

APRIL 1, 2021

CALIFORNIA BOWLING NEWS

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SWAG Signs 3 Year Commitment With PBA

California Bowling is proud to announce their SWAG LINE has signed with the PBA to have its Swag bowling balls join the ranks as the newest registered company for three years effective June 1st.

The Swag balls have been receiving great reviews and feedback since being first approved by the USBC in September of 2017. In addition to the Swag line making it ways

into the pocket... California Bowling accessories (tape, bags, cleaner), under the LaneMasters and Legends umbrella are also making their way into the PBA and PBA50.

California Bowling consists of four ball brands (LaneMastes, Legends, Lord Field, and Swag) and will be registering their other brands in the future.

Swag is the first line to continued on page 5

Nine-Game USBC Scoring Record Broken

by Matt Cannizzaro

ARLINGTON, TX - Anthony Recsnik of Troy, Missouri, may be a numbers guy with a background in finance, but it's not likely any of his class assignments have included calculating the odds of a performance like the one he turned in this weekend at the Missouri United States Bowling Congress Open Championships presented by BowlTV.

The 21-year-old righthander not only beat his high series Saturday during the team event at Shrewsbury Lanes, he topped the previous mark two more



Anthony Recsnik

times in doubles and singles Sunday at Concord Bowl on the way to the national nine-game USBC record. Both centers are in St. Louis.

Recsnik opened the continued on page 6

2021 USBC MASTERS BEGINS THIS WEEK

The stepladder finals of the fourth major of the 2021 Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour season air live on FS1 April 4

by Jef Goodger

RENO, Nev.—The USBC Masters, the fourth of five majors on the 2021 Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour season, begins next week from the National Bowling Stadium. Qualifying and match play will be streamed live on BowlTV and simulcast on FloBowling Mar. 30-Apr. 3. The stepladder finals will air live on FOX Sports' FS1 Sunday, Apr. 4 at 2 p.m. ET

Here are some of the top storylines heading into the 2021 USBC Masters:

BUTTURFF ENTERS AS DEFENDING CHAMPION

Jakob Butturff won his first career major title in



the 2019 USBC Masters, defeating Mykel Holliman in the title match. With the event not being held in 2020, Butturff enjoyed

an extra year as reigning champion and will now attempt to defend his title coming off a second-place finish in the Guaranteed

Rate PBA World Championship. Butturff would be the first player to win back-to-back USBC Masters continued on page 6

State Bowling Proprietors Meet

FRESNO – At the recent meeting of the state bowling proprietors the main subjects discussed were the possibility of opening legally and how to make money.

Every business in California asked the same question with no realistic answer.

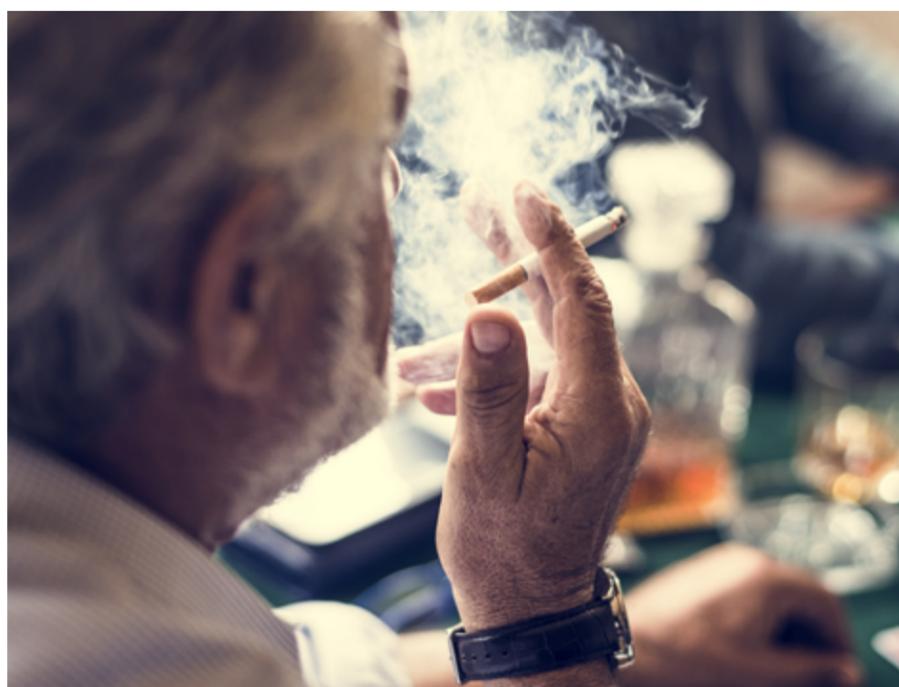
Without the sale of liquor, food and soft drinks... monthly bills and payroll can't be paid.

What other habit does a bowler enjoy?

Yup... SMOKING!!

After much discussion the proprietors voted to allow smoking... pipes, cigars, cigarettes, vapes, etc.

continued on page 5



Starting April 1st - Smoking will be allowed back in centers.

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INSPIRED BUTTURFF READY FOR 2021 USBC MASTERS AND U.S. OPEN AT NATIONAL BOWLING STADIUM

by Matt Cannizzaro

ARLINGTON, TX – In 2019, Jakob Butturff was on top of the bowling world, pocketing more than \$200,000 in Professional Bowlers Association competition and picking up the first major title of his career at the United States Bowling Congress Masters.

A year later, that world was upside down for the young left-hander from Tempe, Arizona, even beyond the global chaos that ensued because of COVID-19.

The seven-time PBA Tour champion lost focus when it came to his health and physical fitness, and the year ended with the loss of his mother, Bridget, after a brave battle with cancer. Butturff knew there were two ways he could rebound from such a challenging time in his life, and the desire to continue making his mother proud was enough to steer him back to the habits and dedication that made him one of the world's most successful bowlers over the last five years.

Following a progress-proving performance at the recent PBA World Series of Bowling XII in Tampa, Florida, the 26-year-old is ready to bring that momentum to the iconic National Bowling Stadium in Reno, Nevada, where he'll finally get to defend his USBC Masters title and look to improve on some heartbreaking finishes at the U.S. Open.

The two tournaments are considered majors on the PBA Tour schedule and will be held consecutively at the 78-lane NBS, starting March 30. The Masters will take the spotlight through April 4, and the U.S. Open will be contested April 6-11.

The qualifying and match-play rounds of both events will be broadcast live on BowITV.com and simulcast to FloBowling, and both tournaments will conclude live on Fox Sports' FS1 as part of the 2021 PBA Tour television schedule on April 4 and April 11, respectively, from 2-4 p.m. Eastern.

"I woke up after the Players Championship in January and realized the pressure I was putting on my body, and the decisions I was making, were not good, and I was not the Jakob I wanted to be," said Butturff, who made the PBA West Regional finals for the 2021 PBA Players Championship then finished second in the PBA World Championship and Chameleon Championship, both part of the World Series of Bowling. *"I know my mom would want me to be successful and not dwell on things or stay on the path I was on. I want to keep making her proud. Even though she's not physically here, I know I'll always have her support, and she's still watching every shot I throw."*

The Masters, which last was held in Reno in 2011, will kick off with three days of qualifying for a field of more than 250 of the best bowlers in the world, and the top 63 bowlers, based on their 15-game qualifying totals, will join Butturff in the event's double-elimination match-play bracket.

Butturff rolled undefeated through the bracket in his hometown of Las Vegas in 2019, defeating eventual PBA Rookie of the Year Mykel Holliman of Collierville, Tennessee, in the title match, 228-196.

Two years later, Butturff is ready to put that title on the line in a one-of-a-kind venue where he has enjoyed past success.

"I feel like one of the hardest things to do in our sport is defend a title, but I enjoy the format at the Masters, I'm in a great place personally and with my bowling, and I've had past success in that building," said Butturff, who finished third in Regular All-Events when the USBC Open Championships visited the NBS in 2016. *"I'd say my confidence right now is pretty high up there, and I'm feeling and bowling a lot more like 2019 Jakob."*

Another similarity to 2019 is that Butturff also was the runner-up at the PBA World Championship that year, falling to Australia's Jason Belmonte in the final. It wasn't the outcome Butturff hoped for, but he feels it played a role in his Masters win 11 days later.

This year, Butturff lost to Tom Daugherty in a high-scoring final, and though he didn't win that event, there's always the hope history will continue to repeat itself.

The U.S. Open also has provided some déjà vu for Butturff in recent years, along with a roller-coaster ride over the last four events, so the idea of redemption at that tournament always is on his mind for a variety of reasons.

He earned the top seed for the TV show in 2017 by more than 600 pins, before losing to fellow left-hander Rhino Page in the title match. In 2018, Butturff again set the pace, claiming the No. 1 seed by a margin of more than 550 pins. Again, he finished as the runner-up, this time losing to England's Dom Barrett.



Jakob "Butters" Butturff

The 2019 tournament provided a different type of disappointment, as an injury forced Butturff to withdraw during the third round of qualifying, after shooting over 200 just seven times in 19 games.

At the 2020 edition in Lincoln, Nebraska, one of the few events held before COVID-19 shut down all sporting events, he finished in the middle of the pack and failed to make match play once again.

"When I led the U.S. Open by so much those two years, I think my mindset was possibly a little too arrogant, and I think that affected me during the next two years," Butturff said. *"The reason I led was because I was patient and focused. The last two years, I feel I was trying to strike on every shot, and I got flustered easily. By realizing what went wrong, I hope I'll be able to take the things I learned and be successful again."*

While the 2020 U.S. Open didn't pan out for Butturff, it couldn't have gone better for Belmonte, who finally claimed the title that had eluded him through more than a decade on the PBA Tour.

He earned the coveted green jacket at Sun Valley Lanes for his then-record 12th major title, and the win helped him join USBC and PBA Hall of Famer Mike Aulby as the only players in history to complete the Super Slam, which includes the U.S. Open, USBC Masters, PBA Tournament of Champions, PBA World Championship and PBA Players Championship.

Belmonte has since added another couple of titles, including a victory at the 2020 PBA World Championship for his 13th major win, and a sixth PBA Player of the Year Award. The 37-year-old Australian did make TV at the recent World Series of Bowling, but it only was as a sideline reporter. Making a run or two, in Reno, where he has had past success, would be welcomed way to end his extended road trip.

This stint for Belmonte in the United States marks the longest he has been away from home in a long time.

Due to strict travel protocols, it made more sense for him to remain in the United States during the first portion of the PBA Tour schedule, since returning would mean an automatic 14 days of isolation in a hotel. He arrived in January and will not return home until the end of April.

During the uncharacteristic free time on the road, he has been able to stay busy with various business endeavors, working on his brand, working with sponsors and more - all things he has been able to do digitally, without moving about too much within the United States.

The 25-time PBA Tour champion also recently announced that he and wife, Kimberly, are expecting their fourth child, so the \$30,000 top prize from the 2021 U.S. Open would be a nice start to a new stash of diapers, though the prize money on the PBA Tour never has been the main focus for him.

"Children bring love and excitement and joy, but you've also got to pay for them," Belmonte joked. *"One of my main goals always has been to give my children and family a great life, but my time on tour has not been about the financial benefits. Sure, that's a nice reward for success, but that is pressure that does not need to be there. I focus on performing for myself, my family, the fans and my sponsors. As a competitor, I don't want to make it any harder than it already is out there."*

Even before the U.S. Open, though, Belmonte will focus on the Masters, where he has found continued success. He won the event three consecutive times from 2013-2015 and got the job done again in 2017 to become the first four-time winner.

While it appears he may feel comfortable in the unique double-elimination format at the Masters or thrive in the long format of the U.S. Open, where 56 games of pinfall, including 24 games of bonus pins from match play, determines the finalists, each year brings a new challenge.

"In my experience at these two events, every single year there's differences, and it's a brand new puzzle to figure out," Belmonte said. *"As much as I've enjoyed my success at the Masters and winning last year's U.S. Open, I know this year will be different. I hope I can use my past experience as an advantage, but I also try to treat it like it's my first time bowling. You still have to put in the work and watch ball reaction and be aware of who you're following. You have to make sure you stay focused on every shot."*

Qualifying at the U.S. Open will take place over four days and four challenging oil patterns, beginning April 6. All 108 players will bowl during the first three days, before the field is cut to the top 36 for the fourth round.

Total pinfall for 32 games will determine the 24 players who advance to round-round match play.

If Belmonte can become the first bowler since USBC Hall of Famer Dave Husted in 1996 to win the U.S. Open in back-to-back years, he also would become the first bowler to win the Super Slam twice.

Among his 13 major titles are four wins at the Masters, three victories at the PBA Tournament of Champions, three PBA World Championship titles and a pair of wins at the PBA Players Championship.

"Last year, when I won the U.S. Open, it wasn't just about getting the one I hadn't gotten," Belmonte said. *"It meant the Triple Crown, Grand Slam and Super Slam. Winning the U.S. Open again would make me the only player to complete the Super Slam twice, which would be incredibly special to me, and it would help achieve my goal of being considered one of the best bowlers of all-time."*

The 2021 U.S. Open will be a collaborative effort between USBC and the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America, and the limited field will include the sport's best bowlers, most of whom earned their spots in the event based on their recent on-lane performances. The list includes leaders on the PBA Tour points list and top performers at USBC events and PBA majors.



Jason Belmonte

BOWLING CALENDAR GAL BETTE ADDINGTON UPDATE

by Chris Addington

Bette has been had a rough March. Just after we tried to get a Pet Scan done to determine if her lung cancer was subsiding, she felt weak, and we had to take her to emergency with my daughter in law. Since they do not allow you to go into the hospital except for the patient or if there are series issues. I got a call from the nurse who told to come to the hospital right now. When we got there, I got to go into the room with Bette and be with her most of the day. She was going thru a battery of tests.



The photo is this week. Her birthday month, March 30th.

I got to talk to the neurologist who told me she had tumors on her brain as well as growing in her lungs. He made this observation from the cat scan and was sending her in for an MRI. I was there when they took her and brought her back. The doctor came back later and told us she has 2 tumors in the middle of her brain and near the brain stem. The prognosis was not good. Not operable nor focused radiation would work.

I talked with our oncologist and primary and showed the reports from the hospital of the findings. The hospital wanted to keep her overnight. She was non responsive, non-mobile and little cognitive response.

The next day at 0700, Monday, I got a call from the attending physician who told me she was responding from the steroids and was sitting up, talking and cognitive. This was a blessing. He said they would be sending her home today. It seems the brain cancer was putting pressure on the brain and limiting cognitive and motor functions and the steroids took out the swelling allowing her to function. He mentioned she could be candidate for radiation.

That day, Monday, the family mustered, and we secured a medical bed and necessary supplies to house her at home. When she came home, she was comfortable and no pain. We discussed where we go from here it was obvious; we need to do radiation. We met with her oncologist and communicated with our primary and started radiation Tuesday.

The Radiation Oncologist felt she was a good candidate and felt she had a 95% chance to stop the cancer growth in her brain.

We just finished 3 weeks of daily radiation locally and she has been a trooper. Our granddaughter stayed and helped me with her for the first two weeks and son, daughter and family helped us thru the last week. She now is doing much better but still has the fight of her life.

She started back on chemo this Monday and we are monitoring to see how it responds. We have an Occupational therapist coming 4 times a week, an aid to assist and nurse weekly to check on how she is doing.

She has progressed from bed ridden to wheelchair and now using a walker. She is trying to walk, and I have to caution her to be careful. She is showing improvement just have to see how the lung cancer is progressing.

If you have tried to communicate with her don't fret, she is still there, just not active on her phone, computer or other social media. If you really need to get something to her, email her at her personal email address at baddington@bak.rr.com I check that email daily for her.

She is doing therapy in the mornings and resting in the afternoons. She was getting her hair back which is nice as she always enjoyed her hair, but it went away again during radiation, it will come back again. If you want to talk to her let me know I can arrange it, but she still has Chemo/Radiation brain fade where she has weak short-term memory, we are working on this.



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Maybe We Should Call Them Avenues

by Dave Williams

Last week I received a copy of **California Bowling News** from my lifelong friend Steve Mackie that was dated January 2, 1981. A note from Steve said: "Going through a box of Dana's press clippings and thought you might like the article on page 1!"

The article was a release from AMF and titled "Two Bowling Stars On The AMF Payroll." The feature brought back memories as I remembered the interview that took place at AMF Cascade Lanes in Portland, Oregon, during my time living in the City of Roses. It was the first and only time that I ever met Dick Kumma, the other AMF employee featured in the release.

The write-up in California Bowling News was actually a combination of a couple of different articles, including the report of a 300 game and 833 series that I had rolled at Cascade during the 1980 season, and a sketch of me that was done by a local artist and bowling fan from Portland. I can only assume that Ken Lowman (or perhaps Carol Mancini?) had edited the various articles into one update of my activities since leaving Southern California.

Steve went on in his note to exclaim, "Wow! California had lots of bowling going on 40 years ago. Amazing!" He is so right, as it was a hotbed of tournament action, as well as league play. While I was stationed out of AMF Rocket Bowl in Chatsworth, I remember sitting down with a copy of the California Bowling News every Friday, trying to decide where I was going to bowl that weekend, if my job permitted.

It was nice of Steve to send the entire newspaper, as I perused all of the pages for some of my favorite recurring articles, including columns by Ken Lowman, Bob Johnson, "Starr Gazer," and all of the various reports from individual bowling centers and tournament clubs.

I always enjoyed Ken's "Low Man Report," because he viewed bowling from the perspective of a once-a-week casual league member that was fascinated by the culture of bowling and all the interesting history involved in our sport. While reading through Ken's editorial from 1981, I was surprised at how the piece could be just as relevant in 2021.

"I don't think that the word alley will ever be eliminated in favor of lane," stated Ken in his opening line. "I base this opinion on the daily papers that I read. Whenever an article in the non-bowling press mentions 'sixty foot sheets of maple and pine,' the word used is alley."

When I read this opening comment from Ken, I remembered an interview that Drew and Missy Parkin had on KUSI-TV from San Diego, regarding their purchase of Mira Mesa Lanes a couple of weeks ago. In a little over five minutes, the announcer said "bowling alley" at least seven or eight times!

I cringed each time that I heard the word alley and recalled my days at American Recreation Centers (ARC), when a lot of time was spent educating the media on the improper use of the word alley. "Alley is a singular term," said Dianne Hazelroth on many occasions. "A bowling center is made up of many alleys, and we prefer to call them lanes."

Lowman goes on in his 1981 article to say that the following statement from a bar owner may or may not raise goose bumps on those that wish to see bowling stay healthy: "A proprietor of a dart throwing and beer drinking pub in Virginia hopes that establishments such as his will someday compete with 'bowling alleys' in popularity."

But as we look forward to the environment that we are facing in 2021, it would be safe to say that most proprietors and their bowlers would be happy just to see a return to those cheerful times in 2019, when bowling centers were open, masks were not required, and you could enjoy a beer after 10:00PM!

"Bowlers seem to have taken for granted that their favorite establishment will always be open for their pleasure," said Lowman. "The bowlers have the attitude that there will always be a convenient center, that the prices will be low, and if they are not catered to by the local bowling center, they can take their business elsewhere. Sure, they can as long as there's an elsewhere."

"One center proprietor informed me that he could make more money turning his place into a warehouse," said Ken. "Don't laugh. His 32 lane center has 40,000 square feet and at a few bucks a square foot, plus no air conditioning, big electric bill and practically no payroll, it would return more profit."

This reminded me of another recent incident, when AMF Major League Lanes in Clearwater, Florida, one of AMF's most profitable locations for many years, became a mammoth storage site, just a few blocks from the snow-white beaches of Clearwater. Having left AMF many years before that decision, I can only assume that those same beautiful beaches, and John LaSpina's purchase of nearby Countryside Lanes in Clearwater, may have played a part in AMF's decision to vacate and take the money from a prominent national storage conglomerate.

It's amazing to me how prophetic Mr. Lowman's words were, more than 40 years ago! In 1981 there were approximately 9 million league bowlers, and according to BowlingSeriously.com there are only 2 million league bowlers today. But can you imagine if every bowler sent a letter to their congressman on behalf of bowling and the unfair shutdown of so many centers?

And when we write, maybe we should call them avenues... instead of lanes, or (cringe) alleys.

Editors Note: Carol Mancini Agrees: Please call them Bowling Centers not Bowling Alleys.



Dick Kumma, left, and Dave Williams appear in this photo that accompanied the AMF News Release from November 1980

Drive Underway To Help Save California Bowling Centers

CALIFORNIA – The Southern California Junior Bowling Foundation was founded with the goal of growing and supporting youth bowling in Southern California. The group has found a new emergency goal- trying to raise funds to help bowling centers reopen in California.

Bowlers, including many prominent nationally recognized youth bowlers, have been unable to participate in the game they love due to the overbearing restrictions placed on bowling centers by the State of California. While other businesses have been permitted to open, bowling proprietors have seen their doors closed and lights off since mid-March. The frustration was escalated when bowling centers in 49 of 50 states were permitted to open while Californians lanes sat dormant in the dark.

Bowling is a big part of many people's daily lives. Seniors are suffering from missing their weekly exercise and social activity. Many junior bowlers are missing their opportunity to earn college scholarships due to their inability to practice. The SCJBF has recognized that it has become essential to help open bowling centers immediately.

The SCJBF has started a Go Fund Me campaign to help raise money for the fight to open bowling centers in California. At a time when many proprietors are struggling and centers are on the brink of closing forever, you can help with the fight.

We would appreciate any donation big or small to help with the cause. Log on to www.gofundme.com/helpbowling and help today!

SMOKING continued from page 1

Now the question on your mind "how will smoking increase income"? Who cares? Because this is all Bu!!\$hit! (Blowing Smoke!!). April Fools!

SWAG continued from page 1

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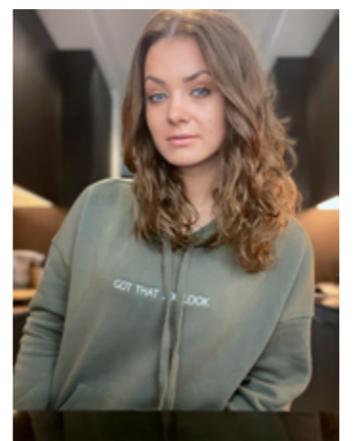
Check out the website at www.californiabowlingllc.com for further info on equipment, inquiring on becoming a member of the newly forming PBA Staff, or getting product into your pro shop. Videos of the Swag line in action can be found on YouTube by searching Swag bowling. Now is the time to put some Swag in your bag!

Daria Pajak's Thoughts Off Her Facebook Page

2020 was a tough year for so many of us.

But let me focus on the athletes.

With competition being postponed, bowling centers shutting down, gyms being closed and no further outlook on when the things will return to what we've always perceived as 'normal', it felt like we suddenly moved to some parallel universe.



Daria Pajak

It has been a year since we have been rocking back and forth awaiting the day when we can freely do once we never questioned would be done away from us.

Hope is really what is keeping most of us sane.

Hope that things will get better - normal, like they used to be when we took it for granted.

Goal setting is heavily focused on achieving them within a predetermined timeframe, but what if the future is indefinite and we really can't be certain whether our efforts will ever be rewarded.

Having to always have a certain timeline is a catch-22 because if we learnt anything through this pandemic is that the future can be unexpected.

But that's when the test comes.

Whether you can still persevere whilst you need to put action to your hopes

This is where the true strength is being born.

It is being born from within.

You have it within yourself, I'm rooting for you .

Masters continued from page 1

titles since Jason Belmonte, who won three in a row from 2013-2015.

BELMONTE GOES FOR FIVE

The three consecutive USBC Masters titles for Belmonte were on the front end of a stretch in which he won the tournament four times in five years, adding the 2017 title to set the record for most career USBC Masters wins. Belmonte hasn't won the event since, but would become the first player ever to win it five times with a victory this year. Belmonte, the all-time record holder with 13 major titles, missed the cut to match play in two of the first three majors this year to go with a third-place finish in the PBA Tournament of Champions.

TROUP CONTINUES CAREER SEASON

In the first three majors of the season, Troup has finished no lower than seventh. He won the PBA Players Championship, finished seventh in the PBA Tournament of Champions and was fifth in the Guaranteed Rate PBA World Championship. He's already earned \$316,500 on the season and he leads all players in PBA Tour competition points.

BARNES CHASES THE ELUSIVE GRAND SLAM

Triple Crown (U.S. Open, Tournament of Champions, PBA World Championship) winner Chris Barnes needs a USBC Masters title to become the fourth player in PBA history to complete the Grand Slam, joining Mike Aulby, Norm Duke and Belmonte. He's been close on several occasions, bowling for the championship as the No. 1 seed three times in his career, but hasn't yet been able to capture the title.

SIMONSEN LOOKS TO GET BACK TO THE FINALS

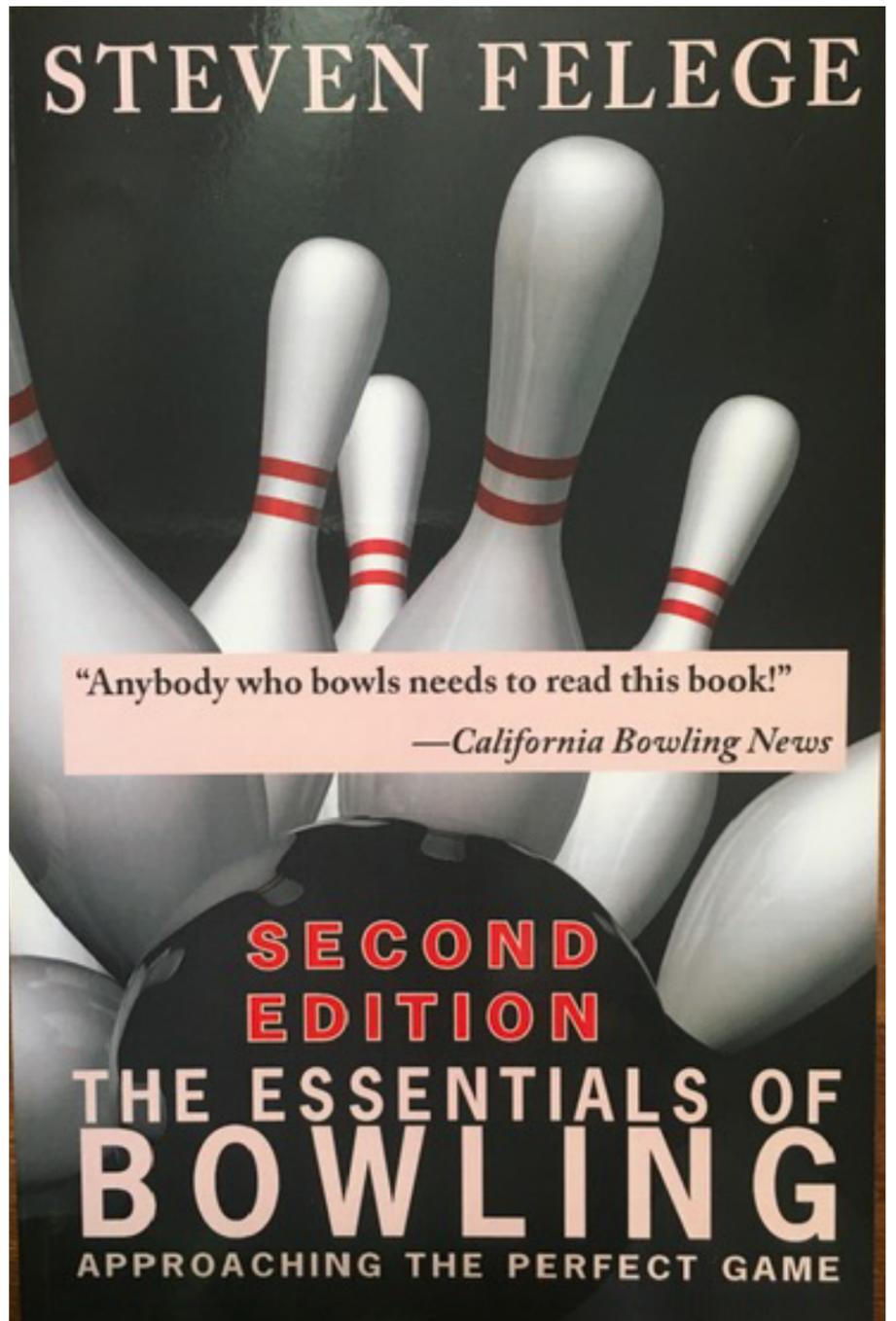
Prior to the Guaranteed Rate PBA World Championship, Anthony Simonsen had made it to the stepladder finals in each of the previous four major championships. He'll seek to get back to his usual place in the top five in the event he won in 2016 to make him the youngest player ever to win a major championship.

PLAYERS VIE FOR BERTH IN PBA SUPER SLAM

The PBA Super Slam, a special event taking place April 18 live on FOX Broadcast Channel and paying \$100,000 to the winner, will feature the champions of all five majors. Troup (Players Championship), François Lavoie (Tournament of Champions) and Tom Daugherty (World Championship) have already secured their spots in the PBA Super Slam. The final two berths will go to the winners of the USBC Masters and U.S. Open.

USBC MASTERS WINNERS SINCE 2011

- 2011 – Tom Hess
- 2012 – Mike Fagan
- 2013 – Jason Belmonte
- 2014 – Jason Belmonte
- 2015 – Jason Belmonte
- 2016 – Anthony Simonsen
- 2017 – Jason Belmonte
- 2018 – Andrew Anderson
- 2019 – Jakob Butturff
- 2020 – not held



Carol has 30 copies she's giving away to the next 30 people that email her and ask. FREE. CarolMancini83@icloud.com
 Include your name and address where you'd like it shipped.

9 Game Record continued from page 1

weekend with games of 300, 256 and 269 for an 825 series and added 822 in doubles (289, 264, 269) and 836 in singles (259, 290, 287) for a 2,483 all-events total, a 275.88 average.

His scores, which are pending approval from USBC, topped the previous record of 2,468, rolled by Professional Bowlers Association Tour champion Eugene McCune of Munster, Indiana, in 2010.

"I'm kind of speechless, to be honest," Recsnik said. "My great-grandfather was a veteran in the Navy, and one thing he always told me was to go out and make our last name known in bowling. To be able to do that is so special to me. I think this performance accomplishes that, but I still can't believe it. It's like a dream."

Recsnik is a student at Lindenwood University in St. Charles, Missouri, where he recently turned his focus from finance to human resource management, though his long-term goal is to secure a master's degree with an emphasis on HR and finance.

As far as the timing of the memorable weekend, Recsnik also was in the midst of celebrating a career transition. Beyond his school responsibilities, he recently left one job and was scheduled to begin another Monday as an associate banker, now with a great story to share at orientation.

Entering the 2021 MOUSBC Open Championships, Recsnik owned four USBC-certified 300 games. The last one came in 2017. He also had sets of 807 and 813 in 2019 and 2020, respectively.

Now that his scores are posted, he'll wait to see how his performance ranks in the standings of Handicap Singles, Scratch Singles, Handicap All-Events and Scratch All-Events. The tournament kicked off March 13 and will run all but one weekend through April 18.

"I would never have thought I'd beat my high series three times at a state tournament, and I don't know if, or when, it's going to feel real," said Recsnik, who bowled collegiately for Lindenwood from 2018-2020. "I'm just really proud. I told my mom while we were celebrating my job change, that it feels like a nice fresh start. I guess it's a whole new me, starting with my bowling."

For more information on USBC records, visit BOWL.com/Records.

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VIEW PARTICIPATING CENTERS

Looking Back 2009

by Carol Mancini

Checking July through the end of the year - I'll spotlight people, places and top scores as usual.

- Four locals cashed in USBC Senior Masters: Ziggy Czaja, Jim Murtishaw, Marv Sargent and Joe Staton. Way to go - and they did.
- 300 for Rafael Dalusay at **Irvine Lanes**.
- Dan Baker "cooked" up a perfecto in Anaheim. Joy McGregor is a witty writer, don't you think?
- Dale Earnhardt Jr. was a hit guest speaker at Bowl Expo in Vegas. His first "hit" that didn't hurt.
- Bill Taylor: call him Genius, Savior, Guru, Visionary, Prophet, Pest, Madman, Crackpot or Renegade - he changed the way you looked at bowling. Bill passed away on his 84th birthday June 30. Read the whole lifestyle history - issue dated July 9, 2009.
- San Diego's Lindsay Bonifacini rolled a 300 at USBC Women's Championships in Reno.
- Junior bowler Jeremy Glover had a 300 smile at **El Dorado** when he received the 300 Gold Medal.
- Six inducted into Citrus Belt Hall of Fame: Curtis Covey, Alisha Hill, Jim Koenig, Stephanie Sjobon, Rich Hill and Nita Schmidt. Best of the bunch.
- Philomen "Phil" Severance, sure to organize bowling in heaven. She surely did in California for over 40 years.
- Another "Guru" joins Bill Taylor to stir the stew - Orange County's Bob Ramirez. Another "free thinker".
- Toot Toot! from **Corbin Bowl** for San Mitchell. 300 on July 17.
- Orange County USBC awarded 300 Certificates to Mike England, Joshua Day, Geoff Maurer, Chris Oaks, Drew Gunther, Tony Chaco, Bob Cosnell, Wallace Jackson, Reggie Wheeler, Mark Myers and Phillip Appell. Mostly at **Fountain Bowl**.
- The USBC redesigned the awards for 300, 800 & 11 in a row.
- The Women's CUSBC State Tourney was held at **Yorba Linda Bowl** and **Forest Lanes**. Julie Rye posted a 300/773. Wow! Nationals were in Vegas.
- Bowl.com made its debut.
- Valley Bowling Supply sponsored a benefit for Mark Roth (he had a stroke).
- Armando Zavala ran the 4th Annual Mexican American Tournament at **Del Rio Lanes**.
- Emerson Wafer cooked up some really big scores at **Cal Bowl**. On August 5, 300-300-237/837. On August 7 another 300. He lost count of his 300s!
- Andrea Snyder captured the State Queens Crown at **Yorba Linda Bowl**. That girl could bowl!
- "Bowling" voted down again for Olympics.
- Remember Devin Bidwell? This teen tossed a perfecto at **South Point** in the Teen Masters event.
- Hear Ye, Hear Ye - Joe Porcelli crushes the pins for his 300 at **Corbin Bowl**.
- August 25, 2009 kicked off National Bowling Week. What happened to that idea??
- Nine Vegas centers were listed on the Directory Page.
- The Viejas Center, East of San Diego added a Casino and Bowling Center.
- There was always weekend action with the ABT, ABTA, JST, NABI & WCST clubs on the schedule.
- Pro Bill O'Neill won his first PBA Title.
- Paula Vidad averaged 219 at **Del Rosa Lanes**. Named Citrus Belt Bowler of the Year.
- **Corbin Bowl** bows to a great duo, Tom Leigh 289-242-278/809 and Gary Montgomery 300.
- California USBC awarded \$10,000 in Scholarship Awards to Youth State Winners.
- Scott Norton Crowned King of Glover Masters in Bakersfield.
- Bobby Williams bowled 870 for a new record at **Empire Bowl** in Redlands.
- **Forest Lanes** ran a "Plastic Balls" only Halloween No-Tap. Costumes a must.
- **Friendly Hills** congratulated Kyle Elsbernd for his perfecto.
- The two-handed style of Jason Belmonte was being studied by USBC and PBA. Belmo was getting a worldwide reputation.
- **Cal Bowl's** manager Leonard Ruiz Jr. was on a striking spree in October at **Del Rio Lanes**. How about 300-300-270/870! House & Association Record.
- Remember the BACH THUMB? No? Ask a bowling friend.
- Yikes! We didn't have a "Sudoku" one week. Over 100 bowlers called to complain!
- Walter Ray Williams Jr. won his 46th Title.
- Norm Duke won his 33rd Title.
- **Santa Clarita Lanes** Christmas Team No-Tap featured "Bowl with Santa"!

We said a lot of farewells to friends in 2009. So glad you are here and ready to hit the lanes. Keep reading, writing and call a friend!

W.P.

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COLLEGIATE TICKER by Aaron Smith

Nearly 60 varsity bowling programs traveled to the Quad Cities last weekend to lace up at the Leatherneck Classic, with the Calumet men and Newman women earning bracket victories.

The men's field featured 32 varsity teams competing in Moline, Illinois, while 25 varsity women's squads bowled in Davenport, Iowa. Qualifying consisted of six traditional games and 16 Baker games, with the top eight teams in each division advancing to bracket play.

All bracket matches were contested in a best-of-three Baker format.

Calumet earned the top seed in the men's division by more than 200 pins, posting a 9,750 total to kick off match play against St. Ambrose, which earned the final spot in the bracket with 9,003. The Crimson Wave claimed the opening-round victory, 2-1, and defeated No. 5 Newman (qualified with 9,144) in the semifinals, 2.5-5, to advance to the title match against No. 3 Ottawa (9,415).

Calumet recorded a 241-233 win in Game 1 of the final and completed the sweep in Game 2, 225-202.

Other teams earning spots in the men's bracket included Lindenwood (No. 2 - 9,545), Mount Mercy (No. 4 - 9,310), Wisconsin-Whitewater (No. 6 - 9,054) and St. Francis-Illinois (No. 7 - 9,022).

In the men's individual standings, Calumet's Kevin McCune finished his six-game block with games of 247, 267 and 278 to finish at the top of the leaderboard with a 1,432 total, a 238.6 average. Ottawa's Jared Freed rolled a 299 game and finished second with 1,423, and Calumet's Petey Vergos was third with 1,342. Mount Mercy teammates Andrei Tacorda and Alex Diercks earned the final two spots on the all-tournament team with 1,331 and 1,315, respectively.

The Newman women earned the No. 3 seed for the bracket after recording an 8,707 total, drawing No. 6 St. Francis-Illinois (8,533) in the opening round. The Jets won the deciding game against St. Francis-Illinois and then dispensed No. 2 Wichita State (8,926) in the same fashion to set up a meeting with No. 5 St. Ambrose (8,547) in the championship round.

Newman edged St. Ambrose in the opening game, 197-193, and closed out the victory in Game 2 with a 199-164 win.

Mount Mercy was the top qualifier with 9,002, while Grand View (No. 4 - 8,569), Saint Xavier (No. 7 - 8,512) and Calumet (No. 8 - 8,448) also advanced to bracket play.

Newman's Leanne Vastbinder was strong throughout the traditional block to earn top individual honors in the women's division, rolling games of 223, 215, 224, 248, 209 and 246 for a 1,365 total, a 227.5 average. Vastbinder was joined in the top five by Wichita State's Sierra Ciesiolka (1,335), Calumet's Alecia Albanese (1,289), Lindenwood's Margie Gish (1,275) and Wichita State's Addie Herzberg (1,259).

In other collegiate action:

- At the Arizona Shootout I in Glendale, Arizona, the Grand Canyon women and Arizona State men topped the most pins in their respective divisions.

- At the Arizona Shootout II in Glendale, Arizona, the Grand Canyon men and women finished at the top of the standings.

- At the Southeastern Shootout I in Anderson, South Carolina, the Savannah College of Art and Design-Savannah women returned with the victory, while Emmanuel claimed the top spot in the men's division.

- At the Southeastern Shootout II in Anderson, South Carolina, Webber International recorded the sweep in the men's and women's divisions.

- At the American Heartland Bowling Association III in Toledo, Ohio, Lawrence Tech claimed both the women's and men's titles.

For more information on USBC Collegiate, visit BOWL.com/Collegiate or CollegeBowling.Bowl.com.



ORDER YOUR TEAM JERSEYS FROM STRIKE 12 CREATIONS!

SoCal bowling jersey supplier, Strike 12 Creations is offering FREE shipping for those ordering 5 or more jerseys for Nationals. We know that everyone is anxious to get back on the lanes and with almost all of the centers in California closed, many are gearing up to bowl Nationals in Las Vegas starting in May. Obviously our sales have shifted from jerseys to face masks, but our tagline is "Making Champions Look Good!" so let's get back out there and start winning some tournaments!

Our jersey pricing is extremely competitive as our first customers were our youth bowlers. We offer FREE personalized names on back and our jerseys are very comfortable in a lightweight, non-shrinking athletic performance fabric. We have sizes available up to 5XL, multiple collar choices and sizing for youth, men and ladies. We have stock designs available to view online at Strike12Creations.com or we can customize a design or add your favorite ball manufacturers for a nominal fee.

We are also currently offering special face mask pricing of 5 for \$50 if you order masks for your national team.

Make sure to use promo code: **NATMASKS21**. Be sure to order early as face masks take approximately 3 weeks for production and jerseys will take up to 5 weeks for production & shipping.

Contact us at **(805) 552-6771** or email info@Strike12Creations.com if you have any questions. We also offer special discounts for Youth Programs and USBC associations.



I received a surprised call Saturday morning from the daughter of a past writer for the Bowling News. Al Sabo was part of the staff when we bought the newspaper.

He could do it all, interviews, photography, write stories, type copy, do layout and even deliver thousands of papers every week.

Al's daughter reported that her dad was found dead in his apartment in January. I hadn't heard from him in years, but lots of "old-timers" will remember him. R.I.P. Al.

Seems we have lost a lot of friends this year, plus a lot that came close!

Are the bowls near you open? Or are you sneaking in for a quick one? The two centers near me in Oregon just opened this week. The Casinos are open too and offer food, drinks and gambling. Play safe, and keep reading. Always happy to hear from you. Lots of bowling instruction books available. Email me your address for a free copy. CarolMancini83@icloud.com

SLAC USBC Office Move Correction

Our new phone number (562) 426-2030 will not be ready until early April. Please continue to use our current phone number at **(562) 925-0417** or email us at info@slacusbc.com for fastest response. Thank you!



SOUTHERN LA COUNTY USBC IS RELOCATING AFTER 50 YEARS!

SLAC USBC, which services 9 centers from the South Bay to Cerritos is moving April 1, 2021 to Lakewood. The office is currently located in Bellflower and will be moving only 6 miles southwest to a newer building and will be in a first floor unit. The new building is located in an industrial area behind the Long Beach airport, just one block east of Cherry Ave. and is less than 5 minutes away from Cal Bowl. The new address is **3673 Industry Ave. #102, Lakewood, CA 90712**. Our phone and fax numbers are also changing. The new phone number is **(562) 426-2030** and the new fax number is **(562) 426-2032**.

SLAC USBC used to be the Southeast District Bowling Association and moved to Bellflower during the 1969-70 season. Their office used to be located on Alondra Blvd. in Compton prior to that move. The SLAC USBC association has evolved over the many decades with the following past associations all merging together at some point: Southeast District Bowling Association, Los Angeles Women's Bowling Association, Long Beach Bowling Association, Long Beach Women's Bowling Association and the Southeast District Youth Bowling Association. There is a lot of history here and we have the old average books on display starting from the late 1930s.

With bowling centers still shut down, the office will remain closed to walk-in business. You can schedule appointments or for fastest response, please email us at info@slacusbc.com. For those that are planning on bowling Nationals or want to vote at our local and/or state association's annual meeting, you will need current 2020-21 USBC membership. SLAC USBC adult membership can be purchased online at bowl.com or through our office and youth membership must be done directly with us at the office. Visit us at slacusbc.com for association news and local information. We are hoping centers will be opening soon... until then, stay safe and we will see you soon at our new office!

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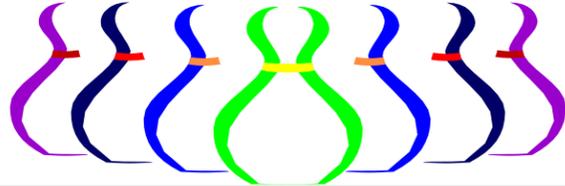
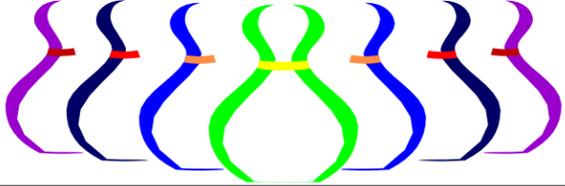
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