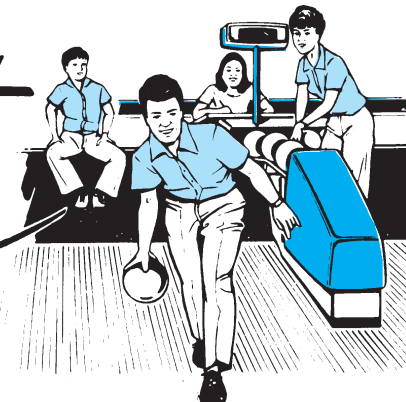


BOWLER'S Digest

Official 'Voice' of Bowling in the Bowling Capital of the World
 • Established by Steve Cruchon in 1976 •



VOL. 37, NO. 18

Detroit, Michigan — Published Every Other Wednesday

APRIL 17, 2013

Craig Nidiffer Wins Michigan State Masters Event at Royal Scot Lanes

• CRAIG NIDIFFER of Trenton won the Michigan State Masters at Royal Scot Lanes in Lansing Sunday when he defeated Kurt Pilon of Warren, 424-413, in the two-game match to win the \$3,500 first prize. Pilon settled for

the second-place check of \$1,750. Nidiffer qualified sixth in the field of 140 with a six-game total of 1,356. He remained in the winner's bracket with triumphs over Carleton Chambers of Detroit, 441-415, Jason Pranger of

Muskegon Heights, 453-381, defending champion Brian Waliczek of Birch Run, 422-404, and Mark Lobdell of Pinckney, 408-333, before falling to Pilon the first time, 422-392. In the loser's bracket he beat Smallwood, 433-417, to try and avenge

the earlier loss to Pilon. He then beat Pilon, 456-404, to set up the final match. Nidiffer averaged 218.9 for 22 games of competition.

He also won a paid entry into the 2014 United States Bowling Congress Masters tournament.

"Feels really good to win one against the best bowlers, Michigan



NIDIFFER

bowlers," said Nidiffer. "I'm really excited with the tough shot and I got a few breaks along the way."

Pilon qualified 20th with 1,283. He also remained in the winner's bracket with victories over Kerry Kreft of Warren, 385-352, Brandon Gibson of Portage, 492-368, Jeff Edwards of Sterling Heights, 428-356, Tom Smallwood of Saginaw, 453-439, and Nidiffer, 422-392. He then lost to Nidiffer, 456-404, to set up the final match. Pilon averaged 212.5 for 20 games of competition.

(Continued on Page 5)

Pete Weber Wins Barbasol PBA Tournament of Champions

INDIANAPOLIS (March 31, 2013) — Professional Bowlers Association Hall of Famer Pete Weber of St. Ann, Mo., wrote another chapter in bowling history Sunday when he defeated Australian two-handed star Jason Belmonte, 224-179, to win the Barbasol PBA Tournament of Champions at Woodland Bowl.

The victory made Weber the first player to complete the PBA Triple Crown for a second time and tied bowling legend Earl Anthony for most major PBA titles with 10.

He won his second TOC title to go along with five U.S. Open titles and two PBA World Championships to complete the PBA's Triple Crown a second time, a feat no other bowler has accomplished. He also owns a PBA Touring Players Championship for his other major. His win Sun-

(Continued on Page 7)



WEBER

IN THE NEWS

Angela Wilt Wins Women's Series Tournament at Shelby Lanes

• ANGELA WILT of Westland won the Metro Detroit USBC Association (MDUSBC) Rip 10 Entertainment Women's Series event, sponsored by Blumark, on Sunday with a 256-248 triumph over Julie Oczepek of Reese at Shelby Lanes in Utica. Wilt took home the top prize of \$500, while Oczepek settled for \$250.

Wilt was the top qualifier in the field of 41 with a four-game total of 918. Her qualifying total included a high game of 273. In match play she defeated Tanisha Burris of Lansing, 202-176, and Lauren Roberts of Hazel Park, 226-225, en route to the championship match.

Oczepek qualified sixth with 868. Her victories in match play included wins over Melissa Legault of Sarnia, Ontario, 258-238, Sandra Schultz of Macomb, 226-180, and Robin Orlikowski of Grand Rapids, 259-190, on her way to the final match. Tanisha Burris recorded the top game of the competition with 279 during qualifying.

Complete results are available at www.mdusbc.com under "Tournaments" and Women's Series page.

The next event is May 5th at Van Dyke Bowl in Sterling Heights.

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Lodge Lanes Too
 Sets Record at
 USBC Open
 Championships

Lodge Lanes Too of Orlando, Fla., rolled the highest team series in the 110-year history of the United States Bowling Congress Open Championships on April 2, shooting 3,538 at the National Bowling Stadium in Reno, Nev., to break the 20-year-old record by a single pin.

Five-time Team USA member and two-time USBC Open Championships titlist John Janawicz threw three strikes in his final frame to put the finishing touches on the record performance.

The team opened with a 1,206 game and added 1,167 and 1,165.

Bruegger's Bagels of Albany, N.Y., previously held the record with 3,537, rolled in Tulsa, Okla., in 1993.

Former Team USA member Vernon Peterson led the way for Lodge Lanes Too with a 772 series. He was followed by Janawicz (752), three-time Open Championships winner John Gaines (681), 1987 Team All-Events champion Mitch Jabczenski (669) and Professional Bowlers Association Tour titlist Scott Newell (664).

Janawicz returned April 3 to take the lead in Regular All-Events with 2,169.

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Directory charge is \$12 per issue (Limit 50 words). FAX (586) 286-5877, or send to: "Where to Find It," c/o Bowler's Digest, P.O. Box 96, Fraser, MI 48026
 bowlersdigest@ymail.com

PLEASE NOTE: Because of an agreement with Detroit area bowling centers, Bowler's Digest does not publish open bowling or "Rock 'n Bowl" rates.

Bowling Parties

• **ASTRO LANES**, 32388 John R, Madison Heights. Come have an "Astro Experience" with us. Our fundraisers, class reunions, company, birthday and anniversary parties are the best! We have full catering service for any type of party. Call (248) 585-3132.

• **CLOVERLANES BOWL**, 28900 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia. We offer awesome Adult and Children's Birthday Parties. Take advantage of

our upper lounge and its large dance floor. Choose us for your next Group or Company Party. To meet your special needs we offer full service catering. For more information call (734) 427-6410.

• **THUNDERBOWL LANES**, 4200 Allen Rd., Allen Park. The 2-hour party includes: bowling, unlimited FREE arcade play, pizza, pop, paper products and a cosmic bowling pin for the birthday child. \$12 per person with a 6-person minimum. For more information, call (313) 928-4688.

Cosmic Bowling

• **IMPERIAL LANES**, 44650 Garfield, Clinton Twp. "Best Cosmic Show" with two giant video screens. Every other Friday at 9:30 p.m. - 1 a.m. at \$20 an hour per lane. Saturday night at 11:30 p.m. - 3 a.m. at \$20 an hour per lane. Additional time is discounted. Saturday afternoon from 12 noon to 4 p.m. at \$3.50 per game, per person. Call (586) 286-8700.

• **THUNDERBOWL LANES**, 4200 Allen Rd., Allen Park. "Cosmic Bowling" is available on Friday and Saturday nights. Cosmic pricing includes 3 hours of bowling, unlimited FREE arcade play and music videos on large screen TVs. Sessions start at 10 p.m. The price is \$15 per person plus \$3 for shoes. For more information, call (313) 928-4688.

Extreme Bowling

• **THUNDERBIRD LANES**, 400 W. Maple Rd. Troy. "EXTREME Bowling." Metro Detroit's best! High Tech Lights, Music and Huge Video Screens. Friday nights 10 p.m. to midnight. And for the family "PINDEMONIUM" with family-friendly music and music videos. Sunday afternoons. 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. For information call (248) 362-1660.

Dancing/Video Fun Night

• **THUNDERBOWL LANES**, 4200 Allen Rd., Allen Park. Watch music videos on a 160" screen as well as on over a dozen large screen TVs while you're bowling. Videos are played nightly. Call Thunderbowl Lanes at (313) 928-4688 to get complete details.

Moonlight Doubles

• **SUNNYBROOK LANES**, 7191 East 17 Mile Rd., Sterling Heights. "9-Pin, No Tap" Moonlight Doubles. Saturdays at 11:30 p.m. Check-in at 10:45 p.m. \$25 per couple includes three games of bowling, first and second mystery games and prize fund. We guarantee a minimum of five places paid. Additional jackpots available. For more info, call (586) 264-2700.



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Bowler's Digest is the official publication and "voice" of bowling in Southeastern Michigan. Serving more than 250,000 men, women and youth bowlers in and around the Bowling Capital of the World and many parts of Michigan. Bowler's Digest appears every two weeks in leading bowling centers, bowling supply stores, etc., compliments of the proprietors.

Dan and Cathy Cruchon Publishers

Rick Strobl Editor-in-Chief

By-line articles appearing in Bowler's Digest do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the publishers or editor-in-chief, nor does the presence of any advertisement necessarily constitute either approval of or recommendation by Bowler's Digest.

PUBLISHED EVERY OTHER WEDNESDAY

Deadlines: Thursday (One Week Prior to Publication Date)

SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$30 PER YEAR (26 ISSUES)

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SUMMER LEAGUES 2013

Union Pride — Tuesdays — \$1,200 first place. One member of the team must be a current or retired member of a union. 3 per team-any combination 13 weeks starting May 21st 7pm

Summer Doubles — Tuesdays — \$2,000 first place. Unique handicap and scoring system. Any combination. No caps. Starts May 21st 7pm

Wednesday Summer Trio — \$2,100 first place. Great jackpots and prize fund. Bowl 2 2-game sets. Any combination. Starts May 8th at 7pm.

Wednesday Ladies Trio — Fun group of bowlers-Each person will receive a free entry into the 2014 State tournament. \$15 per week. Starts May 8th at 7pm

PBA Condition — Thursdays — All skill levels welcome. Bowl on 7 PBA patterns. \$1,200 first place. 14 weeks. 3 bowlers per team. Starts May 9th at 7pm

Friday Postal Trio — Teams must have one member of the opposite sex. Starts May 10th at 10 — 30am.

Summer Senior's — \$5 per week includes 3 games of 9-pin, coffee and awards. Starts May 24th at noon.

Friday Night Mixed Trio — 9-Pin, No-Tap-Weekly drink specials & prizes. Great prize fund and Jackpots. 1st and 2nd game mystery included. Starts May 31st at 7pm. \$1500 first place based on 20 teams

Tuesday Adult/Youth — Doubles league ends with pizza party and awards on August 16th. 3 games each week. One adult + one youth = a team. Starts May 7th at 6pm — \$8 per week

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Secretaries! '12-13 Average Sheets Due April 1st

METRODETROIT USBC NEWS

By Association Manager
Mark A. Martin

For more information about the Metro Detroit USBC, call 1-888-753-6350 or visit www.mdusbc.com



• AVERAGE REQUEST forms have been sent to league secretaries and at this point over 400 of 1,031 leagues have turned in their April 1st averages.

These averages were requested to be turned in by April 15th. Notices have been sent to the league secretaries who have not fulfilled this very important duty. Also a list of leagues which have not turned in their averages is listed on www.mdusbc.com.

Your help is needed to complete this task. You can help by sending us the first league sheet after April 1 from your league. This

can be faxed to our office at (248) 443-2690 or mailed to MDUSBC, 28200 Southfield Rd., Lathrup Village, MI 48076.

YOUTH AWARDS BANQUET

• THE METRO Detroit USBC Youth Awards banquet will be held on Sunday, May 19 at DeCarlo's Banquet Center at 1 p.m.

The banquet will honor youth tournament award winners, honor scores, scholarship winners and all-city recipients.

Tickets are \$15 and can be ordered from the Association office at (888) 753-6350.

AWARDS RECEPTION

• THE METRO Detroit USBC Association will conduct their adult awards ceremony at DeCarlo's Banquet Center on Tuesday, June 18.

Dinner will be served first buffet style from 5:30 until 7 p.m. followed by the

METRO DETROIT USBC ALL CITY TEAMS

• THIS IS the time of year that we work on and finalize the process for the men's, senior men's, women's and senior women's all-city teams.

This is a very laborious task and your help is needed.

For the men's and senior men's categories games of 298, 299 and 300 receive points as does all 800 series.

For the women's and senior women's categories games of 279 and better and series above 700.

In order that we don't miss any honor scores in the calculations please contact the MDUSBC office if you think we're missing some of yours.

awards presentations.

Tickets are available for \$15 by calling the Association office at (888) 753-6350.

USBC CONVENTION

• THE UNITED States Bowling Congress annual convention will be held from May 1-3 in Reno, Nev.

During this time delegates elected from their respective local and state associations will vote on legislation affecting leagues, tournaments and bylaws in addition to electing four new members of the board of directors. Additionally there will be several workshops to inform the delegates about happenings at USBC.

Representing the MDUSBC at the annual convention will be Katrina Banks, Richard Banks, Jordan Barber, Shirley Beard, Terrance Bell, Ann Block, George Bresinski, Miquelle Christian, Clifford Davis, Michael DeRousie, Debra Dickerson, Eric Fisher,

Constance Fordyce, Ina Herbert, Lavern Hester, Alisa Hudgins, Mark Hurtgam, Vera Johnson, Patricia Klix, Anita Maiorana, Diane Maluzhinsky, Rose McCall, Jeanette Myers, Tammy Quinn, Rosie Sawyers and John Vorpagel.

Anyone else that would like to be appointed a delegate please contact the MDUSBC office.

More to come...

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- Adult PBA Doubles at 7:00 p.m. • \$14 Per Person

TUESDAY (Starts May 7th)

- Ladies Night Out Trio at 7:00 p.m. • \$13 Per Person
- Tuesday Men's Classic Trio at 7:00 p.m. • \$15 Per Person

WEDNESDAY (Starts May 8th)

- Senior Mixed at 12:30 p.m. • \$12 Per Person
- Youth Scholarship Trio at 7:00 p.m. • \$13 Per Person
- Parent-Youth League at 7:00 p.m. • \$10 Per Person

THURSDAY (Starts May 9th)

- Summer Swingers at 7:00 p.m. • \$14 Per Person

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DEXTER & LIND SHOES IN STOCK

Close Race to the Finish for Ebonite All-Stars at Thunderbowl Lanes

• AFTER 31 weeks, with five weeks to go in the last third of the Ebonite All-Stars at Thunderbowl Lanes season, seven teams are within seven points of the co-leaders. With five points per week, including a position night, it is going to be a free-for-all going down the stretch.

Downriver Bowlers Pro Shop and Thunderbowl Lanes are the co-leaders with identical records of 25 wins and 10 losses. In the past week Downriver Bowlers took three points from Random Budz, while Thunderbowl Lanes took four points from the always tough Team 3 with Larry Walker in the anchor spot.

Downriver Bowlers Pro Shop were paced by Chuck Graddick, who fired a 760 series and who was supported by Keith Caldwell at 740 and Larry Wilson at 705. Thunderbowl Lanes did not have their usual monster scores, but were steady with all



By TOM STROBL
Bowler's Digest Contributor

bowlers at 650 or better.

Conversely, third-place Team 8 was red hot with all bowling over 700. Lead-off man Mason Brantley contributed 707, Alex Robinson 718, Jeff Hicks 750, Imari Allison 745 and the combination of Ken Rogers, who bowled two games of 516 (he had to leave early for work) and Brian Odom in the last game with 216 for 732. Team 8 shot one of the highest series of the year at 3642, taking five points from Mitch Jabczenski Sr. and teammates, who themselves had 3445.

Bob Slayden had the high first game of 299 and the night's high series at 824. Ben Neuman had the high second game at 299, while Chuck Graddick took the third game high at 289. Angela Wilt tied Jen Young for the ladies high game of 268 and Angela fired a great 730 series. Their team of Mud's Warriors is now in fourth place. In the past

week they took four points from Strike It Rich Pro shop.

• **SPECIAL** congratulations to Mitch Jabczenski Sr. who is part of the Lodge Lanes team that rolled the highest team series in the 110-year history of the USBC Open Championship, shooting 3538, in March at the National Bowling Stadium in Reno. Mitch, a previous USBC Open Teams all-event champion, contributed 669. He was joined by former Detroitier Vernon

Peterson of USA Team fame who had 772. Three-time USBC Open winner John Gaines had 681.

The anchor bowler was John Janawicz, who threw three strikes in the last frame to allow the Lodge Lanes team to take the record by one pin. He had a 752 series. The fifth bowler was Scott Newell, a PBA titlist who won a Regional Players Championship at Thunderbowl Lanes, had 664. We may see another "Eagle" coming to Detroit.

15-Year-Old Youngest To Win PBA Regional

Wesley Low Jr., at age 15, became the youngest bowler ever to win a PBA Regional title — breaking a 34-year-old record set by PBA Hall of Famer Pete Weber in 1979 — when the two-handed competitor from Palmdale, Calif., defeated Deeronn Booker of Anaheim, Calif., 299-234, to win the PBA Non-Champion West tournament at South Point Bowling Center in Las Vegas on Friday, March 29.

Low, a member of Junior Team USA who was 29 days shy of his 16th birthday, lost his bid for a perfect game in the title match when he left an 8-pin on his final shot.

He does not get credit for a PBA title because he is not a member of the PBA, but his \$1,500 in earnings will help build his USBC SMART scholarship fund. Weber won a PBA Midwest Regional title in St. Louis in 1979. Weber was a PBA member at that time, therefore earning credit for his title.

Low, who bowls with two hands from the left side of his body, finished third in the same non-champions event in 2012.




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2013 SCHEDULE

DATE	CENTER	TIME
1/5/2013	OAK LANES	10:00 AM
2/23/2013	PLAZA LANES	10:00 AM
3/30/2013	CHERRY HILL LANES	10:00 AM
4/27/2013	BOWL ONE LANES	10:00 AM
5/18/2013	THUNDERBOWL LANES	10:00 AM
6/15/2013	SUNNYBROOK LANES	10:00 AM
8/31/2013	NOVI BOWL	10:00 AM
9/28/2013	DRAKESHIRE LANES	10:00 AM
10/26/2013	HAZEL PARK BOWL	10:00 AM
11/23/2013	FIVE STAR LANES	10:00 AM
12/7/2013	WAYNE BOWL - FINALS	10:00 AM

April in the 'D' Also Refers to Bowling Events

METRODETROIT USBC SCENE

By MDUSBC Director
Libbi Fletcher

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• AS MANY of us who are sports enthusiasts know, April in the "D" usually means Pistons, Red Wings, and the beginning of Tiger baseball. But to those of us in the bowling community, which is nearly everyone, it is tournament time.

Last Friday, I made the trek out to Canton to Super Bowl to watch the NCAA Women's Bowling Finals... it was awesome! Kudos to the Detroit Sports Commission, Super Bowl and Community Bowling Centers, and the University of Detroit for bringing this prestigious event here once again! Thank you!

It is unfortunate that more of our bowlers didn't go witness some great Baker match bowling by some incredible women bowlers from some incredible colleges who support women's bowling programs.

Of course, it was great to see some of the ladies from Michigan who are now bowling in the collegiate programs, having come up in the USBC Youth programs, MJMA tournaments, and Jr. Gold.

Although I had been invited to the Cham-

pionship match on Saturday, I could not attend due to another commitment, but it was shown "live" on ESPNU and replayed on Sunday on ESPN! I caught the show and it was so exciting!

Congrats to the University of Nebraska Lincoln Cornhuskers (GO BIG RED) on their national championship and congrats to the Vanderbilt University Commodores on making every match exciting. These teams are young, so I know we will see more of each of them.

Adult tournament bowling also was on tap this past weekend. The Michigan State Masters was held in Lansing and one of our own brought home the title... congrats to Craig Nidiffer on some fine bowling against another great bowling icon from the "D," Kurt Pilon. I believe there were 10 MDUSBC members in the top 20... way to REPRESENT!

On the other side of the state, the women were competing in the Michigan State Queen's tournament. Congratulations to Novella Daniels on her Queen's title... again! Great job, Nova.

This is exactly why you were elected to the Michigan State Women's Hall of Fame last year... you are a true champion.

Kathy Bishop also represented the "D" in the final elimination round, along with Kim Maddy and Addileen Pointer who made the Final 8. Kim is always a competitor on our Thursday night league and just had a great set Thursday night before the tournament.

Addi was at the NCAA Finals Friday night and shared with me that she was heading to Muskegon, and hoped that her wrist would hold up for the format. Welcome home from college, Addi! We are all looking forward to seeing more great things from you.

At the end of the month, many of us will

head to Reno to represent MDUSBC at the USBC Convention and Annual Meeting... and some of us will bowl the USBC Championships while we are there.

Although a few of our own are already sitting on top with a USBC Record in the team event... way to go Mitch Jabczynski

and Vernon Peterson who grew up here and is now working for Kegel in Florida. We are so proud of you and your team! Nicely done! Hopefully we will keep this streak going!

Go Pistons, Go Red Wings, Go Tigers, and GO BOWLING!

Craig Nidiffer Wins Michigan State Masters Event at Royal Scot Lanes

(Continued from Page 1)

Smallwood qualified 24th with 1,266. In match play he beat Ray Eddy III of Saginaw, 386-381, John Robertson of Waterford Township, 378-288, Mason Brantley of Detroit, 454-417, before losing to Pilon, 453-439. In the loser's bracket he prevailed over Jason Rasinske of Dimondale, 404-385, and Mark Lobdell, 438-311, before being eliminated by Nidiffer, 433-417. Smallwood averaged 209.2 and took home \$1,250.

Lobdell qualified 18th with 1,288. In match play he remained undefeated with wins over Jason Rasinske, 408-369, Abed Daher of Dearborn, 416-378, and Scott Honeysett of Lansing, 428-413, before losing to Nidiffer, 408-333. In the loser's bracket he beat Mason Brantley, 499-363, before getting knocked out of the competition, 438-314, by Smallwood. He averaged 204.8 while cashing for \$1,000.

Top qualifier Mason Brantley led qualifying by 17 pins with 1,406. He won his first two matches over ray Eddy III of Saginaw, 455-445, and Mike Chism of Farmington Hills, 501-434, before falling to Smallwood, 454-417. Once in the loser's bracket he beat Jason Pranger Heights, 395-354, and Jeff Edwards of Sterling Heights, 479-395, before being eliminated by Mark Lobdell of Pinckney, 499-363. He settled for \$500 plus \$100 as the high qualifier.

Defending champion Brian Waliczek of Birch Run finished 10th cashing for \$400 while averaging 211.5.

The field of 140 bowlers averaged 190.6 during the six games of qualifying. The top game in qualifying was 300 recorded by Kurt Pilon and Mark Lobdell.

The top 32 qualifiers averaged 217.3 during qualifying and 200.3 in match play.

The Michigan State USBC Masters Tournament is a USBC certified event operated by the Michigan State USBC Association.

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TIPS FROM THE PROS



By CHERYL DANIELS

Member of the Professional Women's Bowling Association

• SHOOTING a 300 game and averaging 200 is not news anymore. Instead it is becoming the norm. I haven't said much about scoring conditions, but I believe the long range future of the game is being impacted by unreal scoring conditions that are common today. It is a Catch 22 situation — bowlers want big scores and bowling centers give them what they want.

If a center tries to put out a more challenging or honest condition, they risk losing their bowlers to other higher scoring centers. In the long run bowlers are cheat-

ing themselves because they have an inflated unrealistic average and the game of bowling is cheapened. The USBC has recently started promoting Sport Bowling as a model for standardizing a more challenging lane condition that would require a higher skill level to average 200.

The sport pattern is a much flatter oil pattern. When you miss to the right the ball doesn't reach the head pin and when you miss to the left it hooks high. Although the sport pattern needs some tweaking, I believe they are on the right track.

I have personally lost interest in league bowling because the conditions are so outrageously easy. In my conversation with other high average bowlers, they too have lost interest because of the current situation. When bowlers are rewarded for making bad shots and penalized for making good shots, something needs to change.

Maybe lane conditions should be rated like in golf. Some conditions would be 225 for par for the easy conditions, 210 for the semi-easy conditions and 200 for the tough conditions. Just a thought.

I think it would be a good idea to have a National Sport Bowling week in centers all across America so bowlers could maybe have a dose of reality and see where there game is really at. By no means am I trying to offend anyone, but I think we are cheating ourselves when we believe we are par

bowlers when we are not.

Most USBC Team Challenge and High Roller Tournaments as well as the PBA Tour compete on much tougher conditions and that separates the solid par players from the inflated average players. In fact on the PBA Tour the average guy who carried a 225 average in his leagues averaged only 189 on tour.

If you want to be a complete player and a serious competitor who has aspirations of

being better than just a great house bowler, you should try to practice on more demanding conditions or possibly join one of the leagues in the area that puts out a more challenging condition.

◆ *Send Questions to Cheryl Daniels, P.O. Box 252, Novi, MI 48376 or e-mail me at "shebe@freeway.net" or visit www.cheryldaniels.com.*



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Budweiser MMBA Match Game at Wayne Bowl First 'Major' of Year

• WAYNE BOWL will be the host for the Budweiser Michigan Majors Bowling Association's first Major of the year on April 20th — our Match Game Championship. The Match Game Championship is the

first leg of the MMBA triple crown and features a different format than our other tournaments. Qualifying is still the same, each bowler will bowl six games. After qualifying has been completed the top 32 (or 16

depending on the number of entries) will bowl single-elimination, head-to-head matches against an opponent until a winner is crowned. Each head-to-head match will be a best two-out-of-three games with the exception of the title match, which will be a best three-out-of-five games.



By KEN WYATT

*Executive Director,
Michigan Majors
Bowling Association*

Ken Wyatt, three games to one, in last year's title match.
* * *

• THE COST to join the Michigan Majors is \$60 annually. The MMBA operates on these dues during the year. All entry fees are returned, paid out in prize money by the end of the year.

The cost for each tournament is \$85 with the exception of our three majors: the Match Game in April (\$100), the Championship Tournament in November (\$105) and the Tournament of Champions in December (\$100). This year's Match Game will pay a guaranteed \$1,500 for first place.

If you have not been a member within the past five years, you may bowl three tournaments a year as a non-member. The cost for non-members is an additional \$10 per tournament.

Those interested in joining the MMBA, please contact the tournament office at 33127 Monticello Dr., Sterling Heights, MI 48312; by phone (586) 871-7651, or visit our web site at www.michiganmajors.com.

Weber Tops PBA Tournament of Champions

(Continued from Page 1)

day was his 37th, tying him for third place on the PBA all-time titles list with Norm Duke, behind Walter Ray Williams Jr. (47) and Anthony (43).

Belmonte eliminated defending champion Sean Rash of Montgomery, Ill., 229-171, in the semifinal match. Belmonte started with five strikes while Rash threw only one strike in his first six frames. When Belmonte left the 1-2-4-6-10 in the eighth frame and failed to convert, he gave Rash a glimmer of hope, but Rash was unable to close the gap.

In the second match, Rash followed a first-frame spare with five strikes to build a 34-pin lead over Tommy Jones of Simpsonville, S.C., after Jones left and failed to convert the 3-4-6-7-10 split in his second frame. Despite striking on eight of his last nine shot, Jones was unable to overcome his early mistake against Rash's error-free game.

Jones started the stepladder finals with a 217-189 victory over Finland's two-handed star, Osku Palermaa. Jones had a double in the second and third frames which gave him the lead and Palermaa, unable to double the entire game, couldn't catch up.

DETROIT ALL-STAR CLASSIC

Storm Products/Thunderbowl Storms to the Spring Season Title

• THE DETROIT All-Star Classic, into its 78th season of competition, watched Storm Products/Thunderbowl Lanes literally "storm" to the Spring Season title by rocking Plaza Lanes in Plymouth to the tune of a 3744 series led by George Juszcyk with 300 in 836. He had plenty of support from teammate Craig Nidiffer, who stroked 300 in 815.

Tim Bishop 728 and Scott Jones with 712 also helped as they won two out of three games from Ansara's Restaurant Group to take the Spring Season Championship by one point. Ansara's battled mightily, winning the second game to force a winner take all in the final game. Ansara's had plenty of help with Chris Nielson 766, and Steve Mrakitsch 750. Also chipping in was Abed Daher 728 and Kevin Trumbull 704.

Plaza Lanes, who coasted to the Winter Season championship, made it interesting by taking all three games from Red Robin Restaurants/Sunnybrook Lanes to finish in a tie for second place, also just one point back of Storm. Plaza was led by Mitch Jabczynski 300 in 759, Nick Wissinger 300 in 701, as well as Steady Eddie Grace 719 and Dave Tulak 727.

Plaza Lanes took overall points for the entire season so they will be the No. 1 seed heading into the John P. Gavie Cup Roll-Offs, which will commence over three nights at three different bowling centers starting on Tuesday, April 23 at Plaza Lanes with a 7 p.m. start time.

Cozy Inn won two points from 2 Booli/Maximum Potential Pro Shop behind sharp-shooting Greg Gumtow. The big guy rocked in a 748 set. Jon Murphy added 738. 2 Booli was paced by Jeff Edwards 748. Jeff is counting the days as he waits to become a father for the first time.

Columbia 300/Eastown Printing took two of three from Eastridge Insurance behind Dan McLalin 756 and Kirk Sauro 725. Scot Woodward led Eastridge with a fine 740 series. Columbia 300/Eastown Printing had the unfortunate bad luck by finishing in sixth place both halves but failed to make the six-team Cup roll offs due to the last-place finish to the first-place finish that Storm/Thunderbowl lanes performed.

There were some big scores the previous week turned in at Oak Lanes. Adam Jablonski led the night with 781, followed by Jeff Edwards 759, Derek Thompson 748, Abed Daher 747, Ronnie Sparks Jr. 739, George Juszcyk 730, Paul Dalton 727, Jeff Hicks 726, Steve Mrakitsch 721 and Dan McLalin 711.

As mentioned above, after a week off the All-Stars top six teams will compete in a three-night roll-off to determine the winner of the John P. Gavie Cup. The roll-offs will be Tuesday, April 23 at Plaza Lanes, Wednesday, April 24 at Sunnybrook Lanes and Thursday, April 25 at Thunderbowl Lanes.

All three nights the start time is 7 p.m. The top six teams in order of seeding are Plaza Lanes, Ansara's Restaurant Group, Cozy Inn, Red Robin/Sunnybrook, Storm Products/Thunderbowl Lanes, and 2 Booli/Maximum Potential Pro Shop.

— Art Schroeder, Secretary, Detroit Traveling All-Star Classic

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- Adult PBA Doubles at 7:00 p.m. • \$14 Per Person

TUESDAY (Starts May 7th)

- Ladies Night Out Trio at 7:00 p.m. • \$13 Per Person
- Tuesday Men's Classic Trio at 7:00 p.m. • \$15 Per Person

WEDNESDAY (Starts May 8th)

- Senior Mixed at 12:30 p.m. • \$12 Per Person
- Youth Scholarship Trio at 7:00 p.m. • \$13 Per Person
- Parent-Youth League at 7:00 p.m. • \$10 Per Person

THURSDAY (Starts May 9th)

- Summer Swingers at 7:00 p.m. • \$14 Per Person

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'Everyone Gets to Play' in Youth Programs

Everyone gets to play.

That should be the theme put forth over and over again whenever discussions of the merits of youth bowling enters any conversation. It is one of bowling's greatest assets and advantage over other sports.

Talk shows devote hours to the subject of how to come up with ways to guarantee that every youngster gets to play. There are all kinds of special rules in youth baseball, football, basketball, soccer and other sports aimed at solving the problem.

In some baseball and softball leagues up to 15 kids are allowed to come to bat whether they are in the lineup or not. In various youth sports there are mandates that insure that every kid gets his playing minute minimum. Getting to play is the problem for the young players, their parents, the

coaches, and the sports. It also has been proposed in some areas that no score be kept, and the end of winning and losing.

How silly can you get. In sports and in life there are winners and losers, and win or lose, there is learning.

Many sports have invested millions into developing interest in their sport among youngsters. That isn't meant simply to create future stars but also to create players and fans.

Bowling is woefully weak in the spending department and too many junior programs and school organizations from preschool through college suffer. Bowling can be expensive for youngsters and their families. Young bowlers should not be viewed merely as a possible source of current income, but as the lifeblood of the sport in

pumping new life forever and ever. And it is vital for every organization in bowling to fully recognize that fact of bowling life.

Bowling's biggest plus with youngsters is that everyone gets to play, not in a forced way, but in a full participatory status. Junior bowlers can be classed according to average. Leagues can have two, three or more on a team, and there is always room for one more. And they all get to play. And they all get to know how they did as individuals or as team members.

Boys learn early that girls can bowl well too, and they don't feel nearly as bad as their elders or their counterparts in other sports when they get bowled over by a female. Another plus for youth bowling is that boys and girls get to know each other better in various competitive as well as social situations.

Parents almost dread going to a sporting contest when their children are border play-



By CHUCK PEZZANO

Bowling Hall-of-Famer and Nationally Syndicated Columnist

ers, good enough to play, but not good enough to be a sure thing. Parents of young league bowlers know their youngsters will be in action, no matter how well they shoot, and parents know the kids will be in a classified situation that is either competitive or is aided by a handicap procedure that makes for some semblance of equality, regardless of ability.

Bowling is fortunate that it is a sport that can handle differences in age, size or ability in probably the fairest manner of any sport. But bowling should be shouting from the rooftops to youngsters and parents and adults and educators that this is the rarest of sports, the sport everyone gets to play in a meaningful way.

Those kids who start bowling at two or three years of age with bumper bowling, can still be bowling decades, and even a century later, and the same will apply, everyone gets to play.



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