem Day	4 Happy Birthday, Mr. Haley Benjamin Harrison Day	5 Nametag Day World Day of Prayer	6 No Taps AMF Humble Sign Up 6:00 in Pro Shop, Bowl 7:30 p.m. U.S. Snowshoe Day
7 Namesake Day Academy Awards PBA Etonic Don Johnson Eliminator	8 Women's Rights & International Peace	9 Barbie Day Get over it day!  Panic Day	10 Learn What Your Name Means Day Salvation Army Day	11 World Kidney Day Johnny Appleseed Day	12 Girl Scout Day Middle Name Pride Day	13  Taps Emerald—Sign Up 7 Bowl 8:30 pm No Taps Conroe National Open An Umbrella Indoors Day Donald Duck Day K-9 Veteran's Day
14 Check Your Batteries Day Daylight Saving Time Begins	15 Ides of March Napping Day Brutus Day	16 St. Urho's Day Lips Appreciation Day	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 Awkward Moments Day Companies That Care Day	19 National Chocolate Caramel Day Swallows Return to San Juan Capistrano Day	20 No Taps AMF Humble Sign Up 6:00 in Pro Shop, Bowl 7:30 p.m. Kiss Your Fiance Day
21 Naw-Ruz Spring Fairy Fun Day PBA Go RVing Match Play Championships	22 As Young As You Feel Day	23 American Diabetes Association Alert Day	24 Kick Butts Day National Chocolate Covered Raisins Day	25 Letting Go of Stuff Day Pecan Day	26 Make Up Your Own Holiday Day	27 No Taps Conroe Celebrate Exchange Day Viagra Day (be careful)
28 Palm Sunday Weed Appreciation Day PBA GEICO Mark Roth Plastic Ball Championship	29 Knights Of Columbus Founders Day Passover	30 Pencil Day Doctor's Day	31 Bunsen Burner Day Nat'l "She's Funny That Way" Day	April 1 April Fools Day	5 	6 No Taps AMF Humble Sign Up 6:00 Bowl 7:30 p.m.

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