

# CALIFORNIA BOWLING NEWS

MARCH 2, 2023

7502 Florence Ave, Downey, CA 90240 • Website: CaliforniaBowlingNews.com • Email: news@californiabowlingnews.com • Office: (626) 252-2985 Fax: (562) 807-2288

## Winter Blizzard of 2023 "Strikes" CITRUS BELT Bowlers

by Frank Weiler

REDLANDS – While temperatures fell, and the winds blew outside our bowlers donned their sweaters, flannels and jackets while bowling. While freezing temperatures, driving rain and hale stones battered our bowling center the temperatures inside the center fell. Was it 50 degrees? NO. Can't be that low inside? NO. Or can it be? NO. Maybe it was an uncomfortable 60 degrees? YES.

We bowled cold. We bowled with cold hands-

on cold bowling balls. "YIKES". Everyone wondered where the heat was. Since our sky has been clouded over for days, we suspected the solar panels we believe are heating and cooling the bowling center were not generating enough power to warm us! "YIKES".

Is this the future of Bowling in our "GREEN WORLD". We bowl cold in the winter and hot in the summer. Where is PETE BUTTIGIEG when you need him?



Bowlers in the EMPIRE BOWL Senior Laughlin League [THERESE WEILER, RAY GAUNT JR. and CHERYSIES WILLIAMS (L-R)] huddle between frames bowling cold while the "WINTER BLIZZARD of 2023" raged outdoors.



## ANTHONY SIMONSEN WINS 11TH CAREER TITLE AT PBA WICHITA CLASSIC

by Nolan Hughes

WICHITA – Anthony Simonsen has never been one to shy away from breaking conventional wisdom. This week at Northrock Lanes for the PBA Wichita Classic was no exception.

The 26-year-old defeated Dom Barrett, 257-213, to win his 11th career title.

Just as he did during the first round of the tournament, Simonsen opted to throw urethane on the 45-foot Dragon oil pattern. He aimed directly at the 1-3 pocket, using the shape of the long pattern and the characteristics of the center to his advantage.

"I know this is one of those buildings that if you get lined up, you're able to throw a few strikes," Simonsen said.

"Mentally, I haven't been the sharpest the last couple weeks," he

said. "I think that's kind of due to a lack of competing and I'm slowly trying to dial that back in. I'm looking forward to the next couple weeks because I was able to find my feet much sooner in the season."

The Player of the Year race is starting to heat up between Simonsen and EJ Tackett, who won the U.S. Open and PBA Shawnee Classic.

Simonsen achieved his fourth consecutive top-10 finish of the season and is the lone player on Tour to reach match play in all four tournaments. But he isn't concerned about the potential for a first career Player of the Year nod.

"I'm not really a guy who looks big into that," he said. "If I bowl well and that's what it gets me, then that's awesome. But ultimately, I try



Wichita Classic Champion Anthony Simonsen

to look at every event as its own individual event and try to bowl as well as I can that week."

For Barrett, this marks his second straight runner-up performance after

falling to Tackett at the PBA Shawnee Classic last week. The 37-year-old, while disappointed in another second place finish, said he is satisfied continued on page 5

## Sometimes It's The Little Things

by Dave Williams

An email that I recently received from Beth Standlee at trainertainment.net reminded me of about 30 years of memories at Starbucks. That's when the first Starbucks opened in New Jersey, in the trendy community of Westfield. It wasn't exactly convenient to visit, but it was between my home in Edison, N.J., and our corporate office in Jersey City.

Standlee writes, "It is my habit to swing through Starbucks in the wee hours of the morn-

ing. I get up around 5:00 a.m., read my daily devotional, and then go to the gym. Some mornings I work for about an hour, others (like today) only about 30 minutes. And then I do what I really want to do and swing by Starbucks."

"I always order a Triple Grande Skinny Caramel Latte, but this morning I decided on a Venti Nonfat Two Splenda Coffee," writes Standlee. "I'm not sure why I went rogue. It must be the conservative in me that

realized the coffee was half the price of the latte. Nonetheless, when I got up to the drive-thru, the kind gal that works the window said, 'Something different this morning?' We both laughed. She shared that she was trying to drink soy instead of milk. We wished each other a good day and I drove off."

Beth continues, "I have to tell you, I was inspired and surprised at how good it made me feel that she knows me just by my voice. It

seems so silly, I'm sure. I got to thinking about how easy it is to wow others. It's all about making them feel special."

Standlee's comment immediately made me flash back to my high school and college days while working the reception desk at a couple of different bowling centers owned by Jim Decker in Northern California. Jim was the father of current BPAA president Jim Decker III, and he had acquired and built 4 continued on page 8

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# SECTIONAL ASSIGNMENTS ANNOUNCED FOR 2023 INTERCOLLEGIATE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

by Aaron Smith

ARLINGTON, Texas – The focus for the top collegiate programs across the country shifts to postseason play with sectional assignments now determined for the 2023 Intercollegiate Team Championships.

The sectional assignments were broadcast live on BowlTV and introduced the 80 men’s programs and 64 women’s teams moving ahead in the 2022-2023 United States Bowling Congress Collegiate season with the opportunity to claim the coveted Helmer Cup.

The sectional qualifiers will be held across four locations March 11-12. The locations include Stardust Bowl in Addison, Illinois; USA Bowl in Dallas; Poelking Lanes South in Dayton, Ohio; and Smyrna Bowling Center in Smyrna, Tennessee.

The top four teams in each division will advance from their sectional and head to the South Point Bowling Plaza in Las Vegas for the 2023 ITC from April 19-22.

With the regular season concluding over the weekend, the top-ranked teams heading into the sectional qualifiers are the Wichita State men and Mount Mercy women.

The Wichita State men have captured a record 12 ITC titles and collected a pair of Tier I wins during the 2022-2023 season (Mid-States Championships and National Collegiate Team Match Games). The Shockers will be heading to USA Bowl in Dallas. The Mount Mercy women started their season with a win at the Mid-west Collegiate Championships. The Mustangs are looking to make their fourth consecutive appearance at the ITC and will compete at Stardust Bowl in Addison.

The Stephen F. Austin women and Wisconsin-Whitewater men will enter their sectional qualifiers as the defending ITC champions. Each program collected its first Helmer Cup in 2022.

The Ladyjacks will start their title defense in Dallas while the Wisconsin-Whitewater men will look for a second consecutive victory starting in Smyrna.

The final Tier I event of the 2022-2023 regular season took place over the weekend at the Hoosier Classic in Indianapolis, and the bracket wins in the 54th edition of the tournament went to the Tennessee Southern men and Wichita State women. Tennessee Southern will be in Smyrna, and Wichita State will make its way to Dallas.

continued on page 4



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Intercollegiate continued from page 2

Here is the complete men’s and women’s Intercollegiate Team Championships Sectional Qualifier field (teams listed in alphabetical order):

<b>MEN</b> <b>Addison Sectional</b> Aquinas, Concordia, Davenport, Drury, Huntington, Iowa Western CC, Judson, Lawrence Tech, Marian-Wisconsin, Mount Mercy, Peru State, Quincy, Rock Valley, Saint Xavier, Spring Arbor, Thomas More, Viterbo, Webber International, Wisconsin-Oshkosh, Wisconsin-Stout  <b>Dallas Sectional</b> Arizona Christian, Arizona State, Barton CC, California State-Fresno, Calumet, Grand Canyon, Grand View, Hastings, Houston, Iowa Central CC, Lindenwood, Midland, Missouri Baptist, Newman, Oklahoma Christian, Ottawa-Kansas, San Jose State, Texas-San Antonio, Wichita State, William Penn  <b>Dayton Sectional</b> Adrian, Bowling Green State, Erie CC, Indiana Tech, Madonna, Marian-Indiana, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Northwestern Ohio, Notre Dame-Ohio, Ohio State, Pikeville, Purdue, Rio Grande, Robert Morris-Pennsylvania, Rochester Institute of Technology, Savannah College of Art and Design-Savannah, Saint Vincent, SUNY-Stony Brook, Trine, William Paterson  <b>Smyrna Sectional</b> Baker, Belmont Abbey, Campbellsville, Central Florida, Emmanuel, Lindsey Wilson, McKendree, Midway, Milligan, Muskingum, Savannah College of Art and Design-Atlanta, Spring Hill, St. Ambrose, St. Francis-Illinois, Tennessee Southern, Tennessee Wesleyan, University of the Cumberland, Walsh, Wisconsin-Whitewater, Wright State	<b>WOMEN</b> <b>Addison Sectional</b> Carthage, Coe, Concordia, Culver-Stockton, Davenport, Delaware State, Huntington, Judson, Lawrence Tech, Louisiana Tech, Lourdes, Marian-Wisconsin, Maryville, Mount Mercy, Rock Valley, Saint Xavier, Spring Arbor, Webber International  <b>Dallas Sectional</b> Calumet, Grand View, Lindenwood, Midland, Missouri Baptist, Morningside, Newman, Oklahoma Christian, Ottawa-Kansas, Stephen F. Austin, Wichita State, William Penn, Wisconsin-Whitewater  <b>Dayton Sectional</b> Alma, Duquesne, Indiana Tech, Lewis, Madonna, Marian-Indiana, Molloy, North Carolina A&T, Northwestern Ohio, Notre Dame-Ohio, Ohio State, Pikeville, Sacred Heart, Savannah College of Art and Design-Savannah, Saint Vincent, Trine  <b>Smyrna Sectional</b> Baker, Campbellsville, Emmanuel, Maryland Eastern Shore, McKendree, Midway, Milligan, Mount St. Mary’s, Muskingum, Savannah College of Art and Design-Atlanta, St. Ambrose, St. Francis-Illinois, Tennessee Southern, Union, University of the Cumberland, Walsh, Wright State
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Sectional assignments are based on Team Ranking System (TRS) points earned during the season. USBC Collegiate attempts to place no more than two of the top eight schools, and no more than four of the top 16 schools, in a sectional, based on the final TRS totals.

Final rankings can be found at [CollegeBowling.Bowl.com](http://CollegeBowling.Bowl.com).

All teams advancing to a sectional qualifier will bowl 64 Baker games over two days to determine the four advancers from each location. In addition to the excitement of team competition, the sectional qualifiers for the 2023 Intercollegiate Singles Championships also will be held at each of the four locations March 10.

Student-athletes at each host center will bowl six games with 24 men and 24 women – the top four men and top four women at each sectional, plus eight additional individuals based on field size – advancing to the ISC.

The 2023 ISC also will be held at the South Point Bowling Plaza. Competition will begin in Las Vegas on April 18. Registration for singles competition will open Feb. 24 at 11 a.m. Eastern and close March 3 at 6 p.m. Eastern. The registration portal will be available at [BOWL.com/ISC](http://BOWL.com/ISC).

Select pairs at each sectional qualifier will be broadcast live on BowlTV. The livestreaming platform also will cover all qualifying and match-play rounds at the South Point Bowling Plaza for the ITC and ISC. The finals of the ITC and ISC will be taped for broadcast on CBS Sports Network.



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# Wichita Classic

continued from page 1

with his progress this season.

“If you told me after my first two missed cuts that I’d have back-to-back seconds, I’d be really happy,” he said. “I’m much happier with where my game is at now than a couple weeks back.”

In the title match, a pair of 2-10 splits on the left lane put Barrett in an early deficit. He said neither shot was too bad and that he changed balls after the first split. He added the lane transition could have been affected by Simonsen’s use of urethane.

“After that, it was going to be hard to beat him,” Barrett said.

Barrett took down Santtu Tahvanainen, last season’s Rookie of the Year, in the semifinal. Tahvanainen, who shot 280 in the opening match of the stepladder against Jakob Butturff, tallied 14 strikes in a row on the championship pair.

The semifinal matchup flipped when Tahvanainen left a pocket 7-10 split in the eighth frame. Barrett seized the opportunity, striking in the eighth and 10th frames to clinch the match.

The next PBA Tour stop will be March 6-9 in Jackson, Mich., for the PBA Jackson Classic.

**CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND SCORES**  
Anthony Simonsen def. Dom Barrett, 257-213  
Dom Barrett def. Santtu Tahvanainen, 238-235  
Santtu Tahvanainen def. Jakob Butturff, 280-238

- FINAL STANDINGS**
1. Anthony Simonsen, \$25,000
  2. Dom Barrett, \$16,000
  3. Santtu Tahvanainen, \$12,000
  4. Jakob Butturff, \$10,000
  5. Kris Prather, \$8,200
  6. Bill O’Neill, \$7,500
  7. Jason Belmonte, \$7,000
  8. Tommy Jones, \$6,500
  9. Chris Barnes, \$6,000
  10. Darren Tang, \$5,500
  11. Tom Daugherty, \$5,100
  12. Anthony Lavery-Spahr, \$4,800



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#2 – GOLD COUNTRY LANES, Sutter Creek  
#5 – CAL BOWL, Lakewood  
#6 – EMPIRE BOWL, Redlands

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**Little Things** continued from page 1

bowling centers after working as a sales representative with Brunswick for many years.

The same experience that Beth shared with the Starbucks barista was similar in nature to my connection with customers at both L & L Lanes and Double Decker Lanes. As the customers would come in for an evening of league bowling, I would pull out their shoe size and place it on the counter. I didn't always know their name, but I was almost always right regarding their shoe size.

It was an amazing experience for the customer that I knew their shoe size. It eventually led to a brief relationship with one of the customers when I got up the nerve to ask her for a date. Just like those early memories of shoe sizes, I'm often surprised at how baristas remember my drink even though I'm one of hundreds of customers they must meet every day. Sometimes it's the little things that make the difference.

Just like league bowling, I miss the old style Starbucks that was more of a "coffee house." Today the focus at all the Starbucks that I visit is the drive-thru. Gone are the days when you could bring a book or newspaper, sit down in a cozy couch or chair, and enjoy a great cup of coffee at a leisurely pace... with free refills. It's still possible to do that (although the cozy couches and chairs have been removed), but the experience just isn't the same without the give and take with the baristas and other customers. Everyone is in such a hurry.

Beth goes on in her email to mention a couple of links that have helped her in her business: Sparring Mind, and Tiny Habits. "How many of your guests' names do you know by sight," she asks. "How many are you willing to learn per day?"

I remember watching a memory teacher that used to appear on shows such as Johnny Carson, David Letterman, and the like. He would go out into the audience and ask people questions concerning their life. After a few minutes he would recount all the people that he had met and recite all of the little things that they had shared with him. Most people refer to this as a photographic memory.

What was his secret? He would put all those people into a familiar room in his mind. He would visualize this room with all his newfound friends, and immediately respond to Carson or Letterman about all of the individuals from their audience. I tried this in my travels to many different bowling centers and it really works. I could remember employees and many regular customers by visualizing the concourse of a particular bowling center in my head.


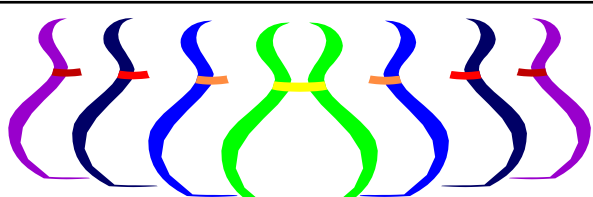
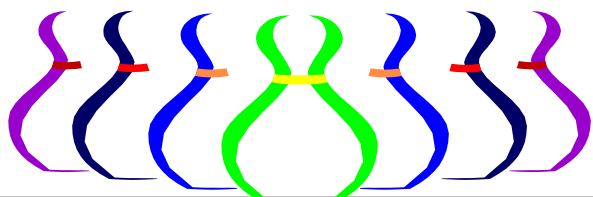
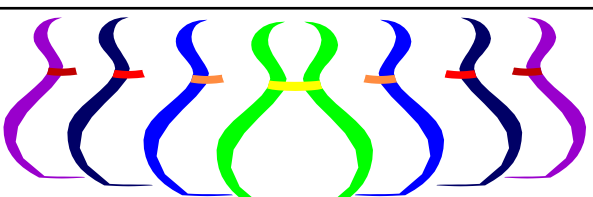
Now that I'm retired, the variables have changed, but the process still works. I get to know many of the baristas at my local Starbucks by learning a little about them and repeating their name as I place them into the visual Starbucks in my mind. Another experience that I've shared before is comparing individuals that I meet with people I have known from the past. It's not as effective as the "rooms" or "concourse" concept, but it works.

As an example, a couple that I recently met at the condominiums where I live have names from my past: Tom, a past BPAA president (Tom Martino) that I worked for on a consulting basis for about ten years, and Denise, who was my first girlfriend's closest friend. As I said, it's not as effective as the room concept, but it works. I also don't have as many "rooms" to remember, now that I'm retired, so that helps.

Finally, as I was wrapping up this story on Friday, I had a need for some stamps from the local post office. As I was returning home from the post office along a side road, I noticed someone that looked very familiar from that old "coffee house" Starbucks on Lincoln Highway. I stopped the car and shouted out, "Starbucks!" The man peered into the car and said, "Dave, is that you?" We chatted for a few minutes, and I curiously asked how old he was. "I'm 36, he replied." We had not seen one another for 15 years, and yet we both remembered our Starbucks moments.

*I guess it really is the little things that make life so special.*



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INVITATIONAL

# Professional Approach Moves To 9-1 To Lead Round Four

by David Yamauchi

DOWNEY – The Brunswick Invitational took the lanes for the second week on the new fourth round pattern. Bowlers adjusted their arsenals based on last week’s look to try and score better with one week’s knowledge of the pattern.

In the “A” match, **Allied Paving** and **Professional Approach** put their perfect first-week records on the line. Professional Approach came out strong, taking game one in a close battle, but dropped game two in another tight match. Game 3 was all Professional Approach as they put up an 800 game to secure the 4-1 win. Brian Ritchie led Professional Approach with a 590 series while Gary Duran was high for Allied with a 572 set. Professional Approach will remain in the “A” match next week.

The “B” match featured the low of the 5-0 teams in **Bowling Guys** taking on the high of the 4-1 teams **Junior Amateur Tour**. Bowling Guys started strong with a big game one win, but it was Junior Amateur Tour finishing the job with big game two and three wins to take the 4-1 result. Kevin Valmonte was solid for Junior Amateur Tour with a nice 604 set while Ross Rios stroked his way to a 561 set to pace Bowling Guys. Junior Amateur Tour looks to stay in the “B” match next week sitting at 8-2.

**Cal Bowl** and third-round winners **DV8** matched up in the fifth vs. sixth matchup featuring the second and third-high of the 4-1 teams. DV8 took a high scoring game one 834-815 but dropped game two 850-816. DV8 finished the job with a big game three win for the 4-1 result. Alejandra Urrutia and Kyle Duster both posted huge 673 sets for DV8 while Scott Smith paced Cal Bowl with a nice 676 set. DV8’s huge pinfall should jump them into the “A” match next week with Professional Approach.

Second-round winners **Finishing Touch Floors** took on **US Foods**, who both got out to a nice 4-1 start the first week. Captain Ramsey Basurto was back to lead Finishing Touch Floors to a 4-1 win over US Foods. Vernon Adams was big for Finishing Touch

Floors with a 651 set while Gabriel Martinez put up an even 600 to lead US Foods. Finishing Touch Floors moves to 8-2 and should face Junior Amateur Tour next week in the “B” match.

**Bowlium** met up with **Forest Lanes** who were both looking to bounce back after 1-4 starts to the round. Bowlium started the night with a huge 859 game to take game one, but it was all Forest Lanes from there as the Diso’s lit them up for the 4-1 win. JT Diso’s 729 and Jon Diso’s 665 were huge for Forest Lanes while Billy Myers Jr.’s 668 led Bowlium.

First-round winners met up with **Threadworks** who were the low of the 1-4 week one teams. Threadworks took game one with a nice 837 effort, but it was **Family Ties** putting up 831-838 to finish the night and take the 4-1 win. Mikey Villarreal again paced Family Ties with a 657 set and Eric Snow was high for Threadworks with a 596 set.

**HB Complete Builders, Westminster Lanes, Don Julio Tequila, J.K. Inc.** rounded out the action on Monday. Both matches ended in 4-1 results with J.K. Inc. banking four wins along with HB Complete Builders. For the winners, J.K. Inc. was led by Ian Markstrum with a 563 set, HB Complete Builders was paced by Christian Eichelkraut with a 562 set. Westminster Lanes was paced by Jonathan Gale’s 575 series while William Morris led Don Julio Tequila with a 522 set.

**Financial Advisor’s Pot** went to Vernon Adams (257) for \$160 with a second place tie to Jon and JT Diso (244) taking \$30 each. Sidepots went to JT Diso (243) and Vernon Adams (257) for \$58 each with second to Leonard Ruiz (235) for \$29 and JT and Jon Diso (244) for \$14.50 each. SuperPot was a tie between Mikey Villarreal (258) and Gabriel Martinez (258) for \$130 each.

Come on out and watch the teams take on the USBC Nationals Pattern again next Monday at Del Rio Lanes starting at 8:00 p.m.!

### TOP 10 TEAMS OVERALL

Finishing Touch Floors \$\$	76	Forest Lanes .....	66
Family Ties \$ .....	70	Threadworks .....	66
Junior Amateur Tour ..	69.5	Bowlium .....	61
DV8 \$\$\$ .....	69	US Foods .....	56
Cal Bowl .....	69	Professional Approach	55.5

### TOP 10 TEAMS ROUND 4

Professional Approach ..	9	Bowling Guys .....	6
DV8 \$\$\$ .....	8	Cal Bowl .....	6
Junior Amateur Tour ..	8	Forest Lanes .....	5
Finishing Touch Floors \$\$	8	Family Ties \$ .....	5
Allied Paving .....	6	US Foods .....	5

### TOP 10 THIS WEEK

JT Diso .....	729	Jon Diso .....	665
Scott Smith .....	676	Mikey Villarreal .....	657
Kyle Duster .....	673	Vernon Adams .....	651
Alejandra Urrutia .....	673	Vince Duarte .....	639
Billy Myers Jr. ....	668	Ramiro Garcia .....	639

### SUPER SWEEPER POT

Sponsored by Dean Sanderson of Transamerica Financial Advisors Inc.  
1st Vernon Adams 257 \$160 • 2nd Jon & JT Diso 244 \$30

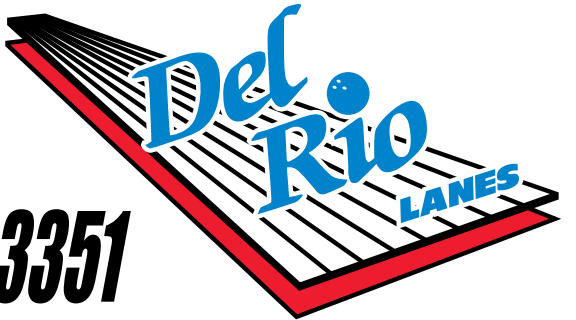


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## Weekly Scratch 5-Gamer Every Tuesday

\$50 Entry Fee with Optional Pots and Brackets  
Check-in at 6pm • Bowl at 7pm • 1 in 5 Payout  
Feb. 28 Dual Patterns 41’ McEwan & 36’ O’Neil / March 7 Chameleon

## Saturday HDCP No-Tap Tournament

\$25 Entry Fee with Optional Pots and Brackets  
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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