

by Nolan Hughes

INDIANAPOLIS IL – When 32-year-old Kyle Troup qualified for the 2024 U.S. Open presented by GoBowling finals — which turned out to be perhaps the most accomplished collection of talent in PBA history he was the lone finalist without a U.S. Open title to his name.

Not anymore.

After defeating EJ Tackett, Jason Belmonte and Anthony Simonsen in the championship round, Troup won the U.S. Open to capture his 11th career PBA Tour title, second career major championship and the \$100,000 top prize.

From the moment the U.S. Open began, Troup

had his sights on the green jacket. Troup wore all-green on the first day of qualifying with plans to wear the same outfit in the championship round on Sunday.

"I'm a firm believer in speaking things into existence," Troup said. "I said I was going to wear green on Sunday to get my green jacket. One of my ball reps told me, 'Winners take what they want and the losers wait for it.' We took what we wanted today."

The championship round at Indianapolis' Royal Pin Woodland, the only venue to host all five PBA major championships, featured perhaps the most accred-



2024 U.S. Open Champion Kyle Troup

ited group of finalists in PBA history. All five players — Troup, Simonsen, Belmonte, Tackett and fifth-seeded Bill O'Neill — boasted Hall-of-Fame-caliber résumés entering the finals.

They owned a combined 89 titles and 28 major titles — now 90 and 29, respectively, after Troup's U.S. Open victory — and had won 10 of the past 11 Player of the Year awards.

Since 2015, Simonsen's rookie season, the quintet has particularly dominated major championships. They have a combined 73 top-five finishes and 22 No. 1 seeds in 44 major championships; in only eight majors did one of the five players not finish in the top five.

After failing to make the first cut in his first seven tries at the U.S. Open, Troup finished 26th in 2021 and came within a single frame of winning the 2023 event, falling to Tackett in the title match.

"It is redemption now," Troup said after his win. "I wasn't worried about that all week, but if I got the green jacket and the eagle, I knew the emotions were going to flow. This (has been) a long journey back, but it feels amazing. I'm a two-time major champion. I'm not just a one-hit wonder continued on page 4

PBA PRASO/PWRATRIOS

## PBA/PBA50/PWBA TRIOS TITLE EVENT TO BE HELD IN JONESBORO THIS SUMMER

The stars of the PBA, PBA50 and PWBA Tours will converge on Jonesboro, Ark. this summer for an unprecedented trios title event.

The PBA/PBA50/ PWBA Jonesboro Trios will be held July 31-Aug. 3 at Hijinx Family Enfrom all the top national Tours — PBA, PBA50 and PWBA — in the same building, working together as teams, will be a treat for fans," PBA Commissioner Tom Clark said. "It will be the first time a trios event of this nature awards national ARLINGTON, Texas – Jacksonville State collected a victory in their first appearance at the Prairie View A&M Invitational at the International Training and Research Center on Sunday, sweeping Arkansas State in the title tilt, 4-0.

The Gamecocks set the pace out of the gates Sunday, starting the championship match with 10 strikes on the way to a 284-152 win. by Aaron Smith

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tertainment Center in Jonesboro. All rounds will be livestreamed on BowITV. Champions will each earn national titles on their respective tours and \$10,000.

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titles on each Tour, so fans will witness history, along with the chance to watch legends, current stars and all the diverse styles. Thanks to Hijinx in Jonesboro for its support and vision to make continued on page 6

The strikes didn't come as easy for either team as they moved into Game 2 of the best-ofseven Baker match, but Jacksonville State was able to rely on filling frames to take the next three games.

A spare in the final frame from anchor Crystal Elliott helped the Gamecocks record a 183-179 win in Game 2, and a clean effort in Game 3 helped Jacksonville State move one win

away from the program's complete the sweep, fifth consecutive title this 234-203. season, 198-190. The team competing

In Game 4, the Gamecocks again stayed clean, and strikes in the seventh, eighth and ninth frames helped to

The team competing at the ITRC this week for Jacksonville State featured Elliott, Rebecca Hagerman, Maranda continued on page 6

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#### CALIFORNIABOWLINGNEWS.COM



# Davidson and Shiery elected to PWBA Hall of Fame in 2024

ARLINGTON, Texas – The Professional Women's Bowling Association Hall of Fame will welcome two new inductees in the Performance category in 2024.

**Dede Davidson** of Santa Clara, California, and **Sandra Jo Shiery** of Coldwater, Michigan, are set to be inducted during the 2024 PWBA Hall of Fame induction ceremony on May 15 in conjunction with the United States Bowling Congress Queens. The 2024 USBC Queens is scheduled to run from May 14-21 at The Ashwaubenon Bowling Alley in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

**Davidson**, 58, was the 1985 PWBA Rookie of the Year and earned nine PWBA Tour titles during her career, including three majors, the 1991 USBC Queens, 1993 U.S. Women's Open and 2000 Sam's Town Invitational. She has 12 top-five finishes in all at major championships. Her most successful year on tour was in 2000 when she had two victories, the Sam's Town Invitational and Greater Harrisburg Open.

During her run toward the title at the Sam's Town Invitational, Davidson set PWBA scoring records for eight games (2,055 pins), 16 games (3,977 pins), 24 games (5,804 pins), 32 games (7,593 pins), 40 games (9,580 pins), 48 games (11,253 pins), 56 games (13,397 pins) and 56 games with bonus pins (13,982 pins). She also previously held the PWBA record for the highest three-game pinfall on a telecast with 781, which was shot at the 1989 Michigan Classic.

Davidson was inducted into the Southern California Bowling Association Hall of Fame in 2000 and the USBC Hall of Fame in 2012.

**Shiery**, 59, was a member of the PWBA from 1989 until 2000, collecting 10 PWBA titles during her time on tour, including the 1997 USBC Queens. Her first victory at a PWBA Tour event came at the 1989 South Bend Classic, which she won as a non-member. She won two events each in 1994 and 1995 and had a total of five top-five finishes in major championships, including her victory at the Queens.

As a member of Team USA in 1987, she competed in the World Tenpin Bowling Association (now International Bowling Federation) World Championship and Tournament of the Americas, winning eight total medals, five gold. She also was 1987's Bowlers Journal International Amateur Bowler of the Year and United States Olympic Committee Athlete of the Year in Bowling.

She was inducted into the Michigan State USBC Hall of Fame in 1991 and the USBC Hall of Fame in 2021.

Bowling continues to run in the family as Shiery is the mother of Alec Keplinger, winner of the 20-and-Under division at the 2019 Junior Gold Championships and the National Collegiate Bowling Coaches Association and International Bowling Media Association Collegiate Bowler of the Year during the 2021-2022 season at

# Zack Jellsey Wins "Lankster 1 Baller" 5 Gamer

REDLANDS - This was Terry Lankster's third scratch "ONE BALL" 5 gamer tournament, hosted by Empire Bowl. Another success for tournament director Terry Lankster.

I love the concept. Each competitor is only allowed to bring one bowling ball into the Bowling Center for the tournament. Folks each bowler must decide in advance of entering the



Right to Left: Zack Jellsey (1st Place), Bobby Hornacek (2nd Place), Tre Mitchell (3rd Place).

building which bowling ball will best "Strike and Spare". Just one bowling ball to roll strikes and make spares!

The concept demands a knowledge of oil patterns, a knowledge of bowling balls as well as an ability to perform on the lanes. It means a bowler must be smart as well as physically gifted. I love the concept.

This tournament's announced oil pattern was the High Street V-2. It is a supposed "House Shot". Don't tell that to some of the competitors. Two bowlers confided that they couldn't get their ball to wrinkle even a few boards to the pocket. At the same time, I had some of the two handed bowlers ("Deuce Ballers") say their balls were too jumpy. There was seven Deuce Ballers in the field of eighteen.

With that being said a one handed bowler ("Uno Baller") won the tournament and took home the \$660.00 First Place check. Not bad for a \$100.00 entry fee. By winning three Side Pots of \$50.00 the Tournament Winner, Zack Jellsey, took home \$810.00 in Prize Money.

Oh, he may have won some Brackets too, for even more dollars banked. Zack probably took home close to \$1,000.00 in Prize Money. This wasn't Zack Jellsey's First Rodeo! He won the first "LANKSTER 1 BALLER" last Fall.

Jellsey averaged a whopping 251 to take the Title by just thirty-five pins over Bobby Hornacek. Zack used his Hammer ENVTour bowling ball to win the title. As mentioned above Zack has been around for years competing in tournaments and probably was the most experienced bowler in the field.

He has won a PBA Regional Title and has several Citrus Belt Annual High Average Awards under his belt. Zack is no stranger to averaging 245 in sanctioned league play.

Bobby Hornacek, one of SoCal's better young bowlers, averaged 244 to take second place. His tournament high game was 279. He is a former JBT Champion with victories over PBA Star and Regional Champion Wesley Low.

Third Place finisher Tre Mitchell averaged 237 with a tournament high game of 290. Tre is studying to earn an Engineering Degree and may be the smartest bowler in the field.

Defending Champion Jacob Dragoman started hot with a big 279 game but ran into difficulties and finished in tenth place averaging 210 for the five games. Jacob is a graduate of Empire Bowl's Junior Program and at just 20 years of age is already competing in PBA Regional tournaments. He entered this tournament at 8 AM after just returning at 3 AM from a PBA Regional Tournament in Arizona!

Wichita State University.

Through 2023, there are 47 members of the PWBA Hall of Fame – 27 in performance, 11 in Ambassador and nine in Meritorious Service/Builder.



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No excuses came from Jacob but I know that fatigue may have affected his performance.

"HATS OFF" to Vicki Brooks the only female bowler in the field. She finished in 14th Place averaging a solid 199. She told me she has no fear when it comes to competing against the guys. Hey, Vicki was firing 15 MPH bullets down lane! That's faster than a dozen of the guys in the field.

#### The TOP 5 Tournament finishers follow:

e	Average	Total Pins	Earnings
Zack Jellsey	251	1,246	\$660.00
Bobby Hornacek	244	1,221	440.00
Tre Mitchell	237	1,189	250.00
Ryan Nelson	235	1,176	
Garrett Kokanour	231	1,157	
	Zack Jellsey Bobby Hornacek Tre Mitchell Ryan Nelson	Zack Jellsey 251 Bobby Hornacek 244 Tre Mitchell 237 Ryan Nelson 235	Zack Jellsey       251       1,246         Bobby Hornacek       244       1,221         Tre Mitchell       237       1,189         Ryan Nelson       235       1,176

Congratulations to all the participants. These bowlers have demonstrated that "CALIFORNIA BOWLERS ARE THE BEST BOWLERS IN THE WORLD".

With such a great return on investment why shouldn't YOU enter the next "LANKSTER 1 BALLER" Tournament at Empire Bowl in about one month. Phone Terry Lankster at 951-288-8442 for details.

# Glenn Allison Is Going For A Record Without An Asterisk

Glenn Allison was born in Whittier, Calif., in 1930. He bowled his first USBC Open Bowling Championship as a 16 year old, when the traveling event came to Los Angeles in 1947. Later this month, Glenn will be participating in his 72nd national tournament, a record.

Allison is a four time champion at the USBC event, winning the Classic Doubles (with partner Dick Hoover) in 1962, the Classic Team Event (Falstaff Beer) in 1964, the Classic Team Event (Ace Mitchell Shur-Hooks) in 1966, and the Classic Singles in 1970. He also has five PBA Tour titles to his credit, as well as one title on the PBA50 circuit.

But Glenn is most remembered for rolling a perfect 900 three game series on July 1, 1982, at La Habra "300" Bowl in Southern California. The score was never sanctioned because of the rules that existed regarding the application of oil upon a lane in those days.

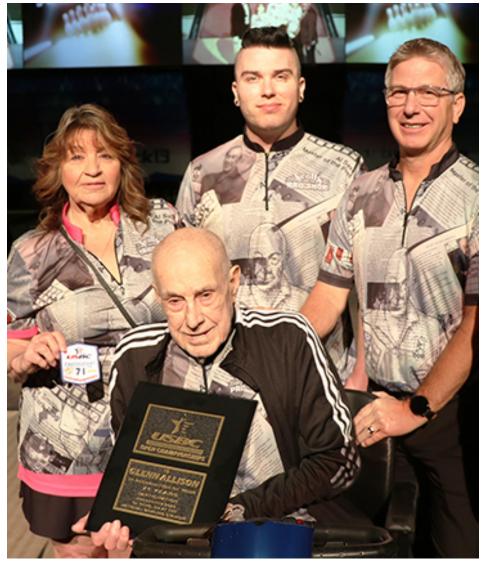
Just six years later the rules were changed under the Limited Distance Dressing procedure. It's ironic that there are now 40 sanctioned 900 series (at last count), but one of the only perfectos that is still not included is Allison's score. His series was bowled on wooden lanes, using a plastic bowling ball with a conventional grip.

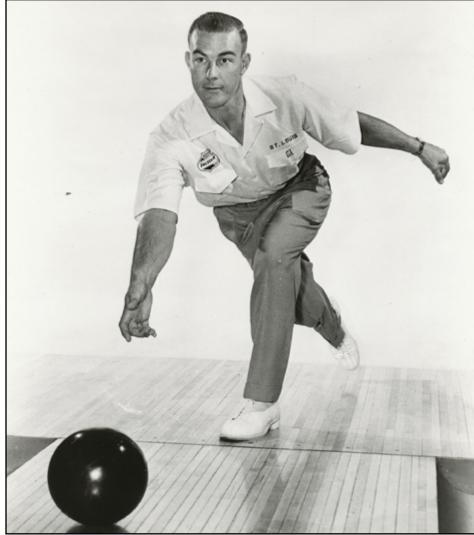
#### Give the man a break!

I remember meeting Mr. Allison in 1979, while I was stationed for AMF at Rocket Bowl in Chatsworth, a community in the San Fernando Valley near Los Angeles. Neil Sammons, a youth league member, mentioned that Glenn Allison was working nearby, and he actually took the time to drive me there so that I could meet him. We spent the afternoon listening to stories about Glenn's career, particularly during the team era of bowling.

Scott Kraye, another young bowler that won one of many endurance tournaments I held for junior bowlers during my time at Rocket Bowl, was present when Allison rolled his perfect series. "People recognize who he is, but they don't realize what he did," said Kraye in an article by Chris Dufresne of the Los Angeles Times ("Rolling Along: Glenn Allison's Bowling Story Has a Perfect Ending," July 2, 1989).

"I've been bowling 15 years," said Kraye. "I can't explain the variables. It's a round ball on round objects. I bowled an 850 series once. It was the best I bowled in my life. But this guy threw every ball a strike." Dufresne goes on to say that Allison speaks of the evening in whispered reverence. Why him? Why then? Why La Habra?





Glenn was a member of the Falstaff Beer team that won the Classic Division crown (1964)

Allison stated, "I've never been able to figure it out. I have often wondered why me. I mean, I was the guy who did it. Though I had a hole in one the same year, December of 1982, and I'm a lousy golfer. That was my year." Glenn's golf memory reminds me of one of the funniest stories I remember another bowling legend, Dick Weber, telling me on occasion. Dick loved to tell stories. This one involved Glenn and Jerry Hale, another PBA veteran, who Dick had invited to play a round of golf at Bogey Hills Country Club in St. Charles, near the Weber's home in St. Louis. At the end of the round they were all in the bar having a beer and Dick said... "Glenn, you took us to places on this course that I've never seen before!"

Members of the Anchor Girl Trio league at La Habra "300" Bowl that eventful night included 70 year old Glada Acocks. Glada was the manager of the Whittier Bowling Academy, where Glenn first started bowling with his parents. "I started setting pins there because all the older boys who had been setting pins were off fighting the war," said Glenn. He remembers rolling a 77 in his first game at age 9, and he never looked back. In addition to his USBC Championships and PBA titles, Glenn was voted to the USBC Hall of Fame in 1979, and to the PBA Hall of Fame in 1984. He was a member of the All-American team in 1957-58 and 1961-62, and was voted the 38th best bowler of the 20th century. In addition to everything else, he was also one of the original 33 charter members of the PBA.

"I have so many wonderful memories that it's hard to pick out any one, but perhaps the greatest thrill was winning that first title (with Dick Hoover)," said Allison in an interview with Matt Cannizzaro on May 18, 2016 ("Glenn Allison Celebrates 65 Years at USBC Open Championships"). "This is number sixty-five, and I'm looking forward to seeing how many more I can bowl."

It's a Family Affair: (I-r) Suzanne Allison, Glenn's daughter; Glenn Allison II (grandson); Mark Allison, Glenn's son; and in the foreground Glenn Allison (2023) Photos provided by bowl.com

One day Glenn's 900 series will be included in the record books, probably with an asterisk like baseball great Roger Maris. But the record he's going for this month will never have an asterisk.

A BOOK ABOUT GLENN ALLISON — Many of you may not be aware of "Mr. 900: The Glenn Allison Story." It's a book that was written by former California Bowling News editor Bob Johnson. I asked Bob for a comment about Glenn to go with this story. Here's what he had to say: "Interviewing Glenn for the book was a real pleasure, but getting him to talk about himself could be challenging. He had some great stories to tell, but they were always about other people. He's one of the nicest guys you could ever meet and completely self-effacing. Still, we ended up with 36 chapters — one for each strike in the 900 — along with other elements that together serve as the historical document of a truly historic event, a Hall of Fame athlete and a really classy man."

If you are interested in a copy of the book, you can send an email to tjbowl54@ gmail.com. That's Bob's brother, and the publisher of the book. He will send you information on how to order the book.

### U.S. Open continued from page 1

now in the majors."

Troup made light work of the fourth of four brutal U.S. Open oil patterns. While his opponents averaged a combined 179, Troup never shot below 212.

"I felt like I saw the picture from the first shot of the first match. I kept telling myself 'Quiet mind. Quiet body. Slow feet.' Just like that," Troup said. "I never really worried about anybody else's ball reactions. I knew mine was great and that's all that mattered. I did know that Simonsen playing to the right was going to be tough for him — but he's a freak. If he didn't go split-split (to start the game), he's right there with me."

In the opening match, the defending champion Tackett outlasted O'Neill, who won the season-opening major in Wichita, with a slim 212-209 win.

O'Neill threw the first six strikes but left consecutive five-count washouts on the left lane and only got a single pin on each spare attempt. O'Neill could have doubled in the 10th frame to win but left a flat 10-pin on the second shot.

That set up a 2023 title match rematch between Tackett and Troup. After Troup was unable to shut out the defending champion, Tackett had an opportunity to double for the win — exactly what he did to win the 2023 event.

Tackett aced the first strike, but missed the headpin right on the second, allowing Troup to advance with a 212-200 victory.

The semifinal match between Troup and Belmonte, who sought to win a 16th major and become the first player to win all five majors twice, was never close. Belmonte missed a 10-pin in the first frame, the split in the third and seventh frames. Troup cruised to a 229-157 win over the 15-time major champion.

"Well that was horrible," Belmonte wrote on social media. "No excuses. Just didn't do my job."

While the other four players migrated left of the fifth arrow to hook the lane, Simonsen continued his gameplan of staying right of the third arrow in the title match.

"Every time this week that I moved left of 15 on this pattern, my look wasn't very good," Simonsen said. "Obviously the first shot wasn't very good, but the second one definitely didn't have to split. I think if the shot in the fifth frame strikes, then it's a little different ballgame. I'd bowl the same game again and just see what happens."

Simonsen had his sights set on becoming the youngest player to win six majors. Instead, Troup prevailed in the title match, clinching the 223-181 in his ninth frame.

Troup won his second career major in front of his father, Guppy, who finished as the U.S. Open runnerup 40 years ago.

"To win in front of Guppy is a blessing every time," Troup said. "This also means I did something else that he didn't do. Gup, we have an eagle coming home now! This is a U.S. Open win for the whole Troup family."

The 2024 PBA Tour continues Monday at Bowlero Mt. Prospect outside of Chicago.

Rounds 3-4 of the PBA Elite League will take place Monday, Feb. 5 at 7 p.m. Eastern. Qualifying for the PBA Illinois Classic begins Tuesday at 11 a.m. ET. All rounds will be livestreamed on BowITV.

The PBA Illinois Classic finals will air Saturday, Feb. 10 at 8 p.m. Eastern on FS1.

#### U.S. Open Championship Round Scores

No. 4 EJ Tackett def. No. 5 Bill O'Neill, 212-209 No. 3 Kyle Troup def. No. 4 EJ Tackett, 212-200 No. 3 Kyle Troup def. No. 2 Jason Belmonte, 229-157 No. 3 Kyle Troup def. No. 1 Anthony Simonsen, 223-181

#### **Final Standings**

1.Kyle Troup, \$100,000 2.Anthony Simonsen, \$50,000 3.Jason Belmonte, \$25,000 4.EJ Tackett, \$15,000 5.Bill O'Neill, \$10,000

More information is available here.





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PBA Premier is not merely a card set; it's a nostalgic journey for fans and collectors alike, bringing together the stars of the Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) and introducing a thrilling lineup of first-ever cards for some of your favorite bowlers. This collection is a testament to Leaf Trading Cards' commitment to innovation, quality, and capturing the essence of the sport in a visually stunning and collectible format. **Highlights of PBA Premier include:** 

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• **Debut Cards:** Discover the excitement of uncharted territory as PBA Premier introduces the firstever trading cards for some of your favorite bowlers. This collection captures the essence of these rising stars as they make their mark in the trading card world.

• **Celebrity Appearances:** PBA Premier goes beyond the bowling lanes with special appearances from renowned celebrities who share a passion for the sport. Look out for exclusive cards featuring Mookie Betts, Hines Ward, Hope Solo, and more, adding a touch of star power to your collection.

Leaf Trading Cards is dedicated to providing collectors with an unmatched experience, and PBA Premier is a testament to their commitment to delivering high-quality, innovative products that resonate with fans across the globe. "We are thrilled to bring PBA Premier to fans and collectors who have been eagerly awaiting the return of bowling trading cards," said CJ Breen, Director of Marketing and Licensing at Leaf Trading Cards. "This collection is a tribute to the rich history and exciting future of professional bowling, featuring a diverse lineup of cards that showcase the talent and charisma of the athletes who make this sport truly special."







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The Open & Women's All-Events Champion will earn a FREE jersey! PBA Premier is set to hit store shelves on Feb. 9 and will be available to purchase <u>here</u>. For more information about Leaf Trading Cards and PBA Premier, visit <u>LeafTradingCards.com</u>.



# **Ron Skoller's Inspirational Journey Continues**

WINNETKA - "This was a really good day."

So said Ron Skoller, after smashing a 582 series (208, 175, 199) in the 15team Winnetka Finest Tournament on Jan. 27 at Winnetka Bowl. His series score represented a whopping 34 pins above his average.

Now, a 582 series doesn't ordinarily warrant a story in the California Bowling News.

But Ron Skoller is no ordinary person.

His two-years-plus inspirational battle against Parkinson's disease was chronicled last month in the California Bowling News.

Parkinson's is a progressive disorder that affects the nervous system and parts of the body controlled by the nerves.

Skoller, once a consistent 200-average bowler, has seen his average drop precipitously in the past few years, but Ron has vowed to maintain his twice-a-week bowling routine along with his golfing regimen. He contends these activities – along with his newly adopted "Rock Steady Boxing" program – has helped to slow the worsening of his Parkinson's symptoms.

After his article came out in the California Bowling News, Ron was told by a reporter (namely, me) that if he could crush a 600 series, he might earn an updated story.

To demonstrate how difficult that task appeared, Ron had been laboring with his bowling skills, spinning a lackluster 399 series (106, 128, 165) just three days before the Winnetka Finest Tournament.

Still, Ron remained hopeful of one day staging some form of a bowling renaissance – back to the days when he crushed two 290 games and a 774 series.

Ron has contended that his illness could be managed by many factors, including the support of his close friends, of which he has many. That was evident at the Winnetka Finest Tournament when he was embraced before the tournament by a multitude of buddies from his two Winnetka leagues: Funtimers and Thirsty Nite Out. Funtimers president Larry George and Funtimers vice president Gary Bricker, in particular, spent considerable time exchanging laughs and pleasantries with Ron.

So when Ron rolled a 582 – that's a mere 187 pins (!) from his three-daysearlier performance in the Funtimers league – it certainly seemed appropriate to provide more newspaper space for this 73-year-old inspirational right-hander from Encino. It definitely was close enough to 600.

Just to emphasize how remarkable Ron's day was, his team placed third in the Winnetka Finest Tournament after finishing in last place at the previous Winnetka Finest Tournament six months earlier.

Were the bowling gods working for him at last month's tournament? Consider this: After throwing three straight strikes in the second game, Ron then threw a clunker, missing the head pin entirely and appearing to leave four pins.

Ron walked away from the lane dejectedly as the rest of his team watched a domino effect that only seasoned bowlers understand is what makes the game of bowling so awe-inspiring.

One apparent remaining pin teetered and then fell on another standing pin . . . and that pin teetered and fell on another standing pin . . . and that pin teetered and landed on another standing pin. That final standing pin tried to hang tough and maintain its balance but it soon started to wobble and wobble and wobble . .



Ron Skoller, left, boosted his team to a third-place finish in the Winnetka Finest Tournament last month with a nifty 582 series. Standing next to Ron are the other team members: Carol Tucker, Fred Eisenhammer, Greg Kolski and Sarah Damasco. Photo by Darrin Johnson

of Ron's teammates.

That final strike made for a four-bagger, even if Ron didn't see it as it was developing.

It definitely was Ron's day.

This was a day when Ron could truly say "Parkinson's Shmarkinson's."

His teammates, which included Tucker, Greg Kolski, Sarah Damasco – and for full disclosure, I was a teammate too – all mobbed him after his four-bagger and Ron probably never smiled so widely.

"It's been a very long time since I bowled a series like that," Ron said.

Ron admitted that he had doubts he could bowl so well in the tournament but reflected that during his practice session before the first game, he knew he had a shot to surprise.

"One of the common symptoms of Parkinson's," Ron said, "is muscle tightness. And when I bowl, my right leg tightens up and it's difficult to follow through, and hence, a 399 series.

"When I'm feeling better and follow through, I get a better release of the ball, better speed of the ball and leave fewer 10 pins."

Ron ended his first game with five strikes and tallied an impressive 19 strikes in the three games. That's an average of more than six strikes per game. Ron lamented that he could have hit a 600 if he had converted spares on two seven pins and one 10 pin.

Each member of the third-place team received \$50. Ron was asked what he was going to do with his prize money.

"My winnings won't affect my life," he said, laughing.

Bottom line: Ron Skoller had spent his bowling life keeping others upbeat with his cheery disposition and he was now getting paid back with a big heap of

. and ultimately lost balance and crashed to the lane.

bowling karma.

"When those things happen, it makes for so much fun," said Carol Tucker, one

"If I can inspire one person," Ron said, "then the whole thing is a blessing."



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#### PBA/PBA50/PWBA Trios continued from page 1

this event come true."

Jonesboro previously hosted PBA Tour title events from 2016 through 2021. In 2019, Norm Duke won his 40th career title and the second of back-to-back titles at 54 years old.

The PBA50 Tour held a super regional in Jonesboro last September. John Janawicz, who won the 2023 PBA50 Rookie of the Year award and the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Senior Masters, defeated Chris Barnes in the title match.

Jordan Richard, the 2023 PWBA Player of the Year, bowled collegiately at Jonesboro's Arkansas State University from 2015-2018. While at Arkansas State, Richard earned three First Team All-American selections and was twice named the Division I Player of the Year.

"I'm excited to return to Jonesboro and compete in this unique event," Richard said. "I've enjoyed a lot of success at Hijinx and made a lot of great memories there. It's a fantastic center with a tremendous staff, and I can't wait to get back there and hopefully come away with a title."

Players will each bowl two five-game qualifying rounds within their respective tours, cutting to the top 16 players for match play. Qualifying pinfall will be dropped entering round-robin match play. Seeding entering match play will determine the PBA/PBA50/PWBA trios teams. All three top seeds will be paired together, as will the No. 2 seeds and so on.

The top five teams after match play will advance to a stepladder finals, which will be livestreamed on BowITV. In baker match play, one player will bowl the first, fourth, seventh and 10th frames. A second player will bowl in the second, fifth and eighth frames, leaving the third, sixth and ninth frames for the third player.

#### PBA/PBA50/PWBA JONESBORO TRIOS SCHEDULE

All times local/Central time unless otherwise noted Hijinx Family Entertainment Center | Jonesboro, Ark.

#### Wednesday, July 31

10 a.m. (11 a.m. ET) — PBA50 practice session 12 p.m. (1 p.m. ET) - PWBA practice session 2 p.m. (3 p.m. ET) - PBA practice session 6 p.m. (7 p.m. ET) — Pro-am 1 8:30 p.m. (9:30 p.m. ET) - Pro-am 2

#### Thursday, Aug. 1

8 a.m. (9 a.m. ET) — PBA50 Qualifying Round 1 (five games) 1 p.m. (2 p.m. ET) — PWBA Qualifying Round 1 (five games) 5 p.m. (6 p.m. ET) — PBA Qualifying Round 1 (five games)

#### Friday, Aug. 2

8 a.m. (9 a.m. ET) — PBA50 Qualifying Round 2 (five games) 1 p.m. (2 p.m. ET) — PWBA Qualifying Round 2 (five games) 5 p.m. (6 p.m. ET) — PBA Qualifying Round 2 (five games) Cut to top 16 in each division; trios teams matched by seed; pinfall drops

#### Saturday, Aug. 3

8 a.m. (9 a.m. ET) — Trios Match Play Round 1 (eight games) 2 p.m. (3 p.m. ET) — Trios Match Play Round 2 (eight games) Cut to top five trios teams

7 p.m. (8 p.m. ET) — Trios Stepladder Finals

#### A&M Invitational continued from page 1

Pattison, Kayla Smith, Isabel Allen, Anna Warkel, Keyla Covarrubias, Dannielle Henderson and Olivia Fehlner.

Jacksonville State, the top qualifier, earned its spot in the finals with a 4-3 win over No. 4 Nebraska in Sunday's first bracket match. No. 3 Arkansas State also advanced by a 4-3 margin, defeating No. 2 Youngstown State.

Youngstown State finished the weekend in third place after recording a 4-2 win against Nebraska in the final round.

The 2024 event featured 12 teams competing this week at the ITRC. The event kicked off Friday with five five-game Baker matches, while six traditional games were contested Saturday and Sunday to conclude qualifying. Total pinfall determined seeding for Sunday's match-play bracket.

Jacksonville State earned the top seed with an 11,570 total. Youngstown State finished qualifying with 11,454, Arkansas State had 11,394 and Nebraska placed



Bowling's voice for those who have served.

# NANCY SCHENK NAMED BVL BOARD CHA



February 1, 2023 -- Nancy Schenk of Fayetteville, N.C., has been named Board Chair of BVL (Bowlers To Veterans Link), a 501c3 charity dedicated to funding recreation therapy programs that address the emotional and physical needs of veterans and active-duty military personnel.

Schenk, who joined the BVL Board in 2022, is the owner and GM of B&B Bowling Lanes in Fayetteville and previously served as president of the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America from 2016-18. Schenk joined her father Howard Baum in the BPAA Hall of Fame in 2022 when she also received the Victor Lerner Memorial Medal from BPAA.

Nancy Schenk BVL

In addition to BVL, Scheck currently serves on the USBC and PWBA Hall of Fame boards. Schenk, who earned her Chemical Engineering degree from North Carolina State University and previously worked as a management consultant, lives in Fayetteville with her husband Gary who she met on the NCSU bowling team.

"It is an honor to be selected to chair the BVL Board," said Schenk. "I look forward to serving with BVL's amazing board to continue growing our financial support and providing essential recreation therapy opportunities for America's 19 million veterans."

Schenk, who is the daughter of a veteran, grew up in Fayetteville which is also the home of Fort Liberty. "I understand what veterans have done for this country and they deserve our unwavering support and gratitude. It's a privilege to be part of BVL's mission to always be there for those who have served."

Schenk succeeds long-time BVL Board Chair John LaSpina of Long Beach, N.Y., who joined the BVL Board in 2012 and served as Chair from 2014-2023. During that time, LaSpina spearheaded BVL's strongest fundraising years as the organization raised more than \$10 million over the past decade and announced BVL's largest-ever donation of \$500,000 last year to support MyndVR virtual reality therapy as well as a wide variety of recreation therapy programs through the Vet Center.

LaSpina is also president of Maple Family Centers which has been BVL's biggest bowling center donor for several years with more than \$620,000 raised since 2008. LaSpina was recently named as the recipient of the "Lifetime Achievement Award" from the National Association of State Veterans Homes for his work with BVL and veterans. LaSpina will remain on the BVL Board as a BPAA representative.

In addition to Schenk and LaSpina, other BVL Board members are:

Amy Arcuri of Arlington, TX (BPAA Representative)

fourth in qualifying with 11,227.

The bracket was broken into three sub-brackets, based on seeding. The top four qualifiers competed in the main bracket and had the opportunity to secure the title. The teams that placed from fifth to eighth in qualifying were in the second bracket, and the programs ranked from ninth to 12th competed in the third bracket.

All rounds of the 2024 Prairie View A&M Invitational were broadcast live at BowITV.com.

The six traditional games also helped to determine the all-tournament team.

Nebraska's Kayla Verstraete led the field for six games, averaging more than 236 to earn top honors with a 1,418 total. Youngstown State's Jade Côté finished second with 1,372, while Jacksonville State teammates Elliott (1,362) and Hagerman (1,332) placed third and fifth, respectively. Arkansas State's Karli VanDuinen was fourth with 1,338.

The 2024 event featured nine teams ranked in the top 10 from the most recent National Tenpin Coaches Association (NTCA) Coaches Poll (Dec. 2023).

#### Previous Prairie View A&M Invitational champions:

2012 - Vanderbilt

2016 – Nebraska

2017 – Nebraska

2018 – McKendree

- 2013 Nebraska 2019 – Arkansas State
- 2014 Nebraska 2020 – McKendree
- 2015 Nebraska 2021 - McKendree (held at USA Bowl in Dallas)
  - 2022 Sam Houston State
  - 2023 Vanderbilt
  - 2024 Jacksonville State

- Darlene Baker of Mahomet, IL (USBC Representative)
- Jay Buhl of Henrico, VA (At-Large Representative)
- Lisa Ciniello of Bonita Springs, FL (BPAA Representative)
- Anthony Colangelo of Meridian, ID (USBC Representative)
- Corey Dykstra of Comstock Park, MI (At-Large Representative)
- Dennis Hacker of Longtown, MO (USBC Representative)
- Keith Hamilton of Park Ridge, IL (At-Large Representative)
- Chrissy Lee of Tampa, FL (USBC Representative)
- Wally Hall of Pasadena, MD (Director Emeritus)

BVL was established in 1942 when bowlers across America rallied to raise funds for purchasing planes to transport wounded servicemen and women back home from World War II. Since its inception, the bowling community has raised over \$56 million to support those who have served. BVL funds recreation therapy programs that address the emotional and physical needs of veterans and activeduty military, including sports, music, crafts, technology, and adaptive equipment for rehabilitation activities.

BVL is a national nonprofit 501 (c) (3) charity that is consistently acknowledged for efficient and effective programming delivered with extremely low overhead. BVL has been recognized as one of "America's Best Charities" by Independent Charities of America, earned a "Top-Rated" Nonprofit distinction from GreatNonprofits, and is also a member of the Combined Federal Campaign (#93325). For more information, visit www.BVL.org.

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**Executive Director - Gary Forman** PO Box 4396, Garden Grove, CA 92842-4396 ed@socalbowling.com www.socalbowling.com (657)210-2695

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citrusbelt@verizon.net (909) 381-4599

#### GREATER

# **Riverside &** San Bernardino

LA COUNTY USBC

Association Manager - Lynn Matsubara 3673 Industry Ave. #102, Lakewood, CA 90712 E-Mail: info@glacusbc.com alacusbc.com (562) 426-2030 Fax: (562) 426-2032

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#### SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

Association Manager - Annette Anderson 1832 Greenacre Rd., Pomona, CA 91768 E-Mail: <u>sgvusbc@gmail.com</u> (909) 326-1201

#### SAN DIEGO U.S.B.C.

Association Manager - Donald Way 7840 El Cajon Blvd. Ste 203, La Mesa, CA 91941 E-Mail: sandiegousbc@gmail.com www.sandiegobowling.com (619)697-3334

#### **BOWLIUM LANES - 32**

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www.bowlium.com Facebook.com/Bowlium

#### **CANYON LANES - 24**

49750 Seminole Dr., Cabazon, CA 92230 (951) 572-6120 Fax: (951) 922-2385 Located next to Morongo Casino



Association Manager - Lynn Matsubara 3673 Industry Ave. #102, Lakewood, CA 90712 info@calusbc.com • calusbc.com www.californiayouthbowling.com (415)492-8880

#### NORTH COUNTY USBC

Association Manager - Ross LaBar 306 W. El Norte Pkwy #95, Escondido, CA 92026 ncusbcamanager@gmail.com www.ncusbca.com

(714)322-2780

#### VENTURA COUNTY USBC

Association Manager - Debbie Brickell vcusbc@qmail.com

(805)339-9334

# **37th Year!** Brunswick **Cal Bowl Runs Away With A Round Three Title** by David Yamauchi

DOWNEY – The Brunswick Invitational took to the lanes for the 6th week of the round with the league keeping a close eye on the top match, pulling for DV8 to reel in Cal Bowl who was within distance of locking up the round. Cal Bowl was sitting on a 6 game lead over DV8 and an 8-game lead over four other teams with just 10 points left in the round.

In the "A" match, Cal Bowl (Leonard Ruiz Jr.) was red-hot lapping the league at 23-2 taking on **DV8** (David Cogswell) who was hoping to make it a race sitting at 17-8. DV8 came out strong, taking game one to make things interesting, but it was all Cal Bowl from there as they locked up the round in week 6 with the 4-1 win. James Bael came up big for Cal Bowl with a solid 689 series while sub Julian Zavala put up a 595 set to lead DV8.

The "B" match featured **US Foods** (Gabriel Martinez) coming off a 4-1 session taking on Junior Amateur Tour (Kevin Valmonte) who have been quickly climbing up the sheet. US Foods held on to a close first game, but it was all Junior Amateur Tour in games two and three as they struck to a 4-1 win. The carpool guys were big as Kaven Massey again led Junior Amateur Tour with a 673 set while Kasey Uyesugi paced US Foods with a 649 series.

Forever Hope Foundation (Vernon Adams) and Threadworks (Eric Snow) were the low of the 15-10 teams still in the hunt for the round. The match was all Forever Hope Foundation as the swept to a 5-0 win over Threadworks. Eric Williams Jr. was big for Forever Hope Foundation with a 650 series while Jerry Cant paced Threadworks with a solid 637 set.

Bowlium (Billy Myers Jr.) faced Pro Ap-

win in game one for a 4-1 result. Billy Myers Jr. was big for Bowlium with a 636 set while Scott Silva paced Pro Approach Oak Tree with a 580 series.

Del Rio Lanes (Jonathan Huezo) faced Forest Lanes (Jon Diso) with both teams looking to bank overall wins as the round winds down. Forest Lanes struck first, taking the first two games and totals for a 4-1 win. Chris Diemand led Del Rio Lanes with a 584 series while Chris Diemand was big for Forest Lanes with a 631 set.

Family Ties (Mikey Villarreal) bounced back last week to meet Touchstone Homes (Christian Eichelkraut) with both teams looking to keep their momentum going. The match was all Family Ties as they breezed to a 5-0 sweep over Touchstone Homes. Mikey Villarreal was huge for Family Ties with a 688 set while Christian Eichelkraut managed 582 to pace Touchstone Homes.

Pro Approach Del Rio, Westminster Lanes, iColor Printing, and Pro Approach Keystone Lanes rounded out Monday's action. Pro Approach Del Rio took the first game but it was all Westminster Lanes from there as they struck to a 4-1 win. Tony Brunning led Westminster Lanes with a 612 set while Anthony Bourges and Doug Harris III both put up 576 for Pro Approach Del Rio. iColor Printing came out strong, taking games one and two, but Pro Approach Keystone came back big to take game three and totals for the 3-2 win. Augie Labrado Jr. paced iColor with a 574 set while Pro Approach Keystone was led by Aaron Law's 599 series.

The Financial Advisor's pot went to James Bael (286) for \$160 with 2nd to Eric Williams Jr. (244) for \$70. Sidepots went to Mikey Vil-

### **TOP 10 OVERALL POINTS**

Bowlium \$\$ 65	DV859
Cal Bowl \$\$\$ 62.5	ThreadWorks58
Family Ties \$61	US Foods57
Forever Hope Foundation 61	Forest Lanes
Junior Amateur Tour 60.5	Del Rio Lanes43

#### **TOP 10 ROUND 3 WEEK 6**

Cal Bowl \$\$\$	US Foods16
Forever Hope Foundation 20	Family Ties \$15
Junior Amateur Tour 19	ThreadWorks15
DV818	Forest Lanes 14
Bowlium \$\$ 18	ProApproach Oak Tree 14

### **TOP 10 THIS WEEK**

689 James Bael	650 Eric Williams Jr.
688 Mikey Villarreal	649 Kasey Uyesugi
681 Michael Montano	637 Jerry Cant
673 Kaven Massey	636 Billy Myers Jr.
654 Leonard Ruiz Jr.	633 Kevin Valmonte

SUPER SWEEPER POT Sponsored by Dean Sanderson of Transamerica Financial Advisors Inc. James Bael 286 \$160 • 2nd Eric Williams Jr. 244 \$70

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to Anthony Santos (247) and Kasey Uyesugi (247) for \$90 each.

Come on out and watch Southern Califorlarreal (253) and Eric Willias Jr. (244) for \$40 proach Oak Tree (John Struckman) with both nia's Richest League as they bowl the last teams hanging on by a thread in the round. each with 2nd to JT Diso (247) and Michael week of the round and sweeper doubles on Bowlium took the first two, including a 2-pin Montano (236) for \$20 each. SuperPot went the 50' third round on Monday at 8:00!

# *7502 Florence Ave., Downey CA 90240 • (562) 927-3351*

## **Weekly Scratch 5-Gamer Every Tuesday**

**\$55 Entry Fee with Optional Pots and Brackets** Check-in at 6pm • Bowl at 7pm • 1 in 5 Payout February 6: Route 66 V2

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