Our 61st Year

The BOWLING NEWS

THE SOUTHWEST BOWLER'S WEEKLY SOURCE OF COMMUNICATION AND RECOGNITION

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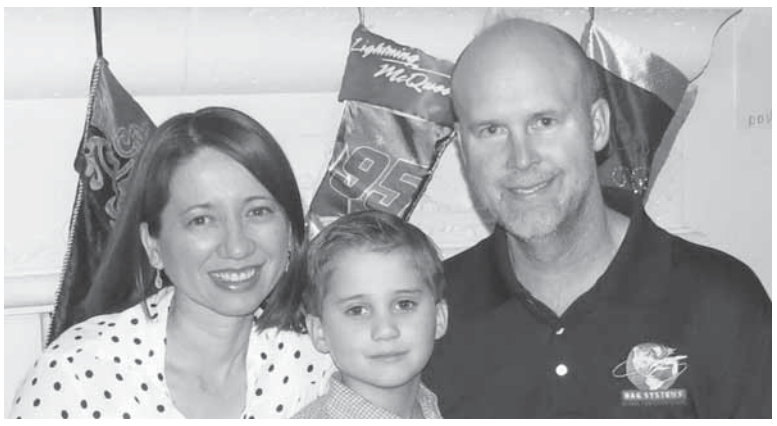
A Win-Win



Yazmin, Little Doug and Doug Shonkwiler

By Doug Shonkwiler

I didn't grow up bowling. My mother worked part time weekends at a bowling center in West Virginia, and as a child, I thought it was a terrible sport. Who couldn't roll a ball down a lane and hit pins? What's the big deal? So, I focused on basically every other sport, minus soccer and bowling. I had a tryout with the Milwaukie Brewers while I was in High School, played basketball, and was an all-state track athlete. I didn't have time for that no-talent sport of bowling. I equaled it to fishing. If you can eat a sammich and drink a beer while doing it, it can't be a sport.

Kids. They think they know everything (my wife would say I still fall into that category). One Saturday, as my family was leaving to go to the bowl, my mom asked me if I wanted to go. There was nothing better to do and it was raining. I went. Best time I have ever had – there were all these kids bowling and the place was packed with people. I just watched at first. I didn't even bowl that first time. I ate the best burger and fries I ever had, and I watched my two brothers and my sister have a great time bowling, I was 13 years old.

I was hooked. The people, the sounds, the sportsmanship and I got to eat a burger and fries every Saturday. The team that got "stuck" with me didn't care that I couldn't bowl. They just needed a warm body and someone to talk to.

That was 1982 when I started bowling, but for me it has never been about scoring or winning. It was always about the people and the comradery. Watching Stefanie Johnson roll 865 at Showplace, or Ron Williams rolling 850 whatever (a.k.a, "The Night"), or James Schaeffer shooting 800-ish on his birthday, or talking to Genie and Tony Franklin, tremendous people those two, besides great bowlers, or even, and you'll laugh at this one,

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Joe Lecroy Wins Age Bracket Tourney at Emerald

Joe Lecroy, Paul McCordic and Roger West

HOUSTON, TX - The three qualifiers for the final match of the Age Bracket Tournament at Emerald Bowl in Houston Sunday, March 5 were Joe Lecroy (50s), Paul McCordic (60s) and Roger West (70s).

Joe defeated Steve Shaffer, Mark Busscher and Jon Delaney to claim the 50's bracket. Paul defeated Rob Pohlman and Rick Minier to claim the 60's bracket and Roger defeated A.C. Adam, Sam Bowman and Bruce Michaelson to claim the 70's bracket.

In the final match Lecroy struck in the tenth frame to edge out Paul 236-227, while

Continued on Page 11

USBC Hall of Famers Share Open Championships Tradition and Success

By: Matt Cannizzaro

LAS VEGAS - United States Bowling Congress Hall of Famer Lennie Boresch Jr. and his teammates account for 20 titles in more than 180 years of USBC Open Championships competition, and they've proven once again they're far from done finding success on the tournament lanes.

In the years since claiming the 2009 Regular Team and Team All-Events titles, Boresch and company also have been focused on mentoring the next generation of Open Championships participants, a group that includes his 24-year-old son, Jacob.

A few years of struggles and learning curves completely turned around for the two-team group this weekend as they secured the top spot in every event at the South Point Bowling Plaza.

Their dominance of the leaderboards at the 2017

Lennie and Jacob Boresch

Open Championships started Friday night, with Boresch and his Classic Lanes Raisins teammates from Milwaukee sending a quick reminder to their young companion team about who the accomplished veterans were, raising the bar in Regular Team with a 3,158 total.

Jacob and Classic Lanes Kids, also from Milwaukee, settled into second place with 3,037, while previous leader, Apparel EFX of Red Rock, Arizona, now is third with 2,950.

Jacob Boresch shined in the process, though, rolling a 760

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2017 U.S. Open to Feature Select Field, Improved Pattern Integrity

ARLINGTON, Texas - The U. S. Open traditionally has been known for its challenging lane conditions and test of versatility, and a new select field and format changes in 2017 are designed to enhance the event's integrity and prestige.

The 2017 U.S. Open will be held at the 40-lane Flamingo Bowl in Liverpool, New York, from Oct. 25-Nov. 1.

Competitors again will bowl 24 games of qualifying over three days, but the number of competition lanes will be limited to just 24, so all bowlers will visit the same lanes and see them the same amount of times during qualifying, while each experiencing the three phases of the oil pattern - fresh, burn and double-burn.

"Returning to a select field where an athlete has to qualify brings a higher level of prestige to the event, and the potential to use smaller centers means we can take this great tournament to more places," United States Bowling Congress Executive Director Chad Murphy said. "Additional changes, featuring a limit to the total number of lanes being used and the introduction of separate practice pairs, will further reduce outside factors from influencing the event, which should also be a good thing."

Squad and lane draws will be random, and entrants will not practice on the competition lanes prior to bowling for score each day. Instead, the center's remaining 16 lanes will serve as a practice range, allowing bowlers to warm up prior to moving to their starting lanes for each round.

Due to using 24 competition lanes, the 2017 U.S. Open will feature a limited field, primarily by invitation, of 144 of the best bowlers in the world. Players have earned invitations based on their performances on the lanes in 2016.

Among the qualifiers will be the money leaders from the Professional Bowlers Association Tour and top performers at a variety of USBC and international events, includ-

Continued on Page 2

Random Thoughts

Tony Franklin, *Publisher*

Let's spend a little time this week talking about the recent changes to the 2017 U.S. Open to be held Oct. 26 – Nov. 1 at Flamingo Bowl in Liverpool, NY.

The USBC announced last week on Bowl.com that the U.S. Open tournament will feature a limited field, primarily by invitation, of 144 of the best bowlers in the world. The players that earned an invitation did so based on their performance in 2016.

Invitees have until June 1 to enter the tournament, if they do not do so by that date, then their spot will go to either the next bowler, or an on-site qualifying tournament (PTQ) that will be held before practice starts.

There were several different categories used that bowlers received an invitation. Some, I think are very cool, and some that may raise some eyebrows.

Here is a rundown of the invitation categories, and rules behind them.

• Top 50 PBA members on 2016 Professional Bowlers Association Tour money list

- If an invitee from this list declines, the spot will then go to the next athlete from the PBA Tour money list.

• Top six bowlers on 2016 World Bowling Tour men's point list (not on the top 50 PBA money list)

- If an invitee from this list declines, the spot will then go to the next athlete from the PBA Tour money list.

• Top two PBA members on each 2016 PBA regional points list (Central, East, Midwest, Northwest, South, Southwest, West) (not on the top 50 PBA money list)

- If an invitee from this list declines, the spot will then go to the next eligible athlete from the respective PBA regional points list.

• Past U. S. Open champions

- If an invitee from this list declines, the spot will then go to the next athlete from the PBA Tour money list.

• 2016 Team USA men

- If an invitee from this list declines, the spot will then go to PTQ.

• 2016 Junior Team USA boys

- If an invitee from this list declines, the spot will then go to PTQ.

• Top three finishers at 2016 U. S. Amateur Championships (men's division)

- If an invitee from this list declines, the spot will then go to PTQ.

• Men's all-events gold medalists at 2016 World Bowling Zone Championships (Asian, European, PABCON)

- If an invitee from this list declines, the spot will then go to the next athlete from the PBA Tour money list.

• Top six amateurs based on 15 qualifying games at 2016 USBC Masters

- If an invitee from this list declines, the spot will then go to the next eligible athlete from this list.

• Top six all-events finishers at 2016 USBC Open Championships

- If an invitee from this list declines, the spot will then go to the next eligible athlete from this list.

• Top four men from each of the four 2016 Intercollegiate Singles Championships Sectionals (Stratford, Smyrna, Addison, Las Vegas)

- If any of those four qualify from a higher-priority list, or decline, the invite will go to the next athlete on the list up to the cutline at that sectional.

- Any unclaimed spot from the sectional will go to the next athlete from the PBA Tour money list.

• 2016 Junior Gold U20 champion (boys)

- If an invitee from this list declines, the spot will then go to PTQ

The list of invitees is very comprehensive and makes for a very balanced field that includes national pros, regional pros, international pros, collegiate players, amateur players, Team USA players, and players who performed well in the 2016 USBC Masters.

What is the only thing missing…women, there are no women on the current invited list. That doesn't mean that a female bowler can't be invited, or earn a spot through the PTQ, but there are no specific categories for women.

This is a policy that I do agree with based on the fact that there is currently a Women's U.S. Open. If there wasn't a Women's U.S. Open, then I would hope that the U.S. Open would have specific categories for females to be invited.

I think inviting every member of Junior Team USA (boys) is a little over-kill from that aspect, but you just never know who is going to be the next star for a week of bowling.

In this case, I think the USBC has done a really good job of selecting the categories for the field, they have provided several different layers of bowling with an opportunity to participate in the event.

The other new rule I really like is the fact that they will only be using 24 of the 40 lanes during tournament competition. The remaining 16 lanes will be used as the 'practice range'.

This means that prior to competition for a given round, the players will use their 10 or 15 minutes of practice on those 16 lanes, then move to their assigned pair to begin tournament play. NO practice on the tournament lanes prior to your first shot.

This is a totally new concept in bowling and one that I think is a really good idea. Pairs should play much more consistently, with no "burn-in" happening during practice.

I think it will make the scores lower out of the gate, but a fairer playing field overall.

Either way, we will see how it shakes out, but it certainly should make for a more interesting US Open.

U.S. OPEN SELECT FIELD

Continued from Page 1

ing the World Bowling Tour, U.S. Amateur Championships, World Bowling Zone Championships, USBC Masters, USBC Open Championships, Intercollegiate Singles Championships sectional qualifiers and Junior Gold Championships.

Additional spots will be awarded to the Team USA men and Junior Team USA boys, past U.S. Open winners, PBA regional leaders and special tournament-management invitees. A qualifier, with a maximum of 80 entries will be held on-site prior to the U.S. Open's official practice and used to fill the 144-player field.

Anyone planning on running a local qualifier/win-a-spot still can do so but would be buying a spot into the on-site qualifier, not directly into the U.S. Open. The cost to enter the qualifier is $500 and should be done early, as spots are limited.

The proprietor or tournament operator then must call the U.S. Open staff to change the entry to the winner's name. If the bowler does not advance to the U.S. Open field, $250 would be refunded.

The tournament's official practice day also will allow competitors to experience each phase of the oil pattern. The lanes will be oiled three times, with each squad getting 40 minutes of practice on each.

As previously introduced, bowlers again will be limited to eight bowling balls, and they will not be permitted to change the surfaces once competition begins.

Invitees will have until June 1 to accept the invitation, before the spot is offered to the next eligible competitor. Bowlers still are responsible for paying the entry fee. All unclaimed spots will be filled from the on-site qualifier.

A complete list of the 144 eligible bowlers, along with the tournament rules, can be found at BOWL.com/USOpen.

The 2017 event will feature a prize fund of nearly $175,000, with the winner taking home $30,000 and the coveted green jacket.

The U.S. Open is jointly funded by the International Bowling Campus' USBC and Bowling Proprietors' Association of America.

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HONOR ROLL

Sponsored By Brunswick SASBA SENIOR TOUR

Men

Bill Fong, Plano Super Bowl	815
Jim Reynen, JB's Allen Bowl	808
Eric Garcia, Cowtown Bowling Palace	785
Quincy Gray, Forum Bowl	772
Charles Venters, Red Bird Lanes	729
Mike Johnson, Strikz	714
Rick Lawrence, Ennis All Star Bowl	699

Women

Jennifer Hanson, Forum Bowl	737
Stacy Starry, Plano Super Bowl	733
Linda Blain, JB's Allen Bowl	709
Loren Tenczar, Strikz	659
Miki Jo Parish, Cowtown Bowling Palace	618
Lauren Cathey, Ennis All Star Bowl	611
Lisa Powell, Red Bird Lanes	601

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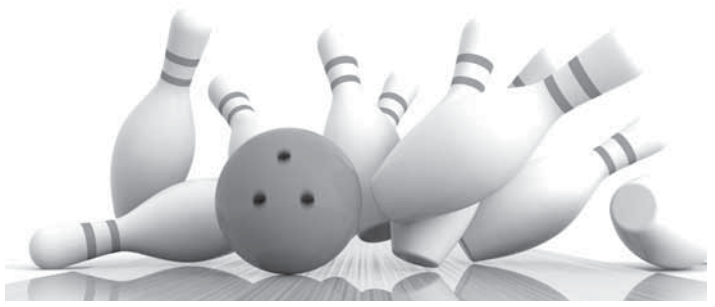

Registration for 2018 Open Championships Opens this Week

ARLINGTON, Texas - Registration for the 2018 United States Bowling Congress Open Championships will begin March 1 and 2, and there are some enhancements on the horizon as the tournament returns to the East Coast for the first time in nearly two decades.

The 2018 USBC Open Championships in Syracuse, New York, will feature an expanded squad schedule that will help accommodate more bowlers each day in the custom 48-lane tournament venue inside the Oncenter Convention Center.

The daily schedule will include five squads instead of four, with team events taking place at 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. and doubles/singles squads being held at 7 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 10 p.m.

The 2018 Open Championships initially will take registrations for squad times from March 31 through July 7. If those initial dates fill, more days will be added to the tournament calendar, beginning on the front end. This time frame and strategy will be used in future years as well.

Existing coordinators (captains with six or more teams) will be contacted by USBC staff and able to register their teams beginning March 1, and general online registration will open March 2.

"April through July is the most popular time to bowl in the Open Championships, with about 80 percent of our teams coming in that window," USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy said. "Progressively releasing more dates on the front of the event as squads fill should make for a better experience and a more efficient operation."

Improved efficiency and a new custom registration portal is part of the reason USBC will be reducing fees for the 2018 event with the elimination of premium pricing fees on weekends. Instead, all teams will pay the same $55 per event and $15 for optional all-events, with a $25 standard processing fee for each team. The Championships Cash program also will be discontinued as part of the change.

Captains for 2018 will be able to select their dates and squad times in real-time using the new USBC Event Registration portal, which already is

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At Plano Super Bowl

Fong smashes 815, Starry plasters 733

VanBaulen 300/813, Oliver 805, Crow, Donahue, Thompson (2) add 300's, Walton 299

Bill Fong lit up the Plano Super Bowl lanes last week with a booming 289-279-247 = 815 Monday Blenders production.

Guy VanBulen finished close behind Fong with an award-winning 300/813 Thursday Classic series and Frank Oliver followed with an 805 in Jack & Jill league action.

Stacy Starry posted a hard-hitting 259-235-239 = 733 Las Vegas Doubles series to front distaff scoring.

Tim Crow, George Donahue and Justin Thompson (2) shared high-game honors with VanBaulen as each registered award-winning 12-baggers. Steven Walton took runner-up honors with a near-perfect 299 solo.

HONOR ROLL

Doug Brown 290-764, Heather Hudson 245-666, Thomas Belcher 245-702, Cat Amrose 237-651, Jason Marquez 265-714, Lisa Nordstrom 207-559, Robert Eidenier (4 games) 252-838, Gary Peterson 259-707. Linda Peterson 191-470, Terry Taylor 265-764, Michelle Rogers 235-696, Ashleigh Fisher 286-704, Frank Ingoglia 234-667, Diane Wallentine 236-648, Jay Williams 246-664, Mary Ann Bary 188-495.

Dale Keeney 278-685, Eva Rhodes 195-568, Jim Monroe 245-687, Susan Breedlove 192-502, George Donahue 770, Julie Locke 278-671, Mike Tomasik 242-678, Karen Clevenger 201-549.

Dottie Culpon 210-580, Arlane Mitchell 219-572, John McCall 267-657, Phyllis Haynes 190-502, Shemeddra Clark 244-662, Justin Thompson 279-751, Diane Wallentine 215-526, Linda Blain 202-595. Susan Lee 212-557, Tom Hay 268-703, Dottie Culpon 187-547, Hector Macedo 231-586, Marilyn Frantz 205-493, Stephanie Calbert 217-607, Justin Westerman 253-712, Diane Mueller 180-510.

Justin Thompson 792, Rhonda Gibson 224-609, Anthony Lavery (4 games) 279-1053, Kiyoko McDonald (4 games) 241-914, Steve Mitchell 268-764, Phirum Phan 269-739, Monica Adams 223-618.

Dan Metevier 266-679, Terri Rountree 193-538, Geoff Martin 278-752, Cindy Mann 247-709, Michael Westfall 239-660, Mona Crouch 198-530.

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2016-2017 NCTUSBC Tournament Schedule

Date	Tournament Detail	Location
Nov. 26-27, 2016	Wild Turkey Mixed Team - $2k added	AMF Sparetime
TBD	Scratch Tournament - $2k added	Cowtown
Jan 28-29, 2017	Mixed Doubles - $3k added	AMF Euless
Feb 11-12, 2017	Youth City - $3k added	TBD
Feb 18-19 / 25-26	Ladies City - $5k added	Watauga
Apr 1-2/Apr 8-9	City Open Championship - $10k added	Cityview
April 30, 2017	Youth/Adult Doubles - $2k added	Sparetime
April 11-18, 2017	Senior - $1k added	Mail-O-Graphic
July 8-9, 2017	After the Fire Works - Mixed Trios - $2k added	Forum Bowl

All entry forms will be on NCTUSBC.com

Texas State USBC Tournaments hosted by NCTUSBC

Oct 8 - Nov 13	Mixed Tournament	Forum
Jan 28-29	Senior Masters & Queens	Forum
Feb 25-26	Masters & Bluebonnet Queens	Forum
Apr 22 - June 25	Women's Tournament	Forum
Jul 15 - 29*	Senior Tournament	Cityview

All entry forms will be on TexasBowling.com

Visit our website www.nctusbc.com for tournament entry forms.

For More Information Contact NCTUSBC:
Kevin Roberts 817.385.8326 email: nct.usbc@bowl.com

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Bowlmor AMF Brings Back 'The Pete' for Another Year

Bowlmor AMF has received criticism from some corners of the bowling community for "turning its back" on the sport in favor of focusing on corporate and special events.

While its focus is on the latter business categories, the company did step up to sponsor the U.S. Open in 2015, and it continues to conduct one of bowling's most storied tournaments - the Petersen Classic.

This week, the company announced dates for the 107th running of "The Pete": April 29 through Sept. 3. Brunswick Zone in River Grove, Ill., located about 10 minutes by car from Chicago's O'Hare International airport, will be the host.

Openings are available for numerous squads throughout the duration of the tournament, and new Squad Organizer incentives for full squads of 32 bowlers are also available. Interested organizers can find information on the Petersen Classic website, www.petersenclassic.com, or on the Petersen Classic Facebook page, www.facebook.com/petersenclassic/, or by calling 214-704-3531.

Since 1921, more than 850,000 bowlers have won more than $31 million in the Petersen Classic, and this year, the top prizes in the singles event include $20,000 for first place, $10,000 for second, $4,000 for third place and $850 for 100th.

2018 REGISTRATION OPEN

Continued from Page 3

in use this year for bowlers and captains signing up for the VIP program or team practice sessions. Moving forward, the USBC Event Registration portal will be a one-stop shop for all USBC Championship Tournaments registration.

"We've gotten a lot of positive feedback about heading east for the 2018 Open Championships, and we're anticipating a great turnout, so we're doing everything we can to be prepared to share the experience with as many bowlers as possible," Murphy said. "The enhancements and changes should simplify the process from registration all the way to the bowlers picking up their scoresheets on-site."

The 2018 Open Championships will mark the tournament's fifth visit to Syracuse, with previous trips coming in 1935, 1958, 1973 and 1999.

Those headed to Syracuse will have an additional opportunity to compete, as the USBC Masters returns to the Open Championships tournament site for the first time since 2011. The two have shared the biggest stage in bowling for most of the history of the Masters, which debuted at the 1951 Open Championships in St. Paul, Minnesota.

The 2018 Masters will be held on the championship lanes at the Oncenter Convention from April 9-15. Registration for the Masters will begin Nov. 7.

Bowlers at the 2017 Open Championships in Las Vegas will get to enjoy some new features immediately.

The Participation Prize fund will be expanded and shared with bowlers with 20 or more years of tournament participation, compared to 25 or more in the past. And, instead of being based on actual score, a pins-over-average format will be used in four year-classifications - 20-29 years, 30-39 years, 40-49 years and 50 or more years.

Averages used for the complimentary Participation Prize Fund event will be the bowlers' last 27 games of Open Championships competition. Bowlers will be ranked in their respective categories based on their performances during team competition in Las Vegas. The total prize fund will be $50,000 and pay 1:5 bowlers in each category.

For more information on the Open Championships or to register for the 2018 event in Syracuse, visit BOWL.com/OpenChamp, call 817-385-8580 or 888-910-2695 or email usbcopenchampionships@bowl.com.

There's also still time to enter the 2017 tournament in Las Vegas, which will run from Feb. 18-July 16. The entry deadline is March 31.

Visit us on Facebook at the official USBC Open Championships Facebook page.

T.J. Johnson Wins Claude Thomas Memorial Singles in Shreveport

SHREVEPORT, LA - T.J. Johnson qualified 4th in the Claude Thomas Memorial Singles in Shreveport, February 26.

Johnson took over the lead in the 3rd game of match play on Sunday and never looked back. He led Johnny Atkinson by 11 pins going into the final game.

Johnny started with four opens and T.J. beat him 219-160 to win his 8th SASBA title and $1,500.

Atkinson collected $1,200 for his second place finish.

Joe Lecroy claimed third and $900, qualifying leader David Smith took fourth and $800 and Vetella Spicer rounded out the top five collecting $700.

Six Non-Champs made the match play finals on Sunday.

Thanks to Mike Thomas and staff of All Star Lanes for being great hosts! It was great to see John Sands, Josephine Thomas and Syd Thornton. Also, Ted Vascocu after his pacemaker surgery.

Eldorado Casino added $2,500 to the prize fund.

T.J. Johnson

At Cowtown Bowling Palace

Garcia hammers 785, Parish nails 618

Eric Garcia headed the honor roll last week at Cowtown Bowling Palace by polishing off prime 248-290-247 = 785 numbers in Ft. Worth Classic Trio action.

Miki Jo Parish's rip-roaring 174-222-222 = 618 Storm Bowling Scratch Trio outing topped the ladies high-set chart.

HONOR ROLL

Steven Sanchez 278-729, John Roland 266, Craig Hines 253, Frank Stone 248, Sal Grieco 246, Ross DiCapo 243, Pat Currie 670, Jesse Callan 268, Jenifer Lawson 203, Stephen Smithers 266.

Lina Choun 190-544, Mike Reed 255, Jeremy Trubenstein 661, Alan Chetister, Jr. 278, Miki Jo Parish 222-618, RJ Klann 269-735, Amy Hart 216, Marlon Miller 268, Josh Mittl 268, Dirk Freeseman 268.

Billy Gann 266-676, Steven Woods 246, Ramiro Botello, Jr. 279, Amy Hart 213-598, Ricky Tice 251, Shawn Bailey 246, Steven Sanchez 688, Ariel Berry 202-542, Kevin Roberts 279.

Brian Roberts 276, Marvin Brown 278, Robby Dally 256-719, Nathan Runs Through 245.

SENIORS

Frank Stone 240-655, Kay Moriarty 213, Edward Yarborough 231, Carole Watson 200, David Pruitt 221, Johnny Zaskoda 246-672, Emily Arnold 212, Rolden Delgado 242, Karen Holder 202-553.

Gilbert Settle 242, Chester Jones 243-636.

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LOOKING BACK

10 YEARS AGO

Mike Mineman wins first PBA title at Bayer Classic…John Woessner captures 12th SASBA title at USA Bowl…Ron Boroff led the honor roll with 816 at DC Cityview… Ron Williams shot 803 at Brunswick Zone Watauga…Rollin Tombo had 802 at AMF Showplace-Garland…Heather Jones led the ladies with 770 at DC Cityview…Arvese McGraw had 756 at USA Bowl… Scott Spo with a 300 at USA Bowl.

20 YEARS AGO

Mike Berlin wins SASBA National Match Game Tournament in Vegas over Dale Eagle to take home $7500…Kim Clause is the Alberta E. Crow Star of Tomorrow…Josh Orr led the honor roll with 859 at Showplace-Garland…Sid Slater Jr. with 804 at BRC Watauga…Diane Parrish led the ladies with 763 at DC SW…Arlene Perkins shot 735 at Allen…Teressa Augello had 727 at AMF Hurst…Mike White rolls 300-300/801 at Allen… Gary Sturgill wins NABI at Forum.

30 YEARS AGO

Charlie Hilliard wins MBT at DC West…Larry Carmack shoots the first 300 game at the ABC Tournament…Roger Hamilton led the honor roll with 799 at Blazer…Stacy Taylor shot 782 at Big Town… Sue Sargent led the ladies with 703 at Forum…Mary Lewis rolled 680 at Hurst…Sheryl Shuck shot 679 at Alpine…Tom Wicker had 730 at Alpine… Morris Crampton won the ACBA at Circle Bowl...Chuck Lande a 300 game at Blazer.

Tarrant County Youth Leaders (left to right) Derrol Allen, Spare Time, David Garber, Alpine, Barry Riordan, Ridglea, and David Freeman, Alpine, display the colors during opening ceremonies of the Fort Worth Metro Championship

At Red Bird Lanes

Venters cracks 729, Powell topples 601

Charles Venters' free-wheeling 224-258-247 = 729 series in the Red Bird Mixed action headed the leader boards last week at Red Bird Lanes.

Lisa Powell, from the Sunday Night Mixed group, rolled a rollicking 173-170-258 = 601 set to lead the ladies.

HONOR ROLL

Lois Gibson 199-521, Lauren Cathey 211-562, Roland Bernal 226-652, Billy Donahue 235-648, Billy Cathey (9 pin, no tap, 4 games) 300-1093, Whitney Ludwick (9 pin, no tap, 4 games) 277-875.

Julie Sellers 182-505, Cindy Howell 183-505, Joyce Johnson 199-540, Alex Galeti 237-621, Karen Strang 200-548, Charles Venters 229-619, Michael Vanegas 213-578, Wesley Kennedy 225-596.

Angela Davis-White 192-536, Angela Davis-White 192-537, Chester Gibson 227-616, Andrea Calloway 246-596, Glenn Goodrich 211-612, Angela Chalmers 201-536, Pedro Silva 244-690.

Creeper Perry 179-490, Victor Ward 191-555, Sandra Hawkins 159-45, Billy Cathey 246-691, Tommy Moreland 230-645, Anita Knox 155-435, Chandler Robinson (2 games) 153-301, Louanne McGhee (2 games) 143-265.

At Ennis All Star Bowl

Lawrence banks 699, Cathey delivers 611

Rick Lawrence booked banner 215-236-248 = 699 marks in Ennis Mixed Classic action to head the honor roll last week at Ennis All Star Bowl.

Lauren Cathey, Lawrence's league mate, posted a nice 198-169-244 = 611 set to pace the ladies.

HONOR ROLL

Randy Childress (9 pin, no tap) 300-1065, April Hopkins (9 pin, no tap) 168-610, Jimmy Johnson (9 pin, no tap) 276-984, Theresa Johnson (9 pin, no tap) 114-421, Brian Butler (9 pin, no tap) 277-885.

Billy Cathey 233-652, Cyndy McKenrick 207-575, Paul Toal 257-645, McKinsey Pollan 199-528, Billy Adams 235-600, Terry Pefuhl 237-530, Doug Keffer 212-586, Eva Dionne 184-510.

John Gray 205-577, Mary Sikes 178-474.

#USBCOpen Spotlight - Volume 1

By Matt Cannizzaro and Brian Hirsch

LAS VEGAS - During the 2017 United States Bowling Congress Open Championships we will have the opportunity to meet and speak with more than 50,000 bowlers from all over the world.

Some are well-known, some are yet-to-be-known, but all of them have personal stories to tell and memories to share about their time at the USBC Open Championships.

In the past, we've caught up some of the bowlers for an online feature called On The Lanes, where we asked them all the same 12 questions to see how the answers might vary based on different generations, skill levels and experience.

On The Lanes deviates from our traditional news-sharing format, but it offers different insight into the competitors at the Open Championships.

We're adding yet another option in 2017 and introducing a question and answer format for some of our most interesting bowlers to see how they got started, where they came from and what their Las Vegas experience was like.

Novice bowlers tend to seek out a bowling center because it is close to either their homes or places of employment. Recreational bowling often leads to certified league bowling. After a season or two of improving, they might migrate to another center and find a second league to bowl in.

For those who venture into new centers, the surroundings likely seem unfamiliar. It even can feel a little "weird." The center might be larger or smaller than the other. The lanes or approaches could be different as well, from wood to synthetic.

With the Open Championships being contested at the 60-lane South Point Bowling Plaza for the first time, bowlers seem to be traveling from much farther than down the road or across the state to bowl. Whether it's the venue or the host city, Las Vegas is buzzing with bowlers in 2017.

Pontus Andersson

This week, we got a visit from Pontus Andersson and Markus Jansson from Sweden. The two recently competed in the 2017 USBC Masters, which was nearby at The Orleans Bowling Center.

While their countryman Martin Larsen advanced to the stepladder finals at the Masters, Jansson and Andersson did not fare as well and had some free time at the end of the week.

Continued on Page 9

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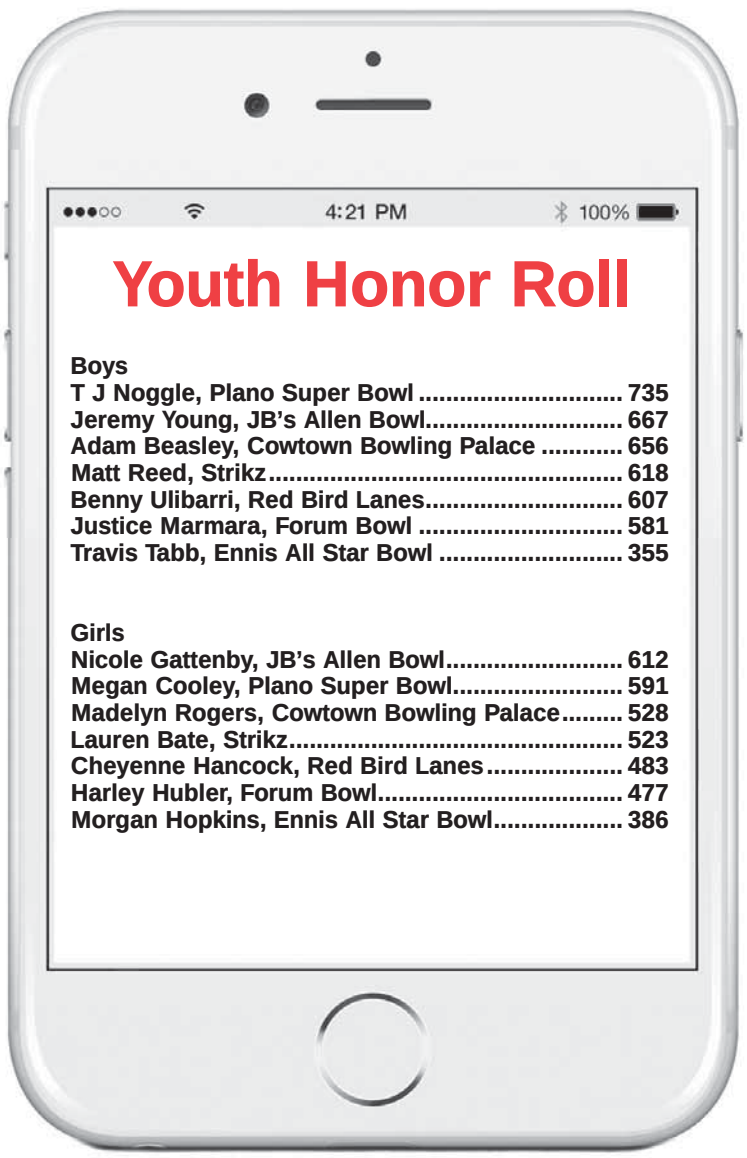

Youth Honor Roll

Boys

T J Noggle, Plano Super Bowl 735
Jeremy Young, JB's Allen Bowl..... 667
Adam Beasley, Cowtown Bowling Palace 656
Matt Reed, Strikz..... 618
Benny Ulibarri, Red Bird Lanes..... 607
Justice Marmara, Forum Bowl 581
Travis Tabb, Ennis All Star Bowl 355

Girls

Nicole Gattenby, JB's Allen Bowl..... 612
Megan Cooley, Plano Super Bowl..... 591
Madelyn Rogers, Cowtown Bowling Palace..... 528
Lauren Bate, Strikz..... 523
Cheyenne Hancock, Red Bird Lanes..... 483
Harley Hubler, Forum Bowl..... 477
Morgan Hopkins, Ennis All Star Bowl..... 386

Lane Laughter

Innagural Spring Classic
April 14-17, 2017
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Youth Scratch Tournament at a New Bowling Center each month with Scholarships

$5,000 SMART Money
4 Divisions U20G/U20B and U15G/U15B

4 Qualifying Games
Squad Times:
Apr. 14 - 3pm, 5pm ^ , 7pm*
Apr. 15 - 9am$, 11am, 2pm (re-run lanes), 4pm%, and 6pm
Apr 16 - 9:30am% and 11:30am
See Flyer for Complete Details

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1:8 bowlers advance to Semis (total pins carryover). Semis will bowl 3 games, then cut to Top 5 Stair Step Finals (total pins determine Top 5).
Lanes dressed prior to Apr 14 @ 3pm, Apr 15 prior to 2pm,Apr 16 prior to 9:30 squad, and before Semis. All bowling is scratch. Sport pattern TBD.

Visit: www.teenbowlerscircuit.net for more details
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YOUTH TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

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APRIL 14-16
TBC Spring Classic
$5,000 SMART Money

JUNE 3
TBC SUPER 7 ITRC - 12pm
Max 70 entries
Prepayment Recommended

JUNE 25
USA Bowl, Dallas, TX
Pancreatic Cancer Bowl-a-Thon Fundraiser in association with the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network of North America

AUGUST 6
Astro Bowl, San Antonio, TX

Grand Prix State Finals
MAY 19-21
Additional Qualifying and State Event
Location - Grand Station Entertainment, College Station, TX

High School State Finals
MARCH 25-26
Cityview Lanes, Fort Worth

If you have upcoming youth tournaments you would like listed on the schedule, contact The Bowling News at 214.250.3242, or email: genie@TheBowlingNews.net.

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Dallas USBC Youth Scores

T J Noggle headed the Dallas-area USBC Youth bowling last week with a rip-roaring 256-267-212 = 735 Showstoppers series at Plano Super Bowl.

Nicole Gattenby led the girls with a super solid 246/612 Youth Mania set at JB's Allen Bowl.

At Ennis All Star Bowl – Travis Tabb 133-355, Morgan Hopkins 174-386, Tristin Tabb 152-354, Jonathan Tabb 119-309.

At JB's Allen Bowl – Audian Paxson 155-456, Carlen Gattenby 186-488, Jeremiah Roussell 222-592, Nicole Gattenby 207-604, Nathan Carlson 204-562, Taylore Ryan 207-592, Dylan Jankowski 113-257, Naiya Okwesa 129-350, Adrain Allen 99-248, Jessica Hubbard 125-286, Josh Budnik 158-426, Megan Wente 112-277, Ryan Rohlfs 123-322, Sadie Thode 137-365, Audian Paxson 216-496, Carlen Gattenby 205-529, Nathan Carlson 225-615, Jeremy Young 252-667, Taylore Ryan 209-597, Dylan Jankowski 91-232, Charli R 73-195, Tiger Bruney 154-363, Naiya Okwesa 127-314, Jayden Okwesa 126-338, Jessica Hubbard 125-305, Ryan Rohlfs 227-555, Samantha Srodulski 166-435.

At Plano Super Bowl – Brady McDonough 168-450, Jordyn Wright 57-160, Zack Wassam 159-446, Marisa Munguia 144-365, Cole Christner 214-597, Cheyenne Williams 221-499, April Kitch 189-506, Brady McDonough 165-475, Bella Hudson 129-338, Xavier Patterson 176-483, Malorie Samples 144-397, John Adams 243-695, Megan Cooley 220-591, Aidan Hudson 200-572, Pam Hodson 176-451, Cameron Spader 195-580, Nicole Gattenby 222-561, Luke Henke 134-363, Clay Adams 181-526, Veronica Prior 210-510, Wyatt Smyser (2 games) 91-177.

At Red Bird Lanes – Benny Ulibarri 241-607, Cheyenne Hancock 172-483, elizabeth Hoffman 114-295, Benny Ulibarri (2 games) 171-332, Bailey Speaks (2 games) 185-301.

At Strikz – Matt Reed 243-618, Lauren Bate 190-523, Derek Natali 151-422, Bryce Herrington 151-424, Tara Meche 179-432, Matthew Sifford 150-421, Nigel Baldwin 160-410, Joey Skiba 150-414, Cory Shen 155-411, Haylee Reece 188-418, Zachary Smullen 214-550, Andrew Martin 181-517.

Fort Worth USBC Youth Results

Adam Beasley topped the Fort Worth-area USBC Youth bowling last week with an impressive 199-245-212 = 656 Strikers series at Cowtown Bowling Palace.

Madelyn Rogers, also from Strikers group, paced the girls with a big 173-193-162 = 528 set.

At Cowtown Bowling Palace – Blake George 233, Jordon Norman 196, Devin Saenz 191, Aiden Saville 78, Paul Smith 250, Noemi Lievano 70, Kali Barrera (2 games) 160, Gabriel Marquez (2 games) 174.

At Forum Bowl – Carson Morris 121-228, Liza Reed 102-182, Mason Boles 105-191, Hailee Grange 86-168, Sam Sebourn 97-249, Charisse Graham 128-311, David Ramos 46-137, De'Sire'e Knight 95-271, Sam Malicoat 202-529, Jillian Spridco 120-344, Kade Pirtle 188-437, Feliciti Campbell 126-329, Justice Marmara 200-581, Harley Hubler 167-477, Dylan Ellis 190-520, Sierra Grays 158-452, David Carter (6 games) 256-1304, Michelle Enzer (6 games) 203-1137, Colton Probert (6 games) 202-1055, Megan McDuff (6 games) 188-943.

PBA Spare Shots

PBA BOWLING CHALLENGE GAME MAINTAINS HIGH POPULARITY

Concrete Software's PBA Bowling Challenge Game continues to rank as one of the world's most popular games among mobile device users. Current statistics pertaining to PBA Bowling Challenge show:

The game has been downloaded 18,265,778 times;

There are more than 100,000 active daily players;

The total number of balls rolled in the game is now over 14.6 billion (with a "b"…);

Players now have the option of 13 bonus venues like Zero-G, Jurassic Classic, and Route 66.

ENTRIES OPEN FOR PBA MEMBERS FOR PBA50 TOUR EVENTS

Entries are now open for PBA members for PBA50 Tour events as players get ready for the start of the 2017 season April 15-17 and 17-20 with the PBA60 Killer 'B' Open (for players 60 and older) followed by the PBA50 Pasco County Florida Open, both at Lane Glo Bowl in New Port Richey, Fla. Entries will be available to non-members 30 days prior to the start of each PBA50 event, if space is available.

Bowlers can enter online (click here to select the event: http://www.pba.com/Tournaments/Season/106) or by contacting Mary von Krueger at maryvk@pba.com (fax: 850-564-1717).

Following the season openers in New Port Richey, the PBA50 Tour heads to Spanish Springs Lanes in The Villages for the PBA50 UnitedHealthcare Sun Bowl In The Villages, presented by Radical, April 22-25; to Mooresville, N.C., for the PBA50 Miller High Life Classic presented by Columbia 300 at George Pappas' Victory Lanes, April 30-May 3, and to Farmingdale, N.Y., for the PBA50 Johnny Petraglia BVL Open presented by Brunswick at Farmingdale Lanes, May 6-9.

PBA's "senior players" then travel to Indianapolis for the season's first major, the PBA50 Tour Players Championship, May 13-16, at Woodland Bowl.

For a complete PBA50 Tour schedule, visit pba.com and click on the schedules' tab. All PBA50 Tour events will be covered live, from start to finish, on Xtra Frame, PBA's exclusive live streaming service. For subscription information and a detailed schedule of air times, visit xtraframe.tv. Xtra Frame subscriptions are available for $3.99 (three days), $7.99 (a full month) or the full year Xtra Frame Season Ticket (at about $5 a month).

PBA TOUR PLAYERS RETURN TO ACTION IN FIRST XTRA FRAME STORM CUP EVENT

After a brief respite following PBA's intense "Big February" schedule, Tour players will return to action in the first in a series of PBA Xtra Frame Storm Cup events March 17-19 when Sawgrass Lanes in Tamarac, Fla., hosts the Xtra Frame Reality Check Classic.

Originally scheduled for early October 2016, the XF Reality Check Classic was forced to postpone due to the arrival of Hurricane Matthew. The re-scheduled event will feature a minimum $10,000 first prize and will award the first points in the new XF Storm Cup series that will pay a $20,000 first prize at the conclusion of the 2017 series plus additional cash prizes of $10,000 for second place, $8,000 for third, $7,000 for fourth and $5,000 for fifth place.

In each of the eight XF Storm Cup events, points will be awarded to the top 20 players with the winner earning 25 points, second place 19, third place 18, etc., with points declining by one through 20th place.

Each of the Storm Cup events also will be covered live from start to finish, exclusively by PBA's Xtra Frame live streaming service. For subscription information, visit xtraframe.tv.

Immediately following the XF Reality Check Classic, PBA players will have their first shot at a 2017 PBA International-World Bowling Tour title in the Brunswick Euro Challenge at Dream-Bowl Palace in Munich, Germany. Qualifying gets underway March 18 and the tournament ends on Sunday, March 26. First prize will be roughly $12,000. A PBA Tour title will be awarded if the winner is a PBA member who doesn't accept handicap pins.

2017 U.S. OPEN TO FEATURE LIMITED FIELD, MODIFIED FORMAT

The United States Bowling Congress and Bowling Proprietors' Association of America, joint sponsors of the U.S. Open, have announced several changes for the 2017 event that will be held Oct. 25-Nov. 1 at 40-lane Flamingo Bowl in Liverpool, N.Y.

The U.S. Open, the fourth major championship on the PBA Tour's 2017 schedule, will feature:

24 qualifying games, including eight-game rounds on "fresh, burn" and "double-burn" lane conditions;

A limited field of 144 bowlers, including PBA earnings leaders and others who will be invited based on 2016 performances in international, collegiate and Junior Gold events, among others.

To fill vacancies, a pre-tournament qualifying event will be held at Flamingo Bowl prior to the event;

Invited players will have until June 1 to accept invitations, after which invitations will be extended to the next player on the eligibility list. Any vacancies will be added to the pre-event qualifier;

A projected $175,000 prize fund with $30,000 to the winner.

"Returning to a select field where an athlete has to qualify brings a higher level of prestige to the event, and the potential to use smaller centers means we can take this great tournament to more places," USBC Director Chad Murphy said. "Additional changes, featuring a limit to the total number of lanes being used and the introduction of separate practice pairs, will further reduce outside factors from influencing the event, which should also be a good thing."

QUBICA AMF PBA REGIONAL UPDATE: REGIONALS RETURN TO ACTION IN MARCH

March may be known for "madness" of another kind, but in PBA competition, it also means a return to a full schedule of QubicaAMF PBA Regional competition, getting underway over the March 3-5 weekend with the PBA50 Strike Zone Lanes Central Classic presented by Brunswick, in Canton, Ohio, and the Lakewood Southwest Super Regional, presented by Denver Broncos' running back CJ Anderson and Storm Products, at Holiday Lanes in Lakewood, Colo.

QubicaAMF PBA Regional activity over the March 10-12 weekend includes the PBA50 Fayetteville South Open at Lafayette Lanes in Fayetteville, N.C.; the Colorado Springs Southwest Super Regional, presented by Budweiser, at Harmony Bowl in Colorado Springs, Colo., and the Jackson Rancheria Casino Resort Championship at Gold Country Lanes in Sutter, Creek, Calif.

The March 17-19 calendar of QubicaAMF PBA Regional action includes the Trumbull County Tourism Bureau Central/East Open, presented by Radical, at Bell-Wick Bowl in Hubbard, Ohio; the Odessa Southwest Open at Astro Bowl in Odessa, Texas, and a PBA West/Northwest tripleheader at the National Bowling Stadium in Reno – the PBA50 and PBA Sands Regency West/Northwest Classic events plus the Sands Regency West/Northwest Challenge (for non-titlists), presented by DV8.

The schedule of QubicaAMF PBA Regional events over the March 24-26 weekend will feature the PBA50 Rossi Lanes Eastern Open in Elmira, N.Y.; the PBA50 Liberty Lanes Midwest/Central Open in Carpentersville, Ill.; the CCFA Strike Out Crohn's and Colitis South Open, presented by Rhino Page, at Boardwalk Bowl in Orlando, Fla., and the Caveman Bowl Northwest/West Open presented by DV8 in Grants Pass, Ore.

Closing out March and kicking off April's QubicaAMF PBA Regional calendar over the March 31-April 2 weekend will be the PBA50 Showtime Lanes Midwest/Central Open in Virden, Ill.; the Myrtle Beach South Open at Myrtle Beach Bowl in South Carolina, and the FireLake Grand Casino Hotel & Resort Southwest Open at FireLake Bowl in Shawnee, Okla. The weekend also will include a Sunday-only reduced entry fee Elkhart Central/Midwest Open presented by 900 Global at Country Club Lanes in Elkhart, Ind.

For complete QubicaAMF PBA Regional schedules, rules and entry information, visit pba.com, open the "schedules" tab and click on QubicaAMF Regional Tours to find the event(s) in your area. For more information about QubicaAMF, visit www.qubicaamf.com or, for social media posts, visit http://bit.ly/QAMFSponsorship1.

QUICK NOTES

Robert Fancher of Springville, N.Y., has won a new high-performance MOTIV ball; Tony Badger of Furlong, Pa., wins a new DV8 ball and Kelvin Peters of Byram, Miss., will receive a new high-performance Brunswick ball as February sweepstakes prizes for subscribing to Xtra Frame. The monthly sweepstakes is sponsored by the respective PBA Product Registered partners. Monthly winners are selected from among new Xtra

Continued on Page 9

At JB's Allen Bowl

Reynen builds 808, Blain scorches 709

Linerman adds 300

Jim Reynen outscored the competition last week at JB's Allen Bowl with a free-wheeling 264-264-280 = 808 Thursday Mixers league action.

Linda Blain held the hot hand for the ladies as she recorded a sky-high 248-233-228 = 709 Allen TNT set.

Brian Linerman captured high-game honors with an award-winning 12-bagger.

HONOR ROLL

Brent Ellis 247-701, Susan Miller 247-661, Andi Hall 204-583, Cathy Sposito 235-624, Patrick Emerson 208-605, Nicole Hyson 210-590, Joey Hafner 278-769, Lannis Nelson-Moon 261-668.

Derek Cook 276-772, Cathy Bowman 190-522, Ryan Theroux 278-738, Linda Blain 238-673, Dean Amos 268-748, Anita Spolar 245-569, Alex Harcourt 267-778, Cathy Sposito 226-618, Patrick Emerson 244-605. Jodie Hyson 225-576, Levi Bishard 276-786, Kurt Gengelbach 268-784, Cathy Bowman 238-659, Brian Linderman 279-771, Beth Campbell 247-665, Brian Linerman 793, Danielle Delaney 199-559.

SENIORS

Bill Kaiser 255-675, Melba Moyer 181-509, Tomas Probst 214-574, Jeanette Hooper 167-468, Mason Kerby 192-566, Barbara Probst 168-467, Lavern Anderson 197-557, Phyl Dufield 180-493.

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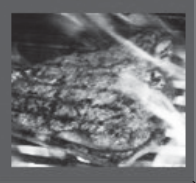

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#USBC SPOTLIGHT

Continued from Page 5

They'd heard about the 2017 Bowlers Journal Championships presented by USBC, a side event that now has been held alongside the Open Championships for 71 years, so they decided to head over and give it a try.

This year's Bowlers Journal Championships is being held at the South Point Bowling Center, a traditional 64-lane bowling center just a short walk from the Bowling Plaza, and offers a variety of age- and skill-based divisions for singles and doubles competition.

Here's their thoughts on their time in Las Vegas and at the Bowlers Journal Championships.

USBC - Unfortunately, the USBC Masters did not go as well as you'd hoped this year. What did you learn from the tournament that you will work on when you get back home?

Pontus Andersson - Yeah, I had a very rough week and bowled really badly, but it's from those situations you can always look back and find a solution for next time.

Markus Jansson - Yes, of course I learned some things. I need to make better shots - more repeating and stuff like that. You always learn and see the lanes differently with the best players on them. There's lots to learn and take away.

USBC - How did you hear about the Bowlers Journal Championships?

PA - There was some talk about a tournament that PBA members can bowl called the Bowlers Journal, and a few guys were talking about it, so we came down instead of just staying in our hotel room.

MJ - We heard about it the night before because I didn't do well in the Masters and wanted something to bowl and not stay in the hotel room. I wasn't sure that PBA members were allowed to bowl, so we asked around and found out that PBA members can bowl.

USBC - What did you think about the lane condition, especially compared to the Masters?

PA - I think it is a great challenge for the bowlers. I think there is so much talk around what the pattern is, but it's more about the bowlers making a big deal that this week it is this pattern and next tournament it will be that pattern. It is better to just go out there and bowl.

MJ - I heard from some people that the pattern was tough. All of us played the lanes pretty similar, and that really made the transition easy to see and work with. Many of us were able to put up some high scores the last two games.

USBC - Did you enjoy the time you spent in Las Vegas?

PA - When we're at a bowling tournament, we tend to spend a lot of time in the bowl. It can be from watching friends to seeing how the lanes break down.

MJ - We did, and were able to walk the Strip and gamble a little bit, but a lot of the time was inside the bowling center.

TRADITION AND SUCCESS

Continued from Page 1

series, the highest individual set of the 2017 event, which kicked off Feb. 18.

That momentum continued into doubles and singles Saturday as the Boresch tandem climbed to the top of the Regular Doubles standings with a 1,289 total. Jacob led the way with a 657 set, while Lennie, a three-time Open Championships titlist and member of the 2012 USBC Hall of Fame class, added 632. Bryanna and Randy Coté of Red Rock, Arizona, previously held the lead with 1,242.

"I grew up watching these guys bowl and even got to see old tapes of them competing on TV," said Jacob Boresch, who made his fifth Open Championships appearance. "They have a ton of knowledge, and our group respects them more than anyone. Their guidance can't be beat, and being able to find success together is really special. Being able to take the lead in doubles with my dad is incredible, too."

Jacob's success didn't end there, as he added a 705 singles series to claim the top spot in Regular All-Events with a 2,122 total, which has been a top 10 score the last two years. Bryanna Coté previously held the lead with 1,953.

The singles lead Saturday went to another of the group's decorated champions, as six-time titlist and USBC Hall of Famer Gary Daroszewski of Milwaukee, put together games of 213, 268 and 255 for a 736 series. It was the third-highest singles set of his 38-year Open Championships career and moved him past Randy Coté, who previously held the top spot with 715.

For more than a decade, Daroszewski, 58, has suffered from neuropathy, a condition that affects the nerves in his legs and feet, and he often has questioned his place in the talented group. He also has overcome a back injury and a recent sprained wrist, the latter of which helped him stay slow and focused at the Open Championships this year.

"You'd wonder based on our performances the last few years if the torch already had been passed to the young guys, but to come out and find success again this year was a lot of fun," Daroszewski said. "A lot of things went right for us, and we matched up well, and that's all you can do. We had a great time and put up some good scores, so we're happy about that."

Taking the lead in every event also brought up conversation about Team All-Events, a title Daroszewski has claimed four times.

Classic Lanes Raisins set the bar there, too, posting a 9,360 total. Daroszewski led the way with a 1,992 all-events effort and was followed by Lennie Boresch Jr. (1,979), three-time champion Ryan Lever (1,878) and a pair of four-time Open Championships winners Dale Traber (1,769) and Gus Yannaras (1,742).

Daroszewski, Boresch, Traber and Yannaras all have been inducted into the USBC Hall of Famer in the Outstanding USBC Performance category.

Classic Lanes Kids, with a combined 20 years of tournament experience, turned in a Team All-Events total of 9,295. Jacob Boresch was joined by Bryan Thompson (1,939), Kyle Anderson (1,840), David Schwartz (1,741) and Ryan Keith (1,653).

Followed singles, Lennie Boresch Jr. glowed when talking about his son's success on the biggest stage in bowling.

"I'm very proud of him, and it was a lot of fun to watch," said Boresch, who made his 36th tournament appearance. "I was hoping we could take the lead together. Just to do it once with your kid is special. They're a great group and definitely capable of competing at a high level. It helps keep us motivated for sure. It's still intense, and I love it."

The 2017 Open Championships will continue through July 16. During the 149-day run, more than 10,000 five-player teams will visit the South Point Bowling Plaza.

The Regular Division is for teams with combined averages of 1,046 and higher or individual bowlers with entering averages of 210 and above.

Visit us on Facebook at the official USBC Open Championships Facebook page.

PBA SPARE SHOTS

Continued from Page 7

Frame subscribers, who are automatically entered when they enroll as a monthly or Xtra Frame Season Ticket (full year) subscriber.

Brett Krimminger of Kannapolis, N.C., is the February winner of a $200 HotelPlanner.com certificate, redeemable for future lodging expenses, compliments of PBA's official travel partner. The monthly sweepstakes is open to anyone who books a hotel through the HotelPlanner.com link on pba.com. Those who book through HotelPlanner.com are automatically entered.

The Ultimate Down Under Bowling Experience

Do you have three hours, 149 friends and $7,691 to spend?

Then the "Pins Royale" experience at the new Kingpin Bowling facility in the Crown Entertainment Complex in Melbourne, Australia, could be for you.

The experience includes:

* A private entrance, where you'll be met by your event butler.
* Unlimited bowling with gold-colored balls.
* Karaoke.
* Premium bar options.
* Elegant canapés (freshly shucked oysters, anyone?).

In addition to the private Pins Royale space, Kingpin Bowling includes The Hub, with a bar, restaurant, two bowling zones, DJ booth and pool tables; Room 300, a cocktail lounge with access to bowling lanes; and Playtime, an arcade with more than 150 games, a redemption counter, laser tag and a "quick-food" area.

See more here: https://www.crownmelbourne.com.au/entertainment/fun-for-families/kingpin-bowling.

At Strikz

Johnson drills 714, Tenczar crafts 659

FRISCO – Mike Johnson racked up a power-laden 233-215-266 = 714 Tuesday Penniless league series to earn top billing on the honor roll last week at Strikz.

Loren Tenczar, from the Lousy Bowlerz group, led the ladies with a highly commendable 209-222-228 = 659 showing.

HONOR ROLL

Scott Noll 243-694, Robert Marino 222-620, Julie Bloodworth 193-532, Candy Torrey 221-557, Rick Irvine 235-631, Eddie Mathies 215-606, Debbie Colby 199-563, Cathy Eberly 222-573.

Loren Tenczar 235-656, Ron Barton 222-632, Bruce Southerland 223-621, Steve Southerland 238-671, Seth Moore 231-604, Erin Kelly 176-508, Joseph Jimenez 246-604, Kevin Connell 240-643.

Lindsay Suddreth 177-456, Kathy Bernthal 144-400, Stephanie Hapka 155-442, Vicki Wilson 154-413, Valerie Krajcir 167-413, Luanne Hinsey 150-422, Mary Eshenour 166-466, Jacki Myrice 194-539.

Cathy Eberly 198-536, Barbara Schmidt 177-488, Debra Gorman 146 – 430, Sheri Dyer 155-420, Mark Donnelly 234-650, Carla Eschberger 207-555, Eric Fanchar 211-601, Penny Anderson 191-500.

Amy Marshall 226-591, JoAnn Fitzgerald 205-470, Ed Belzer 197-483, Zo Sexton 178-483, Jack Muse 178-468, Daniel Frinsko 226-599, David Edwards 236-628, Cathy Eberly 199-552.

Candy Torrey 186-527, Rick Irvine 243-671.

USBC Hall of Famer Betty Mivelaz Dies at 86

ARLINGTON, Texas - Betty Mivelaz of Tujunga, California, a United States Bowling Congress Hall of Famer, died Feb. 26. She was 86.

Mivelaz had a banner year on the lanes in 1967, winning the Professional Women's Bowling Association National Championships and capturing a Classic Team title at the USBC Women's Championships in Rochester, New York. She was inducted into the USBC Hall of Fame in 1991.

Her run at the 1967 Women's Championships also included two additional top-10 finishes. She finished tied for third in Classic All-Events and took seventh in Classic Doubles.

Those performances earned Mivelaz a spot on the Bowlers Journal International All-American team in 1968.

Mivelaz was a force on the West Coast, winning 10 Western Women's Professional Bowlers titles to go along with numerous state and local wins. She was selected to the California Bowling Writers All-Star Team from 1966-1975, and earned Southern California Bowler of the Year honors in 1968.

She also is a member of the Southern California, San Fernando Valley and California Halls of Fame.

Services will be held Saturday, March 18, starting at 11 a.m. Pacific at The Old Church at the San Fernando Mission, 15151 San Fernando Mission Blvd., Mission Hills, CA.

Owens to Lead Technical Support at Kegel

Kegel has announced the promotion of Terry Owens to Director of Technical Support.

Owens started with Kegel in 2000 in the core manufacturing division. He quickly advanced to Quality Control Manager,a position that included serving as the final inspector for all completed lane machines.

Most recently, Owens held the position of Technical Sales Specialist, and leveraged his technical knowledge to offer help with sales, installation and general service. He also led a series of lane maintenance training courses at Kegel for both distributors and customers.

"I look forward to leading this team as they continue to offer the highest quality service for our customers," Owens said.

While Owens's responsibilities shift, Eric Pierson will expand into a larger role at tournaments and Championship events, providing lane maintenance support on behalf of Kegel.With his vast experience, Pierson will be an asset at these events, the company said. When not on the road, he will continue offering customer support with the Tech Support team.

WIN-WIN

Continued from Page 1

watching Ron Williams blast the rack and "sting" a five pin at Nationals, run off the foul line holding his wrist in the air (in a packed Reno setting I might add) and scream at the top of his lungs, "Medic!" Epic.

I always wanted the people I bowled with to bowl well, regardless of how I felt about them or how I was bowling that night. Sweet Lou Dicarlo taught me that at age 13. Never root against people. Oh, I like bowling well and winning, however, I would much rather watch someone bowl well, than bowl well myself.

I haven't bowled in nearly two years now. First, I hurt my wrist, and then I figuratively ran into a bus and had a heart transplant July 31st, 2016.

Many of you reading this came to see me in Houston, where I took up residency for four months waiting for a heart. To everyone who came to see me or sent prayers my way or hoped I was OK, thank you, every little bit counts.

Just remember to take nothing for granted, shake your opponent's hand, and root them on no matter how they are performing. If you win, you win. Besides, you both get to drink a beer and eat a sammich. In my book that's known as a "Win-Win."

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Live Stream Schedule

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

PBA Xtra Frame Reality Check Classic, Tamarac, FL - Qualifying - A Squad
Saturday March 18 7:50 AM

PBA Xtra Frame Reality Check Classic, Tamarac, FL - Qualifying - B Squad
Saturday March 18 1:20 PM

PBA Xtra Frame Reality Check Classic, Tamarac, FL - Qualifying - Casher's Round
Sunday March 19 7:20 AM

PBA Xtra Frame Reality Check Classic, Tamarac, FL - Qualifying Rd. of 16
Sunday March 19 10:20 AM

PBA Xtra Frame Reality Check Classic, Tamarac, FL - Qualifying Rd. of 8
Sunday March 19 12:20 PM

PBA Xtra Frame Reality Check Classic, Tamarac, FL - Stepladder Finals
Sunday March 19 1:50 PM

USBC bowl.tv YouTube Channel

Friday March 24 – Saturday March 25
SWAC Championships

InsideBowling.com
(Available on InsideBowling.com)

Friday March 24 – Sunday March 26
Southland Bowling League Championships

Just Paying Attention

By Mark London
Mark@TheBowlingNews.net

Big February was certainly big Nielsen television ratings for the PBA this year. In the five ESPN shows, the average viewership ranged from 664,000 at the Barbasol Players Championship February 12th peaking to 791,000 for the USBC Masters February 26.

There were a couple of points that made this year better from 2016 and 2015. In those two years, average viewership peaked with the first show, then dropped each of the following two weeks. In the world of Nielsen television ratings, that is one measure indicating audience strength of a given show. This year, the increase from the first week to the Tournament of Champions on February 19th was six percent to an average of 705,000 viewers. The increased doubled to nearly 12 percent to the USBC Masters telecast average viewership listed earlier.

The second point is the key advertiser group, the 18 to 49 age bracket. Those two numbers also increased, 12 and eight percent during that three-week live show stretch. The 18-49 average viewership was statistically constant all three weeks at just over 30 percent of the total audience, a very good number at that time on a Sunday.

So what's the big deal? Here's a little TV Ratings 101. For example, when network primetime shows start in the fall, one of the first things examined is the audience drop off week by week. A sudden or sharp drop over the first two or three weeks means, people saw one episode, didn't like it for whatever reason, then found something else to watch. A slower drop in viewership will still get network execs looking closely to keep a show on the air, until the number drops too far. A number staying constant will get either thirteen more episodes ordered, or better yet, have a second season added.

But rising numbers? Well, that's hard to do, almost unheard of these days, especially when there are hundreds of channels to watch. But that's exactly what happened to the PBA in February 2017.

With PBA television matters, I go right to the source. So I asked PBA Commissioner Tom Clark for his analysis of what has to been a truly large month.

JPA: What is your overall impression of the TV ratings for 'Big February', especially as they increased during the three major finals stretch?

Tom Clark: Very happy and proud of our viewership numbers consistency, strength and competitiveness. Across the board, from celebrity events to major championships, including six shows, 12 hours and 10 live hours of PBA bowling it was an impressive month.

JPA: The 18-49 (age group) total viewership looked to be a little higher than last year. What factors played into the increase?

Tom Clark: The most impressive 18-49 boost was on the Chris Paul PBA Celebrity Invitational, where 58% of our audience (or roughly 450,000 of the high average viewership during February of 840,000) was in that important demo. The reasons the CP3 PBA event has stronger young audience are obvious due to the caliber of celebrities and atmosphere of that event and show, particularly in the Friday night timeslot. Why there were slight increases in the other shows in those demos I can't be totally sure about, but it's a positive trend hopefully tied back to the increased excitement and youthfulness of the PBA combined with history.

JPA: In 2015 and 2016, there was a decline in viewership from week to week in February. This year it increased, peaking with the USBC Masters telecast. What did you or ESPN see as a difference?

Tom Clark: I don't think there is any one reason but the order of events, the number of events, number of live hours and levels of ESPN promotions from year-to-year were not all equal so the comparison isn't quite apples to apples.

JPA: Did the quarter hour ratings increase as Jason Belmonte bowled in the Players Championship and Masters title matches?

Tom Clark: Yes, there were marginal increases quarter hour to quarter hour before those title matches, but I wouldn't attribute it to an individual in these cases, I would simply attribute it to the fact that our shows almost always peak during the deciding championship match.

JPA: Has ESPN told you what they thought of the ratings as a whole for the six shows?

Tom Clark: We are up 14% year-over-year and gains like that are unusual to unheard of in most sports and programming in general, so they are very happy and look forward to growing certain properties together. On this past Sunday, bowling carried the entire network – with the Masters being the leading show vs. anything on ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNU for the entire 24 hours. Not many – if any – niche sports that are produced by a third-party as we are, could even dream of that. We also beat live NHL games and Premiere League soccer on NBCSN, live NBA games on NBATV and live college hoops on many networks including Notre Dame men's and women's games on ESPN nets, that day. It's important to have an audience for our sport, important to prove interest, not only for potential sponsors and existing sponsors but for TV networks capable of providing support or rights fees. It was a great month for bowling and the PBA.

Next week, Commissioner Clark comments on the ratings of the two celebrity/pro doubles shows. As of press time, he had yet to receive viewership numbers on the WatchESPN app, which as you remember, were impressive in last fall's PBA World Series of Bowling. If they are available, I hope to include those numbers next week, as well.

############

Here's a Luci Doubles (whoops, that's the PBA/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles) update from Tournament Chairwoman Donna Conners. She told me Pro/Am entries are starting to fill fast, but there are still spots available. Pro/Am bowlers can sign up either in person at Copperfield Bowl in Houston or at Carol Norman's Pro Shop's website, www.carolnormansproshop.com.

For the tournament itself, entries are still being taken and currently put on a waiting list. Due to cancellations, injuries, and other things, 18 doubles teams on the waiting list at this time last year bowled in the tournament, she wants to remind those still interested to not think they are shut out. If you want to get in, go to the tournament Facebook page, tap on the 'Message' button, and Donna will message you back. If you're on the waiting list, tournament entry does not have to be paid until you bowl.

Like last year, there are four different squads, two on Friday, and two on Saturday. If you can't get to Copperfield, first-ball to fill-ball coverage will be live streamed on PBA XtraFrame.

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Next week, a former U.S. Open Champion weights in on the new tournament format and how his social media comments irritated those on both sides of the issue.

☒☒☒

JOE LECROY

Continued from Page 1

Roger was close behind with 224.

Lecroy took the top prize of $1,450, McCordic and West each received $1,050.

It was Joe's 22nd SASBA title.

Jon Delaney shot the only 300 of the tournament. John Handegard bowled. There were 40 bowlers in the Second Chance Sweeper. Dave Dupont won the 70s for $300, Gordon Stuntz the 60s and cashed for $300 and Mike Austin claimed the 50s sweeper for $400.

Thanks to Don Ellis Jr., Don Ellis Sr. and staff for the great hospitality.

They provided bottled water and snacks for the bowlers both days of the tournament, much appreciated by the bowlers.

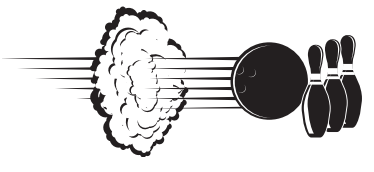
Emerald added $2,250 and SASBA added $1,790 to the prize fund.

Our next tournament is in Kenner, LA at All Star Lanes for a 60/50/Guest trio and is limited to 38 teams.

The Treasure Chest Casino is adding $1,000 and the City of Kenner is adding $250 to the prize fund.

The Mayor will be throwing out the first ball on Saturday morning.

Two weeks later, we are in Duncanville at Redbird Lanes for a Non-Champs tourney.



At Forum Bowl

Gray amasses 772, Hanson belts 737

Grange 300, Mosher 299

Quincy Gray won the high-set contest last week at Forum Bowl as he tossed high-powered numbers of 215-289-268 = 772 in Weekenders league play.

Jennifer Hanson led the ladies with a rollicking 288-203-246 = 737 Columbia 300 Masters set.

Brian Grange garnered high-game honors with an award-winning 12-bagger. Mike Mosher took runner-up honors with a near-perfect 299 solo.

HONOR ROLL

Andrea Jaksa 208-515, Kim Jackson 222-631, Scotty Mazzucco (9 pin, 4 games) 296-837, Wanda Green (9 pin, 4 games) 232-651, Mike Mosher 746, Kathlene Lyons 243-629, A C Cross 275-720.

Jodie Rogers 214-600, Rodney Williams 235-662, Jennifer Cantrell 180-493, Mitch Thomas 267-693, Tammy Henderson 204-597, David Flores 269-710, Dana Short 214-566, Rodney Cavaness 243-660.

Tisha Patterson 217-612, Robert Warren (4 games) 268-1016, Brenda Padilla (4 games) 256-943, Stacy Harden 263-729, Beverly Jackson 209-533, Preston Smith 279-673, Kristal Rogers 220-573.

Carlos Ortiz 226-621, Kayla Lopez 182-520, Brian Grange 752, Brian Grange 259-707, Troy Howell 238-675, Jack Soria 246-683, Melissa George 236-662, Sammy Espinoza 222-594.

Brittany Perez 188-514, Quincy Gray 289-772, Kim Jackson 195-519, Daniel Olvera 224-587, Lisa Pool 168-439, Philip Mills 248-599, Barbara Craig 178-475.

SENIORS

Rickey Franklin 237-630, Judith Guillory 245-594, Tom Czaykowski (9 pin) 287-819, Margaret Montgomery (9 pin) 234-670.

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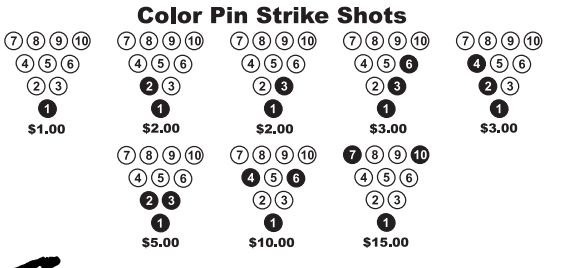

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$10 All Events Per Person
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Doubles Event – 380 Under/381 Over
Singles Event- 190 Under and 191 Over

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Rules and entry form at
www.nctusbc.com

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Website: www.nctusbc.com
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Team, Doubles & Singles EVERY Squad:

Sat. April 1	9:00am and 2:00pm
Sun. April 2	9:00am and 2:00pm
Sat. April 8	9:00am and 2:00pm
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