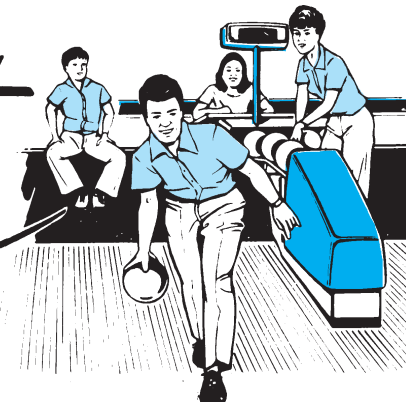


CHECK OUT 'TIPS FROM THE PROS' — PAGE 6

BOWLER'S Digest

Official 'Voice' of Bowling in the Bowling Capital of the World

• Established by Steve Cruchon in 1976 •



VOL. 38, NO. 13

Published Every Month in Southeastern Michigan

JUNE, 2014

DALE STRIKE WINS MICHIGAN STATE SENIOR MASTERS AT CENTURY BOWL

• DALE STRIKE of Saginaw won the sixth annual Michigan State Senior Masters at Century Bowl in Waterford Township when he defeated Harold Sullins of Chesterfield Township, 443-421, in the final two-game total pins match to win the \$2,500 first prize and the title. Sullins settled for the second-place check of \$1,500.

Strike qualified 11th with a six-game total of 1,332 on games of 197, 256, 225, 237, 225 and 192. He remained in the winner's bracket with triumphs over Marvin Holly of Commerce Township, 455-410, Timothy Baker of Shelby Township, 447-428, Mike Raleigh of Clyde, 462-393, and Nick Cipiti of Clinton Township, 436-362, be-

fore losing to Sullins, 481-371.

In the loser's bracket he beat Curtis Odom of Coldwater, 420-418, to advance to the final match where he avenged his earlier defeat to Sullins, 465-398, to extend the match. Strike averaged 223 for the entire tournament. He also wins a paid entry into the 2014 USBC Senior Masters tournament. "This one is for Dad," said an emotional Strike.

Sullins qualified fifth with 1,376. His run in the winner's bracket included wins over Marcus Spigner of Taylor, 451-401, Joseph



STRIKE

Krajenke of Clinton Township, 493-385, Harvey Pallas of Stevensville, 516-397, defending champion Bo Goergen of Sanford, 481-391, and Strike the first time, 481-371. He then lost to Strike, 465-398.

Odom qualified 13th with 1,327. In match play he beat John Nickowski of Southgate, 481-416, before losing to Harvey Pallas, 393-369. In the loser's bracket, he beat William Stewart of Plainwell, 462-411, Larry Walker of Garden City, 471-451, Mike Raleigh, 451-401. (Continued on Page 8)

IN THE NEWS

TNBA Celebrates 75th Anniversary

• THE NATIONAL Bowling Association celebrated its 75th anniversary during its national convention at the Hyatt Regency in Dearborn.

TNBA, which was formed in August 1939 in Detroit to encourage black bowlers to develop their bowling skills, has more than 23,000 adult members and 3,000 youth members in more than 100 local senates throughout the country.

TNBA Week included the inductions of three members into the TNBA Hall of Fame — Jesse L. Fondren, Jimmy Hicks and Ron Holt.

TNBA Week also included the TNBA Annual Convention, which was attended by USBC Interim Executive Director Chad Murphy who addressed the assembly exhibiting enthusiasm for a continued partnership of USBC and TNBA.

"TNBA has many outstanding tournaments and programs that promote and teach the sport of bowling," Murphy said. "It was great to take part in the celebration of TNBA's history and we look forward to continuing the strong relationship between USBC and TNBA."

Go to TNBAinc.org to learn more about the TNBA.

Registration Open for 2015 USBC Women's, Mixed Championships

RENO, Nev. — Registration is open for the 2015 United States Bowling Congress Women's Championships and the new USBC Mixed. Both tournaments will be held at the National Bowling Stadium from April 10-June 30, 2015.

The 2015 USBC Women's Championships will be the 96th edition of the event, and format changes this year created a lot of excitement around the storied tournament. The addition of The Mixed will provide a great opportunity for families and friends to travel and bowl together.

There are great incentives for teams that enter early, especially those thinking ahead and planning to be in Las Vegas in 2016 when the Women's Championships and The Mixed visit the new 60-lane facility at South Point Hotel and Casino for the first time.

The Mixed will utilize the same format and divisions as the Women's Championships and give competitors the same memorable championship experience, including the march down the famed Center Aisle, but with a more laid-back and fun feel.

For more information, visit BOWL.com/WomensChamp or visit BOWL.com/Mixed

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USBC Open Championships Highest Game

The highest team game in 111 years of United States Bowling Congress Open Championships history was rolled by 123Bowl.com of Naugatuck, Conn., who shot 1,299 at the National Bowling Stadium.

Beginning in the second frame, the team rallied for 32 consecutive strikes, and 34 out of 35, before a few bad breaks slowed the pace. The previous record of 1,281 was posted by Turbo 2-N-1 Grips 1 of Madison, Wis. (now 11thFrame.com 1), on the way to the 2011 Regular Team title, also at the NBS.

Ronald Broege Jr. and Thomas Solimine Jr. led the way for 123Bowl.com with a pair of 279 games, and they were joined by Tim Gillick (254), Jeff Voght (244) and Dave Kipperman (243).

"We really didn't think about it until around the fourth or fifth frame when we started to look up and saw a big string of strikes," said Voght, who rolled a perfect game at the 2009 USBC Open Championships in Las Vegas.

"That's something you normally don't see here. We started to talk among ourselves, joking that we didn't want to be the guy who messed up the string."

YAHOO!

You can now e-mail the Bowler's Digest at bowlersdigest@gmail.com

TurboTECH Collegiate Expo

For High School Bowlers
July 9-11 — See Page 6

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.

• **THUNDERBOWL LANES**, 4200 Allen Rd., Allen Park. The 2-hour party includes: bowling, unlimited FREE arcade play, pizza, pop, pa-

per 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 month in leading bowling centers, bowling supply stores, etc., compliments of the proprietors.

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Rick Strobl Editor-in-Chief

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Chuck Pezzano Syndicated Columnist

Cheryl Daniels Tips from the Pros

Ken Wyatt Michigan Majors

HOT LEAGUES FOR 2014-15 SEASON

Friday HSC Classic at Hazel Park Bowl

\$20,000 1st Place (\$5,000 Per Quarter)

\$10,000 2nd Place (\$2,500 Per Quarter)

(Based on 20 teams)

No Individual Average Cap — Team 1125 and Under

33 Week Season Consisting of Four 8-Week Sessions + Playoffs

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Limited Space Available!

Friday Invitational League at Harbor Lanes

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(Based on 20 Teams)

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33 Week Season — 33rd Week is \$4,000 Team Tournament

Handicap - 80% of difference between the teams

Team Entering average capped at 1100 — Individual entering average capped at 225

(Entering average is composite average over last 3 years)

Just \$27 Per Bowler Per Week

Bonus — the league will pay off at end of each quarter

Sponsor fee is \$200 per team to hold your spot

Friday Invitational League at Wayne Bowl

4 on a Team (Any Combo) — \$8,000 1st Place (Quarters)

Just \$20 Per Bowler Per Week • Starts Sept. 5 — Meeting Early August

Team Entering average capped at 840 — Individual entering average capped at 220

(Entering average is composite average over last 3 years)

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Big Changes in Store for 2014-15 Season

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



Two scholarship winners were named. Each will receive a \$1,000 scholarship from MDUSBC. The winners are Ashley Krywy and Ryan Winters. Congratulations to both.

For the Masters, Senior Masters and Super Senior Masters qualifying will be on one squad only. This will create a more equitable condition for all competitors.

The average cap for the Senior Team tournament will be raised to

1125 with handicap based on 100 percent from 1125. Also the entry fee is increased to \$20 per person (\$100 per team) with the additional money put into the prize fund.

In the Women's Championship the age to be eligible for the Senior Handicap All-Events has changed to 50, to be consistent with eligibility for the Senior Queens.

In the MDUSBC Adult/Youth tournament the format will change to a Baker style

• THE METRO Detroit USBC Board recently met and approved the following actions:

John Vorpapel has been elected as MDUSBC President for the next two-year term, effective August 1, 2014.

George Bresinski has been named as Volunteer of the Year and Denise Gunter has been named as Secretary of the Year.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS ANNOUNCED

Effective June 2 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.

format.

The 2015-16 tournament sites have been awarded as follows: Adult/Youth — Parkway Lanes, Junior Masters — Airway Lanes, Super Senior Masters — Garden Bowl, Queens — Hazel Park Bowl, 500 Club — Waterford Lanes, Youth City — Wayne Bowl, Masters — 300 Bowl, Senior Masters — Woodhaven Lanes, Open and Women's Championships — Century Bowl, Senior Team — Pampa Lanes

Just a reminder on the sites for the upcoming 2014-15 season. Adult/Youth — Salt River Lanes, Junior Masters — Indian Lanes, Super Senior Masters — Shelby Lanes, Queens — Ford Lanes, 500 Club — Century Bowl, Youth City — Sunnybrook Lanes, Masters — Shore Lanes, Senior Masters — Airway Lanes, Open and Women's Championships — Sterling Lanes, Senior Team — Thunderbowl Lanes.

tional premium honor score awards program with crystal awards.

The following accomplishments will be recognized with a pen: 200 Game for bowlers averaging 150 and under 500 Series for bowlers averaging 135 and under 600 Series for bowlers averaging 165 and under 700 Series for bowlers averaging 200 and under

A deck of cards will be awarded for those bowlers bowling a game 75 pins over average, while those 100 pins over average in a game will receive a towel.

For those bowling a series 150 pins over average will get a keychain light and those 200 pins over average in a game will be awarded a watch.

(Continued on Page 4)

NEW AWARDS PROGRAM FOR 2014-15

The Metro Detroit USBC has developed a new awards program for the 2014-15 season to include recognition for members of all averages. This will also include an op-

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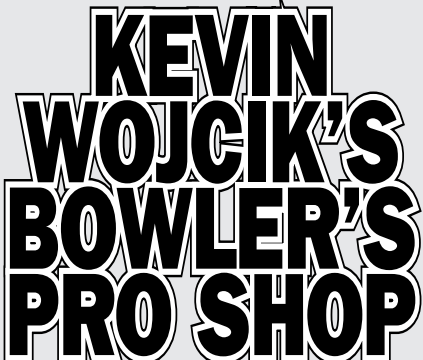

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DEXTER & LIND SHOES IN STOCK

Sean Rash Rolls 300 on Way to PBA Title

SHAWNEE, Okla. — Sean Rash of Montgomery, Ill., started the Professional Bowlers Association Wolf Open with the PBA's 23rd nationally-televised 300 game and continued his strike barrage in winning his eighth career title in the opening event of Oklahoma's Grand Casino Resort PBA Summer Swing at the Grand Event Center.

Rash, the 2011-12 PBA Player of the Year, threw 37 strikes out of a possible 48 attempts in defeating Chris Loschetter, 300-236, Martin Larsen, 225-221, Mike Fagan of Fort Worth, Texas, 241-214, and top qualifier Chris Barnes of Double Oak, Texas, 238-179, in the title match. Rash won \$10,000 plus a \$10,000 bonus for his televised 300 game.

"It seems like forever (since my last title in the U.S.), but it's only been two years since I won the Tournament of Champions," Rash said. "Winning's everything. It doesn't matter if it's in a parking lot in Alaska or wherever."

Rash spoiled Loschetter's 34th birthday when he threw his perfect game at the Avon, Ohio, resident and defending Wolf Open champion in the first match. It was the first nationally-televised perfect game since Barnes threw a 300 game at Rash and Australia's Jason Belmonte in an elimination match in the 2011 PBA Shark Open finals during PBA World Series of Bowling III at South Point in Las Vegas.

In the second match, an unconverted 4-6-7 split by Sweden's Larsen in the sixth frame allowed Rash to stay close, and a 4-pin on Larsen's first shot in the 10th frame gave Rash a chance to win. Working on a strike in the ninth frame, Rash added three more in the 10th frame for a come-from-behind 225-221 victory.

In the semifinal match, Fagan struggled with pin carry, throwing only three strikes in the first eight frames while Rash struck on eight of his first nine shots on his way to a 241-214 victory. In the title match, Rash continued to pound the pocket while Barnes never built any momentum.

- CBS SPORTS Network is available across the country through local cable, video and telco providers and via satellite on DirecTV Channel 221 and Dish Network Channel 158. For more information, including a full programming schedule and how to get CBS Sports Network, go to www.cbssportsnetwork.com.

BIG CHANGES IN STORE FOR 2014-15 SEASON

(Continued from Page 3)

Each of the following will be recognized with a lapel pin: Triplicate series, Step-ladder series, Clean series, Dutch 200 game, All Spare game, 7-10 split conversion, 4-6-7-10 split conversion.

MDUSBC members who purchase a Premium Award upgrade option for an additional \$15 are eligible to earn crystal awards for an 11-in-a-row, 300 game and 800 series (limited to one per season in each category). If a bowler doesn't purchase the upgrade, they can still get the crystal award for \$30 for each honor score achievement.

AVERAGES

- BEGINNING this season the averages to be submitted are the FINAL average of the league. This includes any special contests or playoffs.

League secretaries have been notified of this change.

Additionally league secretaries are requested to submit a copy of the final sheet of the league for our records when filing the final averages.

The cooperation of all is critical to complete this process and make sure the records are accurate.

There are several leagues that have not turned in their final averages in accordance with the requirements of the league secretary. An updated list is posted on www.mdusbc.com.

If you are a bowler in one of these leagues you risk not having your average published in the MDUSBC yearbook because of inaction by your league secretary. Contact your league secretary today to assist in getting these situations resolved.

League secretaries were sent an average request form in late March to report the averages on.

Your help is needed to complete this task. You can help by sending us the final league sheet 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.

AWARDS RECEPTION

- THE METRO Detroit USBC Association will conduct their adult awards ceremony at DeCarlo's Banquet Center on Tuesday, June 17.

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

Tickets are available for \$15 by calling the Association office at (248) 443-2695.



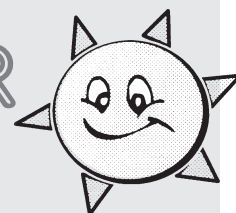
Senior Singles Open

www.ssopen.org

2014 SCHEDULE

DATE	CENTER	TIME
1/25/14	PAMPA LANES	10 AM
2/22/14	ASTRO LANES	10 AM
3/22/14	300 BOWL	10 AM
4/26/14	WAYNE BOWL	10 AM
5/31/14	COUNTRY LANES	10 AM
6/28/14	OAK LANES	10 AM
JULY	STERLING LANES	10 AM
8/23/14	WONDERLAND LANES	10 AM
9/27/14	HAZEL PARK BOWL	10 AM
10/25/14	CHERRY HILL LANES	10 AM
11/22/14	THUNDERBOWL LANES	10 AM
12/6/14	PLAZA LANES (GRAND FINALS)	10 AM

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By MDUSBC Director
Libbi Fletcher

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• I WAS INVITED to Wayne State University's fifth annual "W" Day by Assistant Basketball Coach Karen Lafata, who is also a dear friend.

This day is a celebration of 39 years of women's athletics at Wayne State University in Detroit. Many today do not know that the first woman to compete in an NCAA Championship was WSU diver Dacia Schileru. Much to my surprise and enjoyment, the keynote speaker of the day was Dr. Donna Lopiano, President and founder of Sports Management Resources.

I had the opportunity and pleasure to meet her at the WIBC convention when she was the CEO of the Women's Sports Foundation. She is one of the most influential women in sports who have worked hard to support Title IX for gender equity in sports. She has testified before three Congressional committees on its behalf. In this room filled with incredible female athletes, coaches, parents and supporters of Wayne State athletics, Donna did not disappoint!

She shared inspiration to all asking them to follow their moral compass, be unselfish, have their own voice, have allies and network with others, and trust in your own confidence. She was amazing, as always.

More interesting, I was sitting with an-

other friend of Coach Lafata, Mary Knechtges who had coached with Karen at L'Anse Creuse. I sat there for a time, then finally, I said, "Bowler?" She replied, "No, but you are not the first one who has asked me this question. There was some very good bowler from the Detroit area with this name."

Well, having served with Agnes Ekstrom, Connie Powers, Dorothy Aldred, etc. I knew this name, so thank God for Google.

Doris, being named as Star of Yesteryear, is one of the "all time" greats. Her accomplishments are more than trivial. She was the second woman in the Detroit area to roll a "300" game and the 18th in the nation to accomplish this in sanctioned WIBC competition.

Her series on that eventful evening was 733, slightly less than the 739 she rolled earlier in the 1948-1949 season. She was inducted into the WIBC Hall of Fame in 1983 for Superior Performance. Doris was one of a dozen women to average 190 or better on the WIBC lifetime tournament records. In 1953, Doris became one of four women to claim three titles in WIBC competition — was on the winning B & B Chevrolet Team, won the Doubles with Jane Grudzien, and had a total of 1886 for the All Events. She almost made it in the Singles as just six pins kept her from that title.

Although Mary was from Ohio prior to moving to Detroit, even she had heard of Doris and her accomplishments.

It was a wonderful day of celebration for all of the WSU athletes and their families, which concluded with the women's basketball team's banquet... Sweet 16 for the second year in a row! Congrats to all!

And what does this have to do with bowling, other than Doris' accomplishments? Wayne State is looking to add another sport... and yep, I am praying it will be bowl-



• Metro Detroit USBC Director Libbi Fletcher with Wayne State Assistant Basketball Coach Karen Lafata.

ing. USBC Collegiate Director Gary Brown has provided all of the documentation as to how to start a collegiate program; I have given Coach Lafata as much information as possible as to the pool of talent in our area for players, as well as coaches... some of which graduated from Wayne State!

I have spoken to a few bowling center

owners about a "home base" for the team. I am praying we will soon have Warrior Women bowlers competing in the NCAA tournament!

Good luck to all of the Warrior athletes and many thanks to Karen Lafata for making me a Warrior fan!

Happy Summer Bowling!

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Use Your Summer Break to Improve Your Game

TIPS FROM THE PROS



By **CHERYL DANIELS**

Member of the Professional Women's Bowling Association

• FOR THOSE bowlers who want to improve their bowling skills, summer is the best time to work on your game. Certain types of changes are best done in the sum-

mer and not during the regular bowling season.

Things to work on this summer:

1. Changing from a backup ball to a throwing a hook.
2. Switching from a full-roller to a semi-roller.
3. Going from a four-step approach to a five-step approach or vice versa.
4. Learning how to increase your hook or reduce your hook.
5. Changing from a conventional to a finger tip grip.
6. Bowling in tournament competition.
7. Working with a bowling coach that will help you identify what areas of your game need work. Remember, a good coach will help you reach your goals and push you to the next level.
8. Increasing your bowling arsenal and learn how and when to use different coverstocks.
9. Learning how to use different hand positions and different axis tilts.

10. Switching from a plastic or urethane to a reactive resin or particle coverstock.

These are just examples of things that require quite a bit of practice to become better at. Depending on your skill level you should set goals that will take you to another level.

When you are bowling during the winter season you may be more hesitant to experiment and make major changes because there

is more on the line and you do not want to let your team mates down.

Summertime should be the time that you experiment and not be afraid to try different things.

◆ *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.*

'Junior Gold' Sets Membership Record

ARLINGTON, Texas - The Junior Gold program has set a record for memberships for the 2013-2014 season and the Junior Gold Championships presented by Track, Columbia 300, Ebonite and Hammer could break last year's record for number of participants.

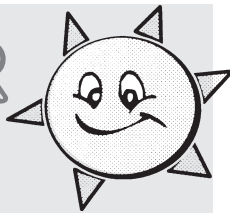
The Junior Gold program recently surpassed the 5,000-memberships barrier for the first time. The membership total shatters the record of 4,376 United States Bowling Congress Youth members who joined the Junior Gold program last season.

"More youth bowlers and parents see the opportunity to earn scholarships and compete against bowlers from throughout the country at the Junior Gold Championships," said Chad Murphy, USBC Interim Executive Director and Managing Director of the International Bowling Campus (IBC) Youth Development. "The continued growth of the program and tournament is a testament to the work being done by youth directors and Junior Gold league and tournament coordinators who understand the value of the program and competitive bowling for youth bowlers."

The 2014 Junior Gold Championships will take place July 12-18 in the Buffalo, N.Y., area. More than 2,600 youth bowlers have qualified for the tournament, which will debut an Under 12 division this year. Last year's tournament drew just more than 2,000 participants.

Go to BOWL.com/JuniorGold to learn more about the Junior Gold program and the Junior Gold Championships.

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Heading to Junior Gold this Summer?

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- >> 2 full days of instruction with world class athletes and instructors including PBA Tour Champions Mike Fagan, Bill O'Neill, Diandra Asbaty and many others.
- >> Get a better understanding of the Mental Game from prominent sports psychologist, Dr. Dean Hinitz. Seminars for students, parents and college coaches.
- >> Other helpful seminars for parents and coaches such as Effective Parenting for Top Performance, Tips on Submitting College Bowling Resumes and the NEW Ball & Surface Technology seminar presented by the brand experts.
- >> Chance to meet college coaches from all over the country.
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Ronnie Sparks Jr. Wins Fifth Michigan Majors Title at Astro Lanes



By KEN WYATT

*Executive Director,
Michigan Majors
Bowling Association*

• The Budweiser Michigan Majors Bowling Association traveled to Astro Lanes in Madison Heights on May 17. This was the first chance to present Ronnie Sparks Jr. of Ecorse his 2013 Bowler of the Year and Rookie of the Year awards since this year's Astro open was Sparks first appearance in 2014.

Sparks won a record-tying four titles in 2013 and continued right where he left off at Astro Lanes, defeating Mike Calvin of Warren, 224-181, for his fifth MMBA title. Sparks, who also led the six-game qualifying round with an impressive score of 1503, received \$1,000 for the win, \$100 for high qualifier, and two beautiful trophies provided by Astro Lanes. Mike Calvin, also bowling in his first event of 2014, settled for \$500 with his second-place finish. The cut score to make the semi-final round was 1357.

The stepladder finals began with fifth seed Kyle King of Sterling Heights facing Toby Sidle of Saginaw. Both players had 10-pin issues, with Sidle leaving five of them on his own throughout the match. King finished on the right lane and needed two strikes and count to win, however, only got one strike, ending his finals appearance with a 223-212 defeat. King received \$175 for his fifth-place finish.

Sidle then met Mason Brantley of Detroit in match No. 2. Two early open frames by Sidle was the story in this match. But Brantley had some carrying issues of his own and still needed to convert a 7-pin in the 10th to shut out Sidle. Brantley did just that going on to win, 219-182. Sidle, looking for his second MMBA title, settled for fourth place and a check for \$200.

Next up for Brantley was Ronnie Sparks Jr. Both players opened early in the match, however, Brantley failed to strike in frames three through eight and Sparks took advantage building a 44-pin lead through eight frames. Sparks went on to win, 223-198. Brantley received a check for \$250 with his

third-place finish.

Sparks then met No. 1 seed Mike Calvin of Warren. Calvin was able to grab the No. 1 seed with an outstanding 770 series in the three-game semi-final round.

Both players opened early, Sparks chopped the 6-9-10 spare in the first and Calvin missed a 10-pin in the third. Sparks then managed a four-bagger, before leaving a pocket 7-10 in the eighth frame. Calvin was unable to take advantage down the stretch and came up short looking for his first MMBA title. Sparks went on to win, 224-181.

Thank yous to Denise Bratolone-Kubat

and event planner Penny Breen of Astro Lanes for their hospitality. As always, a big thank you to our sponsors — Budweiser, General Maintenance and Storm — for sponsoring another successful tournament.

The Michigan Majors Bowling Association will be holding two tournaments in June. June 7th will be our annual Doubles event at Lodge Lanes in Belleville with a starting time of 10 a.m. Also, on June 21st we will be traveling to Five Star Lanes in Sterling Heights. This will be our first annual Shoot-Out tournament. Five Star will be putting out their house lane condition. Starting time will be 10 a.m.

THE FINAL standings at Astro Lanes in Madison Heights:

Ronnie Sparks Jr. (Ecorse) \$1,000, Mike Calvin (Warren) \$500, Mason Brantley (Detroit) \$250, Toby Sidle (Saginaw) \$200, Kyle King (Sterling Heights) \$175, Jeff Roche (Dearborn) \$150, Harry Sullins (Chesterfield Twp.) \$120, Jerry Penxa (Romeo) \$110, Scott Christie (Southgate) \$105, Sara Litteral (Redford) \$100.

For information on participation or joining the Budweiser Michigan Majors, contact the tournament Office at (586) 871-7651 or visit the official website at www.michiganmajor.com.

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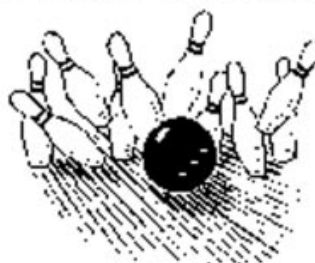
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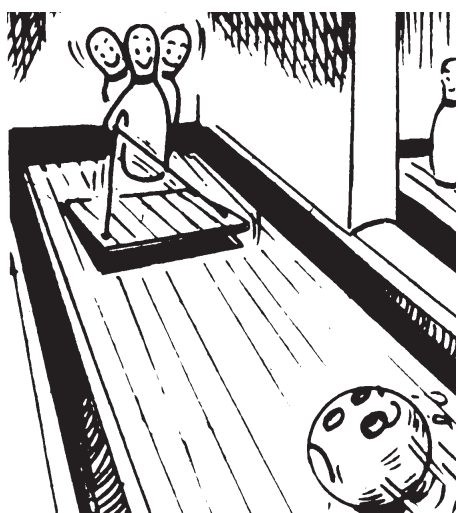
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It Takes Work, Hard Work, to Reach the Top

THERE ARE few, if any bowlers who can't improve their game, and I write that even with the full knowledge that there are bowlers averaging better than 230 and 240 and even higher.

And yet there are many who never rolled

a 240 game, much less attain a 240 average.

And there are many, no matter how many games they roll, no matter how much instruction they take, backing, personal and financial, who can attain professional pro-

iciency.

Pros come in assorted ability. Some have great physical games, others great mental attitude. Most a combination of the various factors that make for a pro in any endeavor. With that goes the hard to rate heart and desire to attempt what is a changing scene a continuing challenge and along shot gamble.

You don't see it but one thing they all have in common is that not a single one arrived there easily and without work, hard work.

You don't inherit bowling ability even though the genes might be there for starters. There are no silver platters full of strikes and spares for the asking or buying. Time, effort, money, personal sacrifice of not only the bowler, but of others close to him or her, family, friends and fans, old and new, all figure in the picture.

At times the chase is more interesting and rewarding than the capture, even when you are fully serious. When you aren't really serious then the talk of the chase is the thing, and oddly, might even bring the same satisfaction as making the try. If you can't do your thing, then you can enjoy talking about



By CHUCK PEZZANO

Bowling Hall-of-Famer and Nationally Syndicated Columnist

why you can't do your thing.

We are all frustrated in some area of life, regardless of how successful we might be in another.

It isn't all bad to suffer some frustration. Then you can better evaluate the high hopes we harbor, the ones that might be dashed should be given the full opportunity to do what we think we can do. If you are never given or able to take a chance, what could have been always remains and you really don't have the answer.

Many who try pro bowling don't make it and had little chance from the start but they did get an answer. We should never knock those who don't make it. They will always outnumber those that do succeed. It comes down to those who try and succeed or fail, but either way they learn that elusive answer.

And they well know that a star pro bowler, those just below and those who on the border line of making it or not are true athletes, worthy of every consideration.

People don't always like to look in mirrors, and at times don't want answers.

Aspiring pro bowlers do look in mirrors and for career answers.

Dale Strike Wins Michigan State Senior Masters at Century Bowl

(Continued from Page 1)

379, Joseph Krajenke, 450-447, Bo Goergen, 411-403, Mitchell Jabczenski Sr. of Novi, 407-403, before falling to Strike, 420-418, to end his day. He averaged 218.6 for 24 games of competition and took home the third-place check of \$1,000.

Jabczenski qualified second with 1,393. He won his first match over Edwin Austreng of Waterford Township, 405-368, before falling to Terry Metzner of Kentwood, 421-393. Once in the loser's bracket he beat Peter Kaczmarczyk of Warren, 446-368, Carney Brink of Midland, 455-368, Michael Lucente of Warren, 396-381, Mark Abraham of Lansing, 435-380, Nick Cipiti, 491-387, and ended his day with a loss to Odom, 407-403. He earned the fourth-place check of \$750, averaging 218.9 for 22 games of competition.

Top qualifier David Schumacher of Bloomfield Hills led qualifying by 67 pins with 1,460. He lost his first two matches to get knocked out of the competition. He took home \$200 and an additional \$100 as high qualifier, averaging 216.1 for 10 games.

Defending champion Bo Goergen was seeded ninth per tournament rule and shot 1,282 in qualifying. He had victories over Brian Senda of Manchester, 407-338, Larry Walker, 473-470, Michael Lucente, 449-387, before falling to the loser's bracket to Sullins, 481-391. He then lost to Odom, 411-403, to finish fifth. In the match against Walker, Goergen was down 53 pins after one game. He then proceeded to bowl 300 to win the match by three pins. He cashed for \$500. He averaged 212.8 for 16 games of tournament competition.

Richard Wayne and David Eatmon of Ferndale recorded the top game during qualifying with a 279. The field of 137 bowlers averaged 196.6 during the six games of qualifying. The top 32 qualifiers averaged 220.7 during qualifying and 203.6 in match play.

Top cashers in Michigan State Senior Masters at Century Bowl in Waterford Township:

Dale Strike (Saginaw) \$2,500, Harold Sullins (Chesterfield) \$1,500, Curtis Odom (Coldwater) \$1,000, Mitchell Jabczenski Sr. (Novi) \$750, James Bo Goergen (Sanford) \$500, Nick Cipiti (Clinton Twp.) \$500, Joseph Krajenke (Clinton Twp.) \$400, Mark Abraham (Lansing) \$400, Michael Raleigh (Clyde) \$300, Harvey Pallas (Stevensville) \$300, Terry Metzner (Kentwood) \$300, Michael Lucente (Warren) \$300.



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