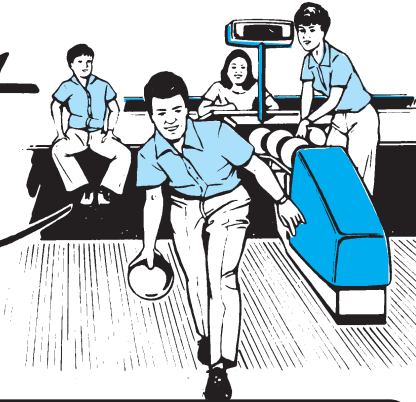


CHECK OUT 'TIPS FROM THE PROS' — PAGE 8

BOWLER'S Digest

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



VOL. 36, NO. 21

Detroit, Michigan — Published Every Other Wednesday

JUNE 1, 2012

First Season of Metro Detroit USBC 'Women's Series' Rousing Success

By MARK MARTIN
Metro Detroit USBC

The first season concluded successfully with an invitation-only event at the Detroit Athletic Club for the Metro Detroit USBC Association (MDUSBC) Rip 10 En-

tertainment Women's Series, presented by Blumark.

The series began after extensive surveying of prospective participants to find the right mix for competitive women's bowling in Michigan. Surveys showed that a one-day event on Sundays that

would conclude in less than five hours, for a reasonable price was the benchmark. With this information the Metro Detroit USBC/Rip 10 Women's Series was created.

The events would include an entry fee of \$35, four games of qualifying, single-game, single-elimination match play to determine a winner, an advancement ratio of one in three and points

awarded to each participant based on event finish for a season-long "Cup" prize list.

In the inaugural season each event paid a first place prize of \$500 and a minimum prize of \$50 for those bowlers who advanced to match play.

Due to the support of the sponsors more money was paid out in each event than was collected in
(Continued on Page 4)

IN THE NEWS

Lundquist Hangs on to Win PBA Regional Players Championship-East

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Jason Lundquist of Groveport, Ohio, pulled out every escape trick in his bag Sunday to win the Professional Bowlers Association's Regional Players Championship-East at Columbus Western Bowl by nine pins over Jason Sterner of McDonough, Ga.

Lundquist converted two difficult splits — a 2-6-7 in the sixth frame and a 2-4-6-10 in the 10th — to finish with a 212 game and an 18-game total of 4,146 pins. Needing a strike to win, Sterner left a solid 10-pin in his final frame, finishing with a 258 and a 4,137 pinfall total.

The Regional Players Championship employed a unique format. After Saturday's opening eight-game round, 32 players advanced to Sunday's finals. After another four games, the field was cut to the top 16. An addition three-game round cut the field to eight, and then a two-game round trimmed those eight to four players, who bowled a one-game final round for a total of 18 games.

In addition to his fourth PBA Regional victory, Lundquist earned a \$6,000 first prize.

Sean Rash Wins '11-12 PBA 'Player of the Year' Award

CHICAGO — Sean Rash of Montgomery, Ill., was named as 2011-12 Professional Bowlers Association Chris Schenkel Player of the Year, concluding one of the most competitive Player of the Year contests in years.

Rash, who made a record five-consecutive television finals during the 2011 PBA World Series of Bowling and concluded his season with a victory in the PBA Tournament of Champions, was elected over a field of 11 eligible candidates in balloting conducted among his fellow PBA Tour competitors and veteran members of the bowling news media.

In the end, Rash received



Sean Rash

29.04 percent of the Player of the Year votes, Australia's Jason Belmonte 26.61 percent and Mike Fagan of Dallas 18.32 percent in the closest voting contest in years. Pete Weber of St. Ann, Mo., received 11.89 percent and Norm Duke of Clermont, Fla.,

10.23 percent to round out the top five vote-getters.

The announcement was made live on PBA's Xtra Frame online bowling channel as a special kickoff to the made-for-television PBA Summer Shootout special event at 10-pin Bowling Lounge in Chicago.

During the 2011-12 PBA Tour season, Rash, a 29-year-old right-
(Continued on Page 7)

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Detroit Area to Host 2013 Youth Events

The Detroit area will play host to bowling's biggest youth tournaments in 2013, the North Pointe Junior Gold Championships and the United States Bowling Congress Youth Open Championships.

The North Pointe Junior Gold Championships will take place at Sunnybrook Lanes and Sterling Lanes, both in Sterling Heights, and AMF Rose Bowl in Roseville from July 13-19, 2013.

All three sites will host qualifying rounds with the match-play rounds of the tournament taking place at Sunnybrook Lanes, which will serve as the host center.

Sterling Lanes will be the site for the USBC Youth Open Championships, scheduled for July 11-28, 2013.

The Detroit area last played host to the events in 2008.

The North Pointe Junior Gold Championships was created in 2011 by the merger of the USBC Junior Gold Championships and the BPAA North Pointe High School Singles Championships into one event.

Go to BOWL.com/juniorgold to learn more about the tournament and the North Pointe Junior Gold program.

YAHOO!

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Annie's Mixed Team Tournament

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WHERE TO FIND IT

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

• **CONTINENTAL LANES**, 31055 Gratiot, Roseville. Cosmic Glow Bowling. By the hour, up to 5 people on a lane. \$15 one hour, \$25 two hours, \$32 three hours. Friday 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. and Saturday 9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Call (586) 293-2300.

• **IMPERIAL LANES**, 44650 Garfield, Clinton Twp. "Best Cosmic Show" with two giant video screens. Every Friday and Saturday night at 8 p.m. at \$18 an hour per lane. Saturday daytime from 12 noon to 4 p.m. at \$2.75 per game. Call (586) 286-8700.

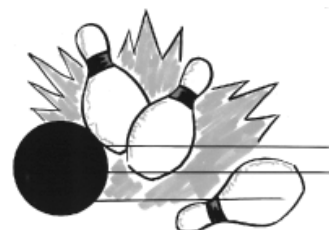
• **THUNDERBOWL LANES**, 4200 Allen Rd., Allen Park. "Cosmic Bowling" is available on Friday and Saturday nights. Cosmic pricing includes 3 hours of bowling, unlimited FREE arcade play and music videos on large screen TVs. Sessions start at 10 p.m. The price is \$15 per person plus \$3 for shoes. For 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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Metro Detroit USBC Awards Reception at DeCarlo's June 19

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



- THE METRO Detroit USBC Association will conduct their adult awards ceremony at DeCarlo's Banquet Center on Tuesday, June 19.

Dinner will be served first, buffet style,

JOIN A
SUMMER
LEAGUE

from 5:30 until 7 p.m. followed by the awards presentations.

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

EVENT LOCATIONS FOR 2012-2013 SEASON

- THE 2012-2013 season promises to be very busy with 11 tournaments on the schedule. Bowling tournaments can be very rewarding so you should plan your schedule around some of our events.

The MDUSBC Adult / Youth Tournament will be held Sunday, Oct. 7 and Oct. 14 with two squads each day at Universal Lanes in Warren. Parents, this is a great opportunity to do something with your kids.

The MDUSBC Junior Masters will be contested Saturday, Oct. 27 at Classic Lanes in Rochester Hills. If you are a youth bowler, why not step up to the challenge and bowl against the best in our association in this scratch event?

For those over the age of 60, the

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

- EFFECTIVE JUNE 11 the MDUSBC office hours for the summer will be Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. The office will be closed on Wednesday.

MDUSBC Super Senior Masters will take place Nov. 3-4 at Mayflower Lanes in Redford. This scratch event is open to all members of the association 60 years of age and older.

The ever popular MDUSBC Queens will be held on Sunday, Dec. 2 at Universal Lanes in Warren. This scratch event features the best female bowlers in the association with six games of qualifying and match play.

The MDUSBC 500 Club tournament is a fun time for women bowlers in our association and will take place on Sunday, Dec. 9 at 300 Bowl in Waterford. The only requirement is that the female bowler must have bowled a 500 series in her lifetime and be ready to have a good time.

Once the calendar turns over to 2013, the action really heats up.

The MDUSBC Youth City Tournament will take place on Sundays in January and February at Cherry Hill Lanes in Dearborn Heights.

One of the premier events in our association will be held in January, when the MDUSBC Masters is held at Thunderbowl Lanes in Allen Park. This event runs two weekends with 10 games of qualifying on the first weekend and match play the sec-

ond weekend. This is an event that every top bowler in our association points to and wants on their resume.

Once the calendar turns to February, it's time for the MDUSBC Women's Championship and MDUSBC Open Championship. These two events will once again be held at the same center, Bowl One Lanes in Troy, at the same time. Get your reservations and entries in early to make sure you don't get shut out.

The MDUSBC Senior Masters is open to all association bowlers 50 years of age and older in mid February. The site this year will be Parkway Lanes in Trenton. One day of qualifying is followed by two days of match play to crown the champion.

The final event of the season is the MDUSBC Senior Team event. Bronco Lanes in Warren will be the host in March. This team event is open to all USBC members over the age of 55 and promises to be fun filled.

Thanks to Turbo 2-N-1 Grips for sponsoring the Junior Masters, Super Senior Masters, Queens, Masters and Senior Masters. Red Robin Restaurants and Ansara Restaurants sponsor the Masters and Senior Masters. Their support is very much appreciated.

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First Season of Metro Detroit USBC 'Women's Series' Rousing Success

(Continued from Page 3)

entry fees. The sponsors were Blumark, Rip 10 Entertainment, Metro Detroit USBC Association, Brunswick, Columbia 300, Track, Ebonite, Storm, Roto-Grip and Innes & Lotito.

A season ending invitation-only event was held at the Detroit Athletic Club for the bowlers who placed in the top 16 in the points list.

Shelby Lanes in Utica and Van Dyke Bowl in Sterling Heights, part of the Rip 10 Entertainment company, hosted the events and will continue their hosting in the 2012-13 season.

In the seven events, including the Invitational, there were six different champions and the winner of the season-long "Cup" race didn't win an event. The race was tight all year with the final spots coming down to the final regular event.

Champions in the first season were Julie Oczepek of Reese, two-time winner Erin Williams of Warren, Elaine Wright of Eaton Rapids, Robin Orlikowski of Grand Rapids, Michelle Ewald of Clinton Township and Michelle Keirns of Holt in the Invitational. The "Cup" champion was Lisa Bishop of Belleville, which was worth \$1,000 thanks to the sponsors. Fourteen others shared in the total of \$3,000 "Cup" prize list.

* * *

• THE 2012-13 season schedule has been released with the following dates: Oct. 14, 2012; Nov. 11, 2012; Jan. 13, 2013; March 10, 2013; April 7, 2013 and May 5, 2013.

Hamtramck Singles, Annie's Leaders

• CURRENT LEADERS of the Hamtramck Singles Classic at Hazel Park Bowl and the Annie's Mixed Team Tournament at Wayne Bowl:

Hamtramck Singles Classic at Hazel Park Bowl

Singles — Richard E. Haist (Livonia) 1,099, David Auria (Perryopolis, Pa.) 1,091, George Atkinson Jr. (White Lake) 1,090, Brian Waliczek (Birch Run) 1,083, Matthew Knox (Warren) 1,082, Donn Richardson Jr. (Dearborn Heights) 1,079, Gregory T. Nash Jr. (Chicago, Ill.) 1,070, Brian Thompson (Flat Rock) 1,061, Victor Garabedian (Fort Wayne, Ind.) 1,058, Bill Eggett (Macomb Twp.) 1,051.

Doubles — Ronald Bradley Jr., (1,033)/William Oatman (1,029) 2,062, Joseph Gonda (965)/David Auria (1,091) 2,056, Brandon Suddarth (995)/ Victor Garabedian (1,058) 2,053, Michael Hazy (954)/David Auria (1,091) 2,045, Parris Faulkner (973)/Gregory T. Nash Jr. (1,070) 2,043, Cleveland L. Bassett (1,017)/Gregory T. Nash, Jr. (1,020) 2,037, Jeffrey Seich (943)/ David Auria (1,091) 2,034, Juan L. Thomas (1,015)/William Oatman (1,014) 2,029, Bobby Nunn (958)/Gregory T. Nash Jr. (1,070) 2,028, Bill Bush (924)/David Auria (1,091) 2,015.

Ladies — Abigail Rospierski 956, Jan Schmidt 954, Tracy Donley 950, Christine Pickens 949, Carrie Jakubiec 946, Kenva Calloway 932, Janis Dickerson 930, Helene Bailey 925, Lula G. Jones 922, Marissa Emerson 918.

Seniors — George Atkinson Jr. 1,090, Matthew Knox 1,082, Tim Radtke 1,034, Chuck Kaczurak 1,021, Ken Wyatt 1,014, Gregory Lewis Sr. 1,011, Daniel A. Wagner 992, Bobbie J. Lowery 990, Julius Bierkamp 970, Cesar Rastelli 969.

Annie's Mixed Team Tournament at Wayne Bowl

Team Leaders — Coyote Charters 3109, Boneyard Crew No. 5 3085, Grey Goose 3049, Meadow Brook Knights 3004, Spares Count 2973, Low to cash 2836.

Mixed Doubles — J. Schmidt/K. Plummer 1528, Webb/Sparks 1516, B. Garcia/K. Plummer 1508, Barton/Lawrence 1497, J. Schmidt/R. Thomas 1493, Low to cash 1453.

Scratch Doubles — B. Reeves/J. Thomas 1547, B. Odum/R. Sparks 1535, B. Odum/C. McLeod 1508, S. Sterbenz/A. Conley 1508, K. Rogers/R. Sparks 1493, Low to cash 1434.

Handicap Doubles — R. Green - M. Green 1653, R. Thomas - D. Armstrong 1616, J. Thomas - B. Reeves 1613, Marshall - R. Green 1610, R. Green - Holman 1605, Low to cash 1508.

Scratch Singles — James Thomas 825, Ken Rogers 785, Duane Henderson 762, Frank Camilleri 757, Mike Lucente 755, Low to cash 722.

Handicap Singles — James Thomas 834, D. Armstrong 808, K. Plummer 808, R. Thomas 808, Paul Elliott 800, Low to cash 767.

New this year... Handicap is 80% from 230, which will add an additional 8 pins per game (32 pins per set) to your score versus previous years where the handicap was 80% from 220

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Welcome Back! BOWLERS During the months of January & February, bowlers who haven't bowled in the HSC tournament in the last five years and bowl the highest 4 game score with handicap for the month will win \$500.00. The prize will be paid out at the end of each qualifying month.
\$500 **FIRST TIMERS** During the months of January & February, bowlers who have never bowled in the HSC tournament and bowl the highest 4 game score with handicap for the month will win \$500.00. The prize will be paid out at the end of each qualifying month.

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*** 2012 HSC entry form and complete rules on reverse side ***

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• LAST MONTH, I went with my three teams to the USBC Women's Championships in Reno. It was a special one for me, as I was competing in my 30th national tournament!

For those who have never competed in a national tournament, all bowlers have to report to a squad room prior to bowling. Staff gives instructions for the tournaments, pictures are taken, and bowlers can enter side jackpots and brackets in the room. Presentations are then made to bowlers who have competed in 25 or more tournaments. I was so proud to receive my 30-year plaque this year, along with my teammate Linda Prill who received her patch for 31 years.

Earlier in the month and in a previous edition of this paper, Dorothy Thompson, Detroit and Michigan Hall of Famer, received her award for 50 years! There is a goal for me, I am thinking.

So as I sat in the squad room, I thought about these past 30 years and tournaments. I am been to so many places because of bowling in the tournaments and attending the conventions. I remember when I bowled in Toledo, I was on a team with three ladies in the Hall of Fame and at that time, they were competing in their 40-plus tournaments! I remember thinking at the time... there is no way!

But I remember a tear coming to my eyes (I know, shocking, me cry) as I stood

there so proud of them and wondered how long they will be able to keep going. Well, those amazing ladies were Agnes Ekstrom, Dorothy Aldred and Connie Powers. All have completed their "final frame" but that memory stays with me and motivates me to continue as long as I possibly can.

Also, as I looked around the squad room, I noticed a few "younger" teams competing. This is a very good thing to see. As most tournament bowlers are fighting "Reno Fatigue," we need to find a way to get bowlers who have never bowled in Reno or any national tournament to try it.

We need to explain that it isn't just for the elite athletes, there are divisions and currently

there is handicap in the women's tournament. Only 1-3% of all USBC bowlers compete in our tournaments, and I am sure that is true of local and state tournaments as well. We need to get the bowlers to try it, and then make sure they have a good experience so they will come back.

Yes, I too would love to visit different places for the tournament as well, but some-

times it is just the company you keep. One of my teammates, Renita Merritt, now lives in Atlanta, Georgia. So we get to catch up and it was so good to see her. Another friend and bowler on my teams, Mary Sue Gaffke has moved to Kansas, but still bowls on one of our teams.

My teams always elect to bowl with other teams, not each other. We bowled with some wonderful gals from Kansas who had been up for 36 hours due to airline issues, bowled their doubles and singles at 2 p.m., then were crossing with us at 6 p.m. and then were

(Continued on Page 8)

NEW JERSEY BOWLER MAKES TOURNAMENT DEBUT AT 81

RENO, Nev. — Like thousands of bowlers before her at the United States Bowling Congress Women's Championships, Dorothy Taylor of Neptune, N.J., laced up her shoes and took to the lanes for her first tournament appearance at the National Bowling Stadium this year. She separated herself from the group by making her inaugural march down Center Aisle at 81 years old.

Although she's been active in the sport for nearly 50 years and has bowled in countless city and state tournaments, Taylor had reservations about competing at the USBC Women's Championships throughout the years.

"My daughter got me to bowl," said Taylor, who bowls regularly at Neptune's Shore Lanes. "I had wanted to go before, but thought I wasn't good enough. I did other tournaments and was just comfortable staying close to home. I really enjoyed this. Everyone was so nice, and it was fun."

Even though the 2012 event marked her tournament debut, Taylor is no stranger to the championships atmosphere. She has traveled with her family to both the USBC Open and Women's Championships and enjoyed the chance to experience some of the tournament traditions she had only seen in the past.

"Walking down Center Aisle was great," Taylor said. "I used to watch my late husband when he bowled, and I couldn't wait to get a picture of him walking down, and now I've done it. When I watched, I was always waiting for my turn. Here, I actually had my turn, and I did it. I never thought I would. I've come a long way, and I'm thankful for the opportunity."

Taylor finished off her first Women's Championships appearance with a 453 series in team, 430 in doubles and 422 in singles for a 1,305 all-events total in the Sapphire Division. All scores include handicap.



Dorothy Taylor



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Lane Conditions Go Through Several 'Transitions'

TIPS FROM THE PROS



By CHERYL DANIELS

Member of the Professional Women's Bowling Association

• IF YOU are a bowler who takes too long to make adjustments then you should spend some of your practice just working on reading the lanes and making adjustments.

In a three to six-game practice session you will see the lane conditions go through several transitions. The longer you practice, the more changes you will notice.

When you practice alone you will break the lanes down differently than when in competition. When bowling with others the equipment they use and the area of the lane

that they play will effect how the lanes break down and how rapidly.

Bowlers using dull and very aggressive coverstocks will break the lanes down more quickly. When following lower average bowlers who use plastic equipment, the lanes will play very differently than when following higher average bowlers using resin and particle covers.

Plastic bowling balls will push the oil down the lane like a broom, they do not pick up or absorb oil because their coverstocks are not porous enough to pick up any oil. What results is less "backend" and the lane condition will react like a longer oil pattern.

When practicing on freshly oiled lanes take at least one semi-dull coverstock and one pearlized coverstock and line up to hit the pocket with each ball. Write down or remember what board you stand on with each ball.

When practicing with the duller ball notice how many shots go by before you have to make a move to stay in the pocket. When practicing with the pearlized ball repeat the same thing. I suggest you make an immediate move left once your ball hits high in the pocket even if you leave a 4-pin or 4-7 spare leave.

You must start to anticipate what the lanes are going to do next. Start with a one board move left without changing your target and see if that will get you back into the pocket. A

duller coverstock will require you to move more frequently when playing in an area of the lane where there is more lane friction.

Sometimes choosing to play deeper inside with a duller ball and where there is a heavier concentration of oil will allow you to move less frequently and allow you more margin for error. If you choose the pearlized coverstock you will need to play in a higher friction area of the lane, usually further to the right to get the ball to read the pattern soon enough.

Depending on your style of play this may be a better way of attacking the condition because you may be able to play in this area longer without having to move as frequently. In other words there is usually more than one way to attack a condition using different equipment and different angles.

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

Rash Wins PBA 'Player of the Year'

(Continued from Page 1)

hander, won the season-ending PBA Tournament of Champions for his only title, but had six championship round finishes, including third place in the PBA World Championship. Qualifying for a record five consecutive TV finals during the World Series of Bowling helped the Alaska native dominate PBA Tour stats where he finish first in average, points and earnings.

"We all had great seasons, but I think winning the TOC put a stamp on it," Rash said. "I'm a stats guy. When I voted in the past, I voted by the numbers. They don't lie. If one of those guys had won the TOC, he would have got my vote.

"I felt a big sign of relief," he said of the moment PBA Commissioner Tom Clark announced his win. "It meant a lot to have the waiting finally over.

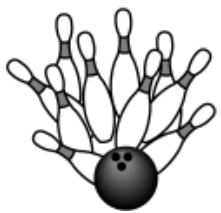
"Jason and Mike and I have bowled in 15 different countries during the past year. We travel around the world to stay sharp," Rash added. "You take a lot of satisfaction after all of the travel, the practice, the sacrifices you make. We've made each other better."

Belmonte, a 28-year-old two-handed player, won three titles, had championship round finishes, finished third in average and second in both points and earnings. Belmonte also finished third in the U.S. Open and Tournament of Champions, fourth in the PBA World Championship and ninth in the USBC Masters.

Fagan, a 31-year-old right-hander, won the Alka-Seltzer Plus Liquid Gels USBC Masters for his first major title and he won the Brunswick Euro Challenge in Paris, France. The Long Island, N.Y., native had three additional championship round finishes including second place in the U.S. Open and fourth place in the Tournament of Champions. Statistically, he was second in average, and third in points and earnings.

Also contending in the Player of the Year race were Weber, the 2012 U.S. Open champion, and Duke, three-time winner during the 2011-12 season.

The Chris Schenkel PBA Player of the Year Award is named in honor of the late hall of fame announcer who served as the voice of the PBA on ABC Television for 36 years.



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Craig Nidiffer Wins Fifth Budweiser Michigan Majors Title at Nortel

• CRAIG NIDIFFER let everyone know he has returned by winning his sixth Budweiser Michigan Majors title at Nortel Lanes in Monroe. Nidiffer, the 2011 Bowler of Year, had bowled in only one tournament this year due to an injury. It appears the injury is a thing in the past.



By KEN CHARRETTE
Member of the Greater Detroit Bowling Hall of Fame

Nidiffer got locked into a fight against Jeff Roche, a MMBA Hall of Famer, in the Championship match. The match went down to the final frame, as it should with two champions slugging it out. Roche was up first throwing four strikes in his ninth and 10th frames for a 233 game. Nidiffer calmly stepped up to toss three strikes in his 10th frame for a 236 and the title.

The opening match of the stepladder finals had Ed Burbo defeating Frank Snodgrass, 205-193. Snodgrass, a rookie bowling in his first tournament, was the leading qualifier after six games with a score of 1420. He fell to fifth place after the three-game semi-final.

Burbo went up against another rookie bowling in his first tournament. This time the rookie won. Tim Bishop defeated Burbo, 205-193.

Nidiffer had the semi-final match in hand until a wide-open split gave Bishop new life. Nidiffer rebounded with strikes in his ninth and 10th frames for a 211-202 win.

Nidiffer said, "I was worried that I may



• FROM LEFT: Tournament champion Craig Nidiffer, Nortel Lanes manager Duane Pfund, tournament runner-up Jeff Roche.

never win this year. I'm so happy to get this title. Jeff bowled a great game. It is never easy to win in the Michigan Majors."

• THE FINAL standings at Nortel Lanes: Craig Nidiffer (Trenton) \$1,000, Jeff Roche (Dearborn) \$500, Tim Bishop (Livonia) \$450, Ed Burbo (South Rockwood) \$350, Frank Snodgrass (Roseville) \$400,

James Koss (Brighton) \$200, Abed Daher (Dearborn) \$160, Pete Brown (Holt) \$160, Aaron Lorincz (Saginaw) \$130, J.R. Raymond (Saginaw) \$120, Jeff Edwards (Sterling Hgts.) \$110, Matt Richard (Milan) \$100.

• CONTACT THE tournament office at (586) 775-2414 or go to the official web site at www.michiganmajors.com.

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2012 Schedule

Date	Bowling Center	Time
Feb. 25	300 Bowl - (over/under 50)	12:30
Mar. 24	Bowl One Lanes	12:30
Apr. 14	Cherry Hill Lanes - Mixed	12:30
Sept. 29	Plaza Lanes	12:30
Oct. 13	Pampa Lanes	12:30
Oct. 27	Westland Bowl	12:30
Nov. 24	5 Star Lanes - (over/under 50)	1:00
Dec. 22	Merri Bowl Lanes (Grand Finals)	12:30

All tournaments are without average cap
ALL DATES, CENTERS, AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE IF NEEDED.

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If Every Bowler Brought Along a Friend to Bowl...

• **IDLE** bowling thoughts: The best motto ever used in bowling was the simple one of bring a friend. If every bowler every now and then brought along a friend to bowl, and maybe join or rejoin a league, it wouldn't be long before the bowlers would need more centers.

I happen to live near a mountain, a little one, but one that does have plenty of wild-life. So it's no surprise when you see an animal here or there. But one morning I was up early and there on my lawn, a little lawn, pranced nine large wild turkeys. In less than 20 minutes the gathering had increased to 19. My bowling side of my brain quickly calculated that if I was bowling, those 19 gobblers would have translated into 57 strikes.

Behind every star bowler is an instructor who claims there's a good instructor behind every star bowler. Yet nothing is more exasperating than a bowler who can instruct well, and won't, unless it is a bowler who can't teach, and does.



By CHUCK PEZZANO

Bowling Hall-of-Famer and Nationally Syndicated Columnist

Award programs are important, and after a century of promoting various award programs by various groups for a wide variety of bowlers, care must be taken when awards are eliminated. On the outside most bowlers try not to show emotion when they receive awards, but inside they're bursting with pride. Have you ever visited any bowler's home or business and not seen a trophy, plaque or emblem on display?

Back in 1970 Elvin Mesger was the leader in sanctioned 300 games with 22. He was followed by George Billick with 17, Dick Weber at 16 and Lindy Faragalli with 14. The only difference now is that those numbers were for a career and similar numbers currently posted are for a year.

The determining of a pro or amateur remains confusing. The only sure thing is that if you are a member of the Professional Bowlers Association, you are indeed classified as a pro.

A very palatial estate in New Jersey has

been on sale for a mere \$19.5 million. The impressive digs have practically everything, and if you're a bowler with bucks, the deciding factor could be the two-lane bowling center on the property.

Glad to see the emphasis in bowling is back on the sport side of the game. Over the years, dozens of top bowling writers have endorsed such thinking.

Why do we call it the "foul" line? Why not call it the "fair" line?

It's good to see Doug Kent receive recognition. He's been a very underrated

bowler for most of his long career, except to his opponents.

If you tire of hearing so many problems in the doings of athletes who command mega-buck salaries, take pride in the off-lane activities of top pro bowlers, mostly more giving than taking.

The psychiatrist happily informed his bowler patient that he was now cured. "That's some cure," said that bowler. "When I first came here I was Walter Ray Williams Jr. Now I'm just another nobody bowler."

New Jersey Bowler Makes Tournament Debut at 81

(Continued from Page 5)

getting up the next morning to meet their husbands in Las Vegas for the weekend! Those are die hard bowlers... well, just die hard period!

I also got to see my friends from Salt Lake City who were bowling in the same squad as we were. Anna Green and I have been friends since 1990 and have seen each other nearly every year since then, either at convention, bowling or visiting each other. Bowling is much more than throwing the ball. It is about lifelong experiences and lifelong friends.

So I will continue to bowl as long as God allows it, and I will keep trying to convince bowlers to attend all tournaments at every level because it is a great bowling experience and also a great life experience!

Here's to 31 next year in Reno! Hope to see you there!

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2012 Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Bowling Center</u>	<u>Time</u>
Mar. 3	Sterling Lanes	10 am
Apr. 7	Thunderbowl Lanes	10 am
May 5	Sunnybrook Lanes	10 am
June 2	300 Bowl	10 am
Aug. 4	Plaza lanes	10 am
Sept. 22	Mayflower Lanes	10 am
Oct. 6	Cherry Hill lanes	10 am
Nov. 3	5 Star Lanes	10 am
Dec. 1	Sunnybrook Lanes	12 pm

(Grand Finals)