

CALIFORNIA BOWLING NEWS

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KEVIN MCCUNE WRITES OWN LEGACY WINS PBA PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP

by Nolan Hughes

Sunday afternoon's title match at Bowlero North Brunswick bestowed a championship more than five decades in the making. Kevin McCune swept Jakob Butturff in three games to capture the PBA Players Championship presented by Snickers.

Notching his first career title in the season's final major, McCune etched his own chapter to his family's illustrious legacy.

Fifty years ago, his grandfather Don won

six of his eight titles en route to capturing PBA Player of the Year honors. Eugene, his father, won three titles between 2002 and 2012.

With today's victory, Kevin certifies the McCunes as the first three-generation family of PBA Tour champions.

"I'm out here because I know I'm able to compete with these guys," McCune said before the match. "It's in my blood with my dad and grandpa, so I feel like I was born to be out here."



Players Champion Kevin McCune

Though the elder McCunes won a combined 11 titles, Kevin became the first McCune to win a

major championship.

"It sounds good because I one-upped my dad," Kevin said.

The opening game of the best-of-five championship match resembled the semifinals.

McCune cruised to 206, while Butturff stumbled to an open-frame infused 178. The win was emblematic of McCune's road to the championship match.

McCune eliminated the Tackett brothers, Zac and top-seeded EJ, in his first two matches, then dispatched Anthony Simonsen in the semifinals. Butturff earned a first-round bye as the

No. 2 seed, then defeated Keven Williams in the quarterfinals and Bill O'Neill in last night's semifinals.

Despite the gargantuan talents dispatched by McCune, Butturff out-averaged McCune by nearly 25 pins per game, 235.25-210.60, through the previous televised rounds.

The 24-year-old pushed his lead to 2-0 with a 247-204 victory in Game 2, posting his highest game of the tele- continued on page 5

RICHARD WINS 2023 PWBA GOBOWLING! SPOKANE OPEN

SPOKANE, Wash. — Jordan Richard of Maumee, Ohio, is far from the most outspoken player on the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour; nevertheless, if there's one thing she isn't shy about expressing, it's how much she cares for her parents and how big an impact they've had on her bowling career.

As such, it somehow seems fitting that Richard captured her latest title on the eve of Mother's Day.

Richard won that title, the third of her PWBA Tour career, by defeating top seed Erin McCarthy of Elkhorn, Nebraska, 234-153, during Saturday night's stepladder finals at the 2023 PWBA GoBowling! Spokane Open, which was con-



Jordan Richard

tested at Lilac Lanes & Casino in Spokane.

The win allowed Richard to walk away with the \$20,000 first-place prize and championship trophy. McCarthy earned \$10,000 for finishing second.

Shortly after collecting her latest victory, her first since 2019 when she won the PWBA Lincoln Open at Sun Valley continued on page 8

HANRAHAN, HUPÉ CAPTURE 2023 ROTH/HOLMAN PBA DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP

by Nolan Hughes

Packy Hanrahan and Mitch Hupé completed their wire-to-wire dominance at the Roth/Holman PBA Doubles Championship presented by Bally's Dover Casino Resort.

On Thursday afternoon at Mid County Lanes and Entertainment in Middletown, Del., the longtime doubles teammates maintained their lead through 12 games of round-robin match play to earn the No. 1 seed. In the title match of the stepladder finals, Hanrahan and Hupé defeated Sean Rash and Matt Ogle, 223-210.

Hanrahan collected his second title of the season and his career, while Hupé picked up his first career PBA Tour title.



Commissioner Tom Clark, Mitch Hupé, Packy Hanrahan and Marshall Holman

"I felt like it was due," Hupé said. "I felt like it was going to happen."

"It was time for the boys to get one," Hanrahan added.

After a week in which strikes came early and often — Hanrahan came within one pin of the PBA's 12-game scoring

record — the title match turned into a grind.

Competing on dual patterns — 42-foot Roth on the left lane and 38-foot Holman on the right — Rash and Ogle opened with the first five strikes. Transition had been blowing open the left lane, and Rash felt

his look starting to go away.

Rash converted a 1-2-7 spare after an errant shot in the sixth frame, but Hanrahan failed to capitalize on the opportunity to take the lead. He left a 4-6-10 in his own sixth frame, ceding continued on page 4

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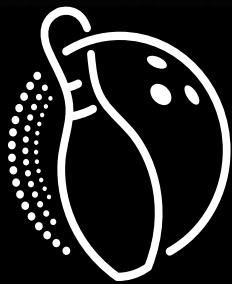
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Al Reiswig Thrives With His Novel Approach to Bowling

by Fred Eisenhammer

WINNETKA – It's only appropriate that Al Reiswig stands out at Winnetka Bowl with his head-turning bowling style.

That's because Reiswig is a standout – both as a bowler and league secretary.

With three perfect games, an 800 series and a vast collection of league titles on his resume, the 83-year-old Reiswig has accomplished virtually everything a bowler could possibly desire.

And he definitely has done it his way, starting with a bowling style that is both distinctive and pinpoint.

"I probably have the weirdest style of anyone 'cause I leave both hands up and that's my follow-through," says Reiswig, laughing. "I don't think anyone can copy me. Everyone has their own technique that's just a little bit different than the next person's, whether it's the follow-through or the steps they take."

Longtime bowler Art Rosenberg, who has his own unique bowling style with the use of a cane, says Reiswig's mechanics are reminiscent of a character from a movie.

"His technique always reminds me of the 'Karate Kid.' He was practicing by standing at a post with one leg up and both arms up. And he used that in the competition to beat the bully. Both arms up, just like Al, except he has both feet on the ground. He does that to release the ball and get a strike," Rosenberg said.

"He's accurate. He's really accurate."

Reiswig has been bowling this way for some 60 years and he's still racking up scores in the 180s, 190s and 200s.

"If you follow through and hit your mark, you'll get results," said Reiswig, turning serious. "Accuracy is the name of the game."

Reiswig also hits the bull's-eye as the longtime league secretary of the Wednesday afternoon Funtimers senior league. With approximately 60 bowlers, the league has the most participants of the three senior leagues at Winnetka.

As the Funtimers league secretary for the past 20 years, Reiswig runs the show and keeps people happy. When Funtimers member Gary Bricker didn't receive a patch for bowling his first 700 series, Reiswig stepped in without fanfare and presented him with one of his own.

At present, Reiswig – also a stellar table-tennis player – has no trophies in his house. He cleaned out his trophy case over the past 10 to 15 years with generous trophy donations to some of Winnetka's special-needs bowlers.



Al Reiswig demonstrates his unique follow through after he releases the ball. Reiswig has used his technique to roll an 800 series and three perfect games. Photo by Fred Eisenhammer

"He's not only a great bowler, but he's a great person," said Bricker, vice president of the Funtimers League.

Reiswig, a West Hills resident and Kansas native, says his biggest bowling highlight may have been his 800 series recorded at Winnetka Bowl.

"That was pretty special," he said about the 802 that he crushed about 20 years ago at Winnetka Bowl.

Reiswig, a former Wilson Sporting Goods employee, now bowls at Winnetka Bowl in two leagues and practices two other days, bowling four to six games.

He has no plans to quit and definitely no plans to change his bowling technique. "I'll just stick with my dumb style," he said with a laugh.

And then he added a piece of wisdom for all those elite bowler wannabes looking for the perfect bowling technique.

"Find something that works . . . and stick with it," he said.

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When Less Bowlers = More (For Less)

by Dave Williams

An intriguing article caught my eye in the latest issue of *Bowlers Journal International*, with a confusing title that's even more difficult to understand than mine: *Need More or Fewer or Fewer More Entries*. The author, Jef Goodger, brings up the age old question that has been plaguing me for almost 50 years; namely, should professional bowlers receive a salary?

Although Goodger doesn't come right out and mention the word salary, he does go into great depth regarding the size of the field in professional bowling events, a topic that I touched upon in a recent article that appeared in most publications in February of 2023, entitled, *The U.S. Open - A Tournament of Ordinary Foreigners?*

"Some say every event should have 390 players. Some say no events should have 390 players. Some say 390 isn't enough; open up the entries, add a D Squad. E Squad. Use the Khmer alphabet if necessary," said Goodger. With a total of 74 characters in the Khmer alphabet, we can only assume that Jef is joking with us, but it still begs the question: Why are many of the PBA events being limited to 108 entries, with 36 cashing spots?

One of the reasons for the smaller fields would obviously be to create a stable of recognizable bowling stars. It's almost a guarantee that you are going to see E.J. Tackett, Jason Belmonte, Anthony Simonsen, Jesper Svensson or Kyle Troup on almost every PBA telecast on Fox Sports. Why? Well, that's what the sponsors and viewers want to see, and it also provides more money on top for the TV broadcasts.

"How is it possible that Simonsen, Tackett and Belmonte have combined to win six of the first eight events of the season," asks Goodger. "No matter whether there were 108 entries or 390 entries, it seems like some players tend to do better than others." In bowling, Jef speculates, there are anomalies, and in a one game match on television, anyone stands a chance of defeating the likes of E.J. Tackett or Jason Belmonte.



Professional Bowler Jason Belmonte



One of the famous Budweiser Beer lineups from the 1960's: Back Row (left to right) Bill Lillard, Ray Bluth, Dick Weber and Tom Hennessey. Front Row (l to r) Chuck O'Donnell, Pat Patterson and Don Carter, professional sports first Million Dollar Man.

In my opinion, that last statement is what separates bowling from other sports! When I was bowling on tour, I remember a lot of talk about guaranteed salaries for the top 48 players. Nelson Burton Jr. was the one heading up the argument, and he compared bowling to golf's guaranteed payment structure as an example. I didn't understand it at the time, because I thought the number of cashing places would be limited to the top 48 players.

A recent article at golfmonthly.com set the record straight regarding those guaranteed salaries. According to an article by Fergus Bisset, approximately 125 golfers on the PGA Tour are exempt, which means that they are guaranteed a \$500,000 salary against earnings. Simply put, the players receive a \$500,000 salary (rookies can claim it up front), but they can only begin collecting prize money once they have achieved the \$500,000 base.

The best part, according to Bisset, is that if they don't reach the \$500,000 level, they don't have to give the money back. So essentially, PGA Tour exempt players are guaranteed a base salary of \$500,000 per season. Wow, that's a lot of cash! It's \$62,500,000 to be exact.

Whatever happened to bowling? I can still remember in 1964, when professional bowler Don Carter became the first \$1 million dollar player in any sport, signing a 10 year contract with bowling ball manufacturer Ebonite Corporation. The only professional athletes even remotely close to Carter at the time were pro baseball players Mickey Mantle and Willie Mays, who signed one year, \$100,000 contracts for the 1964 season.

In typical Willie Mays fashion, it was reported in a New York Times article (Feb. 18, 1964) that the flashy San Francisco Giants outfielder held out for another \$5,000, to become the highest paid baseball player in history, for a single year. Previously, Joe DiMaggio, Ted Williams and Stan Musial were the only players to sign a \$100,000 contract.



Willie Mays at the Giants Spring Training Camp in Casa Grande, Arizona (1960's) DiMaggio did it three times - 1949, 1950 and 1951.

I wonder if the PBA is attempting to follow the PGA model by limiting the fields to 108 players? Pro golf events are limited to 156 players, but many of their events are as few as 132 qualifiers. Assuming that professional bowlers could eke out a living at \$100,000 (taking into account all of the travel expenses and other fees), that would mean an initial outlay of \$4,800,000 for the top 48 players. Doesn't sound like a lot, considering all of the very fine sponsors on the PBA Tour, including Bowlero.

Now, the question on everyone's mind: Should Jason Belmonte hold out for an additional payment on his upfront salary against earnings, like the immortal Say Hey Kid? I think he should...

LOOKING FOR ONE THING AND FINDING ANOTHER — While searching on the web for information pertaining to this story, I discovered an interesting conversation regarding Willie Mays nickname — "Say Hey Kid." Barney Kremenko, a sportswriter for the New York Journal, said that when Mays first came to New York from Alabama, he was meeting so many new people and couldn't remember all their names, so he just resorted to saying "Hey" as a greeting. "In my column I tabbed him the 'Say Hey Kid,' and it stuck."

Special thanks to:

- Don Carter (Budweiser Beer) photo provided by Bowling Hall of Fame and Museum
- Jason Belmonte photo provided by bowl.com
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Roth/Holman Doubles continued from page 1

control of the match to Ogle and Rash.

After Ogle converted a stone-9, Rash missed a 2-4-5 in the eighth frame. Rash needed a mark in the 10th frame to force Hanrahan to at least double but missed a 10-pin.

Hanrahan delivered a match-sealing strike to claim the win. He said he has been bowling doubles tournaments with Hupé for at least eight years, dating back to their college days at Wichita State University.

“To share that moment with a guy who I’ve bowled 50, 60, 70 doubles tournaments with, just being able to share that on the biggest stage, it just kind of all pours out of you at once,” Hanrahan said. “You try not to think about winning as much as you can until it actually happens. Being able to step up in the 10th, not only for me but also for one of my best friends — you saw the explosion.”

The opening match of the stepladder finals gifted fans in attendance and watching at home on BowlTV an all-time classic.

Jason Belmonte and Bill O’Neill, who earned the No. 4 seed after entering match play in 12th place, fired 11 combined strikes in the opening match; their only blemish was an O’Neill 2-pin conversion in the third frame.

However, Simonsen threw all three strikes in the 10th frame to defeat the 2018 champs, 280-279.

In the semifinal, Simonsen and Barrett kept pace with Rash and Ogle, with each team capable of shooting in the 250s entering the final frames. However, Simonsen left a 2-4-8 in the ninth frame and Barrett split in the 10th.

Rash and Ogle moved onto the championship match, their first since winning the Roth/Holman PBA Doubles Championship in 2019, with a 258-208 victory.

Rash has battled a back injury all season, but rehabbed and prepared the last few weeks specifically to be ready for this tournament.

“This was the one that I focused on, to try to be as healthy as I could to get here,” Rash said. “My adrenaline took over for the last couple of games here where I didn’t feel anything, then I’m heartbroken. To help Matt try to get to a third title, to try to get another one to add to both of our résumés, literally heartbroken.”

Belmonte and O’Neill snuck into the stepladder finals following a chaotic conclusion to the position round.

Three teams, separated by just 18 pins, vied for the final spot on the show:

Jakob Butturff and Matt Zweig, Sean Lavery-Spahr and Santtu Tahvanainen, and Belmonte and O’Neill, who sat in sixth place entering the position round.

After a strong start, Lavery-Spahr and Tahvanainen fell behind in the match with Belmonte and O’Neill, turning the battle into a two-horse race. Though the teams were not bowling head-to-head, they matched each other strike for strike — and then split for split.

Zweig left and did not convert a 3-4-6-7-10 split in their ninth frame, opening the door for Belmonte to secure the fourth seed. Moments later, Belmonte left a 2-8-10 split in their 10th frame to finish with 241. But the 2018 Roth/Holman Doubles champions beat Lavery-Spahr and Tahvanainen to win their match and the 30 bonus pins.

In the other match, Butturff doubled in the 10th frame to shoot 239. However, Ogle won the match with a strike in his 10th frame, costing the Arizona natives the 30 bonus pins they needed to stay ahead of Belmonte and O’Neill.

Meanwhile, Hanrahan and Hupé had long locked up the top seed. The two dominated in qualifying, posting the best and ninth-best individual scores for the 12 games. They maintained their lead of more than 200 pins through an additional 12 games of match play, then polished off the championship match with a title-clinching strike.

“I didn’t want anyone else throwing that shot in the whole field,” Hupé said. “I knew he was going to do it.” “Could you write a better ending than that?”

CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND SCORES

Match One: Barrett/Simonsen def. Belmonte/O’Neill, 280-279

Match Two: Rash/Ogle def. Barrett/Simonsen, 258-208

Match Three: Hanrahan/Hupé def. Rash/Ogle, 223-210

FINAL STANDINGS

1. Packy Hanrahan and Mitch Hupé, \$20,000
2. Sean Rash and Matt Ogle, \$11,000
3. Dom Barrett and Anthony Simonsen, \$8,000
4. Jason Belmonte and Bill O’Neill, \$7,000
5. Jakob Butturff and Matt Zweig, \$5,500
6. Sean Lavery-Spahr and Santtu Tahvanainen, \$5,100
7. Matt Kuba and Michael Davidson, \$4,800
8. Benjy Martinez and Nate Stubler, \$4,500
9. Andrew Anderson and Kris Prather, \$4,200
10. Cortez Schenck and Michael Fitzgerald, \$3,900
11. Brad Miller and Kyle Sherman, \$3,700
12. Kyle Troup and Jesper Svensson, \$3,500

Full standings are available [here](#).

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Players Championship continued from page 1

vised rounds.

Though McCune held a commanding lead, he knew he could not give Butturff an opening.

“Jakob is just like EJ and Simo. He can strike at will once he figures it out,” McCune said. “All I had to do was maintain composure and make sure I hit the pocket. If I hit the pocket, I liked my chances of striking.”

However, Butturff never managed to get comfortable on either lane. Butturff said he kept his same routine during practice, but the lanes hooked way more today.

“It just didn’t even play close to the same,” Butturff said. “I feel like it got to me mentally toward the end of our match and that’s why it ended the way it did.”

McCune did not afford Butturff a chance to creep back into the match, though Butturff didn’t help his cause by missing two spares in the first four frames.

With the win, McCune became the first player to win their first career title at a major championship since Chris Via at the 2020 U.S. Open. Via also defeated Butturff in that title match.

The 29-year-old Arizona native sought to become Hall of Fame eligible with a second major and ninth career title.

The stakes were even greater for Butturff competing on Mother’s Day. He was very close with his mother, Bridget Miller, who passed away three years ago.

Two years ago, on the first Mother’s Day since his mom Bridget Miller passed away, Butturff won his 27th PBA Regional Tour title. He aspired to make this year’s holiday even more memorable with a legacy-altering major title.

While Sunday afternoon didn’t go the way Butturff envisioned, he said the day would be a win no matter what.

“A lot of people don’t know, but I was born sick. It was to the point where I didn’t know if I was going to survive when I was a baby,” Butturff said. “That’s why I’m so thankful for these opportunities, because the first two weeks of my life I didn’t know if I was going to be here in this world.

“I’m so thankful that my mom brought me into this world and (she’s) why a day like this is so memorable.”

Both McCune and Butturff will head to Jupiter, Fla. next weekend for the PBA Super Slam Cup, a non-title event. They’ll join EJ Tackett, Simonsen and Jason Belmonte, who won the first four majors of the season.

Butturff clinched his spot at the PBA World Championship presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon as the highest finisher without a 2023 major championship.

The preliminary round will air at 2 p.m. ET on Saturday, May 20 on FS1. The finals, featuring a \$100,000 top prize, will be held at 2 p.m. ET on Sunday, May 21 on FOX.

CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES

Best-of-Five Match

Match One: No. 9 Kevin McCune def. No. 2 Jakob Butturff, 3-0

Game 1: McCune def. Butturff, 206-178

Game 2: McCune def. Butturff, 247-204

Game 3: McCune def. Butturff, 220-175

FINAL STANDINGS

1. Kevin McCune, \$100,000
2. Jakob Butturff, \$50,000
3. Bill O’Neill, \$25,000
4. Anthony Simonsen, \$25,000
5. EJ Tackett, \$13,000
6. Matt Russo, \$13,000
7. Tomas Käyhkö, \$13,000
8. Keven Williams, \$13,000
9. Chris Via, \$8,000
10. Jesper Svensson, \$8,000
11. Zac Tackett, \$8,000
12. Dom Barrett, \$8,000

Full standings and more information on the PBA Players Championship [here](#).

UPCOMING PBA TOUR SCHEDULE

PBA Super Slam Cup

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PBA Tour Finals

June 23-25

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PBA/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles

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SINGLES EVENT CHAMPIONS WILL EARN A FREE JERSEY!

PWBA continued from page 1

Lanes in Lincoln, Nebraska, Richard was asked to discuss what allowed her to reach the winner's circle once again.

Not surprisingly, she immediately gave the credit to mom and dad.

"I get to do what I do because my parents raised me to be disciplined, and I've kept that throughout my entire life," Richard said. "My parents are amazing, and I'm lucky and fortunate that I have them because they're the most supportive people in my life. I wish that they were here, but I'll get to see them tomorrow."

Had they been in attendance at Lilac Lanes & Casino on Saturday night, Richard's parents would have seen their daughter put on quite a show.

The 27-year-old right-hander began the evening as the No. 3 seed for the stepladder finals, but once she hit the championship pair, it was clear that she was going to be tough to beat.

Richard's first opponent was rookie Hope Gramly of Aubrey, Texas, who earned her spot in the bout by defeating 2021 PWBA Player of the Year Bryanna Coté of Tucson, Arizona, 202-195, during Match 1.

Gramly would up her score to 215 during Match 2, but it wasn't nearly enough as Richard struck on six of her first seven shots and eight times overall to cruise to a 245-215 victory and earn herself a berth in the semifinals.

The fourth-place finish won Gramly \$6,500. Coté collected \$5,500 for finishing fifth.

Saturday night's semifinal bout would pit Richard up against No. 2 seed Dasha Kovalova of Muskegon, Michigan, in what would turn out to be the match of the night.

Kovalova, a five-time PWBA Tour titlist and the 2019 United States Bowling Congress Queens champion, started strike-spare, strike-spare to grab an early five-pin lead.

Richard didn't take long to respond, however, throwing a four-bagger in frames four through seven to turn the tide and establish a 14-pin advantage of her own with three frames to go.

Kovalova didn't give up, delivering crucial strikes in the seventh, eighth and ninth to keep the pressure on.

Nevertheless, as Richard stepped up for her ninth and 10th frames, the match was hers to win.

If she could strike out, she'd finish at 244, which would lock out Kovalova, whose max score was 240.

Things wouldn't play out that smoothly, however, as Richard's shots in both the ninth and 10th frames went high on the headpin.

Thankfully for Richard, both shots left makeable spares – the 3-6 and the 6-10 – that she converted.

With the opportunity to shut Kovalova out having gone by the wayside, the best Richard could do was strike on her fill ball to force her opponent to throw the first strike in the 10th frame to win. Richard did just that, delivering the key strike on her final ball to post a score of 220.

At that point, all Richard could do was wait and watch.

If Kovalova struck on her next shot, she would win, and Richard would have to settle for her second third-place finish in as many weeks – she finished third at last week's season-opener, the PWBA Stockton Open.

It wasn't meant to be for Kovalova on this night, however, as the crucial shot hooked high through the face, leaving a 3-6-7-10 split.

She took two pins on the conversion attempt, which made the final score 220-202 in favor of Richard, who advanced to the title match to face McCarthy.

Kovalova took home \$7,500 for finishing third.

The final match of the night wouldn't prove nearly as exciting as the one that came before it as McCarthy, who led the field after Day 1 and never relinquished the lead throughout the rest of qualifying, simply never found her way on the championship pair.

The two-time PWBA Tour titlist and reigning U.S. Women's Open champion opened three of the first five frames, which allowed Richard to jump out to a 35-pin lead at the halfway point of the match.

McCarthy did her best to hang tough, but once Richard delivered strikes in the sixth, seventh and eighth frames, the outcome was determined; the title belonged to Richard, and, to her, it felt like a long time coming.

"I feel relieved. Even though I had won twice before, it had been four years since I'd gotten it done, so it feels good to get that monkey off my back," Richard said. "I'm excited and happy that it all clicked today; it almost feels like my first title all over again."

Things certainly clicked pretty well for Richard during Saturday night's stepladder finals as she put up a three-game total of 699 (a 233 average) by shooting scores of 245, 220 and 234.

But more importantly, things have clicked well for Richard during each of the first two weeks of the 2023 PWBA Tour season as a whole as she already has a win and third-place finish under her belt.

She'd love to keep the momentum going next week at the season's first major, the 2023 USBC Queens, which will be contested at Sam's Town Bowling Center in Las Vegas from May 17-23.

However, part of Richard's early-season success can be attributed to looking at each event as a new opportunity, so she has no designs on changing that approach anytime soon.

"I've just been trying to keep an open mind and not try to prove anything to anybody. Every week is a new week, and I just have to take it that way," Richard said. "I can have good weeks and bad weeks, but as long as I focus on just putting one foot in front of the other, I'll be okay."

The winner of the 2023 Queens will take home \$60,000. All rounds of competition leading up to the stepladder finals will be broadcast live on BowITV.

The stepladder finals will be broadcast live on CBS Sports Network on May 23 at 7 p.m. Eastern.

The 78-player field in Spokane bowled 12 games Friday before the first cut to the top 26 athletes. Advancers bowled an additional six-game block Saturday morning with the top 12 competing in a final six-game round to determine the five bowlers for the stepladder, based on 24-game pinfall totals.

All rounds of competition at the Spokane Open, including the stepladder finals, were broadcast live at BowITV.com.



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Thank you JMM

A Crowd Cheers On Glenn Allison

by Frank Weiler

A crowd of 100 cheered as Glenn Allison paraded into the National Bowling Stadium lanes to bowl in his record tying 71st. USBC Open tournament.

USBC Executive Director, Chad Murphy, presented Allison with his commemorative plaque and referred to Allison as "Mr. 900" as a video with highlights of Allison's career was shown.

Everyone cheered when Allison began his bowling team event with a strike. It was inspiring for all to watch "Mr. 900" compete at the age of 92!


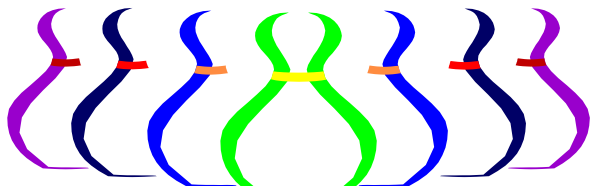
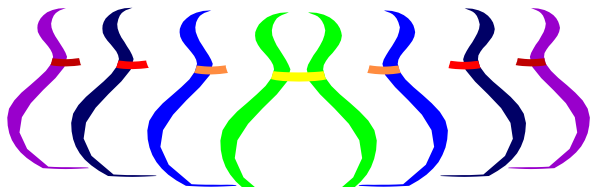
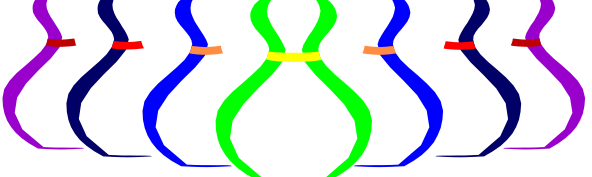


Glenn Allison & Frank Weiler

It was a great day for the sport of Bowling. I wish all of you were there with me to see Glenn Allison make Bowling history.

Congratulations!

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Forest Lanes Closes Big To Take The Wildcard Round By 1/2 Point

by David Yamauchi

DOWNEY – The Brunswick Invitational hit the lanes for the final week of the six-week Wildcard Round looking to crown the final round winner and place the 5th-seed into the rolloff picture. Forest Lanes was sitting atop the round by just 1/2 game over both Threadworks and Allied Paving, as all three teams were still very much alive for the round title. The battle would be decided on the 26' short pattern from Round 2.

In the "A" match, **Forest Lanes** (17.5) took on **Threadworks** (17) in a rematch of last week's battle where Forest took 4 to jump into the round lead. Threadworks came out huge with a 120-pin win in game one, but Forest Lanes bounced back and took game two by 68. Game three was all Forest Lanes as they took the last game by 96 for a 4-1 win. Forest Lanes watched as they needed Cal Bowl to take one game to give them the round, and Cal Bowl came through with a big game three win to give Forest Lanes the round by 1/2 point over Allied Paving. JT Diso led Forest Lanes with a 560 set while Paul Varela paced Threadworks with a 562 set.

The "B" match featured **Allied Paving** (17) who was still alive, taking on **Cal Bowl** (14) who was mathematically eliminated for the round, but ready to fight hard for wins as they were the current leader in the Wild Card race with just two weeks to go. Allied Paving took the first two games and had the round in sight, but Cal Bowl got hot the last game to take game three and leave Allied Paving 1/2 point short for the round win. Leonard Ruiz was huge for Cal Bowl with a league-leading 649 series while Edward Estrada was solid for Allied Paving posting a 605 series good for third in the league.

In the Round Winner's Matches, the top match again paired **Family Ties** (100) against **Finishing Touch Floors** (104) with Finishing Touch getting their anchor back after a long absence. Finishing Touch Floors took a huge 89-pin first game win and that was enough to hang on for totals and the 3-2 result as Family Ties struck back to take a very close second and third game. Vernon Adams paced Finishing Touch Floors with a 575 set while Jeff Hickenbottom led Family Ties with a 549 series. Finishing Touch Floors extends their lead over Family Ties to 5 points with two weeks to go.

The other Round Winner's Match put **Junior Amateur Tour** (97.5) up against **DV8** (94) as both teams looked to get some wins with just three weeks to go. The first game came down to the anchors, where two open frames gave DV8 the 10-pin win. DV8 came back strong taking a huge 96 pin win in game two. Junior Amateur Tour took game three for their lone point of the night. Junior Amateur Tour remains in 3rd just 3.5 points behind second but only 1/2 point ahead of DV8 as they have gained 9 games on Junior Amateur Tour in just three weeks. Kyle Duster was second in the league for DV8 with a 610 set while Kurt Arakaki led JAT with a 584 series.

US Foods took on **Don Julio Tequila** with both teams sitting at 13-12 just out of a chance for the round. US Foods with a pair of pro ladies subbing took down Don Julio Tequila 5-0 led by Paul Barraco's 558 series. Justin Saavedra led Don Julio Tequila with a 487 set.

Bowlium and **Westminster Lanes** were the 7-8 matchup with both teams just looking to bank wins for their overall finishing position. Westminster Lanes took the first game by 84 sticks which was enough to hang on for a 3-2 win fighting off Bowlium's game two and three wins. Arnold Cheesman led Bowlium with a 529 series while Jonathan Gale paced Westminster Lanes with a 542 set.

Professional Approach, J.K. Inc., Bowling Guys and HB Complete Builders rounded out the night's action. Professional Approach and HB Complete Builders recorded sweeps in their matches. John Struckman led Professional Approach with a solid 571 series while Ian Markstrum paced J.K. Inc. with a 565 series. Anthony Rieger led HB Complete Builders with a 525 series while Javier Hernandez managed 493 for Bowling Guys.

Financial Advisor's Pot went to Jeff Hickenbottom (233) for \$160 with 2nd to Anthony Santos (214) for \$70. Sidepots went to Jonathan Gale (211) and Anthony Santos (214) for \$46 with 2nd to Eric Snow (200) and Ian Markstrum (213) for \$23 each. SuperPot went to Leonard Ruiz Jr. (252) for \$138 with 2nd to Kurt Arakaki (242) for \$69.

TOP 10 TEAMS OVERALL	
Finishing Touch Floors \$ 107	Cal Bowl100
Family Ties \$102	Threadworks99
Forest Lanes \$\$\$\$...100.5	US Foods.....91
Junior Amateur Tour \$\$\$.98.5	Bowlium.....86
DV8 \$\$\$98	Professional Approach 81.5

TOP 10 WILDCARD ROUND	
Forest Lanes21.5	Westminster Lanes.....15
Allied Paving.....21	Professional Approach ...15
Threadworks.....18	Bowlium.....14
U.S. Foods.....18	Don Julio Tequila13
Cal Bowl15	HB Complete Builders....12

TOP 10 THIS WEEK	
649 Leonard Ruiz Jr.	575 Vernon Adams
610 Kyle Duster	571 John Struckman
605 Edward Estrada	570 Michael Montano
589 Chris Hefner	565 Ian Markstrum
574 Kurt Arakaki	562 Paul Verela

SUPER SWEEPER POT
Sponsored by Dean Sanderson of Transamerica Financial Advisors Inc.
1st Jeff Hickenbottom 233 \$160 • 2nd Anthony Santos Jr. 214 \$70



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Oil pattern order for the 2 remaining weeks will be 4th then 3rd. Non-round winners will bowl in order of overall wins next week as they battle for the final playoff spot (the 6th seeded Wild Card team).



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