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JERRY VERTIGAN WINS THE PBA50 CASINO MORONGO OPEN

Jerry Vertigan of Yorba Linda, Calif. defeated Rick Meneley of Santa Maria, Calif., 268-166, in the championship match to win the PBA50 Casino Morongo Open.

Vertigan's win was one word: dominating.

The tournament featured a bracket final with 16 players making the cut and the top four qualifying scores receiving a bye.

In the best of five games Round of 12, Meneley defeated Herman Ferguson of Los Angeles in three

games. Ty Dawson of Sunnyvale, Calif. edged Tony Walton of Severn, Md., Don Blatchford of Santa Monica, Calif. defeated Joe Goldstein, Sr. of San Francisco, and Jerry Vertigan bested Joe Petrovich of Tracy, Calif. in four games.

In the best of three games, semi-final round, Meneley and Vertigan defeated Dawson and Blatchford, respectively, in two games, setting up the single game Championship match continued on page 7

PBA LEGEND MARK ROTH DIES AT 70

by Johnny Campos

NEW YORK, NY – The sports world lost one of its greatest competitors on Friday when Mark Roth died at the age of 70.

Roth, one of the all-time greats on the Professional Bowlers Association Tour, had been battling with various health issues for the past few years and had recovered from heart attacks in 2009 and again in 2019.

A few days prior to Roth's death, his wife, Denise, notified his fans that Mark, who also had diabetes, was suffering from congestive heart failure with complications from pneumonia.

Roth, a Brooklyn, N.Y., native, won 34 PBA titles in his storied career, including eight victories in 1978 – a PBA record that still stands. He was voted the Chris Schenkel PBA Player of the Year on three consecutive years, from 1977-



79, and again in 1984. Roth also won the PBA High Average Award six times in his career.

He was inducted into the PBA Hall of Fame in 1987 and to the United States Bowling Congress Hall of Fame in 2009.

Roth dominated the PBA Tour in the 1970s, and is famous for boosting the modern power game with his powerful cranking release. He is credited for

revolutionizing the sport and inspired a generation of bowlers with his hard-throwing style.

He won his final career title, the IOF Foresters Open in Canada, in 1984 to cap off another big year. He was the leading money winner (\$158,712) and finished the season with four titles, including two majors, the BPAA U.S. Open and the Angle Touring Players Championships. Also, dur-

ing that year, Roth eclipsed the \$1 million mark in career earnings with his victory at the Greater Detroit Open.

In recent years, he was honored by and was a big part of the PBA Tour.

For the PBA's 50th Anniversary, Roth was named the fifth Greatest Player in history. For the PBA's 60th Anniversary, his 7-10 conversion and record eight titles in 1978 were among the PBA's Greatest moments. The Mark Roth/Marshall Holman PBA Doubles Championship has been held in the famed doubles team's honor, and the PBA League MVP Award annually is named after Mark Roth.

"Mark is an icon," said Tom Clark, PBA Tour Commissioner. "He revolutionized the game with his powerful style, and was a hero to generations of bowlers. He loved bowling and it was an honor to have him involved with the PBA. Our thoughts are with his wife Denise and all that Mark touched with his unique talent."

Details of a memorial and services have not yet been announced.

FRANCE, DENMARK WIN TEAM GOLD MEDALS AT 2021 IBF MASTERS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, USA TAKES BRONZE

Results

by Matt Cannizzaro

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates - For the first time since 2015, there are new team champions at the International Bowling Federation Masters World Championships.

France and Denmark claimed the women's and men's titles, respectively, Friday at the Dubai International Bowling Centre, each defeating Canada to earn the gold medals.

The championship matches featured a best-of-two format. All competition

at the IBF Masters World Championships was broadcast live on StrikeCloud.com.

The United States entered the tournament as the three-time defending team champion in both divisions. The Senior Team USA-women earned a bronze medal in the team event Friday, and the men failed to advance to the medal round.

In the women's final, France only struck seven continued on page 5



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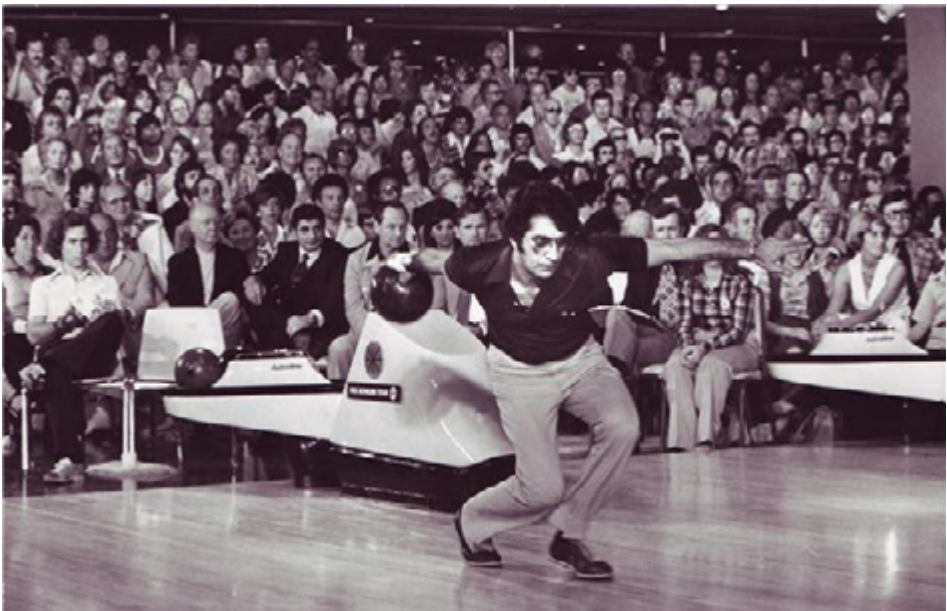
PBA HALL OF FAMER TEATA SEMIZ DIES AT 87

by Johnny Campos

Whether Anthony “Teata” Semiz was on the bowling approach or on the mic singing karaoke, his smooth, fluid, effortless style was always recognizable and on point.

He won three titles on the Professional Bowlers Association tour and eight more on the senior circuit, where he was one of the dominant players after his 50th birthday.

Semiz, a member of both the PBA and USBC Halls of Fame, died Tuesday morning at the Hospice Care facility in Andover, N.J. at the age of 87.



He was inducted into the USBC Hall of Fame in 1991 in the Superior Performance category and into the PBA Hall of Fame in 1998 in the Veterans/Senior category.

Semiz had recently suffered a broken hip, which led to other medical issues.

“About three weeks ago he broke his hip and they had to do surgery,” said his son, Tom. “The surgery came out OK, but then he started having swallowing issues. He couldn’t swallow, so we had to put a feeding tube in him. Then it was really downhill.

“His heart was weak to begin with, and he started bleeding internally. Then his kidneys started shutting down. They finally said there’s nothing else we can do for him. They told us he needed to go on Hospice. And probably five days after that he passed away.”

The elder Semiz, who was living in Hopatcong, N.J., also had been suffering with dementia for the past few years, and had a hard fall about three years ago that made matters even worse, according to his son.

“He fell in the middle of the night, and if I hadn’t been home, he wouldn’t have been around here this long,” Tom Semiz said. “After the rehab (for the fall), the dementia got even worse and I had to make a call to put him in a home.”

That ended Teata’s lengthy career on the lanes, which started when he was 14.

Even though he was never really a full-time player on the PBA Tour, Semiz managed to put together some impressive career numbers.

On the national PBA Tour, he won the 1968 Ebonite Open over Don Johnson, the 1970 Bellows-Valvair Open over Nelson Burton Jr., and the 1977 Burger King Open over Marshall Holman.

As a senior player, Semiz was even better, and at one point had the most career wins (8) and was the oldest player to win a senior title at the time (1997) when he was 63.

“My dad’s only issue with the PBA Tour was he never took it seriously, in my eyes,” Tom Semiz said. “My dad liked to do other things besides bowl. He never took it seriously and never did it full time. So he did pretty good considering. He worked in pro shop, played golf, and he could sing Sinatra all day and all night!”

Teata Semiz also did well when bowling with the next generation of PBA bowlers. Three of his eight senior titles were in the Senior/Touring Pro Doubles.

He won the event in 1986 with PBA and USBC Hall of Famer Joe Berardi, in 1991 with USBC Hall of Fame bowler Rick Steelsmith, and the 1993 with Rich Abboud.

“I feel like we just really clicked that week we won,” said Steelsmith, now the head coach at collegiate powerhouse Wichita State. “By the end of the week I felt like we knew each other pretty well. I came away understanding that he’s pretty much one of the nicest guys you’ll ever meet, but at the same time, on the lanes he was probably one of the fiercest competitors you will come across. I learned a lot bowling with him and was honored to bowl with him and honored to have my first title be paired up with him in doubles.”

It was the only PBA title on the national tour for Abboud, who gained some confidence as well as a victory while bowling with Semiz.

“On the afternoon of the TV finals, we’re talking strategy for the lanes,” Abboud said. “With him being a Hall of Famer, I asked him if he wanted to bowl anchor and finish the matches. He looked me right in the eye and said, ‘You’ll be finishing the games. I have total confidence in you making good shots when you need to.’

“Here’s a guy with 100 times my credentials on the lanes telling me I’m the guy! Talk about a confidence shot in the arm! That was one of the few times in my bowling life I was absolutely dominant on the lanes! The guy was magic in that tournament and now I know why.”

Both Steelsmith and Abboud struck out in the 10th to seal their victories with Semiz.

On the senior tour, Semiz often traveled with Ron Winger, who also was one of his top competitors on the lanes.

“We had a lot of fun together,” said Winger, 80, who works in the pro shop at the South Point Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas. “We used to sing karaoke after the tournament together and had a lot of great times during the golden years, which is what I call them, on the senior tour. “He surely is one of the great players who was well respected by everyone. When we got the news that he had died, there was a nice moment of silence for him during the Senior Shootout that’s going on here. I’m going to miss him.”

Semiz and fellow Hall of Famer Dave Soutar were teammates on the golf course during many of the PBA Senior events.

“It was always Teata and I against Gene Stus and Dick Weber,” said Soutar, who kept in touch with Semiz over the years. “We always had a great time, and he was just a great guy.

“Like my wife (Judy) says, now I’m the only one left out of that group.”

Semiz continued to bowl well after leaving the senior circuit, bowling an 803 series when he was 80.

“But the last couple of years that he bowled, just subbing in leagues, he was averaging about 185-190,” Tom Semiz said. “He just had no more ball speed left. But he just enjoyed bowling.” Teata Semiz is survived by children Tom Semiz, Lori McKay, Michael Semiz and Marissa Semiz, and seven grandchildren.

Teata Semiz was a navy veteran, so there will be a military service on Saturday, Dec. 11, at 12 noon at the North New Jersey Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Sparta, N.J.

“There will be a minister, with the navy doing a gun salute,” Tom Semiz said. “There will not be a viewing, because his wishes were to be cremated, which we are going to do. And then he will be laid to rest there.”

MARK ROTH: A POWERFUL EXAMPLE OF HOW TO REV UP A CAREER

by Jonathan Garza

Mark Roth, one of bowling's biggest and brightest competitors passed away Friday at 70 years old. Roth was one of bowling's true innovators to the game. He was arguably bowling's first true cranker, ripping the cover off a ball at the foul line with ease. His trademark powerful throws and unique ball motion earned him the nickname, "The Original Cranker." Born in Brooklyn, New York, Roth was destined to be a bowler.

"I started to bowl when I was about 11 years old and they built a bowling alley about three blocks from my house in Sheepshead Bay," Roth said to the New York Times in a 1977 article.

Roth bowled for Sheepshead Bay High School for only two seasons before quitting after his sophomore year because some guys on the team got lazy and didn't want to practice.

It didn't take Roth away from the game, though, as shortly after he quit the team he'd take his first job as a pin boy. He'd move on to being a mechanic working with automatic pin-setting machines. His dream was to go out on the professional tour. Through hard work and competing in local tournaments, Roth saved up the money to go out and compete.

"When I first started out, I wanted a sponsor; but nobody wanted to sponsor me," Roth said. "Then after I won \$9,000, somebody wanted to sponsor me, but I said, 'What do I need with you now?' and I sponsored myself."

His debut came in 1970. Roth was 19 years old and determined as ever. He earned \$1,132 in 14 tournaments that year. Inflation would calculate that to be just under \$8,070 in 2021. The next year he doubled his earnings to \$2,520 in 10 stops. It started to compound from there on. In 1973 he earned \$19,900; \$36,879 in 21 tournaments in 1974, and \$45,541 in 24 tournaments in 1975. His earnings in 1975 would be worth just under \$325,000 today. Not too shabby for a 24 year old.

The 1977 article highlighted that Roth's year of 1976 saw him make \$72,878, second only to Earl Anthony, who at the time was the only bowler to reach six figures on the PBA tour. In that season Roth also knocked Anthony from his three-year reign as the leading average on tour, posting a 215.8 average for 907 games to Anthony's 215.5 for 983 games.

What do you think you would average for 900 games? Think about that one for a minute.

Going back to 1975 for a second, it must be pointed out that part of his big payday was his first professional championship, when he took down the PBA King Louie Open in Overland Park, Kansas.

Roth did it in style, too, connecting for strikes on the first 11 throws he made in the championship match against Steve Jones. He went up for ball number 12 and rolled the ball just high up on the head pin, leaving the 4 pin standing for a nice 299 game. It would have been just the fourth perfect game on television. In fact, Roth was on the opposite end of Bob Benoit's perfect game in 1988. The feat earned him a nice \$7,000 paycheck, equivalent to \$50,000 today.

A few years later, in 1978, Roth won a PBA-record eight titles in a season, a record that still stands to this day today. In 1984 he would join a list of many bowlers to win two major titles in the same season, a record that was recently broken by Jason Belmonte when he won three in 2017. Another record that Roth holds that clearly shows off how dominant a bowler he was came in 1977 when he made the Top 24 of a tournament a whopping 89.7 percent of the time.



Mark Roth's style was unlike any other in the 1970s and 1980s. Known as "The Original Cranker," Roth made it cool to be a power bowler, setting the example for generations of future bowlers.

The 7-10 split is arguably one of the hardest spares in bowling to convert. On January 5, 1980, Roth left the dreaded split. He tried to pick off the 10 pin, but watched it bounce out and smash the 7 pin too! Talk about excitement. It happened at the ARC Alameda Open in Alameda, Calif. Only three bowlers have converted the impossible split since (John Mazza and Jess Stayrook in 1991, and Anthony Neuer in 2021), and they were all lefties, leaving Roth as the only right-handed bowler in PBA history to convert the split on TV.

Roth simply dominated. He was voted PBA Player of the Year four times (1977-79, 1984) and held the tour's high average six times in his career. Overall, he won 34 professional titles, with the final one coming at the IOF Foresters Open in 1995, eight years after his penultimate win. His final TV appearance on the PBA Tour came in 1998 when he fell to Tom Baker at the opening match of the PBA Peoria Open, 265-190, finishing in fifth place. After reaching the age of 50, Roth would go on to win two titles on the PBA Senior Tour, now known as the PBA50 Tour.

A few organizations have inducted Roth into their halls of fame. The PBA inducted Roth in 1987. In 2009, it was his turn to go into the USBC Hall of Fame. In 2014 he would be inducted by the National Jewish Sports Hall of Fame. In 2008, the PBA ranked Roth as its fifth-greatest player of the last 50 years.

The PBA has named its Doubles Championship after Roth and Marshall Holman in honor of the doubles team's victory in 1977 over Paul Colwell and Don Johnson in San Jose. Additionally, the PBA League MVP Award is named after Roth.

Going back to the 1977 article, Roth mentioned that he wanted to bowl maybe four or five more years and wanted to open a bowling alley of his own.

Some of Roth's victories include:

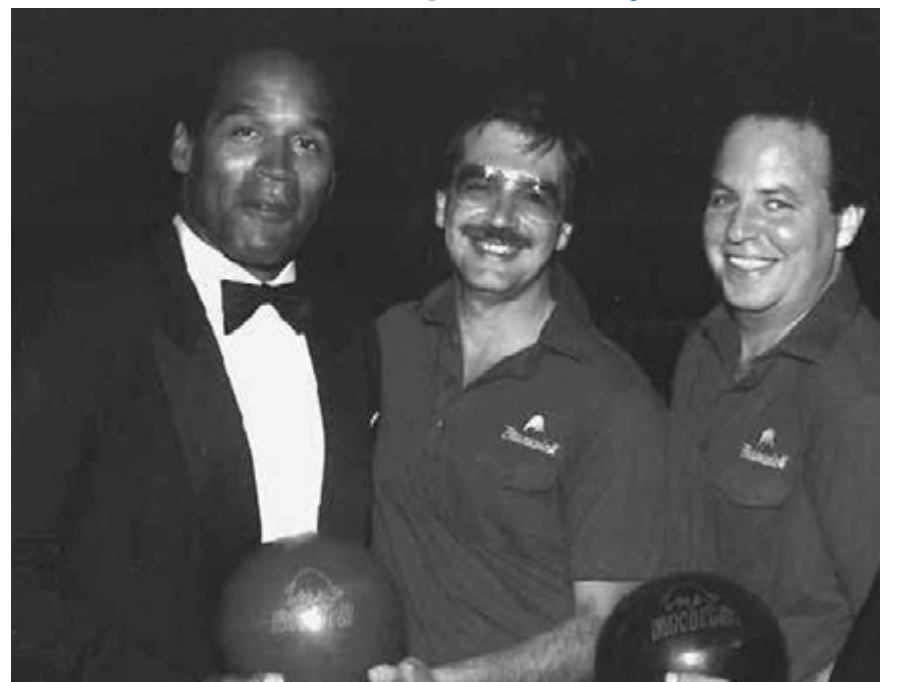
- 1977 Showboat Invitational over Earl Anthony
- 1978 Greater Hartford Open over Johnny Petraglia
- 1979 Rolands Open over Marshall Holman
- 1984 BPAA U.S. Open over Guppy Troup
- 1984 Greater Detroit Open over Pete Weber
- 1987 Number 7 PBA Invitational over Amleto Monacelli
- 1995 IOF Foresters Open over Walter Ray Williams, Jr.

It's worth noting that later on in 1977 Roth would win his eighth title in the Southern California Open, defeating Bobby Fliegman on July 11 by 25 pins at Norwalk Bowl, now known as Keystone Lanes.

Roth talked about it with the Bowlers Journal back in 2018. *"I had three wins in a row on the summer tour (in 1977). I remember the third win was down in Norwalk, Calif. I was leading the tournament going into Friday. That afternoon, I didn't bowl that well and the hometown kid, Bobby Fliegman, made a run at me," Roth said. "In position round he shoots 215. I had to tie him or win the game and I win the tournament. They didn't have TV on the summer tour. I finish on the right lane, and I needed three in a row to tie the match and I had not struck on that lane. I couldn't hit the pocket the whole game. I threw a triple, dead flush, every shot and tied the match, denying him of winning his first tournament. I shook more after the game was over than when I got up in the 10th frame. Larry Lichstein was there and said, 'I still can't believe it,' and I said, 'I can.'"*

The article talks about Roth's break in 1978, when he set the record for the fewest tournaments bowled by a PBA Player of the Year, when he skipped 10 tournaments. Roth said he was tired, physically and mentally and sometimes needed to get away after bowling a hundred games every week. Through the ups and downs of his career, Roth found his way to success and had plenty of it. There will never be another Mark Roth, but there will always be plenty of Mark Roth examples and success stories that followed his lead.

Do you have a Mark Roth story to share? Email it to us at news@californiabowlingnews.com



Mark Roth pictured in attendance for the grand opening of Staten Island, New York's Showplace Entertainment Center in 1987 with former NFL running back O.J. Simpson and pro bowler Johnny Petraglia.

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IBF SUPER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS continued from page 1



count on the fill ball allowed France to win outright.

In the second game, France’s only strikes came in the seventh and eighth frames, and a 10th-frame split allowed Canada’s Lisa Morabito to strike in the final frame to even the match.

The 1-1 tie meant the title would be decided by a ninth- and 10th-frame roll-off.

France delivered a spare and three strikes for the win, while Canada posted a strike and a 2-4-10 split Morabito was unable to convert.

The roster for France included Nathalie DiMartino, Pepita Jacques, Valerie Murat and Francoise Wisniewski. Canada was represented by Morabito, Lauraine Fast, Deborah Lee and Jill Friis.

The men’s final also was decided by a roll-off, after Canada let the title slip away with three consecutive open frames at the close of the second game.

The Canadians handily won the opener, 244-170, and started Game 2 with strikes in five of the first six frames.

An unconverted 3-6-7-10 split in the eighth frame, a chopped 2-4-5 combination in the ninth frame and a missed 4 pin in the 10th frame, allowed Denmark anchor John Guldback to collect two strikes and seven pins in his final frame to steal the game, 191-186.

In the roll-off, Denmark opened with a strike, and Guldback left the 3-6-9-10 combination on his first attempt. He converted the spare and knocked down eight pins on the fill ball.

Canada’s first two shots resulted in a 10 pin and a 4 pin. They converted both, and Joe Ciach stepped up needing a strike to win the gold medal. Nine would’ve forced a tie and an additional roll-off.

Ciach, who was competing in his final event for Canada after two decades with the team, left a 6-7-9-10 split to fall short.

Denmark’s roster included Guldback, Lars Nielsen, Kenneth Ankerdal and Michael Sorensen. Canada’s lineup included Ciach, Michael Snow, Doug Schatz and Conn Casey.

Denmark advanced to the final with a 212-189 win over France, and Canada earned its spot by defeating the Czech Republic, 214-206.

Each event beyond singles this week at the Masters World Championships featured a variation of the Baker format, where multiple players contribute to a single score.

In the four-player version, the leadoff bowler bowls the first, fifth, ninth and 10th frames. The other team members bowl the second and sixth, third and seventh and fourth and eighth frames, respectively.

The team competition this year included 20 men’s teams and 15 women’s teams.

All teams bowled 10 games of qualifying, and total pinfall determined the eight men’s teams and eight women’s teams that advanced to Friday’s match-play round.

The advancing teams were divided into two groups, each with four teams, and they all bowled three games of round-robin match play.

Points were awarded for each win, and the top two teams in each group, based on points, advanced to the bracket-style semifinals. The semifinals featured one-game Baker matches.

The Senior Team USA women and men both won the team gold medals in 2015, 2017 and 2019. Sweden was the only other country to win the team event, sweeping the titles at the inaugural Masters World Championships in 2013.

The quest for a fourth consecutive team title for the Senior Team USA women ended at the hands of Canada in the semifinals, 206-179.

The teams exchanged fifth-frame splits, and Team USA held a seven-pin advantage halfway through the match.

Team USA anchor Tish Johnson left a 6-7 split in the ninth frame and struck to start the 10th frame, before leaving a 7 pin on her second shot. Canada’s Morabito closed the

times, but the strikes came at all the right times for a 2-1 (187-185, 156-179, 50-26) victory.

France didn’t strike until the 10th frame of the opening game, but a double and eight pins was enough to take the early advantage in the match. Canada finished the game first, and a six-

game with four consecutive strikes to secure the win.

Johnson was joined in the effort by Debbie Ayers, Tracy Calfee and Sharon Powers.

“I threw a good one in the first frame, had a little trouble with my footing and just came around it on the two bad shots, instead of staying up the back of it like I did all week,” said Johnson, who has bowled in all five editions of the tournament. “I feel bad for my team. The coach put me in that position to do it, and I usually do, or at least put it there. I threw two pretty good shots in the 10th. If I carry the second one, it puts a little pressure on her. I guess it just wasn’t meant to be.”

In the other women’s semifinal, a missed 3-10 split in the final frame from Finland allowed France to double in the 10th frame on the way to a 233-224 victory.



The run for the Senior Team USA men ended in match play Friday morning, as they posted a 1-2 record, despite averaging 239 in the three matches.

Chris Barnes, Parker Bohn III, Tom Hess and Bob Learn Jr. started the day with a 279-250 win over the Czech Republic but fell to Norway (244-218) and Denmark (244-220) to earn the early exit from the event.

Entering the final game, all four teams in the group were 1-1, meaning the two winners would represent the group in the semifinals.

Heading into the last two frames against Denmark, Team USA had a max score of 258, while the best Denmark could do was 246.

Hess missed the headpin in the ninth frame and left the 1-2-10 washout, which he was unable to convert. Denmark took advantage of the opportunity and struck three consecutive times for the victory.

“Right now, I’m feeling absolute heartache,” said Hess, the 2021 Professional Bowlers Association 50 Tour Player and Rookie of the Year. “I don’t think failure is the right word, but to not come through hurts. The team believed in me and put me in that spot for a reason. It is a team effort, but to be in that situation and not come through is so hard. If I could give up my gold medal to get four for the team, I absolutely would. The ending was so hard, but I just have to remember all the amazing things that happened this week.”

Hess picked up the lone gold medal for the United States, winning singles to start the tournament. He added a bronze medal in doubles with Barnes.

The journey to the Masters World Championships for the Senior Team USA members was one that began with resume submissions and a selection process.

Hess, Barnes, Calfee and Ayers all participated in the event for the first time, while Bohn, Learn, Johnson and Powers were part of the team’s past success on the world stage.

Since being notified of his selection, Hess has talked about the opportunity being a dream come true. With the way it ended, he’s even more motivated to work toward a return trip.

“It’ll drive me, for sure,” Hess said. “I’ll work hard to get the opportunity to represent the country again. It got my heart going like no other. It meant the world to me to come bowl with this team in this venue and represent the country, and I absolutely want to be back to do it again.”

Johnson also reached the medal round in singles but fell in the semifinals, claiming the first of her three bronze medals for the week. She and Powers reached the doubles semifinals.

In the new mixed team event, Bohn, Learn, Calfee and Powers were bronze medalists.

With the Senior Team USA women reaching the medal round in the team event, Ayers earned her first career medal, and all eight team members will go home with at least one.

“Senior Team USA worked hard to prepare and perform during this competition,” said Stephen Padilla, USBC Director of Coaching/Team USA High Performance. “Though we did not reach all of our goals, everyone is bringing home at least one medal and priceless memories. We represented ourselves and our country proudly during this event, and we’re already looking forward to the next opportunity.”

Two dozen countries were represented at the Masters World Championships, and they competed across two age classifications - 50 and older and 65 and above - though Team USA only competed in the 50-and-older division.

In the 50+ categories, the United States and Finland topped the medal table with six medals apiece. They were followed by Sweden (five), Canada (two), Denmark (two), France (two), Germany (two), Czech Republic (one), Kuwait (one) and Malaysia (one).

The Masters World Championships was the last of three events being held in Dubai.

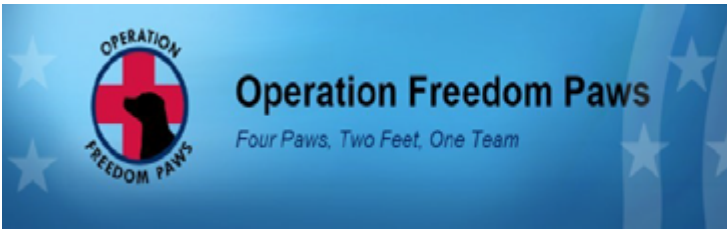
The IBF Super World Championships kicked off the stint in the United Arab Emirates and was joined by the inaugural Para Bowling World Championships.

IBF provided livestream coverage and complete results at [StrikeCloud.com](https://www.strikecloud.com). For more information about IBF, visit [bowling.sport](https://www.bowling.sport).

The California Bowling Writers has adopted Operation Freedom Paws!
Operation Freedom Paws nonprofit organization was founded by “California Bowler and Veteran” Mary Cortani in 2010 that has provided service dogs and training support to veterans and others who suffer from post-traumatic stress syndrome, complex PTSD, traumatic brain injury and other physical, neurological, psychological and mobility needs. According to experts, service dogs help empower people with disabilities to live quality lives.
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My Best Day Bowling

by Frank Weiler

Bowling has been a big part of my life. Some of the best days of my life were bowling! I hope you are as lucky as me and are able to say the same.

I make these declarations because Bowling was there for me when life was a drag. Bowling was there for me when I needed a lift. Bowling has cheered me up when I was down. Bowling has made me smile when I wanted to cry, and Bowling has given purpose to my life.



When a younger me nearly strayed from the straight and narrow it was Bowling that saved me. When some of my friends drifted into drugs, delinquency and crime Bowling gave me discipline, direction and purpose. Many other youth like my wayward friends might have been saved had they been introduced to Bowling at a young age.

I have had so many “best days” bowling that it is difficult to name just one “Best Day” bowling. I have come up with my “TOP TEN” best bowling days but will focus on my “Number One” here. Of course I have had my share of worst bowling days, but who needs to focus on them.

My “Number One” **Best Day Bowling** occurred at Hemet Bowl on **February 18, 2015**. That was the day I met my future wife while bowling there. Meeting my future wife while bowling was the best thing that ever happened to me while bowling. Meeting my future wife while bowling was better than any honor score, better than any tournament win, better than any title, better than any trophy, better than any prize money won while bowling. My best day bowling was the day I met my future wife while bowling.

The odds of meeting the love of your life while bowling must be a billion to one (1,000,000,000 to 1). The odds of my meeting the love of my life at Hemet Bowl must have been two billion to one (2,000,000,000 to 1). Hemet is 50 miles from my home. I had never been to Hemet. I had never bowled at Hemet Bowl. I did not know anyone in Hemet, nor did I know any bowlers there. I had no good reason to go bowling in Hemet, California.

I decided to give Hemet Bowl a try because I had heard that the scores there were high and I wanted to experience the thrill of scoring! Who doesn’t want to bowl 300, 800 or maybe 900!

So, in September of 2005 I began my weekly safari through the low desert to Hemet Bowl. I enjoyed my trips to this historic town because there were many antique shops and bookstores to visit. I went shopping after every bowling session. My “Rare Book” Collection expanded and I added a great Tiffany lamp to my family room. I also purchased an 1890s racing bicycle that might have been used by my great great uncle **FRANK JENNY** who competed as a professional bicycle racer more than a century ago.

I loved Hemet, Hemet Bowl and my whole Hemet experience. I loved the drive, the people, the farmer’s vegetable stands and the shopping. I never rolled a 900 series there but did bowl very well. I rolled one of my 17 perfect 300 games and a 799 three game series, only missing a 800 series because of a missed ten pin. With all of that, the best was yet to come.

Yes, with all the great bowling and all the great extra curricular activities, the best was yet to come. Sometime during that 2005-2006 season a good looking blonde came to Hemet Bowl looking to meet some “snowbirds” from Canada. Snowbirds is the term used by warm weather bowlers for those who come south during the winter to avoid the snow and cold up north. That good looking blonde looking to meet some French speaking snowbirds was my future wife, Therese. She is a former French Canadian who emigrated to the United States some thirty years earlier.

While Therese found few French speaking snowbirds that winter at Hemet Bowl, I found her. I can still remember the exact place where she was standing when I introduced myself to her. I knew right then and there that she was the one for me. **Love at first sight?** It wasn’t long before I had a chance to hug, hold and feel the love of my life. With all of that I fell in love.

The next season Therese and I became bowling teammates and have been ever since. First teammates on the lanes and then teammates in life. Since dating we have been together every day for nearly two decades now. We were married in Las Vegas nearly a decade ago while bowling there at the annual summer military tournament. Our best man was our bowling team captain and former PBA star Don Moser.

The best day of my life was my wedding day August 11, 2015. I can remember every moment of that day, our hotel, the ride to the chapel, the pre-ceremony instructions, Don Moser’s arrival, the minister, the music, and our vows. It was a beautiful day and a day I’ll never forget. The best day of my life was a result of **my best day bowling**.

Thank you, LORD, for all these blessings. Thank you, LORD, for the sport of BOWLING and the best days of my life.

MORONGO OPEN

continued from page 1
of Meneley versus Vertigan.
Both bowlers opened the match with two strikes. Meneley then encountered the 4-6-7 split in the third and sixth frame, while Vertigan continued to strike. Vertigan’s opening seven frames were strikes and he finished strong with a 268 victory.

PBA50 Casino Morongo Open

Canyon Lanes, Morongo, CA, Friday, Nov. 12 – Sunday, Nov. 14
Final Match Play Standings (including match play bonus pins)
1.SS – Jerry Vertigan, Yorba Linda, Calif., 6-1-0, 15 games, 3,655, 243.67 avg, \$2,000
2.S – Rick Meneley, Santa Maria, Calif., 5-1-0, 14 games, 3,342, 238.71 avg, \$1,300
3.SS – Ty Dawson, Sunnyvale, Calif., 6-5-0, 19 games, 4,403, 231.74 avg, \$900
4.SS – Don Blatchford, Santa Monica, Calif., 6-5-0, 19 games, 4,353, 229.11 avg, \$900
5.S – Joe Goldstein, Sr., S San Francisco, CA., 1-3-0, 12 games, 2,783, 231.92 avg, \$650
6.N-S – Tony Walton, Severn, Md., 1-3-0, 12 games, 2,682, 223.5 avg, \$650
7.S – Joe Petrovich, Tracy, Calif., 4-3-0, 15 games, 3,496, 233.07 avg, \$650
8.N-S – Herman Ferguson, Los Angeles, 3-3-0, 14 games, 3,185, 227.5 avg, \$650
9.S – Steve Kenyon, Grosse, Isle, Mich., 2-3-0, 13 games, 2,970, 228.46 avg, \$550
10.S – John Burkett, Fort Worth, Tex., 2-3-0, 13 games, 2,904, 223.38 avg, \$550
11.S – Wayne Garber, Modesto, Calif., 0-3-0, 11 games, 2,324, 211.27 avg, \$550
12.S – Darron Peters, Temecula, Calif., 0-3-0, 11 games, 2,240, 221.82 avg, \$550
Other Cashers Standings (after eight games)
13.S – James Krafft, Anchorage, Ark., 1,750, 218.75 avg, \$450
14.SS – Ron Mohr, Las Vegas, 1,748, 218.5 avg, \$450
15.SS – Doug Kempt, Arcadia, Calif., 1,747, 218.38 avg, \$425
16.S – Dan Long, Bakersfield, Calif., 1,747, 218.38 avg, \$425
Super Senior Cashers Standings (after eight games)
17.SS1. N-SS – Ken Odra, Anza, Calif., 1,741, 217.63 avg, \$275
18.SS2. SS – Mike Mellick, Whittier, Calif., 1,741, 217.63 avg, \$275
300 game by Darron Peters
Key:
N – Designates Non-Member entry
S – Designates Senior entry
SS – Designates Super Senior entry

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Pabst Blue Ribbon The Official Beer of Professional Bowling... Again!

by Dave Williams

I never thought of myself as a historian. Now that I have entered my septuagenarian years, it's hard to doubt the obvious fact that in many instances I have become the oldest man in the room. All this means is that I have lived a lot of history, and as philosopher Karl Schlegel once said, "A historian is nothing more than a prophet looking backward."

My historical recollections of beer and bowling date back to the stories that Primo Liberatore, owner and operator of L & L Lanes in Sebastopol, Calif., would tell me for hours on end while I was growing up under his tutelage. Liberatore was originally from Chicago, one of the premier locations for team bowling in the 20th century, along with Detroit and St. Louis.

Many of Primo's stories revolved around team bowling in Chicago. One of the early sponsors of professional bowling teams in the Windy City was Pabst Blue Ribbon Beer. Primo would often recall one of the really great Pabst teams of the 1930's that included Bowling Hall of Fame members Paul Krumske and Adolph Carlson.

Krumske was voted Chicago's Best Bowler in a poll conducted by Joe Kissel and the Chicago Bowler newspaper; but in addition to that, he was "the straight man" for Jerry Lewis every year when the Muscular Dystrophy Bowlathon was hosted at AMF's Strike 'n Spare Lanes in the city of Northbrook, an affluent suburb north of Chicago.

It is meaningful to note that many years later this writer was honored to arrange a retirement party for Art Bernardi, the longtime manager of Strike 'n Spare, while I was stationed in Chicagoland by AMF during the 1970's and 80's. On hand for the affair was Sam Weinstein, "The Tenpin Tattler," who for many years hosted the Muscular Dystrophy Bowlathon on radio and television for WGN. Weinstein had newspapers prepared for the event with a headline that read: "AMF Stock Drops as Bernardi Retires!"

Teammate Adolph Carlson's claim to fame was an unusual two step delivery that brought him fame for many years while defending the National Match Game Championship. He was voted to the All American team for twelve consecutive years, from 1925 to 1936, and then again from 1939 to 1942. Other members of the 1930's squad included Herb Freitas, Joe Sinke, Eddie Krems and Eddie Zajac.

Primo would also marvel at the 1940's powerhouse Pabst Blue Ribbon team that once again included Krumske, Freitas, Sinke, Krems, newcomer Les Fuller, and another Hall of Fame member that took the place of Carlson - Ned Day. Liberatore referred to Ned Day as "Mr. Bowling," a title that he earned by taking on all comers, as he was the first to tour the country extensively defending the National Match Game title.

Yet another powerful Pabst Blue Ribbon lineup in the 1950's that was described by Primo included two more Hall of Fame members - Glenn Allison and Joe Kristof. Allison was from California, but moved to Chicago initially to become a part of the Pabst Blue Ribbon team. More than 25 years later Allison would find himself involved in one of the greatest controversies ever in professional sports, when he rolled a perfect 900 series for three games during league play that was not recognized by the governing bodies for the game of bowling.

Joe Kristof was a top kegler that was recruited from Ohio to become a part of the Pabst Blue Ribbon Beer team. Primo said that Kristof was the captain of the team and a true stylist. He would often refer to my approach as one resembling that of Mr. Kristof when I was growing up. Rounding out the 1950's team were Bob Pinkalla, Rudy Pugel, Dick O'Brien and Dennis Wright.

Listening to all of those stories about famous teams had a profound effect upon me. I was so moved that one day, while watching the desk and bar at L & L Lanes, a beer delivery came and the driver said that he had some really nice globe light signs from Pabst for the lounge. Without batting an eye, and remembering all of those classic stories from Primo, I let the driver know that we would be interested as I helped him remove the stained glass Coors signs that had been mounted behind the bar, and replaced them with the new Pabst signs.

The outcry from the customers was immense! How could we remove the Coors signs? Many customers threatened to take their business elsewhere if we did not return the Coors signs to their "rightful" place. Luckily I had not thrown out the Coors signs and we remounted them in place of the Pabst signs. I should have learned a lesson from this, about the loyalty of bowlers and specific beers that prevailed in their community.



Pabst Blue Ribbon Beer (1958) - (l-r) Bob Pinkalla, Glenn Allison, Rudy Pugel, Dick O'Brien, Joe Kristof and Dennis Wright (Provided by bowlinghistory.wordpress.com)



Jerry "300" Lewis - Lewis appeared with Paul Krumske (left) on Chicago TV show "Bowl the Professor" in 1957 (Provided by bowlinghistory.wordpress.com)

Many years later the same thing happened to me when I arranged an elaborate campaign with Seagram's Coolers at all of the AMF Bowling Centers. Trying to wean bowlers from a diet of beer to wine coolers proved difficult, as the PBA also learned a few years later with the Seagram's Coolers U.S. Open sponsorships. The numbers necessary to continue that relationship never materialized and Seagram pulled out of the arrangement after 4 years.

It happened to me again when I was employed by Nationwide Bowling Centers in the greater New York City marketplace. We attempted to convert local bowlers to Miller Lite, instead of Bud Light. The marketing muscle was there and we arranged for a managers meeting to roll out our new campaign. An amazing amount of signage and marketing dollars were provided but once again I discovered the loyalty of bowlers to a particular product.

Despite the fact that Miller Lite was by far the favorite across the nation, and their ads were number one, the locals around New York City wanted Bud Light. The complaints reached the owner of Nationwide and after consultation with Miller Brewing we agreed to remove all of the beautiful signage and marketing support (over time) that Miller had provided to us.

It's interesting to note that Pabst, Miller and Coors are now all brewed by conglomerate Molson Coors. Will bowlers embrace the new relationship forged between Pabst Blue Ribbon (PBR) and the Professional Bowlers Association (PBA), at least to a level that will justify the marketing expense? Only time will tell...

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BRUNSWICK 2ND ROUND NEARS CONCLUSION

Forever Hope Foundation continues to dominate in total wins

by Mike Cammarata

DOWNEY — **Bowlium** began the night with an 18-2 record after four weeks of play in the 2nd round of the Brunswick Invitational. They held a three game lead over their opponents for the night, **U.S. Foods**. Four other teams were still within striking distance, and were rooting for U.S. Foods to get some wins, which would bring Bowlium back to the pack heading into the final two weeks.

The opening game of the match was certainly a struggle for U.S. Foods, as they were only able to post a 686, in spite of a 206 game from Kasey Uyesugi. Bowlium won easily, by 104 pins, to open up an early lead. Billy Myers Jr. was the top shooter in the opener with a 213. The second game was much closer and would come down to the anchor bowlers in the 10th frame. Bowlium had the edge, but a costly 7-10 split from Myers opened the door, and Gabriel Martinez was up to the challenge. He doubled in the tenth, giving U.S. Foods a five pin victory. The momentum carried over into the third game, as U.S. Foods posted an 851. Martinez led with 233, and Uyesugi was right behind with 227. Bowlium was strong in the final game, shooting 828, but it wasn't enough. Bowlium did have a big enough lead that totals weren't in danger. So, in spite of losing two games, they win the match 3-2. Butch Jackson had a strong final game for Bowlium, shooting a 236 to post the high series in the match, 647.

The second pair featured **Cal Bowl** against the **Forever Hope Foundation**. Cal Bowl came into the night 14-6 and needed some wins to get up to the top pair heading into the final couple weeks. Forever Hope has already punched their ticket into the play-offs, but are staying focused on the overall top seed spot, seeking as many wins as possible.

On the third pair, **Westminster Lanes** and **Forest Lanes** would square off. JT Diso got the match started, leading Forest Lanes to a big victory with his 226 game. Forest took an early 118 pin lead for the match. Westminster Lanes rebounded to get the 2nd game, but didn't make up much ground for totals, winning by only 22 pins. Marquan Rivers was big for Westminster in the middle game, easily leading the pair with his 235. In the final game, Jonathan Gale of Westminster Lanes topped the pair by 26 pins, shooting a 225, but his team still fell short of the win. Forest had a steady team effort to take the final game and totals, winning the match 4-1. JT Diso's 597 topped the pair by two pins over Marquan Rivers'

595. With the four wins, Forest improves to 16-9 for the round, but will remain on the third pair next week.

Leapfrogging teams all the way to the 2nd pair next week is **DV8**. After starting the round 2-8, DV8 has now won 15 straight to improve to 17-8. Tonight they were able to sweep past **California Timberline**. The first two games were very close, as DV8 took them both by about 20 pins. Scott Smith led both games for them, shooting 202 and 213. In the final game, California Timberline started strong behind early strings from Will Hinckley and Blayke Miller. DV8 stayed steady and climbed back into the lead by the 6th frame and hung on for the win.

Team Hu\$tle took down **J.A.T.** by a 4-1 margin on the next pair. Alejandra Urrutia topped the pair, shooting a 203/569 set to lead Team Hu\$tle. Vince Duarte, subbing for the round, was right behind with a steady 568 set. The match was closer than the 4-1 score would indicate, as Team Hu\$tle won the 2nd game by only 11 pins and J.A.T. won the final game by 19 in a tightly contested match. Anthony Santos finished strong for J.A.T., leading them with 215/567.

Family Ties got a 247 in the opening game from Mikey Villarreal to take an early lead over the Professional Approach team. **The Professional Approach** evened the match, taking game two, and almost evening the match for totals heading into the final game. Bryan Osborne led the victory with 211 on his way to the high score for the pair, 611. In the final game, Stephanie Zavala led the way for Family Ties with a 235. And, in honor of their Family Ties name, her father Armando Zavala added a 222 while in a substitute role. Those scores were enough to give the game and match to Family Ties by a 4-1 margin.

On the next pair, two of the three games were decided by just a few pins, but all those pins were in favor of **Threadworks**, as they swept all five games from **Bowling Guys**. Game #1 was won by only nine pins, while the final game was 16. Eric Snow topped the pair, leading Threadworks with 214/592.

TDI Refrigeration improved to nine wins for the round after taking four out of five from **WBPI**. TDI had a very tough first round, but seemed to have gained some momentum on the short oil pattern. Maria Bacos had a great 222/585 set to lead the way for TDI and Trae Davis was over 200 in the final game. Derek Lee had a pair leading 234/606 for

TOP 10 TEAMS ROUND 2			
Bowlium.....	21	Cal Bowl	14
Forever Hope Foundation\$	18	Westminster Lanes. . .	14
U.S. Foods	17	Team Hu\$tle	12
DV8.....	17	Threadworks.....	11
Forest Lanes.....	16	Family Ties	11

TOP 10 THIS WEEK			
Leonard Ruiz Jr.	696	Bryan Osborne	611
Butch Jackson	647	Kasey Uyesugi	611
Ramsey Basurto.....	633	David Schiada.....	610
Matt Murtishaw	626	Derek Lee	606
Billy Myers Jr.	616	JT Diso.....	597

SUPER SWEEPER POT
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WBPI in defeat.

Mikey Villarreal won the opening sidepot of the night, shooting 247. He beat out Leonard Ruiz' 246 by a single pin. Leonard would have to settle for 2nd place. Gabriel Martinez and Ramsey Basurto would tie for the 2nd game pot with 213. In the final game, Leonard came out on top with 257. The third game Super Pot paid him \$150. Stephanie Zavala earned \$75 for 2nd place with her 235.

Derek Lee took the Financial Advisors second game pot. Derek had a 234 game to win \$160. David Schiada earned runner up money with his 221.

Only two weeks left in the round. Next week, Bowlium will battle Forever Hope Foundation on the top pair. DV8 and U.S. Foods will be right next to them, hoping to move up to challenge on the final week. Even Forest Lanes is still lurking in contention on the third pair. Come down to check out the action at Del Rio Lanes. The bowling starts at 8pm.

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