

# GiLEN ALIISON BEEAKS PARTICPPaTION RECORDOT USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHITS 

by Aaron Smith

LAS VEGAS - Numbers help to define great athletes and phenomenal achievements.

It's easy for Major League Baseball fans to associate 56 with Joe DiMaggio's hitting streak in 1941. A simple 100 written on a piece of paper reminds generations young and old of Wilt Chamberlain's prolific performance in 1962 as a National Basketball Association star.
At the United States Bowling Congress Open Championships, a 300 game, 800 series or win-
ning total to claim a coveted Eagle lives on in the tournament's record book, now spanning 120 editions since 1901.
One number had served as the peak of tournament participation at the event since 1981, but that changed Sunday as Professional Bowlers Association and USBC Hall of Famer Glenn Allison became the first competitor to reach 72 years at the USBC Open Championships.

Allison, from Corona, California, previously continued on page 6


## KYIL TROUPWUINS USST BAREP PBA INDIANACLIASSIC

Kyle Troup becomes the first multi-time champion of 2024 after defeating top-seeded EJ Tackett to win the Just Bare PBA Indiana Classic at David Small's Championship Lanes in Anderson, Ind.

With a 228-213 title match victory, Troup earned his 12th career title and second of the season, moving him to the forefront of any early Player of the Year conversation. Dating back to last season, Troup has won three of the past eight PBA Tour title events.

Just like at the U.S. Open earlier this month, Troup picked out his uniform for the show at the begnning of the week.

His half-yellow, half-blue quilt print was a nod to the pants Troup's father, Guppy, wore on the 1998 Storm Flagship Open show.

Canada's Zach Wilkins defeated Mexico's Benjy Martinez in the opening match. Wilkins struck on his final eight shots to secure the match.

The 37 -foot Viper pattern showed its highscoring nature in the second match of the night between Wilkins and Troup. Troup struck on his first eight shots, then converted a 10 -pin in the ninth frame - and he still needed 20 pins in the 10th frame to shut out Wilkins.

An 11-strike 279 cata-

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# ISThe PBAAl|-Star Weekend Doomed!? 

by Dave Williams
After watching the most recent NBA All-Star Weekend on television, I cannot help but wonder if the PBA All-Star Weekend, an obvious copy of the basketball event, is doomed to fail? The NBA event, complete with neon flooring, making it almost impossible to follow the basketball, set a near record low this year. Only last year's total of 4.8 million households was lower in the past 20 years. By comparison, 10.8 million households tuned in for the 2003 basketball event.

Is this really something that the PBA wants to emulate? The only redeeming value was the three point challenge between Steph Curry and Sabrina Ionescu in the first ever challenge between the NBA and WNBA. Curry won out with a total of 29 points, to Sabrina's score of 26 , which tied the best of the male competitors in the "regular" 3-point contest. I wonder if any NBA team will draft Sabrina next season?

The All-Star game itself was a non-event, with the east beating the west by a final score of 211 to 186 . Has anyone heard of defense? Larry Bird, in typical fashion, cut directly to the heart of the problem with ratings for the NBA All-Star Weekend when he said, "You've got to play hard, and you've got to compete."

The PBA All-Star Weekend will include three days of activity, just like the NBA. The suggestion from the PBA is that the debut of this weekend program will demonstrate the organization's goal to employ new and exciting initiatives for fans and players alike. Did I miss something? What's wrong with the PBA? Maybe they're looking for higher scores, like the failed NBA east vs. west showdown, or lanes that change color every frame?

## PBA All-Star Skills Showdown

All the action gets underway on Friday, March 15, at 6PM, with the Skills Showdown. I hope this isn't a repeat of the "throwing a bowling ball over a chair halfway down the lane" trick shot from many years ago. Proprietors are still cringing at that spectacle. A news release from the PBA states, "Three teams of professional bowlers, including Kyle Troup, Packy Hanrahan, E.J. Tackett and more, will represent top bowling product manufacturers, such as Storm, Brunswick and Motiv as they showcase their striking prowess, spare-shooting expertise and trick-shot creativity."

Following the lead of the NBA in their record 211-186 shootout (with no defense), I wonder if we will see a 300 game tie by all of the entrants? And on fluorescent lanes? I'm beginning to wonder if lane conditioning has always been the defense, or the competition in bowling that Larry Bird described?

## PBA Legacy Cup: Legends and Rising Stars

On Saturday, March 16, at 1PM, we have an event that could really provide a few memories, because some of the greatest players in the history of the game (Pete Weber, Norm Duke, Parker Bohn III and Walter Ray Williams Jr.) will be combining forces with rising stars like Cortez Schenck, Anthony Neuer, and other players determined by a fan vote.

Voting for those "other players" is now underway. You can actually cast your vote now at:

## https://www.pba.com/all-star-weekend

Finally, to close the night, Mike Aulby will take part in a shoot-out competition with a special guest. In keeping with the NBA format (Curry vs. Ionescu), I wonder if the special guest will be PWBA newcomer Karsyn Lukosius from New Jersey? Or perhaps Liz Johnson, the all-time everything among PWBA bowlers? Shannon Pluhowsky, a lefty like Aulby, would also make an interesting selection.


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## Go Bowling PBA NASCAR Invitational

The bowling version of All-Star Weekend concludes on March 17, at 1PM, on FOX (the other events are on FS1). This contest will feature four doubles teams, each pairing one PBA or PWBA player with one NASCAR driver. According to the PBA news release, "Defending champions Kyle Troup and Aric Almirola will face off against competitors like the PBA's Darren Tang, NASCAR's Chase Briscoe and the PWBA's Daria Pajak and Lindsay Boomershine."

There's also a special "Checkered Flag Clash," where NASCAR talent will compete in a single elimination format. Hmm, I wonder what that could be? Let's hope they don't bring in miniature race cars to compete on the lanes.

## HAVE YOU SEEN THIS PIN?

The Bowling Museum \& Hall of Fame in Arlington, Texas, have asked for our assistance in locating the origin and dating of this bowling pin.
Any of you that have spent a lifetime in the game of bowling will immediately notice the elongated neck of this pin.
My personal opinion is that the unusual shape was designed to assist pin boys when they were setting the pins by hand. The elongated neck would make it easier to hold multiple pins in each hand. If you have any information or thoughts on the design of this pin, write to us in care of this publication.
We will hopefully have some answers in an upcoming issue.

- PBA All-Star Weekend logo provided by pba. com
- Antique Bowling Pin photo provided by the Bowling Museum \& Hall of Fame


Antique Bowling Pin


Indiante FresíG continued from page 1
the show that he felt confident if he were to win two matches and face Tackett. That confidence came, in part, from Troup's 3-1 record against Tackett in TV finals entering the night, but also from a renewed mental strength.

Following his U.S. Open title earlier this month Troup missed the cut in Illinois and Missouri. He regained his mental strength this week thanks to Mind Gym, a book gifted to him by Storm tour rep Jim Callahan.

Troup read the book throughout all 36 games of qualifying and elimination rounds, where he averaged more than 240 to earn the No. 3 seed. With a refined mental game, Troup's confidence has returned as well.
"We're back," Troup said. "I had good ball reaction, but I didn't have anywhere near the ball reaction I did in that U.S. Open title match. To will my way to victory, that gives me any confidence that I was lacking."

Throughout the week, players threw urethane equipment for a game or two and then jumped left with reactive equipment. On Saturday, Troup was able to throw urethane the entire night on the right lane and until the championship match on the left lane.

With two titles, Troup inserted him into any Player of the Year consideration - if he wasn't there already.
"I feel like l've got to bowl better more consistently if I want to worry about that," Troup said. "We'll worry about (Player of the Year) after the Tournament of Champions in April. My goal is to make the PBA Playoffs and the Tour Finals."

Bill O'Neill won the season-opening PBA Players Championship and has made three championship rounds currently leads the tour in points. Tackett, though titleless, has made four consecutive championship rounds. Kent, who Troup defeated in Saturday's semifinals, won the PBA Illinois Classic earlier this month.

Not to be forgotten is Anthony Simonsen, who won ast week's event in Missouri and almost snuck onto this championship round. Wilkins sits sixth overall in points, just ahead of the ever-lurking Jason Belmonte.

Tackett exited David Small's Championship Lanes, where he won a high school state championship without a title. After winning five titles last season Tackett has yet to win in 2024
"I would be lying if I said it wasn't wearing me down," Tackett said. "This has happened so many times that I feel like l've gotten pretty decent at getting over it. I have to find it within myself, somewhere, to go to Delaware and do the same thing and give myself another opportunity. That's all I can do. And hope that when the opportunity arises again that I perform a little bit better. I've just got to keep getting there. You get there enough times, things are going to go your way at some point."

The PBA Tour heads east for the sixth title event of the season. The PBA Delaware Classic begins in Middletown Mid County Lanes. Qualifying begins on Wednesday morning. All rounds of qualifying and match play will be livestreamed on BowITV.

Championship Round Scores
Match 1: No. 5 Zach Wilkins def
No. 4 Benjy Martinez, 259-225
Match 2: No. 3 Kyle Troup def No. 5 Zach Wilkins, 279-254
Match 3: No. 3 Kyle Troup def.
No. 2 Marshall Kent, 227-224
Championship: No. 3 Kyle Troup def
No. 1 EJ Tackett, 228-213
Final Standings

1. Kyle Troup, \$25,000
2. EJ Tackett, \$15,000
3. Marshall Kent, \$12,500
4. Zach Wilkins, \$10,000
5. Benjy Martinez, \$8,000

More information on the Just Bare PBA Indiana Classic is available here.

## PBA Announces Inaugural PBA All-Star Weekend <br> The event hrings together PBA Iegends, all-star bowlers and some of NASCAR's top talent for a weekend of invigorating shows and competitions

PHOENIX, AZ - Today, the Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) announces the debut of its inaugural All-Star Weekend; a three-day event that will captivate sports fans across the country. The debut of this first-of-its-kind, week-end-long event further demonstrates the organization's goal to employ new and exciting initiatives for fans and players alike, such as with the announcement of the PBA Elite League season expansion.

The first-ever PBA All-Star Weekend will be a groundbreaking moment in bowling history," said PBA Commissioner Tom Clark. "The weekend promises to be a celebration of skill, tradition and innovation, bringing together the PBA's best bowlers, iconic legends and some of NASCAR's top talent for a showcase of all that makes bowling great."
"This is just another example of how together we are growing the partnership between NASCAR and bowling by reaching and unifying two passionate fan bases," said John Harbuck, President of Strike Ten Entertainment. "In addition to the GoBowling PBA NASCAR Invitational, we are expanding by adding two PBA All-Star events to round out the weekend with three, engaging and entertaining nationally televised sporting events."

In addition to fans having the opportunity to attend PBA All-Star Weekend events in-person March 6-8, the weekend comprises of three televised shows airing March 15-17 on either FS1 or FOX - highlighting the talent, legacy and charisma of the PBA and its network of athletes:

PBA ALL-STAR SKILLS SHOWDOWN:
Airing March 15 at 6 pm ET on FS1, this thrilling event displays the unique talents of the PBA's finest athletes. Three teams of professional bowlers, including Kyle Troup, Packy Hanrahan, EJ Tackett and more, will represent top bowling product manufacturers, such as Storm, Brunswick and Motiv as they showcase their striking prowess, spare-shooting expertise and trick-shot creativity.

PBA LEGACY CUP: LEGENDS AND RISING STARS:
Hall of Famers and future superstars take center stage in the Legacy Cup on March 16 at 1 pm ET on FS1. The PBA's past, present and future collide for this event as legendary bowlers Pete Weber, Norm Duke, Parker Bohn III and Walter Ray Williams Jr. join forces with rising stars like Cortez Schenck and Anthony Neuer - with four PBA All-Stars determined by a fan vote. To close the night, legends and today's stars will go head-to-head in a shoot-out competition with added special guest, PBA Hall of Famer Mike Aulby.

Voting for the PBAAll-Star representatives is live now at https://www.pba.com/ all-star-weekend and will remain open through Feb. 27. Fans can each vote for one PBA Tour player in the top 10 on the 2024 PBA Tour points list as of the conclusion of the PBA Pete Weber Missouri Classic. The four players with the highest number of votes will compete in the PBA Legacy Cup.

## GOBOWLING PBA NASCAR INVITATIONAL:

All-Star Weekend concludes March 17 at 1 pm ET on FOX with the PBA/NASCAR Doubles event. This event features four doubles teams, each pairing one PBA or PWBA player with one NASCAR driver, who will compete in a bracketstyle tournament. Defending champions Kyle Troup and Aric Almirola will face off against competitors like the PBA's Darren Tang, NASCAR's Chase Briscoe and the PWBA's Daria Pajak and Lindsay Boomershine. Additionally, the event features a special "Checkered Flag Clash," where NASCAR talent will compete in a single-elimination format.

For more information about how to attend these events live in-person, visit www.phoenixraceway.com/gobowling. Please also visit https://www.pba.com/ or follow the PBA Tour on Instagram @pbatour to stay up to date on the latest PBA Tour news and upcoming events

## zaCK IELLSEY Reneats as "LANISTER OHE BALI" Champion <br> by Frank Weiler


"Lankster One Ball" Tournament winners:
(L to R) Zack Jellsey (1st), Ronnie Castillo (tie 3rd), Tristan Perham (tie 3rd), Derrick Jones (2nd)
REDLANDS - The "Lankster One Ball Tournament" is a unique competition where each bowler is allowed to compete with only one bowling ball. That's one bowling ball for strikes and spares for five scratch games of tournament bowling.
Each bowler may only enter the Bowling Center with one ball. That ball must be selected prior to rolling a single practice ball. Only the bold enter this tournament.
Zack Jellsey has repeated as tournament champion after making the biggest tournament comeback that I have witnessed in 20 years of writing. "Believe it or not" after the fourth game of the five game scratch tournament Zack was in 16th place! He rolled a huge 235 game to finish his day and jumped from 16th place to 1st Place and winning the tournament. While Zack finished with a 235 game the bowlers above him in the standings rolled games in the 150 range allowing Zack to make up about a 100 pin deficit. That 235 game was the high game of the tournament.

The Winding Road oil pattern befuddled the tournament field with many competitors not bowling a single 200 game! No competitor averaged 200 with our tournament champion Zack Jellsey averaging just 181! There were only 7 two hundred (200) games bowled out the 90 games rolled. That's just $7 \%$ of the games bowled!

There were some historic low games for a scratch tournament with games of 102, 108, 113, 129, 132, and 134 to name a few. "Good Gracious Great Balls of Fire". These are scores bowled by bowlers with 220 to 240 certified book averages! WOW

The Top 5 tournament bowlers were within just six pins of each other. That is the closest finish of any tournament I have reported on. Derrick Jones finished in second place just two pins back of Zack Jellsey. The competition was stiff.

The TOP 5 tournament Finishers after five games follow:

| Bowler | Score | Average | Winnings |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Zack Jellsey | 907 | 181.4 | $\$ 660$ |
| Derrick Jones | 905 | 181.0 | 440 |
| Tristan Perham | 904 | 180.8 | 125 |
| Ronnie Castillo | 904 | 180.8 | 125 |
| Rick Quinbar | 901 | 180.2 |  |

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HENI AlIISOI continued from page 1
held the record at 71 years with Bill Doehrman, Joe Norris and Sylvester Thiel and now sits at the top of the list after his appearance for team competition at the South Point Bowling Plaza.

Doehrman, a USBC Hall of Famer, made his 71st appearance in 1981, while Norris, also a member of the USBC Hall of Fame, matched the mark in 2000. Thiel joined them at 71 years in 2016.

The 93-year-old right-hander received a custom trophy, plaque and chevron as he was joined by family and friends during an on-lane presentation Sunday.

Allison noted it was the first time in his 72 appearances that he was able to bowl on a team made up of all family members. He was joined on the lanes by his son (Mark Allison), daughter (Suzanne Allison), grandson (Glenn Allison II) and granddaughter (Danielle Ledezma).
"I'd just like to thank all my friends that are here to watch me break the record, and also my family," said Allison as he addressed the crowd at the Bowling Plaza. "My granddaughter, my grandson, my son, and my daughter, they're all here with me on my team. This is a first for me - having all of my team members from my family. It's a wonderful feeling."

Allison's storied career at the Open Championships started at the 1947 event in Los Angeles, where he only competed in the team event. He returned to the tournament for his second trip in 1950, and since 1954, Allison has made his annual appearance each year at the event.

As his appearances started to add up at the tournament, Allison also started to collect victories at the Open Championships. He claimed four titles from 1962 through 1970.

He paired with USBC Hall of Famer Dick Hoover in 1962 to claim his first Eagle at the Open Championships, as they posted a 1,431 score to win Classic Doubles. Allison rolled a 780 series to lead the way, the highest total in his Open Championships career.

He followed with a pair of Classic Team victories in 1964 and 1966. He helped Falstaff Beer record the win in 1964 and Ace Mitchell Shur-Hooks take home the team title in 1966. He averaged more than 227 during team competition in those appearances.

Allison's fourth win came in Classic Singles at the 1970 event in Knoxville, Tennessee, finishing with a 730 series.

He made his 50th appearance at the 2001 tournament in Reno, Nevada, and joined the 100,000-Pin Club at the Open Championships in his 55th appearance during the 2006 event in Corpus Christi, Texas, finishing with 1,882 for the year.

As he has continued to work toward the participation record, Allison also has his eye on adding another number to his collection - the top number in career pinfall at the Open Championships.

He entered the 2024 event in third place on the alltime list at 122,954 pins, an overall average of more than 191.

Allison rolled a 301 series to start his 72 nd appearance Sunday in team, and he'll return to the Bowling Plaza on Monday at 2 p.m. Pacific to see if he can get to the top spot.

He now sits at 123,255 pins for his career and is 516 pins away from passing Norris for second on the list $(123,770)$. He needs 833 pins to surpass USBC Hall of Famer Bill Lillard Sr. for the pinfall record $(124,087)$.

The 2024 Open Championships got underway Feb. 23 and will run through July 29 at the South Point Bowling Plaza. The tournament is scheduled to feature more than 11,000 teams and 55,000 bowlers making their way to compete in Las Vegas.

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# Brínswick: ENMETFATMTMLAL  <br> by David Yamauchi 

DOWNEY - The Brunswick Invitational took to the lanes for the second week of the fourth round, looking to sharpen their look on the USBC Nationals Team Event pattern from 2023. Scores were all over the board in week one, but bowlers had the chance to tweak their arsenals for a fresh look in week two.

The " $A$ " match featured the two high 5-0 teams from week one with US Foods (Gabriel Martinez) taking on Forest Lanes (Jon Diso). US Foods took the first two, but the last game came down to the last ball as a 7 -count gave Forest Lanes a 1-pin win. US Foods took totals for the 4-1 win to move to 9-1 on the season. Paul Barraco was big for US Foods with a 698 set while Chris Diemand led Forest Lanes with a 676 set.

Sitting in the "B" match was the low 5-0 team Professional Approach Keystone (William Morris) taking on the high 4-1 team Junior Amateur Tour (Anthony Santos). Pro Approach Keystone took the book end games by 4 pins and 6 pins but dropped the middle game by enough to give Junior Amateur Tour the 3-2 result. Aaron Law led Pro Approach Keystone with a 572 set while Anthony Santos paced Junior Amateur Tour with a 612 series.

Third-round winners Cal Bowl (Leonard Ruiz Jr.) was fielding one sub and a blind against tough-draw 4-1 Threadworks (Eric Snow). Cal Bowl took the first two, the dropped the third game by 13 for the 4-1 result. Chris Eguilos led Cal Bowl with a 644 series while Eric Snow was high for Threadworks with a big time 674 series.

Professional Approach Oak Tree (John Struckman) were taking on Touchstone Homes (Christian Eichelkraut) in the last of the 4-1 matchups. Pro Approach Oak Tree took the first game but it was all Touchstone

Homes from there as they struck to a 4-1 win. John Struckman paced Oak Tree with a 593 set while Anthony Rieger was high for Touchstone Homes with a 586 set.

Forever Hope Foundation (Vernon Adams) was looking to bounce back after a tough finish in week one, taking on DV8 (David Cogswell) in the high of the 1-4 matchups. The night was all DV8 as they took three close games by 28, 16, and 7 for the 5-0 sweep. Sub Matt Murtishaw led Forever Hope Foundation with a 612 set while David Cogswell paced DV8 with a solid 638 series.

Bowlium (Billy Myers Jr.) matched up with Westminster Lanes (Jonathan Gale) with both teams looking to better their look this week. Bowlium took the first and third games by enough to bank a 4-1 win over Westminster Lanes. Tony Brunning led Westminster with a 633 set while Arnold Cheesman went huge for Bowlium with a 715 set in the win.

Professional Approach Del Rio (Eric Daniels), Family Ties (Mikey Villarreal), Del Rio Lanes (Jonathan Huezo) and iColor Printing (Augie Labrado Jr.) rounded out Monday's action. Family Ties took a 4-1 win over Pro Approach Del Rio led by Mikey Villarreal's 648 set. Pro Approach Del Rio had sub June Travis lead the team with a 578 series. Del Rio Lanes swept past iColor Printing 5-0 with Michael Barnett leading Del Rio Lanes with a 611 set and Augie Labrado going huge for iColor Printing with a 665 series.

The Financial Advisor's pot went to Paul Barraco (279) for \$160 with 2nd to JT Diso (248) for $\$ 70$. Sidepots went to Arnold Cheesman (269) and Marquan Rivers (256) for $\$ 52$ each with 2nd to Chris Eguilos (226) and JT Diso (248) for $\$ 26$ each. SuperPot went to Marquan Rivers (258) for $\$ 156$ with 2nd to Arnold Cheesman (256) for $\$ 78$.

## TOP 10 OVERALL POINTS <br> Cal Bowl \$\$\$. <br> 75.5 Forever Hope Foundation 66 Bowlium \$\$.. .70 DV8. . .66 <br> Family Ties \$......... 65 ThreadWorks. . . . . . . . 64 <br> US Foods. . . . . . . . . . . 70 Forest Lanes. . . . . . . . . 57 <br> Junior Amateur Tour . . 68.5 Del Rio Lanes . . . . . . . . 51

## TOP 10 ROUND 4 WEEK 2

US Foods. ............ 9 Forest Lanes.......... 6 Cal Bowl \$\$.......... 8 DV8. ................... 6 Touchtone Homes . . . 8 Del Rio Lanes . . . . . . . . 5 Junior Amateur Tour . . 7 Bowlium \$ . .......... . 5
ProApproach Keystone 7 ThreadWorks. . . . . . . . 5

| OP10 | IS WeEl |
| :---: | :---: |
| 739 Marquan Rivers | 674 Eric Snow |
| 715 Arnold Cheesman | 665 Augie Labrado Jr. |
| 698 Paul Barraco | 663 JT Diso |
| 689 Gabriel Martinez | 648 Mikey Villarreal |
| 676 Chris Diemand | 644 Chris Eguilos |

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Come on out and watch Southern California's Richest League as they continue round four on the USBC Nationals Team Event pattern every Monday at 8:00!

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