

FEBRUARY 24, 2022

CALIFORNIA BOWLING NEWS

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JASON BELMONTE WINS THE STORM CUP: DAVID SMALL'S KOKOMO CHAMPIONSHIP

His 27th PBA Tour title is his second of the season

by Jef Goodger

KOKOMO, Ind.—Jason Belmonte won his second Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour title of the season and 27th of his career, leading every round of THE STORM CUP: David Small's Kokomo Championship and ultimately defeating Nick Pate in the championship match at Heritage Lanes.

After Belmonte failed to double in the 10th frame, leaving a 10 pin on his second shot, Pate had a chance to win, needing two strikes and count in the final frame to win. Like Belmonte, Pate got the first strike but left a 10 pin on his second shot.

"I was really nervous," Belmonte said of watching Pate. "All you can do is throw the ball where you're looking and we both did that. We both left a 10 pin, but he could've easily struck on that shot. If it were to be, he would be fully deserving."

Pate qualified third for the stepladder finals and advanced to the title match with wins over Anthony Simonsen and EJ Tackett. Pate put up the front seven against Belmonte's front six in the championship match, but a split in the eighth frame and the stubborn 10 pin cost Pate the



Jason Belmonte

chance at his first career title.

Belmonte, who is the all-time record holder with 14 major championships, is now ninth all-time in total PBA Tour titles, passing "Kokomo Kid" Don Johnson, who won 26 times in his career. Belmonte has competed in all

four events so far this season, winning two and finishing third in the U.S. Open.

The win also moved Belmonte into first place in THE STORM CUP standings, giving him a 110-point lead over second place Pate, who is the only player to have qualified for the stepladder finals in both THE STORM CUP events this season. Belmonte also increased his lead in the PBA Playoffs race, now holding a nearly 5,000-point advantage over Anthony Simonsen.

FINAL STANDINGS

Jason Belmonte, earns \$20,000

Nick Pate, \$12,000

EJ Tackett, \$7,000

Anthony Simonsen, \$5,500

[View the full standings](#)

MATCH SCORES

Match 1 – No. 3 Pate def. No. 4 Simonsen, 237-226

Match 2 – No. 3 Pate def. No. 2 Tackett, 237-186

Match 3 – No. 1 Belmonte def. No. 3 Pate, 249-243

USBC HALL OF FAMER ELVIRA TOEPFER DIES AT AGE 99

ARLINGTON, Texas - United States Bowling Congress Hall of Famer Elvira Toepfer of Bradenton, Florida, died Feb. 5 at the age of 99.

Toepfer first made a name for herself as a Detroit-area standout and was selected as the Motor City's Queen of Bowling eight times, to go along with multiple appearances on the all-city team and a Woman of the Year Award from the Bowling Proprietors Association of Greater Detroit.

Her passion for the sport began while she was working at a local bowling center, and her career kicked



off in 1940, when she was 18 years old.

In the decades that followed, Toepfer was part of the Brunswick Advisory Staff of Bowling Champions and was able to find success at the national level, too.

Her first noteworthy victory came with fellow USBC Hall of Famer Anita Cantaline at the 1956 Bowling Proprietors' Association of America Women's National Doubles, and Toepfer found the national continued on page 5

What If Bowling Had A 24 Hour Cable TV Channel?

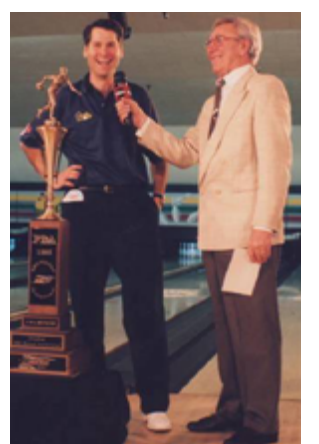
by Dave Williams

An article in the February 2022 issue of BCM Magazine ("Bowling Center TV Rollout Begins") caught my eye, and I wondered to myself if fans of the grand old game of tenpins would ever have their very own cable TV channel devoted entirely to the game of bowling. There's certainly enough material available to keep the channel active.

I have had this dream for many years... at least since the Golf Channel made their debut in the early 1990's. Aside from Shell's Wonderful World of

Golf, there really aren't that many canned productions for golf. But with bowling there's a wide cornucopia of programs, from celebrity bowling matches, to local "Bowling for Dollars" telecasts, to the Championship Bowling series that aired from a different city each year — not to mention all of the men's and women's pro bowling telecasts over the past 60 years.

My first attempt at fulfilling this dream took place while I was working for American Recreation Centers, a chain of bowling continued on page 4



Piece of Cake! -- (l-r) Dave Husted and Hall of Fame announcer Chris Schenkel. Husted, who grew up in his father's bowling centers, had no problem with any of the scripts. Photo compliments of PBA, LLC

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MAILING ADDRESS EDITORIAL OFFICE
7502 Florence Ave. 11459 Imperial Hwy.
Downey, CA 90240 Norwalk, CA 90650

TEMP. OFFICE NUMBER: 626-252-2985
24-HOUR FAX NUMBER:

E-mail: news@californiabowlingnews.com
Website: www.californiabowlingnews.com

CHARLES KINSTLER.....Publisher
DEAN LOPEZ Editor / Typesetter
CAROL MANCINIEditor / Publisher
DOUG HOSKINSComputer Consultant

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EDITORIALS, STORIES, FACTS, PICTURE CAPTIONS or
SPELLING emailed for publication. Published 52 weeks.

Margaret Vassar’s “900” Series -
Tops in The Inland Empire Ladies Club

by Frank Weiler

REDLANDS – When I heard that Margaret Vassar rolled a 900 Series in the Inland Empire Ladies Club (IELC) Match Game League I thought she had become the first woman to roll a perfect series. I thought I would be breaking the Bowling story of the century by writing about her super series. A Bowling feat as historic and outstanding as the 900 series rolled by GLENN RICHARD ALLISON.

Speaking to IELC Secretary CARI BURRIS I found that Margaret did bowl a 900 series but for four games not three! The series is the season high scratch series for the league and while an outstanding accomplishment it doesn’t make Bowling history. Damn it. I missed my opportunity for the Bowling story of the century.

Margaret Vassar is one of the top female bowlers in the Inland Empire. She is currently averaging 202 in the IELC and is standing in second place. She regularly rolls high scores and is very competitive.

She’s a Smooth Flyer. Margaret’s bowling style is a combination of “stroking” and “cranking”. Because of her unique bowling form, the combining of two styles, I call her a Smooth Flyer. She is as smooth as a stroker and flies as high as a cranker. I will be writing more about Margaret as a Smooth Flyer in the future.

Margarets’s 901 (210-241-205-245) series demonstrates her remarkable consistency. All four games are above 200. No game very high but no low game. That scoring consistency is the mark of a good bowler and Margaret Vassar is a good bowler. She doesn’t rely on a lucky big game to record a high series.

In the past everyone wanted to be like Mike. That’s MICHAEL JORDAN. Not me. And not many bowlers in the Inland Empire. I want to be like Margaret. “I want to bowl like Margaret Vassar”. And many other bowlers in the Inland Empire want to bowl like Margaret Vassar.



Margaret Vassar



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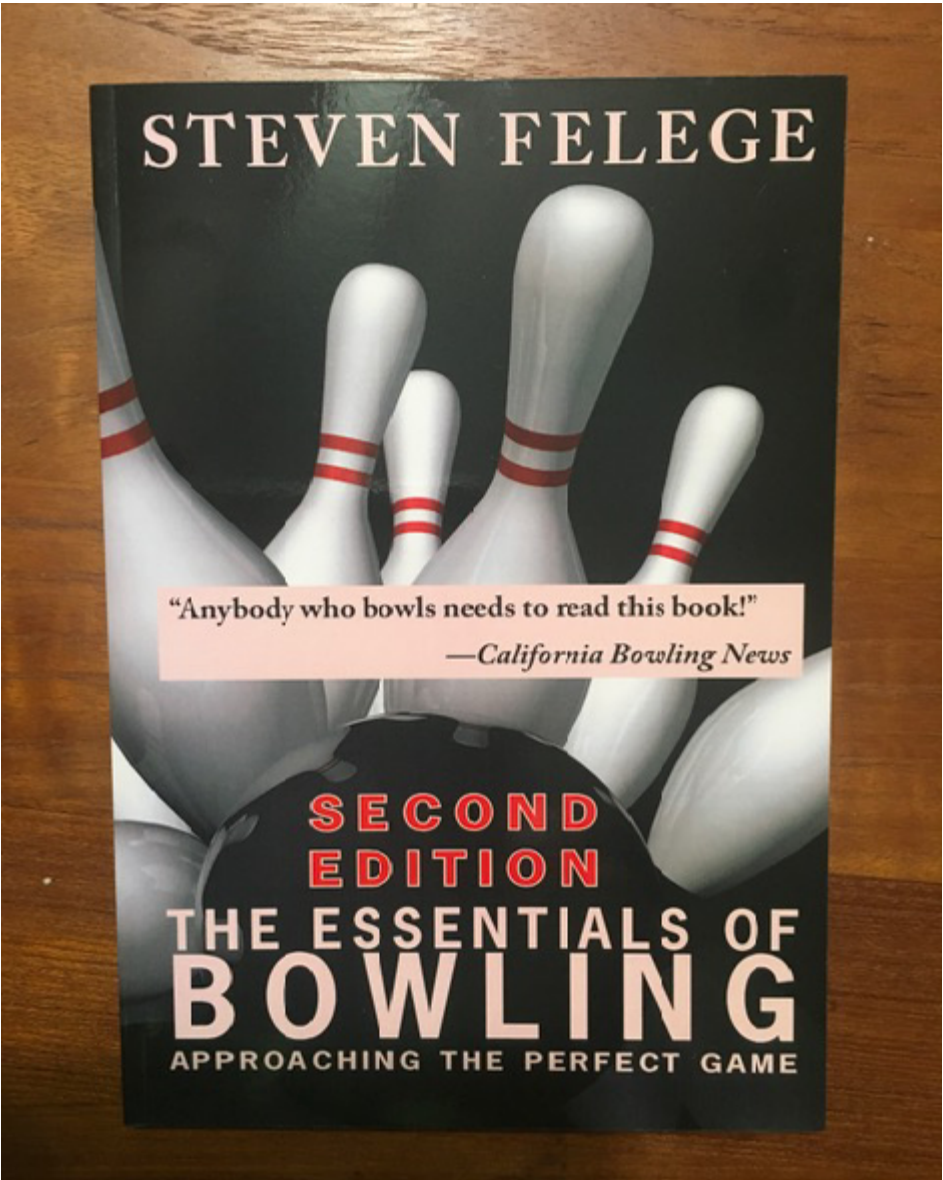
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Bowling TV continued from page 1

centers based out of California, with locations primarily in California, Texas and Wisconsin, and smaller clusters in Oklahoma, Kentucky and Missouri. Each year we would host the professional bowlers at one of our locations, and each year I would think about utilizing the pros for a series of commercials that we could air in-house during league and casual bowling hours.

Finally in 1992, and with the permission of the Professional Bowlers Association (PBA), I used the KSCH-TV 58 studios and crew in Sacramento, Calif., to develop a number of 30 and 60 second commercials directed at just about everything in the bowling center — league and casual bowling, food and drinks, video games, lottery cards, tournaments, short season clubs, etc. The pro bowlers, most notably Parker Bohn III and Marc McDowell, were anxious to be a part of our efforts. I remember Parker telling me, “I want to do as many spots as possible, because this will be good experience for me in the future.”

Parker and Marc probably had the most difficulty with the scripts, while others like Dave Husted and Steve Cook were naturals, and required only one take. Looking back on my experiences at AMF, I recalled marketing guru Al Spanjer telling me to always have the participants sign a release, and pay them something, even if it’s just one dollar. It seemed to add credibility to the moment, and I remember all of the bowlers taking it seriously once they signed their agreement.

Some of the most humorous moments were captured on a video we called “ARC Bloopers.” It was so funny that I remember sending a VHS copy to Mark Gerberich at the PBA corporate offices, and they shared it at their annual Tournament of Champions Dinner. I still have at least one copy of “ARC Bloopers,” and it will someday be a part of the Bowling Hall of Fame and Museum.

The article in February’s BCM Magazine reports, “Strike Ten Entertainment (STE), the Bowling Proprietors Association of America (BPAA) and the United States Bowling Congress (USBC) are rolling out Bowling Center TV — or BCTV for short.” The article goes on to say that BCTV will provide participating locations the opportunity to enhance the customer experience and generate additional revenue through advertising.

It all sounds wonderful, but looking back on my personal experience, prior to what appears to be a fully integrated system with live transmission, I can only remember the reluctance by the bowling center staff to activate the 1992 version. After viewing the tapes a couple of times, the crew were irritated by the videos and did not turn up the sound, or in many cases did not even turn on the 2 hour loop tapes. One can only hope that the additional revenue that will be provided by BCTV will encourage the management to have the system running, and with sound! The BCM article states that BCTV will include interactive games, photo uploading and other elements designed to get customers engaging with the screens. But what about the bowling? Do we really want the customers so occupied with the screens? Won’t this lead to (extremely) slow bowling?

I wish BCTV well, but in the interest of everyone involved, it would seem that “The Bowling Channel” on cable TV makes more sense...



Another Take? -- Parker Bohn III had some difficulty with most of the subject matter and we finally resorted to using cue cards. Photo compliments of PBA, LLC

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Check-in at 6pm • Bowl at 7pm • 1 in 5 Payout
Pattern this week: House Shot

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Check-in at 11am • Bowl at Noon • 1 in 5 Payout
4 Games on Same Pair of Lanes on House Shot

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TOEPFER continued from page 1

spotlight again in 1957 and 1959 with team titles at the USBC Women’s Championships.

In all, she participated in the Women’s Championships 56 times from 1942-2001. She also collected top-five finishes at the World’s Invitational Tournament and the BPAA All-Star and enjoyed a stint on the Professional Women’s Bowling Association Tour in the organization’s early years. The first PWBA Tour event was held in 1960.

Continued success earned Toepfer entrance into a trio of halls of fame for superior performance - Metro Detroit USBC (during the 1966-1967 season), USBC (1976) and Michigan State (1977).

Toepfer and her late husband, Meyrl, moved to Homosassa, Florida, in 1999, and she relocated to nearby Bradenton following his death in 2001. She had lived in an assisted living facility since 2016.

Information about funeral services for Toepfer is not yet available.

In Memory of Anthony “Droopy” Drapeau

by Tony Lizama

February 8, 2022 was a somber day for family and friends. That day, the good Lord decided to take our beloved Anthony up to Heaven. “Droopy” as he was known to his friends, was involved in a fatal car accident while making Doordash deliveries in Upland during the early morning hours. The news was devastating to his loving wife and best friend, Leticia Drapeau. For me, this dark moment still seems surreal, like a bad dream. Afterall, Anthony was not only my good friend, he was also my brother-in-law. Our family knew that “Droopy” was well known in the Bowling Community. We were especially proud to see how he was loved and well-liked by people, particularly the ones he referred to as his “Bowling Family.”



Anthony “Droopy” Drapeau

Life wasn’t easy for Anthony growing up. At age nine, he was permanently placed in Foster Care and was raised by various foster families. Anthony experienced some low points in his life ... until he discovered bowling! “Droopy” grew up in bowling centers and developed many friendships, some lasted decades. In fact, one of his first jobs was working at Squeezes’ Pizza at Del Rio Lanes in Downey. According to “Droopy,” he stated that “Bowling saved my Life!” Anthony was credited with bowling eight (8) 300 scores, two (2) 800 Series and six (6) 11 strikes in a row honors. As “Droopy” mastered his bowling skills, he later worked at various Pro Shops. He often joked with his close friends by saying, “Your balls are in good hands!” Needless to say, Anthony was always the consummate comedian.

Anthony always spoke highly about his good friends, too many to mention here. Although there were some who didn’t get along with Anthony, he never harbored ill will towards anyone. Anthony always made mention of the two persons in his life who took him into their hearts and home as a young man. Anthony always thought of Kevin and Rene Travis as his parents. He always commented, “They made me feel like I was their son.” Up until his untimely death, Anthony always referred to Kevin and Rene as “Mom and Dad.”

While some only knew Anthony as a great bowler, I can tell you from experience, he was more than that. Anthony was a proud husband and a loving family man. He was a man of many talents! Amongst them was his amazing cooking skills. This was something he developed while cooking for himself in various foster homes. Not only did Anthony find a home here with his wife and children, but he was also accepted by his wife’s relatives in La Paz, Baja California Mexico with open arms and unconditional love. To his wife, Leticia, “Anthony was like a diamond: He was in the rough, he was multi-faceted, had internal flaws. But he was polished with love and kindness, shined brightly and filled our lives with a sparkling light! I’ll miss you my sweet husband ... till we meet again.”

Funeral services for Anthony will be held at Todd Memorial Chapel located at 570 N. Garey Ave., Pomona. Services scheduled from 6 to 8 pm. For more information, please contact me (Tony) at (909) 993-3882. R.I.P. Anthony, “Thank you for bringing happiness into our lives! you’re now bowling with the angels.



Pic 1 and 2: “Anthony winning tournament pots”photo courtesy of Leticia Drapeau Pic 3: “Anthony and Leticia Drapeau in Baja California Mexico” photo courtesy of George Lizama Pic 4: “Anthony giving wife flowers for their anniversary in La Paz, Baja California Mexico” photo courtesy of Tony Lizama Pic 5: “The ‘Bowling Twins’ Droopy and Tony Lizama at Keystone Lanes” photo courtesy of Leticia Drapeau



Date	Time	Tournament	Channel
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27 2022	1:00PM EST	PBA Tournament of Champions Finals LIVE	FOX
SUNDAY, MARCH 6 2022	12:00PM EST	WSOB PBA Roth/Holman Doubles Championship Finals LIVE	FS1
SUNDAY, MARCH 13 2022	1:00PM EDT	WSOB PBA World Championship Finals LIVE.....	FOX
MONDAY, MARCH 14 2022	8:00PM EDT	WSOB PBA Cheetah Championship Finals LIVE	FS1
TUESDAY, MARCH 15 2022	8:00PM EDT	WSOB PBA Scorpion Championship Finals LIVE	FS1
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16 2022	8:00PM EDT	WSOB PBA Shark Championship Finals LIVE.....	FS1
SUNDAY, MARCH 20 2022	2:30PM EDT	WSOB PBA Collegiate Invitational.....	FS1
SUNDAY, MARCH 20 2022	4:30PM EDT	THE PBA STORM CUP: Lubbock Sports Open LIVE.....	FloBowling
THURSDAY, MARCH 24 2022	8:30PM EDT	THE PBA STORM CUP: Colorado Springs Open	FloBowling
SUNDAY, APRIL 3 2022	1:00PM EDT	USBC Masters LIVE	FOX
SUNDAY, APRIL 10 2022	12:00PM EDT	PBA Playoffs Round of 16	FS1
SUNDAY, APRIL 10 2022	2:00PM EDT	PBA Playoffs Round of 16	FS1
SATURDAY, APRIL 16 2022	1:00PM EDT	PBA Playoffs Round of 16	FS1
SUNDAY, APRIL 17 2022	6:00PM EDT	PBA Playoffs Round of 16	FS1
SUNDAY, APRIL 24 2022	12:00PM EDT	PBA Playoffs Quarterfinals	FS1
SUNDAY, MAY 1 2022	12:00PM EDT	PBA Playoffs Quarterfinals	FS1
SUNDAY, MAY 8 2022	12:00PM EDT	PBA Playoffs Semifinals	FS1
SUNDAY, MAY 15 2022	1:00PM EDT	PBA Playoffs Finals LIVE.....	FOX
WEDNESDAY, JULY 6 2022	8:00PM EDT	PBA League Anthony Division Finals LIVE.....	FS1
THURSDAY, JULY 7 2022	8:00PM EDT	PBA League Carter Division Finals LIVE.....	FS1
SUNDAY, JULY 10 2022	1:00PM EDT	PBA League Elias Cup Finals LIVE.....	FS1
SATURDAY, JULY 16 2022	1:00PM EDT	PBA League Strike Derby LIVE	FS1
SUNDAY, JULY 17 2022	1:30PM EDT	PBA League All Star Clash	FS1

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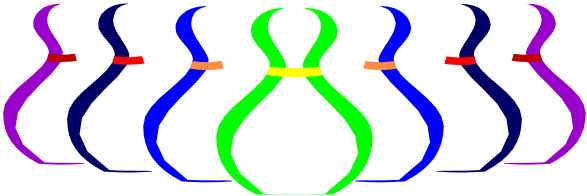
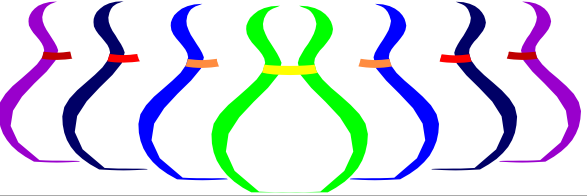


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BOWLIIUM LANES - 32 4666 E. Holt Blvd., Montclair, CA 91763 (909) 626-3528 • Fax: (909) 626-2144 www.bowlium.com Facebook.com/Bowlium	NORTH COUNTY USBC Association Manager - Tena Dunn PO Box 5987, Oceanside, CA 92052 ncusbcamanager@gmail.com www.ncusbca.com (760)294-4070	ORANGE COUNTY Association Manager - Andrea Fredericks PO Box 4396, Garden Grove, CA 92842-4396 E-Mail: assnmgr@ocusbc.org (714) 554-0111
CANYON LANES - 24 49750 Seminole Dr., Cabazon, CA 92230 (951) 572-6120 Fax: (951) 922-2385 Located next to Morongo Casino	VENTURA COUNTY USBC Asst. Manager - Cheryl Smith vcusbc@gmail.com (805)339-9334	SAN GABRIEL VALLEY Association Manager - Linda Johnson-Pilios 4020 Shadydale Ave., Covina, CA 91722 E-Mail: thumpr2@verizon.net (626) 337-6270 Fax: (626) 960-9260
		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



35th Year!

Brunswick®

INVITATIONAL

Bowlers Take On The New 4th Round Pattern

by David Yamauchi

DOWNEY - The Brunswick Invitational hit the lanes for the first week of the 4th round with the 2021 USBC Nationals Team Event oil pattern on the lane. The bowlers were working their arsenals to find out the best matchup for the 41' low ratio pattern. Teams were put in order of overall season wins to start fresh on the new round.

In the "A" match, league-leaders Forever Hope Foundation took on DV8 who was coming off their rolloff loss last week. Forever Hope Foundation showed why they are leading the league as they swept past DV8 for the 5-0 win. Joe Smith led Forever Hope with a 645 set while sub Sam Hitchcock was consistent with a 613 set to lead DV8.

In The "B" match, third-round winner Cal Bowl was taking on Forest Lanes in a rematch of last year's 5th round marathon. Forest Lanes came out strong taking the first two games by 154 pins but Cal Bowl wasn't done as they stormed back to win the last game by 160 to take total pins by 6 and the 3-2 win. In the battle of the managers, Jon Diso led Forest with a nice 651 set while Cal Bowl was led by Leonard Ruiz Jr.'s strong 683 set.

Second-round winners Bowlmum took on US Foods in the third pair match. This match was all US Foods as they took a 5-0 sweep of the match. Gabriel Martinez was huge with a 731 series while David Schiada paced Bowlmum with a consistent 614 set.

Junior Amateur Tour and Threadworks were the 7-8 matchup in the middle of the house. Threadworks came out on fire putting up a 867 first game followed by a 850 to take a commanding lead for totals. J.A.T. came back with a 853 third game to take one in a 4-1 loss. Paul Varela

paced Threadworks with a 671 set while Anthony Santos led J.A.T. with a 654 set.

Family Ties took on Westminster Lanes in the 9-10 matchup. Family Ties started strong with a big 852 game but it was all Westminster Lanes from there as they chalked up a 4-1 win. Stephanie Zavala paced Family Ties with a 633 set while Ray Minter was big for Westminster Lanes posting a nice 690 series.

Team Hu\$tle was looking to get the 4th round started on a positive note against Bowling Guys. Bowling Guys came out strong taking the first two games but Team Hu\$tle didn't quit and snuck out a game three win. Bowling Guys take 4 led by Ricardo Mendoza's 686 set while Edward Estrada paced Team Hu\$tle with as 589 series.

California Timberline, Professional Approach Pro Shop, WBPI and TDI Refrigeration rounded out the matches on Monday. California Timberline posted a 4-1 win over Professional Approach Pro Shop and WBPI took a 4-1 win over TDI Refrigeration. California Timberline was led by Donell Carter's 617, Gail Rodgers subbed to a 638 to lead Professional Approach, Adrian Pelayo led WBPI with a 577 set and Trae Davis led TDI Refrigeration with a 514 set.

The Financial Advisor's pot was hit by Joe Smith (268) for \$160 with 2nd to Jon Diso (246) for \$70. Sidepots went to Paul Varela (255) and Joe Smith (268) for \$45 each with 2nd to Gabriel Martinez (252) and JT Diso (235) for \$21. SuperPot was hit by Gabriel Martinez (287) for \$132 with 2nd to Leonard Ruiz Jr. (268) for \$66. Come out and watch the action as the teams shoot on the Nationals Championship pattern at Del Rio Lanes. The action starts at 8:00!

TOP 10 TEAMS ROUND 4			
U.S. Foods	.....5	California Timberline	..4
Forever Hope Foundation	\$ 5	WBPI	.....4
Threadworks	.....4	Cal Bowl	\$3
Westminster Lanes	...4	Forest Lanes	.....2
Bowling Guys	.....4	Junior Amateur Tour	..1

TOP 10 THIS WEEK			
Gabriel Martinez	.....731	Eric Snow	.....666
Marquan Rivers	.....701	Kasey Uyesugi	.....665
Ricardo Mendoza	.....686	Anthony Santos	.....655
Leonard Ruiz Jr.	.....683	Kevin Valmonte	.....654
Paul Varela	.....671	Jon Diso	.....651

SUPER SWEEPER POT

Sponsored by Dean Sanderson of Transamerica Financial Advisors Inc.

1st 268 Joe Smith • 2nd 246 Jon Diso

TRANSAMERICA

FINANCIAL ADVISORS, INC.

Transamerica Financial Group Division

Dean Sanderson

Investment Advisor Representative

License: 0F92487

11801 Pierce Street
Suite 215
Riverside, CA 92505

Office: 951.530.9343
Mobile: 714.875.0450
Fax: 951.389.3755

dean.sanderson@tfaconnect.com
<https://deansanderson.wfgopportunity.com/>

