

ALLEN PARK, Mich – It's where Tom Smallwood's Hollywoodesque, and later literal, story began. It's where Jason Belmonte ascended into PBA lore with his 11th career major title, and where Chris Via shot his second televised 300 of the 2021 season. It's even where Osku Palermaa lofted a ball to the moon and still struck.

It, of course, refers to Thunderbowl Lanes in Allen Park, Mich., the site of the 2023 USBC Masters and the third major of the 2023 Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour.

"It's the most historic bowling center in Michigan," said Andrew Anderson, who grew up an hour northwest in Holly.



by Nolan Heghes

No player has had more success at the Masters than Belmonte, who owns the record with four wins. He's also won four times at

EXPANDED PBA COLLEGIATE Championships coming in 2023

by Nolan Heghes

The Wichita State men, champions of last season's first ever PBA Collegiate Invitational, will look to defend their title in 2023. This year's tournament includes more competition, an expanded field and a women's division.

The 2023 PBA Collegiate Championships will take

Thunderbowl, including the 2014 Tournament of Champions and 2019 World Championship.

"It definitely feels like a special event when you walk into the arena bay," Belmonte said. "It doesn't feel like a standard bowling center. It's just different for us players and I think that's one of the reasons why we do love that environment."

Allen Park hosted the first ever World Series of Bowling in 2009, where Smallwood blossomed from local legend to PBA major champion. Though Smallwood officially won the 2009-10 World Championship in Wichita, Kan., every round before the telecast took place at Thunderbowl.

And it seemed like every fan in Michigan was watching, Anderson included.

"I knew of Smallwood (before the World Championship run); we actually only grew up about 40 minutes from each other," Anderson said. "He was always unorthodox. He stood out in the crowd when he bowled. It really wasn't a surprise to those in Michigan who knew Smallwood, but the moment was just so big continued on page 12

TEAM USA ROSTERS TAKE SHAPE AFTER CHAMPS Crowned at 2023 team usa trials, U.S. Amateur

LAS VEGAS - Several names - some new, many familiar - were added to the rosters of Team USA, Junior Team USA and Para Team USA 2023 Saturday night after competition ended at the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Team USA Trials at Gold Coast Bowling Center inside Gold Coast Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas. In all, 63 athletes will various squads on the continued on page 9

by Gene J. Kanak

RESULTS AND INFORMATION



place Feb. 2-3 in Indianapolis. The field will expand to 12 teams, including six men's and six women's teams. The teams were invited and will be seeded based on their ranking in USBC Collegiate's Online Team Ranking System as of Dec. 26, 2022. continued on page 13 Gold Coast Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas. In all, 63 athletes will represent Team USA's various squads on the continued on page 9

Brandon Bohn, Jillian Martin, Breanna Clemmer and Jakob Butturff



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SUELEE SANTERO Leads The Inland Empire Ladies Club (IELC)

by Frank Weiler REDLANDS - SueLee Santero likes EMPIRE

BOWL LANES and EMPIRE BOWL LANES likes SueLee Santero. "THE BEST LIKE THE BEST". Empire Bowl is the best bowling center in Southern California and SueLee Santero is the best senior female bowler in Southern California.

SueLee is the top bowler in the Inland Empire Ladies Club right now. She lives in the present and the present is her time to shine. At the present time the ladies club league is her league. First place is her place.

The IELC standings at the end of 2022 follow:

Place	Name	Peterson Points	Average
1.	SueLee Santero	72.26	182
2.	Lorri Scott	71.06	193
3.	Sarah Hartman	62.58	147
4.	Sherley Bourlan	d 62.26	156
5.	Therese Weiler	60.94	161

The IELC Scoring Average Leaders:

	Lo oconing Average	Leader
1.	Lorri Scott	193
2.	SueLee Santero	182
3.	Stephanie White	169
4.	Victoria Fox	168
5.	Janice Riley	162

High Scratch Series: Lorri Scott 843 High Scratch Game: SueLee Santer 248 High Handicap Series: Therese Weiler 879 High Handicap Game: Carolann Williams 274

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ROXANNE BERCH Leads The Women of The NFL **Clubhouse League**

by Frank Weiler

REDLANDS - With the new Kegel Lane Machine cleaning the backends like never before, Empire Bowl scores are down across the board. Even BIG BERTHA would probably struggle to meet her expectations bowling here. Most of our "league rats" and social bowlers are feeling the pinch. Few have been free of low scores and frustration. ROXANNE BERCH is one of the few bowlers who continue to score while others continue to struggle.

Roxanne is one of the top female bowlers currently bowling at Empire Bowl. She currently has the High Average among the NFL CLUBHOUSE LEAGUE female bowlers and has rolled some of the highest league scores.

The TOP 5 league female bowlers follow:

1.	Roxanne Berch	178 Avera	ige
2.	Anissa Cassidy	177	•
3.	Michelle Quintana	176.7	
4.	Meghann Aynsley	176.5	
5.	Kayli Peterson	175	

HIGH GAMES so far:

256
247
234

HIGH SERIES so far:

Anissa Cassidy	649
Kayli Peterson	634
Meghann Aynsley	621

Great bowling ladies. You are proof that "CALI-FORNIA BOWLERS ARE THE BEST BOWLERS IN THE WORLD".



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Who Reads California Bowling News? Tom Knapp of Minnesota, That's Who! Tom is shown here with grand children Kaylee (left) and Everett on the right. (Photo by Evelyn, Tom's wife of 46 years)

The Hall Of Fame Called... For Leila Wagner

A few weeks ago, I penned consecutive articles that shared a lot of information about Leila Wagner, a professional bowler, clinician, television analyst and announcer that deserves to be in both the USBC and PWBA Halls of Fame for her body of work on and off the lanes. She had it all... the charm, the determination, and the good looks to go with a respectable bowling career, as well as a legendary career as color analyst alongside Denny Schreiner on the women's television broadcasts.

Well, guess what? The Professional Women's Bowling Association (PWBA) gave Leila a call (actually it was an email from a friend), stating that she was one of four nominees (so far) on the 2023 ballot. The others are equally impressive: Cheryl Daniels of West Bloomfield, Mich., Dede Davidson of Buellton, Calif., and Mary Bundrick of Chicago, whose idea it was to start a women's professional bowling association.

Bundrick, who was president of the Chicago Women's 700 Bowling Club, gathered together and chaired the 23 charter members of the PWBA. Those charter members elected Georgia Veatch, already a member of the Bowling Hall of Fame, as their first executive director. For the next sixty-plus years, the PWBA has reached unprecedented highs and lows. There are so many different "four letter" abbreviations that are contained in the next few paragraphs, that you can't help but compare it to Jim Cramer's knowledge of stock symbols during the "Lightning Round."

In 1960 there were a total of 3 events in the inaugural PWBA season: The World's Invitational (Marion Ladewig \$4,000); The PWBA Championship (Marion Ladewig \$1,000); and the BPAA All-Star (Sylvia Wene \$5,000). The next year they would add the WIBC Queens event from Ft. Wayne, Ind., won by Janet Harman of Cerritos, California. From there, it was a general progression from 6 events in 1962 to twelve tournaments by 1965.

The organization then teeter-tottered between 7 and 13 events until 1974, when they reached 15 events. In 1976 another milestone was set at 18 tournaments, with Patty Costello winning seven of them. Another breakthrough year came in 1984, when a grand total of 23 events were scheduled. Prominent super stars that are recognizable today began to emerge: Aleta Sill (5 titles), Lisa Rathgeber-Wagner (4 titles), Dana Miller-Mackie (3 titles) and Cindy Coburn-Carrol (3 titles).

The high water mark for tournaments was reached in 1987, and then again in 1989, with 27 events each year. A new group of upcoming stars (Leanne Barrette, Jeanne Maiden-Naccarato, Nikki Gianulias, Cheryl Daniels and Dede Davidson) had emerged to rival old time standouts Betty Morris, Lisa Wagner and Aleta Sill, who had left briefly to join a splinter group known as the Ladies Professional Bowlers Association (LPBA). by Dave Williams



Leila Wagner



Cheryl Daniels



Cheryl Daniels — Motown May Also Be Calling?

I remember meeting Cheryl Daniels during my years at AMF. She had a regal air of confidence and sophistication. As Terry Foster of the Detroit News qualified it, "Cheryl Daniels is more of a businesswoman than a bowler."

It's hard to believe that Cheryl has been in retirement from the grind of the PWBA tour for close to 20 years. "I'm keeping busy," said Daniels in an interview with Foster. Daniels career on the PWBA tour earned her 10 professional titles, including the 1995 U.S. Open.

Cheryl is also an accomplished singer with a couple of albums to her credit. You can still catch an impressive interview with Martha Reeves (Martha and the Vandellas) and Cheryl Daniels from the Good Morning America television program on January 30th, 1994:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Yzo3YcYMHY

Cheryl has all the qualifications to be in the PWBA Hall of Fame (she's already in the USBC Hall of Fame - inducted in 2002). Unfortunately, Cheryl was one of the top bowlers of that era who suffered by the virtual shutdown of women's pro bowling from 2003 to 2015. What could have been...

Does Dede Davidson Like Split Pea Soup?

How many people do you know from Buellton, California? Well, for anyone that lives in the state of California, you probably know of their most famous product — Andersen's Split Pea Soup! As a child I remember my parents saving up for a vacation every other summer. In the summer of my 5th, 7th and 9th years, that meant a trip to Disneyland!

My dad would combine the trip with what he referred to as "calling on the trade" for his chosen profession of printing and thermography. We traveled up and down the coast along Highway 101 (Interstate 5 had not yet been completed). My job was to look for landmark roadsigns. One of those was Andersen's Split Pea Soup. They started from about two hundred miles away from Buellton. It was always the same message — "Only ____ miles to Andersen's Split Soup!"

There's no bowling center in Buellton, so I'm sure that most of Dede's success must have been completed while living in Woodland Hills, a part of the San Fernando Valley. Davidson has nine victories on the PWBA Tour, including the "Triple Crown" (USBC Queens in 1991, Women's U.S. Open in 1993, and the Sam's Town Invitational in 2000). Dede, like Cheryl, is already a member of the USBC Hall of Fame, having been inducted in 2012.

A Grand Slam for Bowling

Along the way the organization had several names: first there was the PWBA, then the aforementioned splinter group known as the LPBA, which later merged with the PWBA, forming the Women's Professional Bowling Association (WPBA). Then according to USBC records, the WPBA dissolved and a bowling proprietor from Rockford, III., started the Ladies Pro Bowlers Tour (LPBT). The LPBT continued for several years, and in 1998 adopted the PWBA name and a new logo.

What followed was a downturn of tournaments until 2003, when the organization essentially closed up shop. The Women's International Bowling Congress

Dede Davidson

(WIBC) then acquired the assets of the PWBA, including their historical records. When the USBC was formed, bringing together the men's, women's, and youth administration under one roof, the PWBA became a part of that governing body.

With a renewed vigor and interest, the PWBA began adding tournaments to the USBC Queens and U.S. Open, which had carried on through the years from 2003 to 2015. It's really interesting to follow the tournament history that has been catalogued by Eric Hartman and posted free of charge at 11thframe.com (click on "Women's Pro History" on the bar at top).

So, there you have it. Four women that have the qualifications, either in superior performance, meritorious service, or as a pioneer. I'll be voting for all four of them.

Special thanks to Aaron Smith of the USBC and PWBA, and to Eric Hartman for his incredible documentation of all the different women's professional bowling organizations over the years at 11thframe. com.

Photos of Cheryl Daniels and Dede Davidson provided by bowl.com

Leila Wagner photo provided by Leila Wagner





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Team USA continued from page 1

lanes in 2023, and they all followed unique paths in order to earn that opportunity.

Breanna Clemmer of Clover, South Carolina, and Jakob Butturff of Tempe, Arizona, claimed spots by winning their respective divisions during Team USA Trials competition, which consisted of 30 games bowled over the course of five days across five challenging oil patterns.

Clemmer, a 25-year-old right-hander who competes as a member of the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour, averaged 221.5 per game for the week and finished in the daily top three during four of the five qualifying rounds to best a field of 149 women.

Butturff averaged 232.2 and collected two first-place finishes and a third-place effort enroute to topping the 174-player men's field.

Jillian Martin of Stow, Ohio, and Brandon Bohn of Jackson, New Jersey, also earned titles Saturday night, and they made some history in the process.

Martin and Bohn, both just 18 years old, were crowned the nation's top amateur bowlers by winning their respective divisions at the 2023 National Amateur Bowling Championships, which was contested simultaneously with Team USA Trials using the same qualifying scores.

Martin and Bohn earned the top step on the podium after emerging victorious from stepladder finals competition that featured the top three players from each U.S. Amateur division.

In addition to the Team USA Trials and U.S. Amateur champions, six other players earned automatic berths on Team USA 2023 based on their strong performance at Gold Coast this week.

Throughout the event, players earned ranking points based on where they finished in the daily standings. The leader each day received one point, second place earned two points and so on, with the lowest number of points after the five six-game blocks determining the 2023 Team USA Trials men's and women's champion.

Butturff, a six-time winner and major champion on the Professional Bowlers Association tour, took home the Team USA Trials crown for the second time in his career - he also won the event in 2017.

The 28-year-old left-hander was even more impressive this time around, however, collecting two squad victories, averaging five pins higher per game and lowering his winning ranking-point total from 59 to 44.

Butturff's closest pursuers were Brandon Bonta of Wichita, Kansas (58), A.J.



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Sunday, February 5th, 2023

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Johnson of Oswego, Illinois (62) and Matthew Russo of Ballwin, Missouri (80). Those three players joined Butturff in earning automatic spots on Team USA.

By earning a spot on this year's team, Butturff will be celebrating seven consecutive years donning the red, white and blue on the lanes; it's not an honor he takes for granted.

"Winning Team USA Trials is just as difficult as winning a title on the PBA Tour, and it's honestly better because it earns you the opportunity to represent your country while doing what you love," Butturff said. "Winning here is one of the best accomplishments a bowler can put on his or her resume. For me to be able to win it twice is really special."

Clemmer's 2023 victory was her first at Team USA Trials; nevertheless, she found the accomplishment no less fulfilling.

"I have a friend who always tells me that I'm the best in the world, but I never really believed it because I always felt like other people were better; I was just here. Now, to win a tournament like this among the best of the best, I'm starting to believe it," Clemmer said. "A tournament like this is just amazing to win. I don't even think I can really describe how I feel right now other than that I'm just really happy."

One of the many things Clemmer is happy about is that she will now have the opportunity to celebrate her tenth year as a member of the Team USA family.

Her international career began with a stint on Junior Team USA from 2014 to 2018. She then made the leap to the adult team in 2019, and she's been a contributor on that level ever since.

This week's victory at Team Trials felt like a fitting next step in Clemmer's career arc as she just seems to be getting better and better with each tournament she bowls.

In an event that tests the versatility and patience of even the most seasoned veterans, Clemmer appeared to be in complete control.

She notched second-place finishes on each of the first two days before taking a small step back with a 24th-place effort in Round 3. She came back strong from there, however, winning Day 4 and collecting a third-place finish during Round 5 to establish a winning total of just 32 points.

Jordan Richard of Maumee, Ohio, and Jillian Martin of Stow, Ohio, finished with 54 points each, which was enough to guarantee both spots on Team USA 2023.

The final guaranteed position went to 2022 PWBA Rookie of the Year Olivia continued on page 11

PBA Challenge #2 Harley's Simi Bowl

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Team USA continued from page 9

Farwell of Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania. Farwell finished with 84 points to secure her first invitation to bowl as a member of Team USA.

Martin and Bohn came into the week already having secured spots on Junior Team USA 2023 based on their outstanding performances at the Junior Gold Championships in Grand Rapids, Michigan in July.

Nevertheless, as the two took to the lanes for their respective U.S. Amateur title matches, it was clear that they had adult team aspirations in mind.

Bohn advanced to the title tilt by defeating Team USA veteran John Janawicz of Winter Haven, Florida, 268-212 during the opening match of the stepladder finals.

Bohn's pace slowed a bit during the championship round against top seed Brandon Bonta of Wichita, Kansas, but that was likely due to the final match being contested on the most difficult oil pattern the 2023 Team USA Trials had to offer.

As such, Bohn couldn't recreate the striking power he displayed during his nine-strike victory over Janawicz; nevertheless, he stayed clean, threw a pair of doubles and delivered the mark he needed in the 10th frame to defeat Bonta 211-199 and become the 2023 U.S. Amateur champion.

"I wanted to have a good showing to show people that I belong here, that this is the place for me, but other than that I didn't really have a whole lot of expectations," Bohn said. "To win this and be on the adult team is surreal; I really don't have words for it other than to say that I couldn't have done it without all of the amazing people that I have supporting me."

Martin had plenty of fans cheering her on as well, but that's hardly surprising as she has been a fixture on the elite bowling scene for several years now despite being just 18 years old.

As the women's top seed for the U.S. Amateur stepladder, Martin only needed to win one game in order to take the title.

That game was against Mary Orf of St. Louis, and it was an entertaining game throughout.

Orf stayed clean early and took advantage of a Martin open to establish a 13-pin lead through six frames.

It wouldn't last, however, as Orf opened after leaving a 4-6 split in the eighth frame. Martin, meanwhile, followed up a seventh-frame strike with two more in the eighth and ninth to go around Orf and complete a 199-170 comeback victory.

For Martin, the win was more than just another title; it was a stepping stone that helped her realize a dream that she's been pursuing for quite some time.

"Being on Team USA has been a goal of mine for a while now, so I'm really grateful to make it in my first year out here being eligible," Martin said. "I don't really think that it's hit me yet that I'm the U.S Amateur champion, but it ranks right up there next to being a PWBA champion."

women's roster.

The National Selection Committee also selected five men and five women to join Team USA 2023 based on submitted resumes.

The men's team selections included Kristopher Prather of Romeoville, Illinois; Kyle Troup of Taylorsville, North Carolina; Chis Via of Blacklick, Ohio; Nick Pate of Ballwin, Missouri; and 2022 Team USA Trials champion Darren Tang of Las Vegas.

The National Selection Committee's additions to the women's team were Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York; Julia Bond of Lincoln, Nebraska; Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California; Lauren Pate of Ballwin, Missouri; and Shannon Pluhowsky of Dayton, Ohio.

To be eligible for the adult version of Team USA, bowlers must be at least 18 years old by the end of that year's Team USA Trials.

Those who weren't age-eligible for adult team consideration this time around spent the week trying to secure spots on Junior Team USA 2023 and finish as high up as possible in the U.S. Amateur standings.

Earning automatic spots on the boys team based on their strong 2023 Team USA Trials performances were Bonta, Anthony Neuer of Milton, Pennsylvania; Micah Voorhis of Cherry Hill, New Jersey; and C.J. Petrin of Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Zach Greim of Poway, California, and Landin Jordan of Sycamore, Illinois, were chosen by the National Selection Committee to join Junior Team USA 2023 based on their performances at the 2023 Team USA Trials and 2022 Junior Gold Championships.

They join the 12 boys who qualified for Junior Team USA through the 2022 Junior Gold Championships through the U20 and U18 competitions.

U20 – Spencer Robarge of Springfield, Missouri; Jeremy Kinealy of St. Louis; Julian Salinas of Richmond, Texas; Nathan Smith of Noblesville, Indiana; Justin Bohn of Jackson, New Jersey; and Ryan Barnes of Denton Texas.

U18 - Brandon Bohn of Jackson, New Jersey; Jordan Malott of Austin, Texas; Bobby Habetler of Park Ridge, Illinois; Carter Street of Dublin, Ohio; Chris LeSuer of Kent, Ohio; and Andru Blaney of Indian Head, Maryland.

This year's automatic spots on the girls team went to Maggie Thoma of New Braunfels, Texas; Katelyn Abigania of San Diego, Victoria Varano of Stony Point, New York, and Ashtyn Woods of Santa Rosa, California.



They join the 12 girls who qualified for Junior Team USA through the 2022 Junior Gold Championships through the U20 and U18 competitions.

U20 – Mabel Cummins of Hermitage, Tennessee; Jaelle Hamman of Jarell, Texas; Kirsten Moore of Tallmadge, Ohio; Anna Callan of La Crosse, Wisconsin; Lara Kurt of Leland, North Carolina; and Orf.

U18 - Annalise OBryant of Ball Ground, Georgia; Erin Klemencic of Powder Springs, Georgia; Brooke Salzman of Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota; Haley Lindley of Greenwood, South Carolina; Brianna Rogers of Florence, South Carolina; and Martin.

Four boys and four girls from the U15 competition at the 2022 Junior Gold Championships also earned the right to be a part of the Team USA experience in 2023 as members of the Developmental Team.

That list of players includes brothers Landin Jordan and Griffin Jordan, both of Sycamore, Illinois; Keegan Alexander of Killeen, Texas; Kai Strothers of Maplewood, New Jersey; Avery Domaguin of San Diego; Samantha Kanehailua of Pearl City, Hawaii; Kaitlyn Stull of Raleigh, North Carolina; and Abigania.

Bowlers age 20 or younger as of Jan. 1, 2023, were eligible for spots on Junior Team USA this week.

Before the names for the adult and junior teams were read Saturday night, members of Para Team USA got a very pleasant surprise when USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy announced that all eight members of Para Team USA 2022 were being brought back to represent the team again in 2023.

That means that the 2023 Para Team USA roster will once again include George Holscher of Chesapeake, Virginia; Eddy Hutchens of Franktown, Colorado; David Nelson Jr. of Gretna, Nebraska; and Mark Shepherd of Colorado Springs, Colorado, on the men's side and Debra Freed of Framingham, Massachusetts; Jennifer Hooten of Norman, Oklahoma; Emma "Toodie" Perry of Bakersfield, California; and Stacy Sanders of Bakersfield, California, for the women.

The 2023 Team USA trials featured a roster of 323 competitors, all of whom bowled 30 games over five days (six games each day). Each day featured a different lane condition, ranging from 36-47 feet with different volumes of oil for the women and men.

BowITV provided wire-to-wire coverage of the events, including the announcement of Team USA, Junior Team USA and Para Team USA 2023.



2023 CALIFORNIA PEPSI YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS IS LOOKING TO AWARD \$60,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS!

Since the U.S. Amateur champion is automatically placed on Team USA. Martin didn't need the spot that she earned by virtue of her third-place finish in the Team Trials field.

As such, that spot was then passed along to the next-highest finisher, who in this case was current Team USA member Bryanna Coté of Tucscon, Arizona.

In addition to the bowlers who earned automatic invitations to join the adult team, two men and three women were selected by the National Selection Committee based on their performances at the 2023 Team USA Trials.

Andrew Anderson of Holly, Michigan, and Janawicz will join the men's team while Mabel Cummins of Hermitage, Tennessee, Rebecca Hagerman of Loves Park, Illinois, and Orf had their names added to the

The 2023 California Pepsi Youth Championships is coming soon! Competition is open to all 2022-23 California USBC Youth members that are currently bowling in a California USBC certified youth league. Entries must be submitted through the league no later than FEBRUARY 18. ASK YOUR YOUTH PROGRAM DIRECTOR TO SIGN YOU UP!!

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- . U12, U15 & U18 first place finishers (scratch) in each District will qualify into the 2023 DW Challenge Semi-Finals (Aug 12-13, 2023; Bowlero Fresno). See Rules.

STATE FINALS:

- First place scratch finishers in each division will receive a FREE berth (6 total) into the Junior Gold Championships held July 14-22, 2023 in Indianapolis, IN (if they have not previously qualified).
- Six scratch Champions will earn a travel stipend up to \$500 to Indianapolis for Junior Gold.
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- #2 GOLD COUNTRY LANES, Sutter Creek
- #5 CAL BOWL, Lakewood
- #6 EMPIRE BOWL, Redlands

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2023 Masters continued from page 1

and for him to step up the way he did was really special. It ignited a lot of people's passion — not only in Michigan, but around the world."

Anderson won the 2018 Masters en route to a Player of the Year campaign. A second career major title would be a career changer, moving him one title away from eventual Hall of Fame consideration, but winning a title in his home state would mean "everything" to Anderson.

"As much as I would love to win the tournament in Jackson, I think we both know the bigger one is the Masters at Thunderbowl," he said. "That one would really hit home."

Long before Anderson can even think of winning a major on his home turf, he'll have to get past a twotime Masters champion in Anthony Simonsen. The 26-year-old is not only the defending Masters champion, but he won the last PBA Tour event at Thunderbowl at the 2021 PBA Tour Finals.

"The staff has always been so good to me and the rest of the PBA players while in town," Simonsen said. "Detroit loves bowling, and I can't wait to go back and try to defend my Masters title there."

With last season's Masters win, Simonsen earned an automatic spot into this year's 64-player match play bracket. With three-game matches on a single pair, the Masters places greater emphasis on preparation and gamesmanship. That's where Simonsen believes he thrives.

"During a three-game set, so much can happen," he said. "Being able to mentally stay in the match is a big help for the Masters."

Because of the unique format, some players change how they attack the lanes based on their opponent's strengths and weaknesses.

"It's an element of the game that we don't get to do very often, that type of strategic thinking," Belmonte said. "I enjoy breaking down the puzzle and trying to see what is going to work this set."

"It's one thing to find a line that you think is going to be great for your Game 1, but then how will that affect you Games 2 and 3? How will that affect your opponent? Will it benefit your opponent? Will it benefit you? Can you do something that will make it a little harder Games 2-3 for your opponent but also make it a little easier for you?"

Belmonte and Simonsen live on the precipice of bowling history. A pair of Michiganders in Anderson and Smallwood look to advance their Hall of Fame cases. And Dom Barrett is one Masters title shy of becoming the fourth Grand Slam winner in PBA history.

Add in the chaos of the bracket and mystique of Thunderbowl's signature arena bay — something magical is bound to happen.

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Tickets are now available for the televised final rounds on $\underline{\mathsf{FS1}}$ and $\underline{\mathsf{FOX}}.$



Collegiate continued from page 1

The two finalists in the men's and women's fields will compete in championship matches that will air Feb. 19 on FS1. Preliminary matches will be livestreamed on BowITV.

The new 42' PBA Steelsmith pattern will be used for this event, recognizing one of the greatest collegiate bowlers of all time in Rick Steelsmith. He won the 1987 Masters, while bowling for Wichita State, and the 1988 PBA Rookie of the Year award. Steelsmith is now the head coach of the Wichita State men's program.

Here are the teams competing in the 2023 PBA Collegiate Championships:

MEN'S FIELD

University of Pikeville Wichita State University Lawrence Tech University Indiana Institute of Technology Tennessee Southern University Calumet College of St. Joseph

With six victories in nine tournaments under their belts thus far, the Pikeville Bears closed the 2022 calendar year as the top-ranked team in the nation. Indiana Tech's squad oozes young talent: they started four freshmen en route to a third place finish at the 2022 Intercollegiate Team Championships.

The second-ranked Shockers return almost every player from last year's rotation, including first team All-Americans Alec Keplinger and Ryan Barnes (the son of Chris Barnes), plus 2021 Masters finalist Spencer Robarge.

WOMEN'S FIELD

Wichita State University University of Pikeville Mount Mercy University University of St. Francis (IL) Tennessee Southern University Trine University

The Shocker women, who finished runners-up at the 2022 Intercollegiate Team Championships, are the top-ranked team in the women's field. Former National Player of the Year Madison Janack and Team USA's Mary Orf headline this year's Wichita State team. Both Tennessee Southern squads, with Bob Learn Jr. coaching the men and Bill Holbrook coaching the women, will be competing in Indianapolis, as will Kyle Wilson and Bobby Brown's Bears. The Mount Mercy women, spearheaded by Team USA assistant coach Andy Diercks, have been ranked first or second in each of the past three seasons.

QUALIFYING

All qualifying will take place at Royal Pin Expo Bowl in Beach Grove, Ind. on Thursday, Feb. 2 starting at 5:15 p.m ET. All rounds are best-of-seven baker matches and will be streamed live on BowITV.

Men's Quarterfinals: 5:15 p.m. ET

No. 4 Indiana Tech vs. No. 5 Tennessee Southern No. 3 Lawrence Tech vs. No. 6 Calumet



Men's Semifinals: 7:15 p.m. ET Winner of 4/5 vs. No. 1 Pikeville Winner of 3/6 vs. No. 2 Wichita State

Women's Quarterfinals: 5:15 p.m. No. 4 St. Francis (IL) vs. No. 5 Tennessee Southern No. 3 Mount Mercy vs. No. 6 Trine

Women's Semifinals: 7:15 p.m. Winner of 4/5 vs. No. 1 Wichita State Winner of 3/6 vs. No. 2 Pikeville Winners of the semifinal matches advance to the PBA Collegiate Championships TV show.

Finals

The championship rounds move over to Royal Pin Woodland, home of the 2023 U.S. Open presented by Go Bowling!, on Friday, Feb. 3. The TV finals will air Sunday, Feb. 19 on FS1.

Tickets to all rounds of the PBA Collegiate Championships, including the TV finals, are free.

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Where Have All The Bowling Centers Gone?

by Dave Williams

Over the last few years, I've written about many of the bowling centers that have closed in recent years, primarily because of real estate values, but also due to the COVID confusion that we have all endured since 2019. A couple of my favorite articles involved L & L Castle Lanes in San Francisco and Westlake Bowl in Daly City, which were both a big part of my early bowling days during junior league competition.

Next came Rocket Bowl, Friendly Hills Lanes, Saratoga Lanes and Futurama Bowl, that were at one time owned and operated by either AMF Bowling Centers or American Recreation Centers (ARC), during my time in a marketing capacity for those organizations. There are many more bowling centers featured with memorialized t-shirt designs on the m00nshot.com website, including bowling locations that were operated by professional baseball players that we featured in a recent article.

As I reviewed the remaining locations to see what might make an interesting article, I could not help but notice a plethora of bowling centers in California. Including the articles in which we've already featured some of those locations, there are a total of 42 closed bowling centers from California. Illinois is a distant second with nine, followed by Ohio (8), New York (5), and New Jersey with four.

Bowling just can't justify the square footage required when compared to Costco, Target and others, that take roughly the same amount of space as a 40 lane bowling center, but generate much more revenue. I remember during my days at AMF, the powers that be hired a Facilities Design Engineer, Nick Wallace, who predicted that by 2050 most new bowling centers would be in basements or multiple use buildings with more than one story. It hasn't happened yet, but you can begin to see the multi-use buildings popping up with retail on the ground floor and apartments above.

To help me with their insights into some of the remaining closed bowling centers from the m00nshot.com website, I have called upon some stalwarts of the bowling industry. Their input should make for enjoyable reading! The first person that I reached out to is Bud Horn of Las Vegas. Bud grew up in Santa Monica and remembered fondly the five bowling centers that used to operate there. The last one to go was Bowlmor Santa Monica, just a few years ago.

"As a league bowler at Santa Monica Bowl, I remember meeting many famous people," said Bud, who later went on to set USBC records that may never be broken at their annual national tournaments. "There was Jerry Lewis and his wife Patty; Esther Williams, the famous swimmer and movie star; and Ben Blue, who owned the Ben Blue's Nightclub just down the street."

"I also went to school in my younger days in Santa Monica with James Mitchum. He was the spitting image of his famous father Robert Mitchum," said Mr. Horn. "There was also Bobby Driscoll, who starred in many Disney films, and perhaps the most famous of all was Doug McClure, who went on to star in television westerns."

The other bowling centers in Santa Monica that have closed are Llo-Da-Mar Lanes (owned by film star Harold Lloyd, along with professional bowlers Ned Day and Hank Marino), Samoa Lanes and Broadway Bowl. For those of you old enough to remember, Bowlmor Santa Monica originally opened as Civic Lanes, before changing the name to AMF Bay Shore Lanes and finally Bowlmor Santa Monica.





Another frequent contributor to my bowling articles, Tom Knapp of Minnesota, offered some other memories of an incredible time in bowling history with his thoughtful references to a few more bowling establishments in the greater Los Angeles marketplace. Before moving to the Minneapolis-St. Paul area, Tom worked at both Bob's Pro Shops and Western Columbia in the 1970's, while holding down a "real job" with 3M Company.

"I did a lot of bowling in the San Gabriel Valley," said Tom. "Park Bowl in Baldwin Park (owned by the aforementioned Bud Horn) had to be my favorite. Not only did I work in the pro shop, but I also bowled at least one league on a fair and challenging condition that kept players grounded. If you could average 200 on those all maple lanes, you could average 200 almost anywhere. Thanks for the education Bud!"

"Landmark Bowl and Garey Center Bowl in Pomona were also favorites," said Knapp. "Lon Marshall, who later became the PBA lane maintenance guru was the head mechanic and lane man for both centers. Finally, Santa Anita Lanes and Bowling Square in Arcadia were also favorites. Bowling Square recently closed but back in the 1970's it hosted PBA tournaments and was the first in the area to install automatic scoring. I would have bowled anyone on lanes 37 & 38 back then!"

Another amusing story came from Dean Lopez, editor of the California Bowling News: "In 1980, at Landmark Bowl in Pomona, I shot my highest game (at the time) of 290 in league play. I was so excited that on my way home I was going 90 mph on the freeway celebrating... all smiles with the windows down. Then a CHP on a motorcycle rolled up next to me and said, 'Hey, slow down or I'll throw your a\$\$ in jail.' I am still so thankful he let me off with a warning. Now, THAT was a good day!"

Dean went on to say that the 290 remained his highest game until he rolled his first 300 in 2003, at Del Rio Lanes. "I even made the cover of the California Bowling News," states Lopez. "I still have copies of that issue."

What about you? Do you have a story to tell us about your favorite bowling center that is now gone, but not forgotten? We talked here about the 42 bowling centers that have been memorialized by m00nshot.com, but there are many, many more that have closed in California, and elsewhere, primarily due to real estate values. Let us know your story and we will see if we can do another "Where Have All The Bowling Centers Gone?" feature. Thankfully, the Lord has provided us with the capacity to remember all of those great memories!

Incidentally, and for the readers in Texas and Arizona that have not experienced this situation, I could find only a couple of bowling center closures in Texas due to land values... and NONE in Arizona! It also reflects the fact that Texas and Arizona are the areas where people are moving...

Civic Lanes and Samoa Lanes T-Shirt Art by m00nshot.com

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DOWNEY – Monday night at Del Rio Lanes marked week #3 of the third round in the Brunswick Invitational. Two teams, Cal Bowl and DV8, were undefeated the first two weeks. Two others had yet to get a win. The remaining teams were somewhere in the middle. The third and fourth weeks of the round are critical for teams to show they can get back in contention in the short round format. 5-5 after two weeks doesn't look so good, but 10-5 after three sure does. The middle of the round is time for the teams to separate themselves and make a move.

Game one on the top pair of lanes went to DV8 as they opened up a lead in the early frames and never gave up ground. Sam Hitchcock, filling in for Alejandra Urrutia, topped the pair with 240 for DV8. He had help from teammate Tyler Veneracion who posted a 235. The middle game was decided by only a single pin, and this time Cal Bowl came out on top, 754-753. Kyle Duster got hot for DV8, leading the pair with 244, but it wasn't enough. A steady effort from Scott Smith, 215, and Leonard Ruiz, 214, was enough for Cal Bowl to get the win. The final game was almost as close, being decided by four pins. This time DV8 got the nod, giving them their second win. With total pins, it was a 4-1 win in the match. Duster again led the pair, this time with 207 on his way to 628. DV8 now sits at 14-1 for the round.

The second pair of lanes featured second round winner, Finishing Touch Floors, as they faced off against Allied Paving. Allied Paving was 9-1 entering the night, sitting in third place. Finishing Touch already had their spot in the playoffs clinched, but total wins determine playoff seeding, so every game matters. The opener went to Allied Paving by 59 pins. Juan Zavala led his team to the win with a 209 game. Joe Pepitone got hot for Finishing Touch in the middle game, shooting 220. With some help from Vernon Adams and Bobby Hornacek they were able to pull out a seven pin win to even the match at one game each. In the final game, Ramsey Basurto led the comeback for Finishing Touch, shooting 233 for 497. I rechecked the math. It's right. The big game got Finishing Touch the win and totals, for a 4-1 edge. Vernon Adams had a steady 210-607 to lead the pair.

by Mike Cammerata

shot his second consecutive 236 game. This time it was enough to help US Foods to the win in another close game. With the two opening games being so close, the third game was essentially worth three points as it would decide totals. Eric Snow of Threadworks had a massive game, shooting 279 on his way to 704, giving his team the game and the match, 4-1.

As mentioned earlier, 5-5 after two weeks doesn't seem too good, but 10-5 after three weeks sure is. Two teams had that opportunity on the next pair as the Professional Approach took on Forest Lanes. One of teams was up to the challenge, as Forest Lanes ran away from the Pro Approach in every game, sweeping the match by well over 400 pins. Kyler Orosco was subbing for Forest Lanes and led the team with 628.

HB Complete Builders took the first two games in their battle with J.A.T. The games were close though, as HB Complete only had a 33 pin lead for totals. A 277 game in the middle of the set by Anthony Santos of J.A.T. didn't win the game for them, but he kept them in the match. The 33 pin lead evaporated quickly, as J.A.T. won the last game by close to 200 pins, earning them a 3-2 win for the match. David Yamauchi finished strong for J.A.T. with a 247. Santos continued bowling well with 224 for 694.

The next pair was a battle between Bowlium and The Bowling Guys. Both teams came in at 1-9 and desperately needed some wins to get back in the round. Bowlium took the opener, as substitute Daniel Hong shot a 230 to lead them to an 89 pin victory. In the middle game, The Bowling Guys pulled out the win by a mere five pins, evening the match at a game each. Preston Epps topped all scorers in the middle game with 198. The final game belonged to Bowlium in a big way, as they pulled away early, easily winning

DV814	Allied Paving10
Finishing Touch Floors\$\$. 12	Threadworks 9
Family Ties\$ 11	Junior Amateur Tour7
Cal Bowl11	H.B. Complete Builders 7
Forest Lanes 10	U.S.Foods6

10P 10 IF	115 WEEK
Eric Snow704	Kyle Duster 628
Anthony Santos 694	Kyler Orosco628
Paul Barraco 680	Tyler Veneracion 622
Paul Varela644	Mikey Villarreal 610
lan Markstrum631	Jeff Hickenbottom 609

SUPER SWEEPER POT

Sponsored by Dean Sanderson of Transamerica Financial Advisors Inc. 1st Anthony Santos 277 \$160 • 2nd Ian Markstrum 247 \$70



game the runner up was Gabriel Martinez. 218 was enough to earn him \$84.

Santos took another \$160, as his 277 was more than enough to win the Financial Advisors Pot. Second place money, \$70, was paid to Ian Markstrum for his 247.

We'll pass the middle of the round during next week's action. Come down to Del Rio on Monday night to see who will rise to the top of the standings. For now, it's DV8's to lose, but there are plenty of strong challenges ahead of them with four weeks to go still, starting with Finishing Touch Floors next Monday night. Cal Bowl vs. Family Ties will also be a big match on the second pair. Bowling starts at 8pm and we'd love to see you here. It's always a good time.

Family Ties improves to 11-4 for the round with a five game sweep over J.K. Inc. The first two games were won easily by Family Ties. Solid efforts throughout the team as Jeff Hickenbottom had a 236 game and Mikey Villarreal beat that with his 246. The final game was much closer as Sean Sosebee and Ian Markstrum both broke 200 for J.K. Inc., but it wasn't enough as Steve Gurrieri got lined up and shot 231 in the finale, giving Family Ties an eleven pin win.

A clutch double in the 10th frame by Paul Varela got Threadworks off to a quick 1-0 lead in their match against US Foods. Paul led the pair that game with a 237. In the middle game, Paul Barraco of US Foods the game and totals for a 4-1 win in the match. Billy Myers Jr. topped the team with 216, while teammates Arnold Cheesman and Daniel Hong both broke 200 as well.

Two teams that had struggled through the first two weeks battled on the final pair. Westminster Lanes squared off with Don Julio Tequila. Westminster took the first two games behind a couple 190 games from Bryan Osborne and a 208 from Jonathan Gale. In the final game, Max Castillo led Don Julio with a 201 and it was enough to get the first win of the round for his team, by a single pin!

Kyler Orosco came by to sub tonight with the Forest Lanes team and promptly won the first sidepot with a 247 game. Paul Varela took second place with 237. The rest of the night was Anthony Santos as he took the second game with 277 and the Super Pot with 224, earning a total of \$224. Ian Markstrum took 2nd in the middle game with 247. In the final



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