

Belmonte Races Away with 2017 GEICO PBA Player of the Year Award

PBA also honors Indiana rookie Matt Sanders, Ohio's Chris Loschetter, PBA Hall of Famer Del Ballard Jr.



Del, Alyssa and Carolyn Ballard

CHICAGO (Jan. 17, 2018) – For the fourth time in the past five seasons, Australia's Jason Belmonte has been selected by the bowling news media and his fellow competitors as the GEICO Chris Schenkel Professional Bowlers Association Player of the Year.

The PBA's most prized individual achievement award for the 2017 season was announced today by PBA CEO

and Commissioner Tom Clark, who also announced that Matt Sanders, an Evansville, Ind., native now living in Indianapolis, is the 2017 Harry Golden PBA Rookie of the Year; Chris Loschetter of Avon, Ohio, is the Steve Nagy PBA Sportsmanship Award winner, and PBA Hall of Famer Del Ballard Jr. of Keller, Texas, is the recipient of PBA's Tony Reyes Memorial Community Service Award.

All four will receive their awards during the Go Bowling! PBA 60th Anniversary Celebration Dinner and Hall of Fame induction ceremonies on Saturday, Feb. 17, at the Indianapolis Marriott North. The entire celebration dinner will be live streamed on PBA's online bowling channel, Xtra Frame.

Belmonte, after becoming the first player in PBA history to win three major championships among his four titles in 2017, was a landslide winner in balloting among his fellow PBA members and veteran bowling writers. At age 34 he joined Mark Roth as a four-time winner of the award. Walter Ray Williams Jr. is the all-time leader with seven Player of the Year Awards, followed by the late Earl Anthony with six.

"I am absolutely thrilled to be the PBA's Player of the Year," Belmonte said. "2017 was a really successful year for me and winning these awards just makes those successes even better. It really motivates

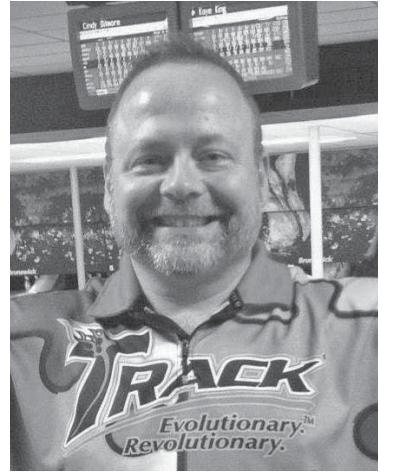
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Another Stellar Season for Jakob Butturff Highlights 2017 PBA Regional Awards

CHICAGO (Jan. 16, 2018) - PBA Tour standout Jakob Butturff of Chandler, Ariz., didn't match his record-breaking 2016 season that included a record nine PBA Regional wins, but he did keep the momentum going with four wins in 2017, and that was enough to successfully defend his PBA West and Northwest Region Player of the Year honors.

Bowling in a combined nine tournaments in the West and Northwest, Butturff also compiled three other top-five finishes which included a second, third and a fifth place while also leading his fellow regional competitors with a 236 average.

Butturff's accomplishments in 2017 were among the highlights of the PBA Regional Award winners, announced today by Director of the PBA



Mike Austin earns the Pat Patterson Award

Regional and PBA50 Tours John Weber, recognizing Players of the Year, Rookies of the Year, PBA50 Players of the Year and Pat Patterson Award

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USBC to Reclassify more than 700 Leagues as Sport or Challenge Leagues Based on Research

ARLINGTON, Texas – After researching the averages of bowlers who competed in multiple leagues during the 2016-2017 season, the United States Bowling Congress determined the lane conditions used in more than 700 leagues were more difficult than conditions in Standard leagues and those leagues will be reclassified with the appropriate Sport or Challenge designation.

A total of 605 leagues will be reclassified to Challenge leagues and 99 leagues will be reclassified as Sport leagues based on data that showed the scoring pace was significantly different from the scoring pace its members had on Standard league conditions.

The averages of the bowlers in those leagues now will carry a Sport or Challenge designation on Find A Member. If they have no other average, the bowlers will need to follow Rule 201 and use the Sport or Challenge conversion charts when entering leagues or tour-



naments bowled on Standard conditions.

"Average integrity is an important issue this industry continues to face and USBC is being proactive in using the data to make sure leagues are properly classified," USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy said. "This is another positive step to leveling the playing field at all USBC certified events."

During the next several days, USBC will send emails and letters to the league secretary, league president and bowling center of the leagues, and inform the local and state association managers of the reclassification. The letters also will state that leagues have

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Three Candidates Slated for USBC Board Election; 8 Legislative Proposals to be Decided

ARLINGTON, Texas – Three candidates have been slated for the three open positions on the United States Bowling Congress Board of Directors and eight legislative proposals will be determined by delegates to the 2018 USBC Convention and Annual Meeting, which will take place April 23-26 at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno, Nevada.

Current USBC board members Jay Daryman of York, Pennsylvania, and Karen Jost of Tumwater, Washington, were slated by the USBC Nominating Committee along with Dennis Hacker of Perryville, Missouri, for the three open spots on the USBC Board. The USBC Nominating Committee can slate up to two candidates for each open board position.

Daryman seeks his second

term to the USBC Board. He was elected by delegates in 2015 and has served on the USBC Nominating, Legal and Legislative, and National Policy committees. He is a Maintenance Support Specialist for Exelon Nuclear, where he has worked since 1980.

Jost, first elected by delegates in 2012, seeks her third term on the USBC board. She has served on the Nominating, Strategic Planning, Executive Director and Board Evaluation, Association Outreach, and Awards and Recognition committees, and currently serves on the Bowlers to Veterans Link (BVL) board. She is a Health Services Analysis Program Manager for the Department of Labor and

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Just Paying Attention

By Mark London
Mark@TheBowlingNews.net




As you have seen elsewhere in this week's TBN, the PBA announced its 2017 Regional Award winners. The Southwest Region's Pat Patterson winner is Houston-area pro shop owner Mike Austin, a familiar name to many in our readership area.

Okay, fine. Yes, Mike is my boss. Now that I've got that out of the way, a great deed should and deserves to be chronicled. So read on.

Besides sponsoring the PBA/PBA50 Southwest Doubles Regional the weekend before Christmas each of the last four years, he did something truly selfless. He gave one of his ABC/USBC 300 game rings to a Kentucky bowler who rolled a 300 of his own several weeks before at the Kentucky Special Olympics State Tournament. That game helped Doug Kelley win his second state gold medal, backing up his first gold medal in 2008. Austin and his wife Lisa had heard about the young man from a video on a Cincinnati television station that had started to go viral on various social media outlets.

Making it truly special, Austin arranged a video feed on both Facebook and Skype to surprise Kelley, who did not know he was receiving

the ring ahead of time. Since Special Olympics does not use USBC sanctioning for any of its bowling events, there would be no award from them.

But this time, there would be. During roll call of this year's PBA/PBA50 Southwest Regional Doubles at Houston's Emerald Bowl with Doug's family and friends watching in Kentucky, Austin made the presentation. Kelley's mom had already received the ring and gave it to Doug.

There was rousing applause on both ends of the feed, in Houston and in Kentucky.

Late last week, Luci Doubles tournament founder and director Donna Conners told me she was already "filling the fourth squad" for the 2018 Storm PBA/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Doubles. As we all know, this tourney fills up quickly since entries opened January 1, more than likely filling next week. If you need more information, go to the tournament page on Facebook, or strikingagainstbreastcancer.org for more information.

As a young aspiring athlete, you probably played an imaginary game in your mind for

a championship on television. You would get nervous as you called your own play-by-play in the tenth frame, needing to strike out for the win, or maybe for even a 300 game. If you got good enough to bowl a few pro regionals, you may have gotten a chance to bowl with some of these players in person.

After a while, you got to hear some of the stories of those not-so-familiar names and how he or she did on their show. The tale is often the same. Game flies by at the speed of light and before you knew it, it's over. Even though you feel like you're going to hurl for those twenty minutes on camera, and even after shooting a 160 game, it's an experience none would have given up for anything. There was one less item in the bucket list. But what if that first game on national television was different, perhaps changing your life for a few years, or perhaps even changing how the game is played?

As you might expect after fifty-five years on network television, a few have defied the odds, winning a title and even rolling a perfect game on that first national appearance. Two of those people have been interviewed in JPA over the years about that experience, the Dr. Rev. C.K. Moore on his 1996 win and 300 game in Austin, and Jason Queen on his 300 game enroute to the 1997 ABC/USBC Masters title, although neither perfect was in the title match. But there's that dream. Your first game on TV is for the title as tournament leader. It's against a bowler credited with changing how the sport is played. You defy conventional wisdom and roll a 300 game. What would that be like? Thirty years ago this week, we found out.

Bob Benoit had taken a break from early 1980's PBA Tour life. His straighter game allowed him to cash and make a few regional match play rounds, but it was not the

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At JB's Allen Bowl

Neill strokes 768, Boss booms 756

Danny Neill captured high-series honors for the week at JB's Allen Bowl with an outstanding 236-246-286 = 768 Wednesday Match Play series.

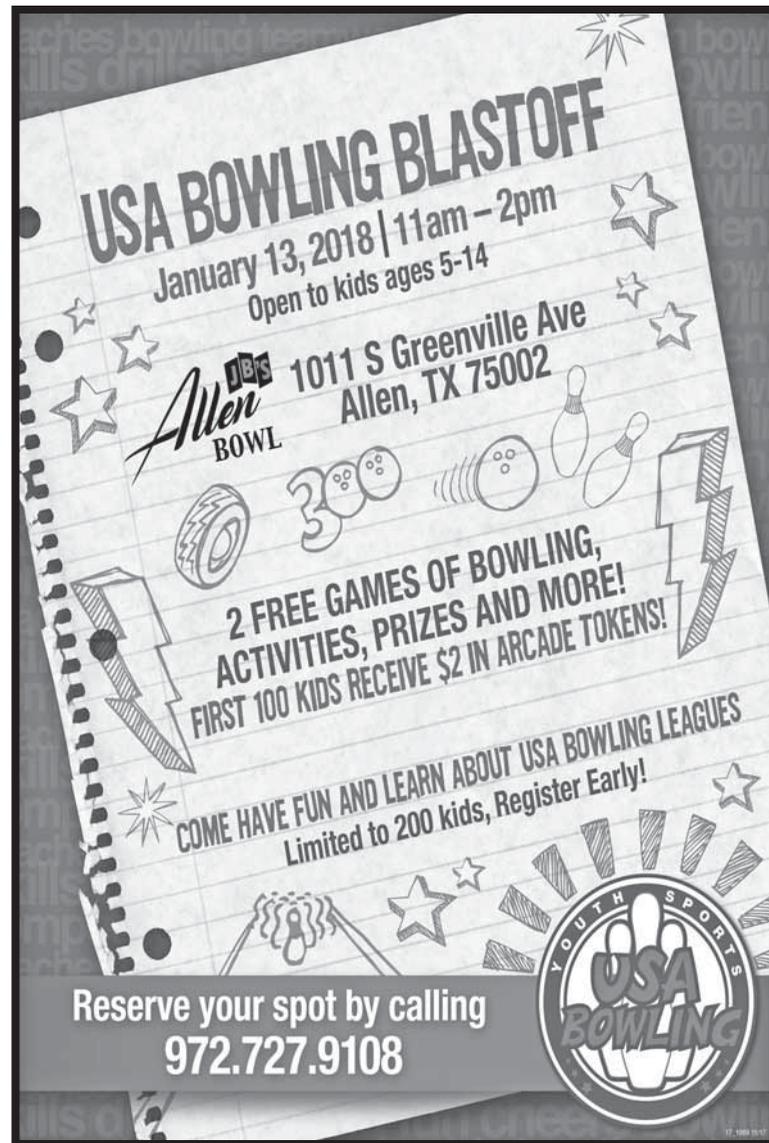
Elynn Boss rounded up the top score for the ladies with a stately 243-256-257 = 756 Allen TNT session.

HONOR ROLL
Cully Fulce 263-741, Maritza Matteo 268-632, Stacy Starry 238-704, Doug

Winn 224-604, Andi Hall 187-538, Levi Bishard 276-749, Kurt Gengelbach 279-764, Lisa Young 221-570, Beth Campbell 222-580.

Stacy Millstid 278-742, Heather Gesino 238-648.

SENIORS
Masion Kirby 226-562, Ann Coleman 181-490, Jerry Stone 203-553, Jeanette Hooper 183-480, Danny Cooper 216-544, Audrey Wilson 164-453.



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\$26,000 added money this year!!

E BONITE COLUMBIA 300 USBC NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS HAMMER TRACK

Tournament Schedule

Date	Tournament Detail	Location
Nov 25-26, 2017	Wild Turkey Mixed Tournament - \$2k added	Cityview
Jan 27-28, 2018	Mixed Doubles - \$3k added	Forum Bowl
Feb 10-11, 2018	Youth City - \$3k added	Cityview
Feb 12-23, 2018	Senior - \$1k added	Mail-O-Graphic
April 21-22, 2018	Ladies City - \$3k added	Cityview
April 29, 2018	Youth/Adult Doubles - \$2k added	Watauga
May 5-6/May 11-12	Open City Championship - \$10k added	Bowlero Eulees
July 7-8, 2018	After the Fire Works - Mixed Trios - \$2k added	TBD

Visit our website www.nctusbc.com for tournament entry forms.
For More Information, Contact NCTUSBC: Terry Taylor 817.385.8326 email: nctusbc@bowl.com

HONOR ROLL



Men

Anthony Lavery-Spahr, Forum Bowl	826
Scott Buchanan, Plano Super Bowl	804
Mike McHugh, Cowtown Bowling Palace	793
Darren Whitehead, Rowlett Bowl-A-Rama	776
Danny Neill, JB's Allen Bowl	768
Rick Lawrence, Ennis All Star Bowl	734
Keith Jennings, Red Bird Lanes	672
Chris Marino, Strikz	665

Women

Christi Nedved, Plano Super Bowl	774
Elynn Boss, JB's Allen Bowl	756
Brenda Padilla, Forum Bowl	692
Loren Tenczar, Strikz	676
Julie McHugh, Cowtown Bowling Palace	640
Lauren Cathey, Red Bird Lanes	638
Lauren Cathey, Ennis All Star Bowl	626
Janice Olick, Rowlett Bowl-A-Rama	602



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Collegiate Ticker



The second half of the 2017-2018 United States Bowling Congress Collegiate season is underway with postseason play as a common goal, and the Mount Mercy women and Robert Morris-Illinois men got things going with wins last weekend at the Eagles Baker Challenge.

The 2018 edition of the Eagles Baker Challenge was held at Stardust Bowl in Addison, Illinois, and featured 25 varsity women's teams and 20 varsity men's teams. Qualifying included 10 sets of four Baker games to determine the top eight teams in each division for match play. The bracket featured a best-of-five Baker format to determine the winners.

The Mount Mercy women entered the tournament as the defending champions and found their stride in match play after qualifying seventh. The Mustangs swept No. 5

Robert Morris-Illinois in the title match, 3-0, to collect the title for the fourth time in five years.

Mount Mercy also swept No. 3 St. Ambrose to advance to the championship round, while Robert Morris-Illinois eliminated top qualifier, Lindenwood, 3-0.

On the men's side, Robert Morris-Illinois set the early pace in qualifying to earn the top seed for bracket play. The Eagles averaged better than 217 throughout match play on their way to the win, which was capped off with a 3-1 title-match victory against No. 7 Grand View.

Robert Morris-Illinois swept No. 5 Calumet in the semifinals, while Grand View recorded a 3-1 win against No. 3 Lindenwood.

-In other USBC Collegiate action over the weekend:

- At the Mid-Winter Invitational in Jonesboro, Arkansas,

the McKendree women swept top-seeded Nebraska in the title match, 4-0.

- At the Jayhawk Great Lakes Classic in Muskegon, Michigan, the Highland men and Ancilla women rolled to the top spots.

- At the Southwest Intercollegiate Bowling Conference No. 5 and 6 in the greater Dallas-Fort Worth area, the Newman women and men put together strong performances to sweep both events.

- At the Devil's Duel Invitational and Antelope Shoot Out in Scottsdale, Arizona, the Arizona State men cruised to a pair of victories.

- At the Buckeye Baker Classic in Columbus, Ohio, the Pikeville women and Huntington men worked their way through their respective brackets to collect wins.

- At the Peach State Classic in Athens, Georgia, the Webber

Continued on Page 4



At Ennis All Star Bowl

Lawrence shoots 734, Cathey lands 626

Rick Lawrence topped the honor roll for the week at Ennis All Star Bowl with a free-wheeling 259-217-258 = 734 Ennis Mixed Classic series.

Lauren Cathey, Lawrence's league mate, paced the gals with a fine 177-225-224 = 626 set.

HONOR ROLL

Billy Cathey 226-601, Ryne

McKenrick 237-601, John Ivey 211-580, April Hopkins 189-518, Tice Hopkins 225-580, Tice Hopkins 222-614, April Hopkins 206-593, Bobby Kennedy 212-604.

April Hopkins 206-593, Bobby Kennedy 212-604, Mary Sikes 178-484, Tracy Holloway 224-567, Mary Kennedy 157-425.

At Red Bird Lanes

Jennings blasts 672, Cathey snags 638

Keith Jennings landed the top spot on the honor roll last week at Red Bird Lanes with a rip-roaring 278-204-190 = 672 St. Johns outing.

Lauren Cathey rolled a tidy 213-168-257 = 638 Career Girls set to lead the lady bowlers.

HONOR ROLL

Judy Dillabough 191-522, Zachary Wrightsil 226-52, Chance Cathey 2336-634, Dominick Blagas (9 pin, no tap, 4 games) 300-960, Lauren Cathey (9 pin, no tap, 4 games) 277-998, Cindy Wilson 191-466.

Mary Rappe 189-531, Richard Aguilar 216-601, Karen Strang 191-527, Andrew Almanza 222-602, Jason Callahan 213-601, James Kimbrough 235-6626, Cindy Howell 212-520, Michael Vanegas 225-645.

Angela Davis-White 183-542, John Allen, Jr. 245-668, Carolyn White 204-519, Glenn Goodrich 248-606, Angela Chalmers 193-566, BJ Jennings 183-481, Jimmie Hawkins 225-523, Dale Shaw 150-422.

Brack Morelock 233-661, Ryne McKenrick 235-628, Lauren Cathey 244-628, Isaac Lewis, Jr. 244-640, Cathy Spurlock 164-428.



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Youth Honor Roll

Boys

- Jake Swift, Cowtown Bowling Palace..... 678
- Tate Reding, Plano Super Bowl..... 637
- Zach Howarth, Plano Super Bowl..... 637
- Dylan Ellis, Forum Bowl..... 626
- Ryan Martinez, JB's Allen Bowl..... 615
- Nate Pendy, Strikz..... 581
- Andrew Diaz, Red Bird Lanes..... 433

Girls

- Caitlyn Dull, Cowtown Bowling Palace..... 631
- Nicole Gattenby, JB's Allen Bowl..... 627
- Megan Cooley, Plano Super Bowl..... 555
- Cheyenne Hancock, Red Bird Lanes..... 518
- Alyssa Davila, Forum Bowl..... 486
- Deana Simmons, Strikz..... 409

Lane Laughter



Dallas USBC Youth Scores

Tate Reding and Zach Howarth led the Dallas-area USBC youth bowling last week with a high-powered 637 series at Plano Super Bowl. Tate fired games of 154-217-266 in Showstoppers action while Zach downed games of 205-200-232 in Sunday Youth/Adult league outing.

Nicole Gattenby led the girls with a classy 205-226-196 = 627 Youth Mania set at JB's Allen Bowl.

At JB's Allen Bowl – Josh Budnik 147-417, Amanda Ingram 144-380, Ryan Rohlfs 179-489, Ryan Martinez 222-615, Taylore Ryan 214-579, Joseph McGraw 193-552, Rae McGraw 182-530, Adrian Allen 73-197, Heather Hubbard 83-218, Daniel Corekin 136-361, Megan Wente 104-285, Dylan Jankowski 102-286, Jessica Hubbard 195-456, Jayden Okwesa 176-476, Naiya Okwesa 180-478, R J Grantham 188-531, Tara Meche 182-507, Clay Adams 196-506, Kendyl Goodger 168-496.

Fort Worth USBC Youth Results

Jake Swift topped the Fort Worth-area USBC youth bowling last week with a thundering 242-179-257 = 678 Strikers series at Cowtown Bowling Palace.

Caitlyn Dull, also from the Strikers group, paced the girls with a rollicking 223-215-193 = 631 set.

At Cowtown Bowling Palace – Aidan Richelman 247, Amanda Moore 208, Devin Saenz 231, Alyssa Ballard 196, Mason Chapman 119-333, Gyanna Simmons 100-285, Owen Griffin 101, Bailea Simon 94, Jovan Gordon 102, Brooklyn Richards 78, Andrew Reyes 100-179, Maelin Pearson 88, Gabriel Marquez 87.

At Forum Bowl – Taylor Walton 115-206, Santana Joseph 125-210, Mason Boles 92-172, Cassidy Boles 97-173, Hamilton Joseph 120-324, Alyssa Knight 111-310, Abraham Lopez 120-286, Amiah Johunkin 115-303, Cal LeCroy 176-518, Samantha Brown 132-387, Kadence Davila 189-495, Mariah Bell 133-322, Dylan Ellis 237-626, Alyssa Davila 166-486, Riley Taylor 234-576, Anyssa Boles 159-447, Hogan Hargrove (4 games) 233-1153, Kristin Hilker (4 games) 252-1116, David Carter (4 games) 248-1187, Genevieve Burnett (4 games) 213-1070.

COLLEGIATE TICKER

Continued from Page 3

International men and Emmanuel women each topped their divisions by more than 600 pins on the way to victories.

At the Viking Classic in Wallingford, Connecticut, the Molloy women and Suffolk men posted the top scores.

The first USBC Collegiate event of 2018 was the Saints Classic in Newport, Kentucky, on Jan. 6-7. The Louisville men and Bellarmine women recorded victories.

For complete results, visit BOWL.com/Collegiate.

At Plano Super Bowl – Austin Davis 125-311, Jordyn Wright 81-215, Cade Carson 123-315, Allyssa Lee 113-284, James Johnson 221-574, Ashmani Clifford 127-377, Aubry Ayers 176-468, Zack Wassam 209-522, Nicole Phan 64-179, Megan Cooley 197-555, Brandon Ingram 192-515, Skylar Murdoff 194-498, Grayson Pool 230-602, DaiMone Lewis 208-533, Caden Witt 188-529, Zachary Howarth 188-534, Pierce Abuta (2 games) 88-160, Charlotte Wright (2 games) 70-120.

At Red Bird Lanes – Cheyenne Hancock 184-518, Andrew Diaz 174-433.

At Strikz – Cory Shen 187-517, Nate Pendy 202-581, Bryce Herrington 203-482, Amari Lewis 176-482, Andrew Martin 187-504, Enrique Arredondo 153-439, Tyler Keeton 173-435, Deana Simmons 159-409.

High School Bowling, Dallas North, 2 game matches – Jeremiah Roussell, (Allen HS) 263-469, Javon Baron (Plano Senior High) 257-458, Nicole Gattenby (Allen HS) 218-421, Caitlin Dinh 231-399 (Plano Senior High), James Kern (Centennial HS) 252-477, Michael Laufer (Centennial HS) 223-427, Lydia Gilbert (Heritage HS) 234-446, Kaitlyn Kern (Centennial HS) 222-429.

At Strikz

Tenczar shines 676, Marino taps 665

FRISCO – Loren Tenczar led the scoring last week at Strikz with an outstanding 215-223-238 = 676 Lousy Bowlerz showing.

Chris Marino posted a power-packed 210-201-254 = 665 Monday Mixerz set to lead the guys honor roll.

HONOR ROLL

Ron Barton 221-573, Crandon Haddock 237-27, Bruce Southerland 246-622, Steve Southerland 258-657, Thom Childers 255-614, Rob Hudkins 222-610, Cathy Eberly 195-559, Cindy McBride 236-661.

Todd Smith 212-581, Kevin Smith 247-644, Matt Robinson 244-642, Kevin Higar 204-599, Gary Lument 258-651, Jeanie Martilla 184-531, Candy Torrey 200-555, Cindy Liquori 197-501.

Joseph Jimenez 198-576, Jayne

Nicholas 157-443, Vicki Wilson 202-532, Cathy Eberly 183-521, Pat Murphey 164-453, Sue Ellis 180-482, Sharon Lawrence 175-480, Debbie Colby 209-540.

Cindy Liquori 162-464, Steve Ray 225-608, Mark Donnelly 258-649, Mark Timm 214-623, Dave Lemm 201-575, Mike Johnson 237-608, Monique McMachen 162-475, Fran Buckaloo 177-483.

Jack Muse 189-463, Dan Walters 162-456, Cher Pokorny 187-430, Zo Sexton 181-516, LaMarr Moss 195-562, Candy Torrey 213-573, Brad Petzel 258-613, Tammy Crawford 200-543.

Debbie Colby 199-513, Cathy Eberly 184-504, Jacki Myrice 189-543, Robert Goldsmith 211-564, Rick Irvine 229-619, Scott Orofino 209-571.

DAILY Specials

DAILY Open - 2pm **Early Bird Special*** Bowling & Shoes Monday - Friday \$11.95/Person Laser Tag Saturday - Sunday \$12.95/Person

DAILY Open - Close **All Access Pass*** Bowling, Laser Tag, Billiards, and a \$5 Game Card \$16.95/Person Choose from two time slots: Open - 5pm or 5pm - Close

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BELMONTE, BALLARD

Continued from Page 1

me to continue to push myself even harder. I want to thank all the members who voted and also thank the PBA for giving me the opportunity to bowl on the best tour in the world.”

The most successful two-handed player in bowling history led the PBA in earnings (\$238,912) and scoring average (a PBA record 229.39 for 380 games bowled), capped his 2017 season with a victory in the PBA World Championship for his ninth career major title after winning the Barbasol PBA Players Championship and an unprecedented fourth USBC Masters title earlier in the season. He also won the inaugural Storm Lucky Larsen Masters in Sweden for his fourth title of the year.

2017 PBA Rookie of the Year Matt Sanders

Sanders, a 23-year-old left-hander and former two-time All-American with Marion University-Indiana, was the

overwhelming choice over one of the strongest fields of rookies in recent PBA history.

He was the only rookie to win a PBA Tour title (in the Xtra Frame Billy Hardwick Memorial Open presented by Chris Hardwick at Billy Hardwick's All Star Lanes in Memphis, Tenn., in June). Sanders qualified ninth for the match play elimination finals of the “throwback” plastic ball tournament, eventually defeating PBA50 Player of the Year Brian LeClair, 243-237, for the title.

He concluded his first season with a fifth-place finish in the PBA World Championship, losing a 10-7 sudden-death roll-off to Kyle Troup after they tied at 248-248 in the opening match of the World Championship finals.

“It's an honor just to be in the conversation with the bowlers who compete on tour,” Sanders said. “I go into each tournament believing I can win. Sometimes, maybe I put a lot of pressure on myself

to be the best I can be. I feel that when I'm at my best I can compete with anyone. I just need to relax and do what I do best and hopefully the rest will take care of itself.

Among PBA rookies in 2017, he was the average (215.84) and earnings (\$30,965) leader.

2017 Steve Nagy Sportsmanship Award

Loschetter, a 37-year-old two-time PBA Tour champion, won the PBA's prestigious sportsmanship honor in voting among his fellow competitors, topping Denmark's Thomas Larsen and Canada's Francois Lavoie.

Loschetter, a two-time Junior Team USA member, completed a nine-year quest for his first PBA Tour title in the 2012 Wolf Open in Milwaukee and won his second as a member of the Merica Rooster Illusion team that won the 2016 PBA Team Challenge title in Las Vegas while still in recovery from his personal battle with testicular and abdominal cancer. Loschetter has been a

member of the PBA League's Philadelphia Hitmen since the program's inception in 2013.

2017 Tony Reyes Memorial Community Service Award

PBA Hall of Famer Del Ballard Jr.'s life changed immediately, and dramatically, in May 2010 when he was diagnosed with tonsil cancer. As Ballard had demonstrated over a PBA career that lasted nearly three decades and included 13 titles, he was a fighter. He wasn't about to succumb to “The Big C” without a battle.

One evening after a treatment, Ballard, wife Carolyn and a handful of friends got together at Ballard's house and laid the groundwork for what would become “Ballard Vs. The Big C” – or BVBC for short. Within three years, their fund-raising bowling tournament raised more than \$145,000. As of 2017, Cancer Care Services, Baylor Health Care and the North Texas Laryngectomy Society have received in excess of \$300,000 to carry out research on cancer treatments focused

on the head, neck and throat.

“I'm really kind of shocked; when Tom (Clark) called, I figured he was going to yell at me for something I did wrong,” said Ballard, who is known for his dry sense of humor.

“It takes a lot of people to do what we've done,” he added on a more serious note. “A lot of people support us. It's a pretty incredible thing. I was telling someone recently that you always want to turn something negative into a positive. At the time (he learned of his cancer) it was a big negative, but we turned it into a big positive.

“We'll keep at it; my group won't let me quit. All you have to do is go with me to one doctor's appointment and you'll understand why I do what I do. As bad as my experience was, it's minor compared to what I see others are going through.”

Ballard remains an active member of the PBA Tour as a manufacturer's representative for Storm Products as well as serving as manager of the PBA League Motown Muscle.

PBA REGIONAL AWARDS

Continued from Page 1

winners, for contributions to the regional program, in each of its eight regions.

Award winners were selected by the PBA's regional managers: Russ Mills, East Region; Sam Zurich, South Region; Bobby Jakel, Central Region; Rich Weber, Midwest Region; Pete McCordic, Southwest Region; Gary Mage, West and Northwest Regions, and Junichia Yoshida, Japan Region.

Here's a summary of the 2017 PBA Regional Award winners:

EAST – Matt O'Grady of Rahway, N.J., made the most of his seven regional events to earn Player of the Year with five top-five finishes that included one title and three second-place finishes. Rookie of the Year went to Ryan Galli of Binghamton, N.Y., who had two fifth-place finishes and made match play in four of his six tournament appearances. Ray Edwards dominated the PBA50 Player of the Year race with two wins and four other top-

five finishes in seven tournaments. Mike Healy of Yonkers, N.Y., was the Pat Patterson Award winner.

SOUTH – Cristian Azcona of San Juan, Puerto Rico, earned Player of the Year with five top-five finishes in seven tournaments including one win and three runner-up finishes. PBA Hall of Famer Walter Ray Williams Jr. of Oxford, Fla., earned PBA50 Player of the Year with four wins and two runner-up finishes in six tournaments. Kristian Sieradzki of Seminole, Fla., earned Rookie of the Year, cashing in five events and making two match play appearances in seven tournaments. Krystal Hall of Fayetteville, N.C., earned the Pat Patterson Award.

CENTRAL – It was a busy year for Canadian Graham Fach, who bowled extensively on the PBA Tour in addition to competing in 15 events in the Central Region where he compiled eight top-five finishes including one title, two second and two third-place finishes. Kyle Mayberry of Dayton, Ohio, collected four top-three finishes in 16 tournaments which included one win, a second and

two third-place finishes to earn Rookie of the Year. PBA Tour player and PBA50 Tour regular Brian Kretzer of Dayton, Ohio, won PBA50 Player of the Year honors in both the Central and Midwest Regions with a combined three titles, one runner-up and one third-place finish. PBA Tour player Dave Wodka of Clarksville, Tenn., was the Pat Patterson Award winner.

MIDWEST – PBA Tour player AJ Johnson of Oswego, Ill., put together a four-title season in the PBA Midwest Region and added a third-place finish in seven tournaments he entered to win Player of the Year. AJ Chapman of Manchester, Iowa, earned Rookie of the Year with one second-place and one fourth-place finish in four tournaments. Brian Kretzer of Dayton, Ohio, took home PBA50 Player of the Year in the Midwest as well as the Central Region with a combined three titles and two other top-five finishes. Kevin Kullman of Lockport, Ill., won the Midwest's Pat Patterson Award.

SOUTHWEST – Another one of the PBA's Tour Canadian stars, Francois Lavoie, was the Southwest Player of the Year Award winner with three titles and three runner-up finishes in 10 tournaments. Kyle Sherman of O'Fallon, Ill., earned Rookie of the Year with two top-four finishes that included a title and a fourth-place finish. Mike Austin of Conroe, Texas earned the Pat Patterson Award. The Southwest did not award a PBA50 Player of the Year award.

420, KayDonna Flemming 206-565.

Mathew Cregg 266-676, Betty Parman 222-539, Alex Harcourt 262-732, Beth Moreland 180-518, Pam Lewis 177-463.

SENIORS

Thomas Sutton (2 games) 186-372, Joann White (2 games) 178-321, Ken McGee 215-568, Joy Shields 178-500, Ronnie Waller (9 pin, no tap) 288-733, Kathy Hopkins (9 pin, no tap) 221-627.

Bill (no tap) 242-659, Laura (no tap) 131-329, Ronnie Waller 238-618, Laura Peterson 179-491.

At Rowlett Bowl-A-Rama

Whitehead topples 776, Olick lands 602

Darren Whitehead outscored the competition last week at Rowlett Bowl-A-Rama with top-notch 239-268-269 = 776 numbers in Monday Mixers series.

Janice Olick landed a sky-high 233-178-191 = 602 Sunday Mixers set to lead the ladies.

HONOR ROLL

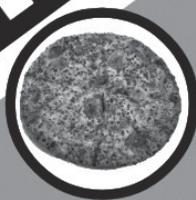
Michael Hill 232-591, Lynette Most 214-573, Dean Bray (2 games) 190-365, Sharon Bray (2 games) 187-350, Keith Geissler 225-627, Ashley Chesser 150-



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USBC RECLASSIFY

Continued from Page 1

the right to appeal the reclassification; any appeals will be overseen by the USBC Rules department.

With assistance from the USBC Specifications and Certification department, the USBC Membership department examined the averages of every league from the 2016-2017 season.

To ensure it had a sample size large enough to evaluate a league, at least 20 percent of a league's members had to have an average in another league if the league was to be evaluated for possible reclassification.

For leagues with a large enough sample size, the data showed 99 leagues were statistically more difficult for bowlers, with averages of 20 or more pins higher than in a Standard or "house shot" league, which showed the league was competing on Sport conditions. It also found 605 leagues in which bowler averages were 10-19 pins higher than in Standard leagues, which shows Challenge lane conditions.

The reclassification of the leagues continues USBC's efforts to ensure the averages bowlers use in leagues and competitions are a true reflection of their abilities. It also is part of the continuing evaluation of leagues following changes to the Sport program several years ago.

The Sport Bowling program was changed in 2015, removing the membership costs and the need to submit lane tapes, and became a resource for lane patterns and information for bowlers seeking a more challenging level. Leagues were tasked with self-reporting by designating their league as Sport if the league used the tougher lane conditions.

To bridge the gap between Sport and Standard leagues, USBC introduced the Challenge league designation in 2017 for leagues using tougher, though not Sport, lane conditions. Compared to Standard lanes conditions (house shot), bowlers in Challenge leagues have averages that are 10-19 pins lower than averages on a house shot. Averages in Sport leagues are 20 or more pins lower.

Visit BOWL.com/SportBowling to learn more about Sport and Challenge lane conditions.

At Plano Super Bowl

Buchanan bombs 804, Nedved blasts 774

Benavides, Edgerton, Martin, Park, Redd, Rutledge, Stallworth 300's, Loung 299

Scott Buchanan high-stepped his way to the top of the honor roll this week at Plano Super Bowl by shooting a high-powered 268-247-289 = 804 Las Vegas Doubles series.

Christi Nedved dominated the ladies scoring race with a power-packed 228-29-267 = 774 Sportsman set.

JUST PAYING ATTENTION

Continued from Page 2

result he was expecting. The 1988 PBA Quaker State Open at Forum Bowl in Grand Prairie was his first tournament back.

As Bob transformed his game, his brother Rick and he would talk about seeing the ball in an optimal area at the backend of the lane as it makes its move toward the pocket, not based on hitting a target at the arrows. There may be someone else who was doing something close to that elsewhere, but Bob and Rick Benoit are the first with the theory and its success on the national level to back it up.

How many times have you heard in the last twenty years, everywhere from practice to league to new ball demos to tech talk with ball manufacturers, to touring pros to maintain

your angles, decrease your angles, or increase your angles on the backend of the lane? This is where it started, with this game on January 23, 1988 as its flashpoint, the first time it was on display for a network television audience. Those who were there cannot forget what they saw, Benoit defeated Mark Roth, 300-255.

#####

This is one of those shows where thousands claim to have been there, but only a few hundred were actually in attendance. With the upcoming PBA Top 60 for 60 list (my name, not theirs), I would think this would be a cinch for a top ten spot, probably a top five spot. Especially with the 'backend angles' advent, this and the McCordic 300 game go almost side-by-side. Pete's game was the first in thirteen years since the Stefanich 1974 game, first for the \$100K bonus, got tons of exposure on local sportscasts and even on the CNN and ESPN nightly sports shows that evening.

Bob's was also for \$100K, but being his very first game on national TV really brings it home. It hasn't happened before or since, and now with fewer stepladder finals, the odds of it happening again are even lower. It would take something monumental to knock these two out of my top five. They were there twenty years ago for the first list and remain remarkable enough to stay this time, too. More on my list as we get into spring as the PBA reveals its list. Speaking of twenty years of something, wait, more on that next week.



Live Stream Schedule

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PBA XtraFrame The Bowling Channel (Subscription available at pba.com and xtraframe.tv.)

- Friday January 26
 - DHC PBA Japan Invitational - Tokyo, Japan Round 1 Qualifying 6:30 pm
 - Friday January 26
 - DHC PBA Japan Invitational - Tokyo, Japan Round 2 Qualifying 11:20 pm
 - Saturday January 27
 - DHC PBA Japan Invitational - Tokyo, Japan Round 1 Match Play 5:20 pm
 - Saturday January 27
 - DHC PBA Japan Invitational - Tokyo, Japan Round 2 Match Play 9:50 pm
 - Sunday January 28
 - DHC PBA Japan Invitational - Tokyo, Japan Stepladder Finals 1:50 am
- PBA Tournament of Champions, Fairlawn, OH - PTQ
 - Monday Feb 5 1:50 PM
- PBA King Of Bowling - PPV event, Fairlawn, OH - Special PPV Event
 - Tuesday February 6 5:30 PM
- PBA Tournament of Champions, Fairlawn, OH - Qualifying Rd. 1
 - Wednesday February 7 9:50 AM
- PBA Tournament of Champions, Fairlawn, OH - Qualifying Rd. 2
 - Wednesday February 7 4:50 PM
- PBA Tournament of Champions, Fairlawn, OH - Qualifying Rd. 3
 - Thursday February 8 9:50 AM
- PBA Tournament of Champions, Fairlawn, OH - Match Play Rd. 1
 - Thursday February 8 4:50 PM
- PBA Tournament of Champions, Fairlawn, OH - Match Play Rd. 2
 - Friday February 9 9:50 AM
- PBA Tournament of Champions, Fairlawn, OH - Match Play Rd. 3
 - Friday February 9 4:50 PM
- Go Bowling! PBA 60th Anniversary Classic, Indianapolis, IN - Qualifying Rd. 1 - A Squad
 - Tuesday February 13 7:50 AM
- Go Bowling! PBA 60th Anniversary Classic, Indianapolis, IN - Qualifying Rd. 1 - B Squad
 - Tuesday February 13 2:50 PM
- Go Bowling! PBA 60th Anniversary Classic, Indianapolis, IN - Qualifying Rd. 2 - B Squad
 - Wednesday February 14 7:50 AM
- Go Bowling! PBA 60th Anniversary Classic, Indianapolis, IN - Qualifying Rd. 2 - A Squad
 - Wednesday February 14 2:50 PM
- Go Bowling! PBA 60th Anniversary Classic, Indianapolis, IN - Qualifying - Cashers Round
 - Thursday February 15 7:50 AM
- Go Bowling! PBA 60th Anniversary Classic, Indianapolis, IN - Match Play Rd. 1
 - Thursday February 15 4:50 PM
- Go Bowling! PBA 60th Anniversary Classic, Indianapolis, IN - Match Play Rd. 2
 - Friday February 16 9:50 AM
- Go Bowling! PBA 60th Anniversary Classic, Indianapolis, IN - Match Play Rd. 3
 - Friday February 16 4:50 PM
- PBA League Draft, Indianapolis, IN - Special Event
 - Saturday February 17 9:20 AM
- PBA Hall of Fame Induction & 60th Anniversary Celebration, Indianapolis, IN - Special Event
 - Saturday February 17 5:20 PM
- Barbasol PBA Players Championship, Columbus, OH - Qualifying Rd. 1
 - Tuesday February 20 8:50 AM
- Barbasol PBA Players Championship, Columbus, OH - Qualifying Rd. 2
 - Tuesday February 20 2:50 PM
- Barbasol PBA Players Championship, Columbus, OH - Qualifying Rd. 3
 - Wednesday February 21 8:50 AM
- Barbasol PBA Players Championship, Columbus, OH - Qualifying Rd. 4
 - Wednesday February 21 2:50 PM
- Barbasol PBA Players Championship, Columbus, OH - Qualifying Rd. 5
 - Thursday February 22 8:50 AM
- Barbasol PBA Players Championship, Columbus, OH - Qualifying Rd. 6
 - Thursday February 22 2:50 PM
- Mark Roth/Marshall Holman PBA Doubles, Columbus, OH - Baker Format Qualifying - Rd. 1
 - Friday February 23 8:50 AM
- Mark Roth/Marshall Holman PBA Doubles, Columbus, OH - Baker Format Qualifying - Rd. 2
 - Friday February 23

Plano Super Bowl

9 Pin No Tap

Doubles Tournament

February 11, 2018

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\$500 First Place

Based on 50 entries

\$500 "Roll 900" Pot

\$50 entry fee (per doubles team)

Scratch Singles Challenge -
\$15 Entry

Women's Handicap
Singles Battle - \$10 Entry



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USBC BOARD

Continued from Page 1

Industries.

Hacker, who seeks his first term on the USBC Board, currently serves on the Missouri State USBC and Cape

Girardeau USBC boards. He is the director of research for Pinnacle Research Group, an independent full-service market research firm.

The eight proposed amendments to be voted on by delegates are two proposed changes to league rules, three

proposals for tournament rules changes and three bylaws proposals. League and tournament rules will require a majority vote to pass, while bylaws proposals require two-thirds votes for adoption.

Among the notable proposals is a change to national bylaws that would make terms for the USBC president and vice president become two-year terms with a limit of one term. Currently, the president and vice president are elected by board members for one-year terms and are limited to three

terms in those positions. Also, a new tournament rule has been proposed that would require all tournament managers to be members of USBC.

Voting on legislative proposals and the USBC Board elections will take place Thursday, April 26, during the USBC Annual Meeting. Additional candidates for the USBC Board may run from the floor

if they provide notice of their candidacy to the committee by March 27. Go to BOWL.com/Convention for the Nomination from the Floor form. Biographies of the slated candidates soon will be available.

Go to BOWL.com/Convention for the complete list of proposed amendments and more information about the USBC Convention.

At Cowtown Bowling Palace

McHugh turns in 793, McHugh crafts 640

Martin, Nenichka 299

Mike McHugh ended as the number-one bowler of the week at Cowtown Bowling Palace with a rip-roaring 266-279-248 = 793 Ebonite Classic Trio league session.

Julie McHugh, Mike's better half and also from the Ebonite Classic Trio group, posted a chart-topping 204-221-215 = 640 set to lead the lady bowlers.

Chase Martin and E J Nenichka shared high-game accolades with near-perfect 299 solos.

HONOR ROLL

Michael Williams 269, Miki Jo Parish 225-580, Steven Sanchez 267, Alma Rodriguez 213, Jason Magallon, Sr. 258, Adam Beasley 246-734, Chase Martin 724, Lina Trubenstein 258, Justin Stiles 266.

Mike Moore 255, Jason Magallon, Sr. 287, Takara Bradley 221, Scott Teel 279-753, Michelle Teel 211-588, Michael Williams 275, EJ Nenichka 758, Cathy Nelson 245, Mark Cozart 280.

Ron Coggins 255-761, Robby Dally 280-743, Nancy John 224-568, Austin Cowan 266, Ashley Martin 213, Mark Vaughan 246, Amy Adams 200, Ronnie Sloan 258, Gina Cochran 185-473.

Cory Angevine 248, Brian Fowler 245-693, Larry Cox 233, Jamie Burns 196, Larry Herring 231, Paul Nettleton 220-613.

SENIORS

David Pruitt 236-612, Betty Odom 184, Woody Godbey 217, Les Messinger 205, Larry Stevenson 258-675, Laura Guthrie 224, Johnny Zaskoda 248, Betty Odom 216-557, David Henderson 225.



At Forum Bowl

Lavery-Spahr scores 300/826, Padilla jams 692

Lewis, Money add 300's, Armstrong, Welch, Wilson 299's

Anthony Lavery-Spahr was red hot at Forum Bowl last week after pounding out a dual award-winning power-packed 278-300-248 = 826 Fast Lane Trio series.

Brenda Padilla, Lavery-Spahr's league mate, turned in the top score for the ladies with a sizzling 246-212-234 = 692 set.

Mike Lewis and Robert Money shared high-game honors with Lavery-Spahr as each registered award-winning 12-baggers. Jack Armstrong, Talmadge Welch and Jimi Wilson shared runner-up honors with near-perfect 299 solos.

Philip Mills 232-599, Luann Burkhalter-Mills 210-472.

SENIORS

Billy Adams 258-682, Annie Akanni 248-640, Jerry Srock (9 pin) 278-784, Hazel Bunyea (9 pin) 298-700.

HONOR ROLL

Holly Ginn 182-510, Marylee Heiermann 184-517, Sammie Boles (9 pin) 300-844, Holly Beers (9 pin) 278-669, Mike Mosher 278-763, Kathlene Lyons 256-662, Robert Money 248-675.

Alesia Pickett 266-650, Marvin Steele 278-734, Alesia Pickett 200-592, DJ Garrett 279-766, Tamara Pickett 233-638, Greg Moreno 258-695, Dana Short 225-637, David Harlin 259-700.

Debbi Czajkowski 203-569, Anthony Lavery-Spahr (4 games) 1071, Brenda Padilla (4 games) 892, Jimmy Taylor 236-674, Sandra Goodrum 193-575, Bradley Robinson 248-699, Tami Rogers 217-573.

Chuck Pauley 223-636, Kayla Lopez 200-508, Marcus Patterson 279-792, Cierra Pree 245-686, Gary Keckler 258-680, Jami Smith 161-450, Aric Alcaraz 279-783, Harley Hubler 224-660.

Kenny Hamby 254-716, Emily Montgomery 254-640, Myron Fleming 218-648, Brittany Perez 162-451, Royce Bailey 256-688, Kim Jackson 192-524,

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2 3	2 3	2 3	2 3	2 3	2 3
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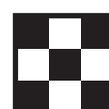


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By: **Carolyn Dorin-Ballard**
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