

CALIFORNIA BOWLING NEWS

MAY 25, 2023

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BELMONTE WINS ELECTRIC PBA SUPER SLAM CUP

by Nolan Hughes

The strikes came in bunches on Sunday afternoon at the PBA Super Slam Cup presented by Bowlero, but Jason Belmonte left Bowlero Jupiter with the championship cup, WWE belt and \$100,000 first-place check.

The top-seeded Belmonte prevailed in the finals, defeating EJ Tackett 286-246 in their 2023 rubber match.

"Anytime you're on television, in front of hundreds and hundreds of thousands of people, you want to put on a good performance," Belmonte said. "Whilst it isn't for a title, walking into this match, I wanted to win this."

"I want the ability to finish my career looking at all the events that we've had and say that I've won every one of them that I possibly can."

The Australian defeated Tackett at the PBA Tournament of Champions in March, then Tackett took down Belmonte at the PBA World Championship presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon last month.

"It definitely feels like between Anthony, EJ and myself, one of us is always there. And then it's a flip of the coin on who the other guy is," Belmonte said.

"It's always a lot of fun. You know that nothing's going to be given. You're



gonna have to earn every bit of it," Tackett said of bowling against Belmonte. "It's obviously not a title at the end of the

day, but I think this one felt a little bit different than maybe any other events like this. To me, it felt more like a major

championship because all the best players from this year are here."

In order to take down Tackett, the prohibitive

favorite for Player of the Year, Belmonte needed to bring his A-game. Before earning the No. 1 continued on page 4

BOOMERSHINE BREAKS THROUGH FOR FIRST TITLE AT 2023 USBC QUEENS



2023 USBC Queens Champion Lindsay Boomershine

LAS VEGAS—Lindsay Boomershine of Brigham City, Utah, won the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Queens by defeating Colombia's Maria Jose Rodriguez, 202-176, at Sam's Town Bowling Center on Tuesday night.

The victory allowed Boomershine to walk away with the \$60,000 first-place prize and coveted Queens tiara. Also, it earned her the right to never have to face the question "When are you finally going to win?" ever again.

That's because by

taking down Rodriguez, Boomershine was able to collect her first Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour title, and a major at that.

Boomershine waited a long time and had to endure multiple setbacks before reaching the winner's circle. As such, hoisting the trophy and celebrating with family and friends meant a great to the 37-year-old right-hander.

"I've dreamt of this moment ever since my son was born, so I kept telling myself to keep

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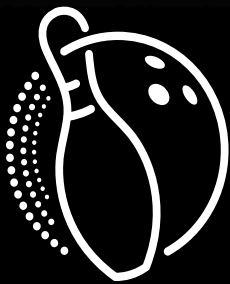
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MAILING ADDRESS
7502 Florence Ave.
Downey, CA 90240

EDITORIAL OFFICE
11459 Imperial Hwy.
Norwalk, CA 90650

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

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California Bowling News is NOT responsible for ADS,
EDITORIALS, STORIES, FACTS, PICTURE CAPTIONS or
SPELLING emailed for publication. Published 52 weeks.



**PWBA HALL OF FAME INDUCTS
FOUR NEW MEMBERS**

Gene J. Kanak

LAS VEGAS – Three members of the 2023 Professional Women’s Bowling Association Hall of Fame class and a belated member from 2020 were celebrated during their induction ceremony Wednesday at Sam’s Town Hotel and Gambling Hall.

Cheryl Daniels of Detroit and **Carol Gianotti** of Australia were elected to the PWBA Hall of Fame in the Performance category, and **Paula Carter** of Miami was elected as an Ambassador. **Mary Bundrick** of Chicago was inducted posthumously through Meritorious Service/Builder.

All four inductees were represented at the ceremony on Wednesday with Daniels, Gianotti and Carter attending in person while Bundrick’s induction was celebrated by members of her family.

Gianotti was elected to the PWBA Hall of Fame in 2020, but this year was the first opportunity she’s had to attend the induction ceremony since that time.

Daniels has won 10 PWBA Tour titles and owns one major victory at the 1995 U.S. Women’s Open.

She collected her first victory at the 1989 Ebonite Firebolt Classic, which kicked off a four-win season for the talented right-hander. Daniels also collected multiple titles during the 1994 and 1995 seasons. Her last win came in 1996 at the Rossford Golden Triangle Open.

In addition to her win at the U.S. Women’s Open, she has recorded nine other top-five finishes at majors and was inducted to the USBC Hall of Fame in 2002 for Superior Performance. She’s also a member of the Michigan State USBC and Metro Detroit USBC Halls of Fame.

But for all the accomplishments that she recorded over the course of her career, what Daniels remembers and values most are the relationships that she was able to forge while bowling on tour.

“The thing I cherish most is how many wonderful people I met,” Daniels said. “I met so many fans and terrific people while traveling all over the United States and abroad. I value so many of the fans and friends that I met along the way. We had a great time, and I wouldn’t give it up for anything.”

Daniels got to see firsthand just how special those interactions were to the fans and friends she shared them with as well, and that is something else that she thinks of fondly when reminiscing about her PWBA career.

“For some people, just meeting a lady pro really made it for them,” Daniels said. “You don’t always realize the impact that you have, but people really appreciate women, bowlers and athletes in their sport. It was an incredible feeling to know that I met so many amazing people who just love bowling so much.”

Gianotti certainly loves it.

She became a major champion at age 21, capturing her first professional title at the 1989 USBC

Queens. The Perth, Australia, native would claim 16 PWBA titles from 1989 through 2000, adding her second major title at the 1996 Sam’s Town Invitational.

She won a career-best four titles during the 1992 season, which helped her earn Quit Australian Sportswoman of the Year honors in 1992 and 1993. In 1998, she won two titles and was named PWBA Player of the Year after leading the PWBA in earnings and average.

Gianotti also was named the 1998 International Bowling Media Association Female Bowler of the Year and 1998 Bowling Digest Female Pro Bowler of the Year.

Gianotti was inducted into the USBC Hall of Fame in 2011 for Superior Performance.

Considering all that she accomplished, it’s hard to imagine the PWBA Tour of the 1990s without Gianotti; nevertheless, had it not been for the encouragement of a fellow bowler and friend, Gianotti may never have had the courage to leave Australia to take a run at tour life.

“It started when Wendy (Macpherson) told me that I should come to the States and try to compete over here,” Gianotti said. “I made the decision when I was 19; it was a big move, and it was scary. I didn’t know how it would turn out, but it was one of the best decisions I ever made.”

And that decision set the stage for what would become a Hall of Fame career.

Gianotti is humbled when she thinks of all that she accomplished; nevertheless, like Daniels, Gianotti remembers the people and friendships as much or more than she remembers the trophies and checks.

“Everyone’s goal is to try to win one or two titles, so to win 10 and then get all the way up to 16, that’s a lot of titles,” Gianotti said. “I love bowling; I love the competitiveness, but it’s the people, the friends and the laughs that mean the most. I just think it’s amazing.”

What was equally amazing was how Carter managed to not only focus on her own career, but also to put so much time and effort into helping to promote the sport of bowling as a whole.

Carter is a two-time winner at the U.S. Women’s Open. The left-hander captured the prestigious victory at the 1971 and 1975 events.

Her performance during the 1971 season helped her earn recognition as the IBMA Bowler of the Year and a spot on the All-America team for Bowlers Journal International (1970-1971).

She promoted the sport through several national television appearances during the 1970s, helping bring professional women’s bowling to a new audience, and in 2011, Carter received the Flowers for the Living Award. She was inducted into the USBC

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Bowling Alone, If You Can Find It

by Dave Williams

A few weeks ago, I mentioned a book by Robert Putnam called **Bowling Alone**. It was surprising to me how many had not heard of the “coffee table” book that was first published around the turn of the 21st century and revealed our changing behavior from one of inclusion to that of isolation. The author showed that we have become increasingly disconnected from others, and that our traditional structures of society, like league bowling, have disintegrated.

Fast forward twenty years later, and we see that the demise of league bowling and bowling locations continues, with the exception of 2023, which has shown a slight uptick in bowling centers in the United States. No doubt this is from all of the smaller boutique-style locations. Here’s a thought — I wonder if anyone would dare to open a small boutique-size bowling center for leagues only?

The Raw Numbers

The website statistica.com lists the number of bowling centers in the United States falling from 3,470 in 2012, to a total of 2,849 in 2022. Another website, ibisworld.com, indicates that there has been a slight increase this year to 3,001 bowling centers. Perhaps we have turned the corner and a bowling center boom is on the horizon?

I’m old enough to remember when there were more bowling centers in the United States than McDonald’s Restaurants! That year was the 1974-75 league season, which was at or near the height of league participation. Some cities, like Detroit and Chicago, had bowling centers on just about every corner. Even California, with beautiful weather and outdoor activities year round, boasted a bowling center in just about every community.

In 2012, the number of bowling centers in California had dwindled to 250. Today, according to Lynn Matsubara of the California USBC, only 176 remain, and 41 of those are managed under the name of AMF, or parent company Bowlero. Just for fun, I decided to search through my Mini-Storage Warehouse Museum to see which of the original AMF, and subsequently Bowlero properties still remain.

I was able to come up with a bowling center listing from the 1990’s in my menagerie of papers at the Mini-Storage headquarters for all things bowling. Let’s take a look at the states of California, Arizona and Texas to see the bowling centers that have survived. Because I left California in 1993 for greener lane beds at Nationwide Bowling Corporation, there may be some information that is not completely accurate, and we welcome your input.

California

The list of AMF Bowling Centers in California represented on the list include most of the former American Recreation Centers (ARC) that were gobbled up by AMF in 1993. There are no less than 24 ARC locations among the 27 bowling centers listed, Only 13 remain open today. Again, this is not a complete listing, but here are the AMF locations that remain from before the Bowlero acquisition:

- Bowlero Cerritos
- Bowlero San Marcos (formerly AMF Eagle Bowl)
- Forest Lanes (now privately owned)
- Bowlero Hemet
- AMF Land Park Lanes
- Bowlero North Sacramento (formerly Mardi Gras Lanes)
- Bowlero Alameda (formerly Mels Southshore Bowl)
- Bowlero Milpitas (formerly Mission Lanes)
- Bowlero San Jose (formerly Pastimes, before that Oakwood Lanes)
- AMF Pinole Valley Lanes
- AMF Rocklin Lanes
- Bowlero Clovis (formerly Rodeo Lanes)
- Bowlero Visalia

Gone are Birdcage Bowl, in the Birdcage Shopping Centre, an outdoor mall that featured giant bird cages with exotic birds from throughout the world; and Bowlerland in Van Nuys, that was most likely frequented by a young Jay Robinson before joining the PBA. Another interesting location that is no longer with us is Alpine Valley Bowl in Sacramento. The center originally opened as Alpine Alley, with retro gas light fixtures along the concourse.

One day a graphic artist intern that I had hired from a local college mistook the word “alley” for “valley,” since I had been schooling her on the right and wrong terminology in bowling. The manager of the bowling center liked the mixup so much that we changed the name of the bowling center to Alpine Valley Bowl. There are so many other memories that would require multiple columns. We’ll save those for another day!

Arizona

The state of Arizona, and particularly the city of Phoenix, was one of three major metropolises that was dominated by the Fair Lanes Corporation (the others were Denver and Houston). The purchase of Fair Lanes by AMF was completed in 1995, bringing a total of 106 new locations to the AMF Bowling Centers chain.

An aggregate of 15 AMF locations in Arizona were included on the list of bowling centers from the 1990’s. Today, nine of those are still in operation:

- Bowlero Christown
- AMF Chandler Lanes
- AMF Desert Hills Lanes
- Bowlero Old Town (formerly Frontier Lanes)
- AMF McRay Plaza Lanes
- AMF Mesa Lanes
- AMF Peoria Lanes
- AMF Tempe Village Lanes
- AMF Union Hills Lanes

Texas

The number of bowling centers in Texas that fell under AMF Bowling Centers management were a surprise to me, with a total of 38 locations. Included in the listing were not only AMF and ARC locations, but also former Fair Lanes and Triangle Bowl locations. Triangle was a joint venture partnership with American Recreation Centers that was managed by the incomparable Neil Hupfauer.

Of the 38 bowling centers listed on the 1990’s AMF Bowling Centers directory, twenty-one are still in operation, including two that are now privately owned and operated. Here’s a look at the remaining Texas locations:

- Bowlero Webster (formerly AMF Alpha Bowl)
- Bowlero Houston (formerly AMF Bunker Hill Bowl)
- Bowlero San Antonio (formerly AMF Country Lanes)
- AMF Desoto Lanes
- AMF Diamond Lanes
- Bowlero Dallas (formerly Fun Fest)
- AMF Lewisville Lanes
- Bowlero Midland (formerly AMF Midland Park Lanes)
- Bowlero Highland Hills (formerly AMF Ponderosa Bowl)
- AMF Richardson Lanes
- Bowlero Corpus Christi (formerly AMF Riviera Lanes)
- Bowlero Garland
- Cowtown Bowling Palace (now privately owned)
- AMF Sparetime Lanes
- Bowlero Stafford
- Bowlero Texas City (formerly AMF Star Lanes)
- Bowlero Waco (formerly AMF Westview Lanes)
- Bowlero Willowbrook (formerly AMF Willow Bowl)
- Max Bowl - Humble (now privately owned)
- AMF Windfern Lanes
- Bowlero Woodlands

One of my favorite stories about Texas involves an acquisition that will remain nameless. The owner was intent on selling the property, so he allegedly offered free bowling to all of his league customers on the week that AMF was coming to seal the deal. It was reported that he warned the customers that if they saw anyone in suits to just ignore them and keep bowling.

When “the suits” returned to AMF headquarters they raved about all of the business at the bowling center and completed the transaction, even though the league counts seemed a bit low. The casual bowling also turned out not to be quite as good as expected (because of all the free games that were witnessed), and it took many years of development before turning a profit.

The side benefit for me was that I became an acquisition “field representative” whenever a new prospect surfaced. Because I was the only unmarried executive in the home office, it was no problem for me to camp out at a potential new location for a week, or even two, verifying the league structure each night and witnessing paid open bowling. And what about the center that allegedly fudged on their league and open bowling numbers? They are still on the active list of bowling centers, so in the long run everything worked out for all concerned.

There’s no history of the Brunswick Recreation Centers (BRC) that melded their name into Bowlero when the acquisition was made in 2014. The AMF Bowling Centers were purchased by the Bowlmor Corporation almost two years prior to BRC, and the company became known as Bowlmor AMF. Then in 2018, Bowlero became the parent company, but both the AMF and Bowlmor names remain as subsets.

Special thanks to Lynn Matsubara of California USBC for the information on USBC sanctioned bowling centers. We welcome any information that you might have on the Arizona and Texas bowling centers for the period mentioned.



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PBA Super Slam continued from page 1

seed during Saturday's seeding round, Belmonte practiced extensively on Friday to prepare for the transition on Sunday afternoon.

Competing on dual patterns — 46-foot Petraglia on the left lane and 36-foot Ballard on the right lane — Belmonte saw something he liked in practice and decided to finish on the right lane.

"I feel like the right lane was exactly how it was transitioning for me (during previous rounds), but the ball choice was different," Belmonte said. "I threw (the Phaze II) one time in practice, and it looked unbelievable."

To raise the stakes, Tackett fired the first televised 300 of his career in his semifinal win over Kevin McCune.

"I felt so comfortable on that right lane and my ball reaction on those (shorter) patterns this year has been really, really good," Tackett said. "It's cool to finally have that on my résumé. I feel like every great player in history has that on their resume, so it was cool to finally check that box."

But Belmonte, who boasts two televised perfections, wasn't fazed.

"I've had some experience bowling 300 and then needing to back it up," Belmonte said. "The one thing that I know for certain is if you keep being too accurate, well, you will have to make an adjustment. When you see that transition happen for him, then you've got to jump on it."

"(Tackett) caught a fortuitous break in the third, which was the crossover, and then he rung-10 and I felt like, 'Alright, well that's my moment.' Then my next six shots were dead-set pure."

Belmonte earns \$100,000 for his win and Tackett nets \$40,000. While the one-hander also brings home over \$10,000 for his 300 game, it will be difficult for Tackett to catch Kyle Troup's single-season earning's record of \$496,900 set in 2021.

With the win over McCune, Tackett earned some revenge after falling to McCune at the PBA Players Championship presented by Snickers. In fact, McCune also beat Tackett's younger brother, Zac, in the televised bracket.

"I don't know if I'd say (it was personal), but I definitely wanted to beat him because of that," Tackett said with a laugh.

Though McCune defeated three of today's other four finalists during last week's Players Championship victory, this marked his first time competing in a televised stepladder finals. He said his inexperience facing the unique transition cost him against Tackett.

"I moved 10 boards left on the left lane and it looked the same," McCune said. "I didn't move deep enough quick enough."

McCune handled Anthony Simonsen in the second match, firing 279 to Simonsen's 268. Simonsen also shot 268 in his opening match win over Jakob Butturff.

After a few weeks off, the PBA Tour returns next month on the opposite side of the country. Belmonte, Tackett, Simonsen and Butturff will be joined by Kyle Troup, Dom Barrett, Packy Hanrahan and Kris Prather for the PBA Tour Finals in Arlington, Wash.

FINAL ROUND SCORES

- Match 1: No. 5 Anthony Simonsen def. No. 4 Jakob Butturff, 268-258
- Match 2: No. 3 Kevin McCune def. No. 5 Anthony Simonsen, 279-268
- Match 3: No. 2 EJ Tackett def. No. 3 Kevin McCune, 300-212
- Final match: No. 1 Jason Belmonte def. No. 2 EJ Tackett, 286-246

FINAL STANDINGS

1. Jason Belmonte, \$100,000
2. EJ Tackett, \$40,000
3. Kevin McCune, \$18,000
4. Anthony Simonsen, \$12,000
5. Jakob Butturff, \$10,000

More information on the PBA Super Slam Cup is available [here](#).

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 Thunderbowl Lanes | Allen Park, Mich.
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 Copperfield Bowl | Houston, Texas
- Storm Lucky Larsen Masters**
 Sept. 1-10
 Olympia Bowling | Helsingborg, Sweden
- PBA Elite League Elias Cup Presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon**
 Sept. 23-27
 Bayside Bowl | Portland, Maine

More information on the schedule is available [here](#).

PWBA Hall of Fame continued from page 1

Hall of Fame for Superior Performance in 1994 and also is a member of the Greater Miami USBC, Florida State USBC and Florida Sports Halls of Fame.

But for all that she accomplished as a competitor, for Carter, it was always more about what she could do to grow the sport.

“After I had some success, they would send me to newspapers. I remember one time I went to the New York Times, and they put me on top of a desk and had me pretend I was bowling. That was picked up by something like 200 papers,” Carter said. “When I did those kinds of things, I knew the word was getting out about bowling. I loved that; it’s all I ever wanted.”

Carter’s willingness to make the good of the sport a higher priority than her own personal accolades is probably what she is best known for, and it’s very close to the top of the list of what she’s proudest of regarding her induction.

“I was honored to be accepted into the Hall of Fame under the category of Ambassador,” Carter said. “There are hundreds of bowlers, but how many ambassadors are there? I thought it was special to be one of the people who made the sport better, go forward and get bigger as opposed to just being a bowler. That wasn’t the part for me. The part for me was getting other people to love the sport as much as I did.”

But Carter may never have had the opportunity to grow the sport through the PWBA Tour if it weren’t for Bundrick.

Bundrick, who died in 2001 at the age of 89, played a major role in the creation of the PWBA and served as the organization’s first president from 1959-1963.

While serving as the executive director of the Les Dames De 700 Bowling Club in the late 1950s, Bundrick looked at the formation of the Professional Bowlers Association in 1958 and hoped to bring together a similar program to showcase the top female athletes in the sport.

She hired Georgia Veatch (PWBA and USBC Hall of Famer) to serve as executive director for the new organization and invited eight prominent female bowlers to a meeting that helped set the stage for the creation of the PWBA. At the conclusion of the meeting, rules, regulations and a constitution had been approved and 23 women were made charter members of the organization.

“Many people thought that Georgia Veatch started the PWBA when the truth is that she was its first executive secretary; she was hired by Mary Bundrick,” USBC Hall of Famer Fran Deken said. “Mary Bundrick started the PWBA.

“When we learned this, we knew that Mary Bundrick deserved to be in the Hall of Fame just as Georgia Veatch already was. We felt that Mary Bundrick’s exclusion was an oversight that needed to be corrected, and we got the job done and got her elected as she should’ve been as the founder of the PWBA.”

If it weren’t for Bundrick’s initiative, the PWBA Tour may never have come to fruition, and the best women’s bowlers in the world may never have had a consistent opportunity to compete.

With that in mind, all PWBA Hall of Famers, past, present and future, owe Bundrick a debt of gratitude.

The PWBA Hall of Fame Committee elected the 2023 class based on submitted applications. The committee is comprised of PWBA Hall of Fame members, board members of the Bowling Proprietors’ Association of America and USBC and bowling media members.

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

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit PWBA.com.

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Queens continued from page 1

working hard and putting myself in this position," Boomershine said. "I'm glad that my family got to experience this with me because I think it shows that you can have it all if you never give up on your dreams."

To secure the victory, Boomershine was forced to come through in the clutch in a fashion that many youngsters dream about and simulate on the practice lanes every day.

Just four pins separated Boomershine and Rodriguez with two frames to go in the title match.

Rodriguez, the 2014 Queens champion and one of Boomershine's best friends, applied the pressure by delivering a double in the eighth and ninth frames.

Nevertheless, Boomershine stepped up for her ninth and 10th frames with the opportunity to strike out to finish off Rodriguez.

Things wouldn't be that easy, however, as Boomershine's ball came in light to the 1-3 pocket during the ninth frame, leaving the 2-4 standing. Undaunted, she easily converted the spare.

Still, the advantage shifted sides at that point as no matter what Boomershine did in the 10th, Rodriguez would have a chance to top it.

But just as she had all week long, Boomershine refused to be distracted by what her opponent could or couldn't do; instead, she kept her focus solely on what she could control, making the best shots possible to finish her game.

That focus paid off in a major way as despite having only struck four times up to that point in the match, Boomershine delivered three clutch strikes in the 10th frame to post a score of 202.

Those strikes forced Rodriguez to throw a double of her own to start the 10th or else surrender the title to Boomershine.

Rodriguez has demonstrated the ability to perform under pressure many times during her PWBA career; that's part of the reason why she's a two-time major champion – she won the 2014 Queens and 2018 PWBA Tour Championship.

Nevertheless, this time it wasn't meant to be as her first shot in the 10th frame came in light, leaving the 2-4-10 to end the match and give Boomershine her first title in her seventh PWBA Tour stepladder finals appearance.

Rodriguez settled for second place and took home \$30,000.

Sharing the lanes with such a good friend during the title match may have helped make Tuesday night's experience less nerve racking for Boomershine; then again, she was so focused that she may have felt that way no matter who she faced.

"For the first time, I really didn't feel like I was bowling anyone; I was bowling my game," Boomershine said. "All week long, I just kept treating it like I was back at the training center in Utah throwing shots like I normally do.

"I don't know if it's because I was bowling Maria or not, but I just felt really comfortable. Maybe it's because we were sort of doing it together, and one of us was going to win. I don't know, but I just felt really at ease the whole time; honestly, I completely forgot that we were even on TV."

Three people who will likely never forget that Boomershine was on TV were her parents Cheryl and Henry and her young son Aiden, who were all watching Tuesday night's stepladder finals with bated breath back home in Utah.

After her victory, Boomershine's husband Hank immediately started a video chat with Aiden so that he could watch his mother have the tiara placed upon her head and hold up the 2023 Queens trophy.

Understandably, that moment is one that Boomershine won't soon forget.

"He told me that he wanted me to bring home that crown, and he was in tears the whole time when he saw that I'd won it," Boomershine said. "I'm glad that he knows that the reason why I have to be gone so much at times is because I'm out trying to fulfill my dreams because I want him to fulfill his dreams no matter what he chooses to do."



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Boomershine wasn't the only bowler who came to Sam's Town looking to fulfill her dreams on Tuesday night, however; No. 3 seed Carlene Beyer of Ogdensburg, Wisconsin; No. 4 seed Correen Acuff of Surprise, Arizona, and No. 5 seed Dasha Kovalova of Muskegon, Michigan, had big things on their minds as well.

Acuff kicked off the stepladder by taking down Kovalova, the 2019 Queens champion, by a final score of 215-190.

That's as far up the ladder as Acuff would climb, however, as she fell to Beyer, 202-170, in the Match 2 battle of PWBA Tour rookies.

Beyer would go on to put up a valiant fight against Rodriguez during the semi-finals, but a costly 3-4-6-7 split and open frame by Beyer in the ninth allowed Rodriguez to emerge with a hard-fought 202-198 win that set up the title tilt with her close friend.

Beyer took home \$22,500 for her third-place finish. Acuff earned \$17,500 for finishing fourth, and Kovalova walked away with \$12,500 for placing fifth.

As for Boomershine, she was obviously happy to have come out on top, but had she lost, she would've been very pleased to see Rodriguez reach the top of the mountain at the Queens once again.

"Maria is one of my best friends in the entire world," Boomershine said. "Sure, I would've been disappointed if I'd lost, but I would've been ecstatic to see her win her second Queens title. The great thing is that she isn't upset that I won just like I wouldn't have been upset if she won. I think we need more women supporting women in this day and age and in the bowling industry."

There are certainly plenty of other women bowlers out there to support.

The 2023 Queens started with 216 competitors. After 15 games of qualifying over three days, the top 63 players and Birgit Noreiks of Germany, who was guaranteed a spot in the bracket as the defending champion, advanced to match play.

The PWBA Tour season continues May 31-June 6 at the PWBA Classic Series – Grand Rapids in Wyoming, Michigan.



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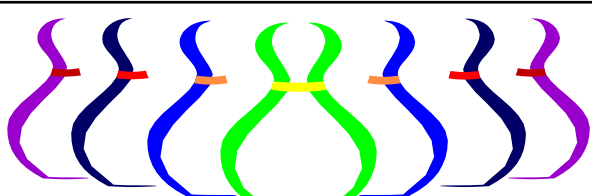
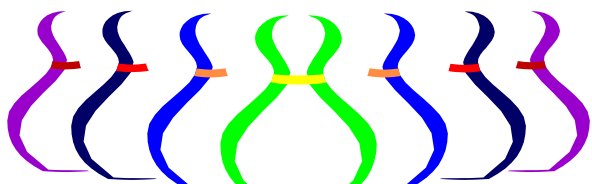
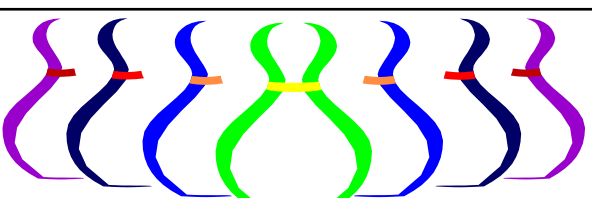
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INVITATIONAL

Threadworks Jumps To The WildCard Lead Two Teams Tied Atop The Overall Standings

by David Yamauchi

DOWNEY – The Brunswick Invitational hit the lanes for the first of two weeks of wildcard battle as the teams still within striking distance were looking to sneak into the rollofs as the wildcard 6th seed. After Forest Lanes punched their ticket to the 5th seed last week, it was down to a two-team race with Cal Bowl (100) and Threadworks (99) out ahead of the field by 9 points with just 10 to go. Week 35 would be contested on the 2022 USBC Nationals Team Event pattern from Round 4.

In the Wildcard “A” match, it was the two top teams **Cal Bowl** (100) and **Threadworks** (99) battling for wins with just one win separating them going into the night. Threadworks set the tone early as they started with two huge wins, but Cal Bowl roared back to salvage game three and remain in the hunt with one week to go. Threadworks now leads the wildcard at 103 wins with Cal Bowl at 101. Eric Snow was huge for Threadworks with a 657 set while Scott Smith led Cal Bowl with a 580 series. These two teams will battle next week for the wildcard and the 6th playoff seed.

In the top Round Winner’s match, **Finishing Touch Floors** (107) took on **Family Ties** (102) in a rematch of the previous three weeks. Both teams were looking to bank some wins and separate themselves into their seed positions for the rollofs. Family Ties swept Finishing Touch Floors setting up a tie atop the standings at 107 wins with one week to go. Mikey Villarreal led Family Ties with a 666 series while Vernon Adams paced Finishing Touch Floors with a 645 series.

The other Round Winner’s match featured **Junior**

Amateur Tour (98.5) facing **DV8** (98) also for the third straight week with Junior Amateur Tour looking to right the ship after three consecutive 1-4 results found them just .5 ahead with two weeks to go. All three games came down to the 10th frame anchor spot with the first two games split 1-1 and a last game last frame open frame swinging the result from 1-4 to 4-1 in favor of DV8. Kyle Duster was solid for DV8 with a 631 series while Kevin Valmonte led Junior Amateur Tour with a 601 set.

The rest of the league battled to put some points in their pocket and increase their year-end checks as none of the other nine teams was still alive for a wildcard shot. **Bowlium** took a 4-1 result over **US Foods, J.K. Inc.** took a 3-2 result over **Bowling Guys, Westminster Lanes** swept **HB Complete Builders** and **Forest Lanes** put a few wins in the bank though their position is set as the 5th seed already. Scoring highlights included Marquan Rivers 279-712, Chris Hefner 621, Kevin Jones 609, Ian Markstrum 607, and Vince Duarte 604.

Financial Advisor’s Pot went to Mikey Villarreal (279) for \$160 with 2nd to Eric Snow (278) for \$70. Sidepots went to Paul Varela (246) and Mikey Villarreal (279) for \$48 each with 2nd to Ian Markstrum (228) and Kyle Duster (234) for \$24. SuperPot went to Vernon Adams (258) for \$144 with 2nd to Chris Hefner (235) for \$72.

Oil pattern order for the last week of league will be Round 3. Come on out and watch the teams finish out the long season on Monday at 8:00.

TOP 10 TEAMS OVERALL

Finishing Touch Floors \$ \$ 107	Threadworks.....103
Family Ties \$.....107	Cal Bowl.....101
Forest Lanes \$\$\$\$...105.5	US Foods.....92
DV8 \$ \$ \$.....102	Bowlium.....90
Junior Amateur Tour \$ \$ \$ \$.99.5	Professional Approach 87.5

TOP 10 THIS WEEK

712 Marquan Rivers	631 Kyle Duster
666 Mikey Villarreal	631 Paul Varela
658 David Cogswell	621 Chris Hefner
657 Eric Snow	609 Kevin Jones
645 Vernon Adams	607 Ian Markstrum

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