# There's INo Quit inDebhie Prince <br> by Fred Eisenhammer 

WINNETKA - There her almost four years are plenty of bowlers ago when she let me who take part in at least know that she was gotwo leagues per week, but the numbers dwindle quickly as far as players who are able to bowl in two leagues within 18 hours.
Debbie Prince is one of them.
Now, Debbie's 104 average in Wednesday afternoon's Funtimers league and 103 in Tuesday night's Guys and Dolls league at Winnetka Bowl is far from imposing, but this 4 -foot-10 dynamo with the slowest ball in town is in a league of her own when it comes to sheer guts.

Among the Turnaround Titans, there's no doubt that Debbie is special. For full disclosure, Debbie bowls with me on our Wednesday team, so I know firsthand how special she is.
was bowling with


Art Rosenberg and Debbie Prince went through a harrowing experience four years ago in Las Vegas. "I'm lucky to be alive and I'm lucky to have Art," Debbie says.


JOHN JANAWICZCLOSES ROOKIE SEASON WITH PBA5O JOHNNY PETRAGLIA BVI TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS VICTORY
by Nolan Hughes
Back in June, John major win, climbing the at Orange Bowl Lanes in from 11th to fourth. Janawicz launched per- stepladder to win the Lakeland, Fla. Though Goebel's torhaps one of the most anticipated rookie cam paigns in recent PBA memory. He did so in style, winning the sea-son-opening USBC Senior Masters.

Tonight, Janawicz bookended the 2023 PBA50 Tour with another

Johnny Petraglia BVL Tournament of Champions.
After earning the fifth seed, Janawicz defeated Bryan Goebel, Parker Bohn III, Chris Barnes and top-seeded Tom Adcock to win his second career PBA50 Tour title

Goebel made an incredible run during the second round of match play to make the championship round, closing with games of 248, 238, 276, 269 and $256-$ a narrow and deciding position round victory over Brad Angelo - to climb
scoring pace continued into the stepladder finals, Janawicz ended Goebel's tournament with a 264-259 win in the opening match.

Janawicz started strong in the next match against Bohn, but a 2-8 continued on page 8

## EXCELLENCE IN MAOORS PROPPLS TROY LINT TO 2023 PBA5O PLAYER OF THE YEAR HONORS

On the PBA50 Tour, true breakout stars are rare. The tour has been dominated by PBA Tour veterans and legends for decades.

Troy Lint is an exception.

The 55 -year-old from Blandon, Pa. joined the PBA less than three years ago and quickly became the man to beat continued on page 7
by Nolan Hughes


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## BaGGill atThe blast

by Frank Weiler

LAUGHLIN, NV. - "What's up Doc"? That's what Bugs Bunny would say if he saw what I saw on the lanes during the Laughlin Blast Tournament at Riverside Lanes this past August. I say, "What the hell is going on here?

I decided to look at the Bracket results and was shocked. The scores were through the roof. A few years ago, you had a pretty good chance to win some brackets if you averaged 240 with handicap. Now you better average above 270! Maybe even 300 or better!

A look at some Sample Bracket Scores (Attachment I) shows that 43\% (9 of 21 games) of the handicap games bowled were above 300! The nine games above 300 ranged from 308 to a whopping high of $348!!!$ A closer look shows that $\mathbf{7 1 \%}$ (15 of 21 games) of the handicap games bowled were above 270!

A look at an actual Sample Bracket (Attachment II) shows that the winner (Bob) rolled two handicap 300 games ( 319 and 317 ) to win the bracket! Bob also beat Bill in the second round 276-271 after Bill rolled a 348 game to win his first matchup. Bob bowled a 912 handicap series (319-276-317) to win this bracket!

Now some would say the lanes were just easy. That's why the high scores. Bull. I have averaged scratch over 200 for at least 25 years and had no handicap game over 257 in this tournament. I also had two games below 200. The lanes were dry and tricky.

I know that my scratch book average has dropped to 189 last year and my consistency has dropped off the charts. My age and health may explain some of my struggles, but they don't explain the explosion in Bracket scores. "What the hell is going on here"?

In my opinion, there is some "BAGG'IN at The BLAST". Specifically, I believe the Laughlin Blast Tournament is being invaded by SANDBAGGERS. Sandbaggers are bowling in the Laughlin Blast.

SANDBAGGERS are bowlers who hold down their averages in sanctioned bowling to establish low tournament averages. These bowlers reduce their sanctioned book averages by various methods including missing spares on purpose, purposely rolling gutter balls and purposely rolling low count strike balls. They do so when such an intentional mistake will not affect the outcome of a sanctioned game. They do so occasionally so as to not be discovered.

SANDBAGGERS are the lowest scum in the sport of Bowling. In plain English, they are cheaters and thieves. They pull their punches on the lanes to steal prize money from honest bowlers. Their method is to gain more handicap pins by intentionally reducing their sanctioned average.

It is time for the Laughlin Blast officials to take a long look at the performance of some of the tournament bowlers and re-rate them. That is, assign the sandbaggers a higher tournament average with less handicap based on their disproportionate tournament successes.

It is time to put an end to the cheating before the Laughlin Blast Tournament is destroyed.


EDITORS NOTE: While Sandbagging has gone on for years in bowling, I'm not sure a NO-TAP tournament is the best evidence here. Getting a lot of lucky 9 counts is most likely the problem.. and sorry Frank, I doubt Riverside Casino will police this fun Senior Doubles event!! Better luck next year!! Iol


#  

by Dave Williams
It's not often that you run into a rookie that's as well practiced as John Janawicz, the 50 year old competitor on the PBA50 Senior Bowling Tour. His list of accomplishments reads like a Who's Who in the World of Bowling, except that he never really delved into the regular PBA Tour during his storied bowling life due to the length of the tour season and personal back injuries.

He was inducted into the USBC Hall of Fame in 2018, where he has averaged 218.24 over the past 30 -plus years, ranking him first in that category. Along the way he has managed to collect 3 Eagles for a first place performance. In 2004 he captured the Singles with an 858 series, on games of 300,279 and 279 - a record at the time (now held by Bo Goergen of Midland, Mich., with 862). He also won the All Events that same year with a mammoth 2224 total for 9 games ( 247.11 average).

His other Eagle came 9 years later, when he helped the 5-man Lodge Lanes Too team roll to a 3538 series for three games ( 235.86 average per game). The team total was also a record at the time that it was recorded, in 2013. Lodge Lanes Too was comprised of five USBC Hall of Fame members: Vernon Peterson (772), John Gaines (681), Mitch Jabczenski (669), Scott Newell (664) and Janawicz (752). John struck out in the 10th frame to claim the all time team record by one pin (now held by Artistic Impressions 1, Oklahoma City, with 3720).

Following his incredible performance at the 2004 USBC event in Reno, he commented to sportswriter Durward Buck of The Ledger newspaper in Tampa, "I have no desire to go on the pro tour. Being on the road all the time is really a tough way to live."

But now, after 25 years at Kegel, a bowling company that has grown into a worldwide organization with several product divisions, Janawicz has decided to compete on the PBA circuit for those aged 50 and over.

## A Rookie By Any Other Name Would Be Called A Veteran

What Janawicz has done in his rookie season on the PBA50 Tour is quite spectacular, and worthy of Rookie of the Year honors, if not Player of the Year honors as well. John, a native of Winter Haven, Fla., joined the PBA this spring, according to PBA publicist Nolan Hughes. "He had his sights set on the Senior Tournament of Champions from the beginning," said Hughes. "But first he needed an official PBA title to be eligible."

Janawicz decided to enter the PBA50 Earl Anthony Classic in April, and to the surprise of no one, he won the tournament. Six weeks later he won again at the USBC Senior Masters. Then this past week he won again at the Tournament of Champions. In ten events, Janawicz earned six top-four finishes and cashed nine times, including the two major titles.
"I'd say it was a very successful year," Janawicz said. "To win two majors and Rookie of the Year, l'm more than satisfied with how everything turned out." Hughes points out that contrary to most PBA50 Rookie of the Year winners, John's rookie season was his first true year on the senior or junior circuit. Prior to turning


John Janawicz (left) and Alicia Marcano of Venezuela were the Gold Medal winners at the 2012 Pan American Championships in Henderson, Nevada (photo provided by bowl.com)

50, he had never bowled more than an occasional event on the tour.

Instead of competing on the tour in his formative years, Janawicz chose to embrace his true obsession with the nuances of the game, according to Hughes, and went to work for Ke gel, which is also based in his native Florida. His juncture in life with Kegel has included time as the PBA's lane maintenance representative.

Bob Johnson, editor of BCM Magazine, has often told me how I remind him of Janawicz. Although l've never met the man, I can see the similarities in our makeup, because of our mutual disdain for the extensive travel and numerous qualifying games on the tour, a passion for a unique part of bowling (Janawicz with the different variables of lane maintenance, and me with marketing and promotions), and our shared back problems.

## When Confronted With A Challenge, Become The Machine

"I'm still fascinated to this day about the chess match, the transition, all the different variables, trying to figure out the puzzle and how to strike more than anybody else," Janawicz told Hughes in an article prepared for pba.com.

After reading that remark, you begin to wonder if a better name for John might be "Brainiac," a reference to those involved with UNIVAC and its cousin ENIAC, predecessors of IBM and the COBOL language ... and also a villain of Superman that first appeared in Action Comics in 1958.

Looking back on my own life, I can remember using the COBOL language on an IBM computer that filled an entire room at Sonoma State University. It required "punch cards" that had to be in perfect order. The introduction alone required a stack of cards about an inch high. It was a fascinating experience that I remember to this day, collaborating with the other geeks in our Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) class.

To show the rapid advancement of computers in that era... before I had graduated, a desktop version of an IBM computer, weighing about 50 pounds, was introduced at the university. The wait time for access to the new fangled device was about two weeks!

In John's victory acceptance speech, Janawicz stated that he had so many people to thank for his victory. "Thanks to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ first," he said with a bit of humility. With a team like that, there's no telling just how far Janawicz will go on the PBA50 Tour.

A REFRESHING CHANGE OF PACE: What an invigorating difference we experienced with Johnny Petraglia in the announcer's booth. His intuitive observations were spontaneous and always correct, particularly during the match between Janawicz, and fellow lefty and New Jersey resident, Parker Bohn III. It's only a dream, but wouldn't it be nice to see Emil Williams Jr. and Johnny Petraglia in the announcers booth next year? BOWLING SUPPLY, INC.

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Debhie Prince continued foom page 1
after, doctors were performing a coronary artery bypass surgery. Multiple complications later arose, including an infection stemming from an incision from the surgery

It took 45 days before Art was allowed to take Debbie home. and then she was released on Thanksgiving weekend with instructions that she couldn't fly.

Eleven hours on the road later, Art delivered Debbie home by driving a rental car through snow and driving rain.
"I'm lucky to be alive and I'm lucky to have Art," says Debbie now.

Debbie is still technically "in heart failure," and has to deal with diabetes, but she remains extraordinarily cheery.

Four years after her ordeal, she returned to the lanes with her Tuesday night team

And this summer, she was back bowling on Wednesday, regaining her role as a Turnaround Titan that few bowlers would attempt.
"I'm not a quitter," said Debbie, who uses that line often.

To understand Debbie's can-do spirit, when Debbie and Art finally arrived home from Vegas, she "insisted on cooking dinner. I'm used to being on my feet and doing things," she said.

Her resolve has translated into the bowling world where she's won more than 30 trophies. Few would know it based on her pedestrian current scores, but Debbie won the L.A. city bowling handicap tournament as a 14-year-old.

She's repeatedly won league team trophies, including a second place finish just this summer on her Guys and Dolls team, which included Art, Mike Co-


Debbie Prince is still going strong at Winnetka Bowl, celebrating whenever she knocks down a strike.

Photo by Fred Eisenhammer
hen and Larry Feinberg. Previously, that team won back-to-back league championships.

Above all else, Debbie Prince is a winner.
She's blasted about five 200 games in her early years and just a month ago, she rocketed a slowmotion 176 game on Wednesday with her perpetual back-up ball.

Art, a top-notch bowler who bowls on both of Debbie's teams, couldn't match that 176 and Debbie let him know.
"She had the score sheet on the coffee table," Art said, "so every time I got up, I could see it and then she would rub it in."

Debbie, 72 , says she's loved the game all her life since she started as a 12 -year-old at Matador Bowl in Northridge. But she admits to some frustration now.
"I can't get the pin action that I got when I used a 12-pound ball," said Debbie, who was named the Guys and Dolls' most improved bowler the summer of 2022. "They said it would take four years before I would get my strength back."

So Debbie has been alternating her bowling ball, sometimes using a nine-pounder and sometimes a 12-pounder.

But that hasn't stopped Debbie from stepping gingerly to the line and hypnotizing the pins with her backup ball.

And more often that people would think, Debbie always seems to pepper her games with a couple of strikes. And when she does strike, she often goes into her comedic routine of letting all the bowlers know that she's still got it.
"When I get a strike, Art asks, 'Is that your power ball?' And that's when I flex my muscles."

If you've seen this act and even if you haven't, it should be obvious that Debbie Prince has easily established herself as a one-of-a-kind inspiration.

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John Janawicz, a native of Winter Haven, Fla., joined the PBA this spring after turning 50 last fall.

From the beginning, he had his sights set on the PBA50 Johnny Petraglia BVL Tournament of Champions at the end of the PBA50 Tour season.

But he first needed to win an official PBA title in order to bowl the event, so he entered the PBA50 Earl Anthony Classic, a PBA50 West Regional, in late April.

To the surprise of precisely zero of his contemporaries, he won the tournament.

Six weeks later, the PBA50 Tour began at the USBC Senior Masters. Janawicz won again.

Then this past week, the time finally came for the PBA50 TOC. He won that one, too.

After winning two major titles, Janawicz led all rookies in points, earnings and average en route to earning PBA50 Rookie of the Year honors.

In 10 events, Janawicz earned six top-four finishes and cashed nine times. He ranked second overall on the PBA50 Tour in points, third in earnings, and third in average
"I'd say it was a very successful year," Janawicz said. "To win two majors and Rookie of the Year, I'm more than satisfied with how everything turned out."

Contrary to most recent PBA50 Rookie of the Year winners, Janawicz's rookie season on the PBA50 Tour was his true PBA rookie season. Prior to turning 50, he had never bowled more than the occasional tournament on the PBA Tour.

He said he considered competing on the tour in the late 1990s when he was 23. However, he said he did not think his body could handle the long tour season as he dealt with back injuries.

Instead, Janawicz embraced his obsession with the nuances of the game and went to work with Kegel.
During his 25 years as a lane technician extraordinaire, which includes time as the PBA's laneman, Janawicz estimated he's worked more than 300 tournaments in over 40 countries across five continents.

While Janawicz has spent much of his time, as he says "beyond the foul line," the 2018 USBC Hall of Fame inductee boasts a tremendous athletic résumé as well.

Janawicz is a 10-time and current Team USA member and has won more than a dozen gold medals in international competition. He also owns three Eagles at the USBC Open Championships.
Despite his extensive history across all aspects of professional bowling, it would be reductive to say Janawicz has seen it all. He would be the first to say there is always more to learn.
"I'm still fascinated, to this day, about the chess match, the transition, all the different variables, trying to figure out the puzzle and how to strike more than everybody else," Janawicz said.

Janawicz has now etched his name alongside some of the game's all-time greats. Walter Ray Williams Jr., Amleto Monacelli, Pete Weber and Norm Duke are each previous PBA50 Rookie of the Year recipients.
"I just look at history and if you look at a lot of the guys that have won, especially majors, on the senior tour, well a lot of them are the same guys that won majors on the regular tour: Parker, Norm, Pete and Walter Ray," Janawicz said.
"It's not a one-to-one comparison, we are all older now," Janawicz added, "but still, it does create a little bit of validation to me. I think I could have competed with those guys if I did go on tour in my early 20 s.
"But I don't regret the path that I took. I just ended up peaking later in life That's the way I look at it."
Previous PBA50 Rookie of the Year Award Winners
2022 - Dino Castillo 2007 - Sam Zurich
2021 - Tom Hess
2020 - none
2019 - Eugene McCune
2018 - Rolando Sebelen
2017 - Michael Haugen Jr
2016 - Eddie Graham
2015 - Mike Scroggins
2014 - Norm Duke
2013 - Pete Weber
2012 - Amleto Monacelli
2011 — Ricky Beck
2010 - Walter Ray Williams Jr.
2009 - Brian Voss
2008 - Wayne Webb

2007 - Sam Zurich
2005 - Tom Baker
2004 - David Ozio 2003 - Don Sylvia
2002 - Vince Mazzanti Jr.
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2000 - Guppy Troup 1999 - Mike Pullin 1998 - Johnny Petraglia 1997 - George Pappas 1996 - Dale Eagle 1995 - Pete Couture 1994 - Larry Laub


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## PBA50 POY

continued from page 1
in the PBA50 East Region.
Now, Lint is the man to beat - period.
Lint collected two titles - the Senior U.S. Open and Morgantown Classic and earned six top-five finishes in 12 events. He finished third, first, second, second and 11th in the season's five major championships.

After leading the PBA50 Tour in points and earnings, and finishing second in average, Lint has been named the PBA50 Player of the Year.
"I shed a tear when I found out," Lint said. "I never imagined (winning) Player of the Year. I never in a million years would have thought I could win that."

Lint follows up Parker Bohn III's brilliant 2022 campaign to become the second left-hander to be named PBA50 Player of the Year. He joins the ranks of Walter Ray Williams Jr., Norm Duke, Pete Weber and all the other legends he idolized.
"You grow up watching these guys and thinking, Man, l'd love to bowl these guys," Lint said. "And then all of a sudden, I get to bowl with them. It's pretty surreal. These guys are incredible, and to be able to compete with these guys, day in and day out, is an honor."
"I'm not as good as these guys," Lint added. "I mean, I don't think l'm as good as these guys. These guys are freaking amazing. They never miss. But if I can get comfortable, I can throw a lot of strikes."

Time and time again, especially at the majors, Lint found a way to get comfortable, which is particularly impressive considering the nagging right knee injury he battled for the entirety of the season.

During match play of the Senior U.S. Open, which he went on to win, Lint buckled over in pain and put his head on the table. He, for a moment, considered withdrawing.

Lint credited a few competitors, particularly Ryan Shafer and Brad Angelo, for encouraging him to keep fighting
"Brad would keep telling me, I see how much pain you're in, just keep fighting, hoss," Lint said. "I pretty much need knee surgery, and I fought the whole way through. To me, that is a huge accomplishment."

Lint flashed his immense potential in the handful of 2022 PBA50 Tour events he bowled. He finished fourth at the Florida Blue Medicare PBA50 National Championship, but the consistency wasn't quite there in his other four appearances.

He came into this season with a newfound confidence and dedication after winning the PBA50 Regional Players Invitational title back in January.
"That win set me on my path," he said. "Let's put some skin in the game. Let's give this a shot. I'm not getting any younger, so let's see what we can do."

Lint said his goal before the season was to make himself ineligible for the RPI, which would require a top-10 finish in points. He blew that goal out of the water, leading the tour in points nearly wire-to-wire.
"You think you know how good you are, until you come out and bowl against the best in the world," Lint said after his Senior U.S. Open win. "Then you figure out you're a little better than you thought you were."
"I'm hoping for bigger things next year, especially if I get healthy," Lint said. "I've got to make some changes based on what I learned from this year. Monday, I start at the gym and start getting this body in better shape. I'm setting goals already."

Past PBA50 Player of the Year Award Winners

2022 - Parker Bohn III
2021 - Tom Hess
2020 - none
2019 - Walter Ray Williams Jr.
2018 - Michael Haugen Jr.
2017 - Brian LeClair
2016 - Pete Weber
2015 - Pete Weber
2014 - Norm Duke
2013 - Walter Ray Williams Jr.
2012 - Walter Ray Williams Jr.
2011 - Ron Mohr
2010 - Wayne Webb
2009 - Ron Mohr
2008 - Tom Baker
2007 - Tom Baker 2006 - Tom Baker

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PBA5O continued from page 1

10 split in his sixth frame brought the southpaw back into the match.
"When I bowled in match play, I hit this pair and I remember the left lane got a little tight," Janawicz said of lanes 11-12. "That's where it bit me, and I saw it again with the 2-8-10."

But Janawicz, among the sharpest bowling minds on the planet, solved the transition instantaneously. He fired the back-six strikes to force Bohn to double.

Bohn aced the first shot, but overpowered the second and left the 3-9. Janawicz prevailed 244-238

In the semifinal, Barnes and Janawicz each followed a pair of spares with a long string of strikes. Barnes held a slim lead throughout, but his 10-pin eave in the ninth frame ceded control of the match to Janawicz.

The Florida native capitalized on the opening with a pair of swishing strikes, advancing to the championship with a 256-247 victory.
"I probably maximized my score in the grand scheme of things," Barnes told BowlTV after the match. "The right lane was the problem for me. The shot in the 9th I liked better than all of them... and [the 10-pin] still wobbled. It was the same for me all week. That was my highest game on that pair all week."

Janawicz rolled onto the championship match where he met the No. 1 seed Adcock. The tall righthander from Illinois captured his first official PBA50 Tour titleearlier this month in The Villages, Fla.

Adcock, who could overtake Pete Weber for PBA60 Player of the Year with a victory, whiffed a 10pin in the opening frame. Even as the scoring pace slowed down, Adcock struggled to build any momentum.

His 4-6-10 split in the seventh frame, followed by Janawicz's double in the eighth and ninth frames, proved to be the deciding moment. Janawicz cruised to a 228-170 win thereafter.

Janawicz told BowITV after the match that he considered changing balls before the championship but rusted his gut instead.
"I'm going to stick with what l've got, just gear down and get even slower, and hope for the best," Janawicz said. "I could see the scores were going to be a little bit lower as they were transitioning, and it worked out."

Janawicz defeated three PBA50 Hall of Famers Goebel, Bohn and Barnes - in the stepladder and earned $\$ 15,000$ for his efforts.

On Tuesday, Janawicz clinched PBA50 Rookie of the Year honors after Jon Rakoski's elimination from the TOC. Janawicz led all first-year players in points

Troy Lint of Blandon, Pa., took home PBA50 Playr of the Year honors in near wire-to-wire fashion Lint won two titles, including the Senior U.S. Open, and earned six top-five finishes during his breakout campaign.

With Adcock's loss in the championship match Pete Weber earned PBA60 Player of the Year honors. Weber's Bud Moore PBA50 Players Championship victory highlighted his season.

## Championship Round Scores

Match 1: Janawicz def. Goebel, 263-259
Match 2: Janawicz def. Bohn, 244-238
Match 3: Janawicz def. Barnes, 256-247
Championship: Janawicz def. Adcock, 228-170

## Final Standings

1. John Janwicz, $\$ 15,000$
2. Tom Adcock, $\$ 8,000$
3. Chris Barnes, \$6,000
4. Parker Bohn III, $\$ 5,000$
5. Bryan Goebel, $\$ 4,000$

More information, including full standings, is avail able here. Full standings - PBA50 TOC

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|  | $\square$ ATI | Las Tayas [ATM凩 |
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