## OPENING CEREMONY OFFICIALLY WELCOMES 2023 USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS TO RENO

**RENO, Nev.** – The 119th edition of the United States Bowling Congress Open Championships had its official welcome party to Reno, Nevada, and the National Bowling Stadium on Saturday with an opening ceremony celebrating the tournament's return to The Biggest Little City in the World.

The 2023 tournament marks the 14th visit to Reno for the USBC Open Championships and 11th trip to the NBS, which opened its doors to the event for the first time in 1995. The last time the tournament was held in Reno was 2016.

More than 9,700 teams and nearly 50,000 bowlers are scheduled to make their way to the Taj Mahal of Tenpins for the 2023 event, which will run for 143 consecutive days and conclude July 24.

The 2023 event originally was scheduled to start March 11, but the demand for spots pushed the tournament staff to open up an additional week of squads. Competition got underway March 4, but the date for the opening ceremony remained the same for those who previously registered to take part in the celebration.

The ceremony featured several speakers welcoming the bowlers to Reno, including City of Reno Mayor Hillary Schieve, THE ROW Reno Senior Vice President and General Manager Ken Ostempowski, Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority President and CEO Charles Harris and USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy.

The ceremonial ribbon-cutting and Mass Ball Shot also took place to keep with tradition, and Reno's Logan Keyes was selected as "Joe Bowler" for the 2023 Open Championships.

The history of "Joe Bowler" dates back to 1951, with one bowler on the squad being randomly selected to wear the ceremonial crown, cape and scepter and deliver the official opening ball of the event.

"When it got down to the last few folks to be picked, I was thinking to myself there would be no chance it was me," said Keyes, who made his third Open Championships appearance. "I was really surprised when it did end up being me. To be one of the few selected in the history of this tournament is really cool."

Keyes may have been feeling the pressure when it was time to roll the first shot, but he was able to deliver a ball that made it to the pocket, leaving just the 10 pin.

"I knew once I got out there that all eyes were going to be on me, especially with a bunch of locals here watching and bowling," Keyes said. "I wanted to be able to make the best shot I could and knock as many pins as possible down on that first shot."

Keyes' first two trips to the Open Championships were in Las Vegas, meaning his

appearance this weekend was his first chance to compete at the NBS.

While it may have taken a couple shots to get used to the venue, he knows the experience will be something he'll take with him as he continues his journey at the event.

"I really didn't know what to expect bowling nationals in my hometown at the Stadium for the first time," said Keyes, who rolled games of 199, 171 and 150 for a 520 series in his team event. "It took a minute to get comfortable, but I felt at home bowling here. I just wish I would have bowled a little better for the team.

"I am going to be able to look back at this and know how special it was with the history of this tournament. With each year to come, I am absolutely looking forward to traveling and bowling the Open Championships and can say I was 'Joe Bowler' for a day!"

Although no new leaders emerged in the team standings from Saturday's squad, all competitors will return to the NBS on Sunday for doubles and singles competition.

The 2023 Open Championships features three average-based divisions in team, doubles, singles and all-events competition. Competitors bowl three games each in team, doubles and singles, and their nine-game total determines placement in all-events.

The Regular Division features bowlers with combined entering averages of 876 and above in team, 351 and above in doubles and 176 and above in singles and all-events.

Competitors in the Standard Division are comprised of teams with entering averages of 776-875, doubles tandems of 311-350 and features bowlers with averages of 156-175 in singles and all-events.

The Classified Division has teams with averages of 775 and below, doubles pairs of 310 and below and includes bowlers with averages of 155 and below for singles and allevents.

The top overall team performance for all three events (team, doubles and singles) over 45 games will claim the coveted Eagle awarded to the champion in Team All-Events.

# 2023 USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS National Bowling Stadium Reno, Nev.

## (Division leaders with hometown and pinfall)

#### **REGULAR DIVISION**

#### **Team**

## (Combined averages of 876 and above)

1, Virtue Bowling Supply 1 (Craig Spencer, Riley Dempsey, Mark Myers, Mathew Adragna, Mathew Jones), Mesa, Ariz., 3,238. 2, Marion Rec 1, Iola, Wis., 3,006. 3, Team Shock, Round Lake, Ill., 2,994. 4, Camelanes, Cheyenne, Wyo., 2,985. 5, Flat Earth Society, Spokane, Wash., 2,972.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 351 and above)

1, Mason Perkins/Taylor Butgereit, Salisbury, N.C., 1,261. 2, Mike Saville, Spokane Valley, Wash./Frank DeRemer, Colbert, Wash., 1,218. 3, Brandon Johnson-Kroman, San Tan Valley, Ariz./Joshua Molloy, Mesa, Ariz., 1,216. 4, Thomas Perkins, Salisbury, N.C./Jonathan Chapman, Cornelius, N.C., 1,203. 5, Terrance Reeves III, Winter Haven, Fla./Anthony Crews, Sebring, Fla., 1,201.

## **Singles**

#### (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Mathew Jones, Phoenix, 736. 2, Damon Stalkfleet, Muscatine, Iowa, 667. 3, Toby Cooper, Layton, Utah, 661. 4, Michael Hanson, Spokane, Wash., 653. 5, Thomas Perkins, Salisbury, N.C., 652.

## **All-Events**

#### (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Mathew Jones, Phoenix, 1,980. 2, Terrance Reeves III, Winter Haven, Fla., 1,971. 3, Mark Myers, Surprise, Ariz., 1,903. 4, Mathew Adragna, Morena, Ariz., 1,853. 5, Michael Hanson, Spokane, Wash., 1,852.

## **Team All-Events**

1, Virtue Bowling Supply 1 (Craig Spencer, Riley Dempsey, Mark Myers, Mathew Adragna, Mathew Jones), Mesa, Ariz., 9,149. 2, Flat Earth Society, Spokane, Wash., 8,844. 3, North Carolina Team 3, Salisbury, N.C., 8,744. 4, The New Standard, Mesa, Ariz., 8,472. 5, Marion Rec 1, Iola, Wis., 8,465.

#### STANDARD DIVISION

#### **Team**

## (Combined averages of 776-875)

1, Surgically Repaired (Andy Peckys, Rick Nowalany, Robert Nowalany, Derek Webb, Malcolm Peckys), Darien, Ill., 2,977. 2, Silver Bullets Too, Beavercreek, Ore., 2,853. 3, Maple Family Centers 1, Rockville Centre, N.Y., 2,838. 4, Marion Rec 2, Iola, Wis., 2,790. 5, Bowling 4 Virtue, Mesa, Ariz., 2,745.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined Averages of 311-350)

1, Chad Reimer, Granite Falls, Minn./Justin Weckwerth, Montevideo, Minn., 1,136. 2, Matthew McConaughy, Hudson, Iowa/Derrick Tompkins, Clutier, Iowa, 1,128. 3, Eric Streich, Madison, Minn./Erich Winter, Montevideo, Minn., 1,120. 4, Constance Esters, San Pedro, Calif./Lee Schreiner, Lawndale, Calif., 1,118. 5, Chaz Maltby, Gilbert, Ariz./Tyler Veneracion, Irvine, Calif., 1,117.

## **Singles**

#### (Averages of 156-175)

1, George Byard, Matawan, N.J., 613. 2, Matthew Robbins, Happy Valley, Ore., 608. 3, Aaron Pearson, La Junta, Colo., 600. 4, Tyler Veneracion, Irvine, Calif., 599. 5(tie), Steven Rickards-McCormick, Santa Rosa, Calif., and Chad Rees, Bedford, N.H., 587.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 156-175)

1, Rick Stone, Clackamas, Ore., 1,802. 2, Matthew Robbins, Happy Valley, Ore., 1,747. 3, Tyler Veneracion, Irvine, Calif., 1,716. 4, Benjamin Spencer, Mesa, Ariz., 1,706. 5, Justin Weckwerth, Montevideo, Minn., 1,699.

#### **CLASSIFIED DIVISION**

## **Team**

#### (Combined averages of 775 and below)

1, Paul Wheeler Team 1 (Christina Brown, Charles Brown, Randy Smithers, Robert Ryder, Ken Yeagley), Covington, Va., 2,468. 2, Montevideo 3, Montevideo, Minn., 2,395. 3, Friends Four Ever, Rio Rancho, N.M., 2,384. 4, Bowling Aces, Cheyenne, Wyo., 2,324. 5, Wapsi River Wildlife Project, Anamosa, Iowa, 2,311.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 310 and below)

1, Dave Clancy, Brush Prairie, Wash./Donald Wyler, Milwaukie, Ore., 990. 2, James Nobles/Steven Rickards-McCormick, Santa Rosa, Calif., 980. 3, Amanda Fagan, Upper Sandusky, Ohio/Jacy Graber, Forest, Ohio, 969. 4, Stephen Hughes/Mathew Novak, Milwaukee, 967. 5, Jack Thurk/Monte Berg, New London, Wis., 962.

## **Singles**

(Averages of 155 and below)

1, Jeffrey Herbst, Port Washington, Wis., 571. 2, Gary Lovelace, Gaffney, S.C., 556. 3, Bridgette DeVaughn, Jacksonville, Fla., 555. 4, Zachary Kruger, Hardin, Mont., 554. 5, Amy Graham, Muscatine, Iowa, 549.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 155 and below)

1, David Downey, Cheyenne, Wyo., 1,597. 2, Jeffrey Herbst, Port Washington, Wis., 1,578. 3, Brent Fosheim, Webster, S.D., 1,527. 4, Dallas Yeagley, Ogden, Utah, 1,524. 5, Jayson Scoggins, Dayton, Tenn., 1,516.

## OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS WEEKLY GLANCE (For April 12 – April 18, 2023)

## Teamwork sets stage for busy squad at 2023 USBC Open Championships

The strikes were coming together on Lanes 45-46 on April 14 as news leaders emerged in Regular Doubles and the first 300 game of the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Open Championships was rolled all in the matter of a couple minutes at the National Bowling Stadium.

Perry Crowell IV of St. Clair Shores, Michigan, and Jeffrey Mastny of Arlington, Nebraska, were the first to make their move on the pair, edging their way to the doubles lead with a 1,362 total. PJ Haggerty of Roseville, California, and Shawn Naumann of Orlando, Florida, previously held the top spot with 1,360.

Crowell, a past Team USA member, led the way with games of 247, 245 and 232 for a 724 series. Mastny added 170, 224 and 244 for 638.

Crowell and Mastny have had success in doubles in the past at the USBC Open Championships, finishing in third place at the 2021 event in Las Vegas (1,453).

Moments after Crowell and Mastny secured their spot at the top of the standings, Blake Earnest of Bellevue, Nebraska, joined in the fun and started his singles set with 12 strikes to record the first perfect game of the 2023 Open Championships. The 2023 event kicked off March 4.

Earnest, a former collegiate bowler at Hastings, followed the 300 with games of 200 and 239 to move into third place in Regular Singles with a 739 set. Two-time Eagle winner Steve Novak of Louisville, Kentucky, leads with 747.

**Defending Team All-Events champion returns to Open Championships** 

The members of DiLaura Brothers 1 of Clinton Township, Michigan, made their way back to the USBC Open Championships on April 14 and 15 to defend their Team All-Events title and put together a run into the top five in Regular Team at the 2023 event in Reno.

The group set the record in Team All-Events at the 2022 Open Championships in Las Vegas, firing a 10,585 total to earn the victory.

The win was the third for Jay Lang, while Ronnie Sparks Jr. collected his second Eagle at the Open Championships. John Buffa, Ryan VanHecke and John Kelley each earned their first win at the event in the performance.

After accepting the Earl Anthony Award prior to their team event April 14, the group quickly set its sights on the top of the standings by firing the top team game of the 2023 event – 1,264. They followed with scores of 1,047 and 1,063 to move into third place with 3,374. They now are in fourth place in Regular Team.

The team was unable to keep the momentum going during doubles and singles, ultimately finishing their 2023 event with a 9,004 total to move into the top 30. Las Vegas' Chili Garlic Edamame leads Team All-Events at the 2023 event with 9,884.

## North Carolina pair takes lead in Standard Doubles at National Bowling Stadium

James Fairley of Rockingham, North Carolina, and David Farmer of Hamlet, North Carolina, were consistent across their doubles set April 12 at the 2023 USBC Open Championships on the way to the top spot in the Standard Division.

The pair posted combined scores of 413, 398 and 405 at the NBS to take over the lead with a 1,216 total. Daisy Spellman of Gresham, Oregon, and Scott Sepich of Portland, Oregon, previously led with 1,203.

Fairley, a 58-year-old right-hander, paced the effort with games of 190, 219 and 212 for a 621 series. Farmer, a 49-year-old right-hander, had 223, 179 and 193 for 595.

Standard Doubles features bowlers with combined entering averages of 311-350.

#### Three bowlers celebrate 50 years at Open Championships

It was a busy week recognizing participation milestones at the National Bowling Stadium as three bowlers joined the 50-Year Club at the USBC Open Championships over a two-day stretch.

Robert Evans Sr. of Pylesville, Maryland, was the first to make his memorable march down the famed Center Aisle, making his 50th consecutive appearance April 17.

Evans, 74, started his tournament career at the 1973 event in Syracuse, New York.

Paul Bratten of Brunswick, Georgia, and Dennis Wilson of Aberdeen, Maryland, shared the spotlight April 18 as they celebrated 50 years on the championship lanes during the same squad.

Bratten, 71, began his road at the Open Championships at the 1971 event in Detroit and has made his annual appearance each year since 1974. Wilson, 72, started his journey at the 1969 event in Madison, Wisconsin.

Each bowler received a plaque, chevron and diamond lapel pin to commemorate their

achievement.

#### A look ahead

Longevity will continue to be highlighted next week in Reno, with three additional bowlers reaching 50 years and one competitor celebrating 55 years at the Open Championships.

Butch Shinkel of Fishers, Indiana, and Ernest Swanton of Saginaw, Michigan, are scheduled to make their 50th appearances on April 19, and Bill Kirshenbaum of Omaha, Nebraska, will make his milestone appearance April 23.

Wayne Falcone of Norristown, Pennsylvania, will celebrate his 55th tournament appearance April 24.

2023 USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS National Bowling Stadium Reno, Nev.

(Division leaders with hometown and pinfall)

As of April 18, 2023

#### **REGULAR DIVISION**

## Team

## (Combined averages of 876 and above)

1, Chili Garlic Edamame (David O'Sullivan, Shawn Naumann, Ron Hurt, Sean Riccardi, PJ Haggerty), Las Vegas, 3,422. 2, Bowlers Headquarters, Muskego, Wis., 3,420. 3, Enhancements, Alva, Fla., 3,408. 4, DiLaura Brothers 1, Clinton Township, Mich., 3,374. 5, Big Trust, Clearwater, Fla., 3,338.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 351 and above)

1, Perry Crowell IV, St. Clair Shores, Mich./Jeffrey Mastny, Arlington, Neb., 1,362. 2, Shawn Naumann, Orlando, Fla./PJ Haggerty, Roseville, Calif., 1,360. 3(tie), Matt Cabanski, Cibolo, Texas/Giorgio Clinaz, Brigham City, Utah, and Billy Foertsch, Madison, Wis./Aaron Turner, Stoughton, Wis., 1,350. 5, David Welage, Cincinnati/Rick Pollard, Versailles, Ind., 1,347.

#### Singles

#### (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Steve Novak, Louisville, Ky., 747. 2, Justin Veitch, Kenner, La., 740. 3, Blake Earnest, Bellevue, Neb., 739. 4, Mathew Jones, Phoenix, 736. 5, Andrew Granite, Elverta, Calif., 728.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Zachary Karr, Fremont, Neb., 2,120. 2, Blaine Weninger, Clackamas, Ore., 2,117. 3,

Matthew McNiel, Alva, Fla., 2,096. 4, PJ Haggerty, Roseville, Calif., 2,080. 5, Giorgio Clinaz, Brigham City, Utah, 2,075.

#### **Team All-Events**

1, Chili Garlic Edamame (David O'Sullivan, Shawn Naumann, Ron Hurt, Sean Riccardi, PJ Haggerty), Las Vegas, 9,884. 2, Storm Products Inc. 1, Alva, Fla., 9,667. 3, Enhancements, Alva, Fla., 9,622. 4, maxxxrevs1, Peoria, Ill., 9,621. 5, Lefty Mafia 1, Brooklyn Center, Minn., 9,415.

#### STANDARD DIVISION

#### **Team**

## (Combined averages of 776-875)

1, Surgically Repaired (Andy Peckys, Rick Nowalany, Robert Nowalany, Derek Webb, Malcolm Peckys), Darien, Ill., 2,977. 2, Mean Girls Bowling, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,967. 3, CA Style Mixed Plate, Hercules, Calif., 2,964. 4, River Rats, Winona, Minn., 2,961. 5, We Bowla Too, Clinton, Utah, 2,913.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined Averages of 311-350)

1, James Fairley, Rockingham, N.C./David Farmer, Hamlet, N.C., 1,216. 2, Sal Trevino/Steven Funds, Lakeland, Fla., 1,213. 3, Daisy Spellman, Gresham, Ore./Scott Sepich, Portland, Ore., 1,203. 4, Glen Hannaman/Scott Covelli, Pleasant Prairie, Wis., 1,200. 5, Joseph Kerzic, Lusby, Md./Michael Mann Sr., La Plata, Md., 1,183.

## **Singles**

## (Averages of 156-175)

1, Pat Gaddie, East Grand Forks, Minn., 682. 2, Cody Cox, Kokomo, Ind., 678. 3, Craig Kitaoka, Hercules, Calif., 659. 4, Wayne Evans, Vestal, N.Y., 656. 5, Caleb Stanton, Kalispell, Mont., 654.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 156-175)

1, John Kontos, Joliet, Ill., 1,850. 2, Matt Gillen, Prior Lake, Minn., 1,838. 3, Craig Kitaoka, Hercules, Calif., 1,823. 4, Kevin Smith, Gilbert, Ariz., 1,805. 5(tie), Rick Stone, Clackamas, Ore., Ryan Flaugh, Littleton, Colo., and Timothy Hoskins Jr., Rising Sun, Md., 1,802.

#### **CLASSIFIED DIVISION**

#### **Team**

#### (Combined averages of 775 and below)

1, Hull Point Pursuit (Michael Hull, Tim Macias, Ryan Hailey, Chris Hull, John Hull), Kasilof, Alaska, 2,700. 2, Drink N Roll, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,649. 3, McHenry Bowl 5, Modesto, Calif., 2,589. 4, Christopher Armas Team 1, Orlando, Fla. 2,526. 5, Hering Fish Bowl, Franklin, Wis., 2,508.

#### **Doubles**

#### (Combined averages of 310 and below)

1, Benny Sangalang, Hayward, Calif./Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,218. 2, Travis

Soule, Grover Beach, Calif./Deanne Stote, Pismo Beach, Calif., 1,135. 3, Clayton Monson, Cooperstown, N.D./Garrett Heyerdahl, Hannaford, N.D., 1,125. 4, Joseph Pizzino/Fred Pugh, Salida, Colo., 1,099. 5, Ted Feltz/Matt Botkin, Coldwater, Ohio 1,083 **Singles** 

## (Averages of 155 and below)

1, Steve Maley, Waverly, Iowa, 615. 2, Doug Willmann, Olivette, Mo., 592. 3, Christopher Niebla, Toluca Lake, Calif., 588. 4, Dawn Leuellen-Howle, Phoenix, 587. 5(tie), Darren Dupuy, Harahan, La., and Joseph Heins, Dodgeville, Wis., 579.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 155 and below)

1, Doug Willmann, Olivette, Mo., 1,753. 2, Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,731. 3, Aris DeLos Reyes, Union City, Calif., 1,652. 4, Steve Maley, Waverly, Iowa, 1,645. 5, Reiburn Turnbull, Fort Madison, Iowa, 1,640.

## OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS WEEKLY GLANCE (For April 19 – April 25, 2023)

## **Eoff leads two events at 2023 USBC Open Championships**

Derek Eoff has found continued success over the course of his career at the United States Bowling Congress Open Championships, and the talented right-hander may have started the next chapter in his legacy at the event April 18 after taking the lead in Regular Singles and Regular All-Events.

Eoff, of DeForest, Wisconsin, began his 2023 event with a 721 set in team and added 688 in doubles to start the excitement at the National Bowling Stadium. He rolled games of 257, 262 and 237 in singles to move to the top of the leaderboard with a 756 series, and his overall nine-game total helped the 42-year-old to the lead in all-events with 2,165.

Two-time champion Steve Novak of Louisville, Kentucky, had held the lead in Regular Singles with 747, and Zachary Karr of Fremont, Nebraska, was leading Regular All-Events with 2,120.

Eoff entered the 2023 tournament in third place on the lifetime average list at the USBC Open Championships for participants with at least 20 years at the event (218.65), rolled a 300 in Reno, Nevada, at the 2007 event on the way to a runner-up finish in Regular Doubles (with Richard Volhard of Green Bay, Wisconsin) and collected three top-10 finishes at the 2012 event in Baton Rouge, Louisiana (third in Regular All-Events, seventh in Team All-Events and 10th in Regular Team).

His performance at the NBS featured eight games of 229 or higher, a low game of 213 and just two open frames across nine games.

"I bowled really well," said Eoff, a former Team USA member (2007-2008) and the 2008 World Cup champion. "I had been bowling pretty well as of late, and I was hoping to continue that momentum coming into this tournament. I was just talking to one of my teammates, and I felt like I didn't leave any pins out there. I focused on what I needed to do and made good shots. I didn't know the exact scores but knew it was close. I knew if I had a decent last game, I would take over the lead in singles and allevents, so I just tried to make good shots."

Now, Eoff starts the long wait to see if either score can remain at the top of the leaderboard for the next three months.

"It would be phenomenal," said Eoff, who made his 21st tournament appearance. "I've accomplished a lot in my bowling career, and it's another one of those items that I'd like to win before I retire or feel like I can't compete at the same level. That's the goal every year – to come out here, do my best and hopefully before my career is over and done with, I can win an Eagle."

The Regular Division features bowlers with entering averages of 176 and above.

## Kruppenbacher, Leuthold take Regular Doubles lead in Reno

At the 1995 USBC Open Championships, Scott Kruppenbacher of Rochester, New York, recorded the win in Regular Doubles with Michael Wambold at the National Bowling Stadium, posting a 1,486 score.

Approximately 28 years later, Kruppenbacher was back at the NBS and at the top of the standings once again in Regular Doubles after pairing with former Junior Team USA member Cassandra Leuthold of Lincoln, Nebraska, to take the lead April 19 with a 1,388 total.

Leuthold led the steady effort from the pair, rolling games of 221, 236 and 242 for a 699 series. Kruppenbacher had 202, 246 and 241 for 689.

Perry Crowell IV of St. Clair Shores, Michigan, and Jeffrey Mastny of Arlington, Nebraska, had taken the lead April 14 with 1,362.

"It's a long time (until the end of the tournament)," Kruppenbacher said. "Is it going to hold up – who knows? It's a tough lane condition, but there are a lot of excellent bowlers that still are going to run through this tournament. But, just to be in this position for a second time is enough for me. It's humbling to do this back at the Stadium where it happened in 1995, and I get to share it with a great partner."

Regular Doubles features bowlers with combined entering averages of 351 and above.

## Longevity recognized at National Bowling Stadium

Five bowlers joined the 50-Year Club this week at the USBC Open Championships and received a plaque, chevron and diamond lapel pin to commemorate their achievement.

Butch Shinkel of Fishers, Indiana, and Ernest Swanton of Saginaw, Michigan, made their milestone march down Center Aisle at the National Bowling Stadium on April 19.

James Raab of Aurora, Illinois, continued his family's tradition in the sport April 20 as he celebrated his 50th appearance. The Raab family has more than 160 years of participation at the Open Championships.

Richard Clark of Okemos, Michigan, and Bill Kirshenbaum of Omaha, Nebraska, each made it to 50 consecutive tournament appearances April 23. Both Clark and Kirshenbaum began their careers at the 1973 Open Championships in Syracuse, New York.

#### A look ahead

In the next week, a pair of celebrations will take place at the USBC Open Championships as one bowler makes his 55th consecutive appearance, and the 2022 Standard Doubles champions make their return to the event.

Paul Portsche of Lincoln, Nebraska, will be recognized April 26 during the 2 p.m. team event for his 55th appearance at the Open Championships. Portsche began his tournament career at the 1968 event in Cincinnati, and he's toppled 89,179 pins for a lifetime average of 183.5 through his first 54 years.

Richard Oakes Jr. of Fresno, California, and Joe Loper of Cottonwood, Arizona, set the doubles record in the Standard Division last year at the South Point Bowling Plaza in Las Vegas with a 1,362 total, and they'll be back on the championship lanes starting April 29 during the 9:30 p.m. squad.

Oakes paced the pair in 2022, firing games of 206, 279 and 259 for a 744 series, while Loper had 212, 169 and 237 for 618.

2023 USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS National Bowling Stadium Reno, Nev.

(Division leaders with hometown and pinfall)

As of April 25, 2023

#### **REGULAR DIVISION**

## Team

## (Combined averages of 876 and above)

1, Chili Garlic Edamame (David O'Sullivan, Shawn Naumann, Ron Hurt, Sean Riccardi, PJ Haggerty), Las Vegas, 3,422. 2, Bowlers Headquarters, Muskego, Wis., 3,420. 3, Enhancements, Alva, Fla., 3,408. 4, DiLaura Brothers 1, Clinton Township, Mich., 3,374. 5, Big Trust, Clearwater, Fla., 3,338.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 351 and above)

1, Scott Kruppenbacher, Rochester, N.Y./Cassandra Leuthold, Lincoln, Neb., 1,388. 2,

Perry Crowell IV, St. Clair Shores, Mich./Jeffrey Mastny, Arlington, Neb., 1,362. 3, Shawn Naumann, Orlando, Fla./PJ Haggerty, Roseville, Calif., 1,360. 4(tie), Matt Cabanski, Cibolo, Texas/Giorgio Clinaz, Brigham City, Utah, and Billy Foertsch, Madison, Wis./Aaron Turner, Stoughton, Wis., 1,350.

## **Singles**

## (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Derek Eoff, DeForest, Wis., 756. 2, Steve Novak, Louisville, Ky., 747. 3, Kyle Geurtsen, Milwaukee, 742. 4, Justin Veitch, Kenner, La., 740. 5, Blake Earnest, Bellevue, Neb., 739.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Derek Eoff, DeForest, Wis., 2,165. 2, Zachary Karr, Fremont, Neb., 2,120. 3, Blaine Weninger, Clackamas, Ore., 2,117. 4, Matthew McNiel, Alva, Fla., 2,096. 5, PJ Haggerty, Roseville, Calif., 2,080.

## **Team All-Events**

1, Chili Garlic Edamame (David O'Sullivan, Shawn Naumann, Ron Hurt, Sean Riccardi, PJ Haggerty), Las Vegas, 9,884. 2, Bowlers Headquarters, Muskego, Wis., 9,696. 3, Storm Products Inc. 1, Alva, Fla., 9,667. 4, Enhancements, Alva, Fla., 9,622. 5, maxxxrevs1, Peoria, Ill., 9,621.

#### STANDARD DIVISION

#### Team

## (Combined averages of 776-875)

1, Surgically Repaired (Andy Peckys, Rick Nowalany, Robert Nowalany, Derek Webb, Malcolm Peckys), Darien, Ill., 2,977. 2, Mean Girls Bowling, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,967. 3, CA Style Mixed Plate, Hercules, Calif., 2,964. 4, River Rats, Winona, Minn., 2,961. 5, We Bowla Too, Clinton, Utah, 2,913.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 311-350)

1, James Fairley, Rockingham, N.C./David Farmer, Hamlet, N.C., 1,216. 2, Sal Trevino/Steven Funds, Lakeland, Fla., 1,213. 3, Daisy Spellman, Gresham, Ore./Scott Sepich, Portland, Ore., 1,203. 4, Glen Hannaman/Scott Covelli, Pleasant Prairie, Wis., 1,200. 5, Joseph Kerzic, Lusby, Md./Michael Mann Sr., La Plata, Md., 1,183.

## Singles

## (Averages of 156-175)

1, Pat Gaddie, East Grand Forks, Minn., 682. 2, Cody Cox, Kokomo, Ind., 678. 3, Bradley Thompson, Greensboro, N.C., 667. 4, Craig Kitaoka, Hercules, Calif., 659. 5, Loren Dickens, Fargo, N.D., 657

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 156-175)

1, John Kontos, Joliet, Ill., 1,850. 2, Matt Gillen, Prior Lake, Minn., 1,838. 3, Craig Kitaoka, Hercules, Calif., 1,823. 4, Kevin Smith, Gilbert, Ariz., 1,805. 5(tie), Rick Stone, Clackamas, Ore., Ryan Flaugh, Littleton, Colo., and Timothy Hoskins Jr., Rising Sun,

#### **CLASSIFIED DIVISION**

#### Team

## (Combined averages of 775 and below)

1, Hull Point Pursuit (Michael Hull, Tim Macias, Ryan Hailey, Chris Hull, John Hull), Kasilof, Alaska, 2,700. 2, Drink N Roll, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,649. 3, McHenry Bowl 5, Modesto, Calif., 2,589. 4, Bruce Edwards Team 1, Brunswick, Ga., 2,569. 5, Christopher Armas Team 1, Orlando, Fla. 2,526.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 310 and below)

1, Benny Sangalang, Hayward, Calif./Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,218. 2, Travis Soule, Grover Beach, Calif./Deanne Stote, Pismo Beach, Calif., 1,135. 3, Clayton Monson, Cooperstown, N.D./Garrett Heyerdahl, Hannaford, N.D., 1,125. 4, Joseph Pizzino/Fred Pugh, Salida, Colo., 1,099. 5, Ted Feltz/Matt Botkin, Coldwater, Ohio, 1,083.

## Singles

## (Averages of 155 and below)

1, Steve Maley, Waverly, Iowa, 615. 2, Travis Secrest, Canton, Ohio, 600. 3, Doug Willmann, Olivette, Mo., 592. 4, Christopher Niebla, Toluca Lake, Calif., 588. 5, Dawn Leuellen-Howle, Phoenix, 587.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 155 and below)

1, Doug Willmann, Olivette, Mo., 1,753. 2, Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,731. 3, Aris DeLos Reyes, Union City, Calif., 1,652. 4, Steve Maley, Waverly, Iowa, 1,645. 5, Reiburn Turnbull, Fort Madison, Iowa, 1,640.

## NORTH DAKOTA'S SMITH TAKES REGUAR SINGLES LEAD AT 2023 USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

**RENO, Nev.** –Jeremiah Smith of Mandan, North Dakota, is like a lot of bowlers in that he looks forward to bowling the United States Bowling Congress Open Championships more than any other tournament throughout the year.

However, now that his time on the championship lanes is over for 2023, he probably wants this year's tournament to end as soon as possible.

That's because if the competition were to end today, Smith would win one of the event's coveted Eagles, which is the trophy given to champions in the Regular Division.

Smith put himself in that position by firing games of 248, 268 and 245 at the National Bowling Stadium on Thursday night, giving him a 761 series and the lead in Regular Singles.

Derek Eoff of DeForest, Wisconsin, was the previous leader with 756.

In addition to the 761 he put up in singles, Smith recorded 690 during team and 608 in doubles for a career-high 2,057 total for nine games, which moved him into ninth place in Regular All-Events.

Eoff is the leader in Regular All-Events with 2,165.

The Regular Division features bowlers with entering averages of 176 and above.

Smith's 2023 Open Championships run got off to a good start Wednesday as after starting with a solid 207, he finished with games of 245 and 238 to come in with a 690 series, which is his new career high for the team event.

As such, Smith returned to the NBS with a lot of confidence heading into Thursday's singles and doubles block.

Unfortunately, the evening didn't get off to the start Smith was hoping for as he began his set with games of 187 and 191.

Things started to turn around during Game 3, however, as after suffering an open during the first frame, Smith rattled off a six-bagger in frames two through two through seven.

He finished with a score of 228, but, more importantly, he was starting to get locked in on the 1-3 pocket, and that's where he would stay throughout singles.

Smith struck eight times during Game 1, using a turkey in the second, third and fourth frames and a four-bagger in frames six through nine to start with a clean 248.

He kept the momentum going during Game 2, starting with a six-bagger and striking on nine of his first 10 shots to shoot 268 for the game and give himself a 516 series through two.

That meant that Johnson would need 241 or higher in Game 3 to move past Eoff and into the lead.

At that point, there was clearly some extra energy amongst the spectators at the NBS, and more and more people started gathering behind Johnson's pair to watch.

Johnson gave them plenty to see, starting his final game with seven strikes in a row.

At that point, not only did it seem like a foregone conclusion that Johnson would take the lead, but it also looked like he might just become the first bowler to record an 800 series at this year's tournament. That possibility came off the table one frame later, however, as Johnson's eighth shot came in half pocket, resulting in a 5-7 split. Despite a good attempt, he couldn't make the conversion, which resulted in his first open frame of the set.

Even though the 800 was gone, Johnson was still in good shape. If he could mark in the ninth and 10th frames, the lead would be his.

His ninth shot crept slightly high, but the 4-pin was all that remained standing. Johnson easily made the spare, moving him just one mark away from the top of the standings.

When Johnson threw his first ball in the 10th frame, it appeared as if he was going to get the best mark possible, a strike, as his ball rolled flush into the 1-3 pocket.

The 10-pin refused to fall, however, placing Johnson in a position that many right-handers dread, which is having to convert a 10-pin in a crucial situation.

But the proposition didn't appear to bother Johnson in the least; instead, he calmly stepped up and converted the spare.

With the all-important mark secured, Johnson needed just six pins on his fill ball to take the lead.

As soon as that shot left his hand, Johnson let out a yell, raised his arms in triumph and began walking his shot out across the approaches to the right. Despite only needing six pins, the shot got all 10, putting Johnson in first place with 761.

But what the assembled crowd didn't realize was that Johnson wasn't celebrating having taken over the lead. In fact, he didn't even know that's what happened; he just knew that he had put up a very nice series.

"I had zero clue; I was just throwing shots," Smith said. "I first got the sense that something was up when I got up to shoot that 10 pin because I could tell that everybody was a little more tense than normal.

"I ran it down, but I still had no idea. I just decided I was going to walk off that last shot no matter what just to show off for the camera."

Reality hit moments later when teammates, family members and friends let Johnson in on the secret. As expected, Johnson was thrilled by the news.

"The Open Championships is easily my favorite tournament; come Hell or high water, I always try to make it out here, so what happened tonight is going to be something I remember for the rest of my life," Johnson said. "I really can't believe it."

Another thing Johnson would have a hard time believing is the phone call telling him that his score held on and that he's won an Eagle; however, it's a call that he'd more than welcome.

"I would be excited beyond belief to get that call," Johnson said. "Winning an Eagle is a dream, but it's not something I really thought would ever come to fruition. If that happens, it will mean the world to me."

Nevertheless, with more than two months remaining in this year's tournament, Johnson knows that it's way too early to begin clearing off space on the mantle. For that reason, he's going to do his best not to do too much scoreboard watching just yet.

"I won't make any promises, but I'm going to try not to check scores daily or anything like that," Johnson said. "What's going to happen is going to happen. Just the fact that I'm leaving here in the lead is incredible."

The 2023 Open Championships kicked off March 4 and will conclude July 24. The 143-day tournament will feature more than 9,700 five-player teams and nearly 50,000 bowlers making their way to compete in The Biggest Little City in the World.

## OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS WEEKLY GLANCE (For April 26 – May 2, 2023)

## North Dakota's Smith takes Regular Singles lead at 2023 USBC Open Championships

Jeremiah Smith of Mandan, North Dakota, is the new leader in Regular Singles at the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Open Championships after his performance at the National Bowling Stadium on April 27.

The 36-year-old right-hander rolled games of 248, 268 and 245 for a 761 series to edge Derek Eoff of DeForest, Wisconsin. Eoff had 756.

Smith started slow in doubles but began to see the picture in Game 3, finishing with 228 for 606.

He struck eight times in Game 1 of singles, nine times in Game 2 and started Game 3 with seven strikes.

In the eighth frame, Smith left a 5-7 split he was unable to convert, but a spare in the ninth meant any mark in the 10th would give him the chance to go past Eoff's score. Smith left and converted a 10 pin and struck on his fill ball to take the lead.

Smith didn't realize what he needed to take over the top spot, but he was thrilled to find out the good news from his teammates.

"I had zero clue," said Smith, who added 690 in team for a 2,057 all-events total. "I was just throwing shots. I first got the sense that something was up when I got up to shoot that 10 pin, because I could tell that everybody was a little more tense than normal.

"The Open Championships is easily my favorite tournament. I always try to make it out here, so what happened tonight is going to be something I remember for the rest of my life. I really can't believe it."

The Regular Division includes bowlers with entering averages of 176 and above.

## First 800, second 300 rolled at the National Bowling Stadium

The scoring pace picked up in the team event across back-to-back days at the 2023 USBC Open Championships as Christopher Tuholski of Battle Ground, Washington, and Adam Danielsen of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, each earned their spots in the tournament's record book.

Tuholski, a 24-year-old two-hander, is the first competitor at the 2023 event to roll an 800 series. He posted games of 236, 279 and 289 on April 29 for an 804 total to help Proformance Bowling Services No. 1 of Weed, California, to a 3,209 score in Regular Team.

The three-time Professional Bowlers Association Regional Tour champion needed a big effort in his final game to reach the number, and he started with 10 strikes. He left the 10 pin standing on his 11th shot but already had secured enough count to record the honor score.

Danielsen, a 34-year-old right-hander, became the second bowler at the 2023 event, and the first in team competition, to roll a 300 game. He connected for 12 strikes during his final game April 30 to push KingPin's 1 of Delano, Minnesota, to a 2,980 total in Regular Team.

It was an up-and-down day for Danielsen, who started his set with games of 225 and 140 before getting back on track in Game 3 for a 665 series.

Minnesota's Grunzke moves into top spot in Standard All-Events in Reno Matthew Grunzke of Albert Lea, Minnesota, rolled to his best performance in 21 years at the USBC Open Championships on April 29-30 to take the lead in Standard All-Events with 1,926.

The 44-year-old right-hander had 674 in team, 637 in singles and 615 in doubles at the National Bowling Stadium to take over the top spot by 76 pins. John Kontos of Joliet, Illinois, had led since March 30 with 1,850.

The 674 set in team was Grunzke's highest three-game score at the Open Championships, and his 1,926 score topped his previous best nine-game effort by 161 pins (1,765 in 2013).

The Standard Division features bowlers with entering averages of 156-175.

#### A look ahead

The Standard All-Events champion from 2022 will return to the USBC Open Championships this week, and three bowlers will celebrate 55 years at the event.

Dustin Sword of Rittman, Ohio, posted the highest all-events set since the introduction of the Standard Division in 2017 on his way to victory at the 2022 event in Las Vegas, finishing with a 1,994 total.

Sword rolled sets of 702 in team, 672 in doubles and 620 in singles at the South Point Bowling Plaza, and he'll be back on the championship lanes May 4.

Joseph Krajkovich of Hillsboro, New Jersey, JR Schmidt of Park Ridge, Illinois, and Harry McCoy of Ambridge, Pennsylvania, will make their 55th tournament appearances this week.

Krajkovich is scheduled to bowl May 5, Schmidt is scheduled for May 6 and McCoy will make his memorable march to the lanes May 9.

2023 USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS National Bowling Stadium Reno, Nev.

(Division leaders with hometown and pinfall)

As of May 2, 2023

#### **REGULAR DIVISION**

#### **Team**

## (Combined averages of 876 and above)

1, Chili Garlic Edamame (David O'Sullivan, Shawn Naumann, Ron Hurt, Sean Riccardi, PJ Haggerty), Las Vegas, 3,422. 2, Bowlers Headquarters, Muskego, Wis., 3,420. 3, Enhancements, Alva, Fla., 3,408. 4, DiLaura Brothers 1, Clinton Township, Mich., 3,374. 5, Big Trust, Clearwater, Fla., 3,338.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 351 and above)

1, Scott Kruppenbacher, Rochester, N.Y./Cassandra Leuthold, Lincoln, Neb., 1,388. 2, Perry Crowell IV, St. Clair Shores, Mich./Jeffrey Mastny, Arlington, Neb., 1,362. 3, Shawn Naumann, Orlando, Fla./PJ Haggerty, Roseville, Calif., 1,360. 4(tie), Matt Cabanski, Cibolo, Texas/Giorgio Clinaz, Brigham City, Utah, and Billy Foertsch, Madison, Wis./Aaron Turner, Stoughton, Wis., 1,350.

## Singles

## (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Jeremiah Smith, Mandan, N.D., 761. 2, Derek Eoff, DeForest, Wis., 756. 3, Steve Novak, Louisville, Ky., 747. 4, Kyle Geurtsen, Milwaukee, 742. 5, Justin Veitch, Kenner, La., 740.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Derek Eoff, DeForest, Wis., 2,165. 2, Zachary Karr, Fremont, Neb., 2,120. 3, Blaine Weninger, Clackamas, Ore., 2,117. 4, Matthew McNiel, Alva, Fla., 2,096. 5, PJ Haggerty, Roseville, Calif., 2,080.

#### **Team All-Events**

1, Chili Garlic Edamame (David O'Sullivan, Shawn Naumann, Ron Hurt, Sean Riccardi, PJ Haggerty), Las Vegas, 9,884. 2, Bowlers Headquarters, Muskego, Wis., 9,696. 3, Storm Products Inc. 1, Alva, Fla., 9,667. 4, Enhancements, Alva, Fla., 9,622. 5, maxxxrevs1, Peoria, Ill., 9,621.

## **STANDARD DIVISION**

#### **Team**

## (Combined averages of 776-875)

1, Surgically Repaired (Andy Peckys, Rick Nowalany, Robert Nowalany, Derek Webb, Malcolm Peckys), Darien, Ill., 2,977. 2, Mean Girls Bowling, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,967. 3, CA Style Mixed Plate, Hercules, Calif., 2,964. 4, River Rats, Winona, Minn., 2,961. 5, We Bowla Too, Clinton, Utah, 2,913.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 311-350)

1, James Fairley, Rockingham, N.C./David Farmer, Hamlet, N.C., 1,216. 2, Sal Trevino/Steven Funds, Lakeland, Fla., 1,213. 3, Daisy Spellman, Gresham, Ore./Scott Sepich, Portland, Ore., 1,203. 4, Glen Hannaman/Scott Covelli, Pleasant Prairie, Wis., 1,200. 5, Lorenzo Green/William Goodman, Chesapeake, Va., 1,191.

#### Singles

## (Averages of 156-175)

1, Pat Gaddie, East Grand Forks, Minn., 682. 2, Cody Cox, Kokomo, Ind., 678. 3, Bradley Thompson, Greensboro, N.C., 667. 4, John Ta, Houston, 660. 5, Craig Kitaoka, Hercules, Calif., 659.

#### **All-Events**

#### (Averages of 156-175)

1, Matthew Grunzke, Albert Lea, Minn., 1,926. 2, John Kontos, Joliet, Ill., 1,850. 3, Glenn Schwandt, Mequon, Wis., 1,845. 4, Matt Gillen, Prior Lake, Minn., 1,838. 5, Craig Kitaoka, Hercules, Calif., 1,823.

#### **CLASSIFIED DIVISION**

#### Team

## (Combined averages of 775 and below)

1, Hull Point Pursuit (Michael Hull, Tim Macias, Ryan Hailey, Chris Hull, John Hull), Kasilof, Alaska, 2,700. 2, Drink N Roll, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,649. 3, McHenry Bowl 5, Modesto, Calif., 2,589. 4, Bruce Edwards Team 1, Brunswick, Ga., 2,569. 5, Christopher Armas Team 1, Orlando, Fla. 2,526.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 310 and below)

1, Benny Sangalang, Hayward, Calif./Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,218. 2, Travis Soule, Grover Beach, Calif./Deanne Stote, Pismo Beach, Calif., 1,135. 3, Clayton Monson, Cooperstown, N.D./Garrett Heyerdahl, Hannaford, N.D., 1,125. 4, Joseph Pizzino/Fred Pugh, Salida, Colo., 1,099. 5, Ted Feltz/Matt Botkin, Coldwater, Ohio, 1,083.

#### **Singles**

## (Averages of 155 and below)

1, Steve Maley, Waverly, Iowa, 615. 2, Danielle Elliott, Noblesville, Ind., 607. 3, Travis Secrest, Canton, Ohio, 600. 4, Doug Willmann, Olivette, Mo., 592. 5, Courtney Harvey, Klamath Falls, Ore., 589.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 155 and below)

1, Doug Willmann, Olivette, Mo., 1,753. 2, Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,731. 3, Aris DeLos Reyes, Union City, Calif., 1,652. 4, Steve Maley, Waverly, Iowa, 1,645. 5, Reiburn Turnbull, Fort Madison, Iowa, 1,640.

## OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS WEEKLY GLANCE (For May 3 – May 9, 2023)

Carter and Brown take top spot in Regular Doubles at 2023 USBC Open Championships Powered by the highest individual set in doubles competition at the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Open Championships, the pair of Zack Carter of Des Plaines, Illinois, and Julian Brown of Jonesboro, Georgia, took over the lead in Regular Doubles on May 6 with a 1,401 total.

Carter delivered 28 strikes on the way to games of 278, 254 and 255 for a 787 series. After starting with 203 and 184, Brown settled in down the stretch at the National Bowling Stadium to roll 227 in Game 3 for a 614 series.

Cassandra Leuthold of Lincoln, Nebraska, and 1995 Regular Doubles champion Scott Kruppenbacher of Rochester, New York, had led since April 19 with 1,388.

Through the first 64 days of competition at the 2023 event, the highest individual score in doubles had been 731 by Trent Haughn of Toledo, Ohio.

Stepping into their final frame, Carter was working on seven consecutive strikes. Brown had a spare in his ninth frame, and although there were multiple scenarios that could get them to the top spot, at least one double was needed from the duo for the opportunity.

Brown rolled three strikes in the 10th, and Carter tossed two strikes, with eight on his fill, to get the job done.

For Carter, a 28-year-old right-hander, a trip to the Bowlers Journal Championships before his block helped finalize his game plan for the main event.

"Earlier today, we bowled the Bowlers Journal and I tried to throw urethane going right," said Carter, who made his sixth USBC Open Championships appearance. "It did not look good. I moved into the track and banked it a little, and it looked pretty good. I threw a DV8 Trouble Maker and was able to keep gradually moving left. We broke them down right and I made a lot of good shots, but that first shot of the 10th frame in the third game – I was very nervous. I have never been in a position like this, so for myself, I didn't want to let him down. If we had a chance, I needed to get it done, and I happened to make two really good shots."

Brown, a 37-year-old left-hander, found himself in a tough spot around the halfway point of Game 2, but he kept pushing through to find something as his partner kept striking.

"I didn't bowl particularly well in Game 1 or 2, and I missed a couple makeable spares in Game 2," said Brown, making his 13th tournament appearance. "I remained positive, though. We kept communicating the entire game and talked through some different bowling balls. In Game 3, I switched to a Gamebreaker 4 Hybrid, and it allowed me to see the shape I was looking for. Then, it was a matter of making shots.

"Coming down the stretch, I knew we had a chance. It was time for me to show up and give him a little bit of help. Our communication was solid all the way through, and he bowled absolutely phenomenal."

## Indiana bowlers have huge day in minors at National Bowling Stadium

Jordan Gray of Columbus, Indiana, and Kyle Luckett of Indianapolis each put together memorable runs during their doubles and singles set at the 2023 USBC Open Championships on May 7.

Gray, a 31-year-old right-hander, was up first as he started his doubles set with 12 strikes for the third 300 of the 2023 event. Luckett, a 38-year-old right-hander, took over in the next set on his way to the lead in Regular Singles with 775.

Gray, the head coach at Marian University in Indianapolis, initially was concerned his look in practice was not going to bode well for what the lanes at the National Bowling Stadium were asking of him.

"A lot of the other guys on the pair started off throwing urethane, which kind of put me in a spot to use it to start as well," said Gray, who added games of 244 and 205 for a 749 series. "Luckily, it turned out to be the right choice. My goal was actually to shoot 240, as I was never fully convinced my look was amazing. Once I got to the seventh and eighth frames, it finally crossed my mind that I could actually get up here and shoot 300."

Gray and Luckett (615 series) were able to move into third place in Regular Doubles with 1,364.

Luckett started singles with 217 before striking on 21 of his next 23 deliveries for back-to-back games of 279 to take the lead. Jeremiah Smith of Mandan, North Dakota, had led Regular Singles with 761.

He started Game 3 with nine strikes, and at least nine pins on his first shot of the 10th frame would help him secure the lead. Luckett left a 9 pin on his first delivery to officially surpass Smith's score. He covered the spare and struck on his fill ball to conclude the set.

Luckett was a last-minute addition to the team due to an injury in the group.

"I had let the guys know I would possibly be available to bowl if they needed someone," Luckett said. "A few weeks later, Jordan Gray contacted me and asked if I would still be available to bowl, since Matt Staninger was injured and unable to compete.

"I started off Game 1 slow with 217 and left some pins out there, but I'm a stroker and really loved the ball reaction I had, which allowed me to play a little straighter because of how the lanes shaped up. My initial thoughts were that the lanes were going to get ugly with all the urethane going down the lane."

#### A look ahead

Two major milestones are scheduled to take place this week at the USBC Open Championships.

On May 11, Robert Brissette of Petersburg, Michigan, is expected to become the 27th bowler in tournament history to reach 100,000 pins during his team event at 2 p.m. Pacific.

Brissette, 86, will be making his 59th appearance and is just 291 pins away from the mark. He is entering the 2023 event with 99,709 pins for a lifetime average of 191.

On May 13, USBC and Professional Bowlers Association Hall of Famer Glenn Allison of Corona, California, will tie the participation record during his team event at 2 p.m. Pacific when he makes his 71st career appearance at the Open Championships.

Allison, 92, will join fellow USBC Hall of Famers Bill Doehrman and Joe Norris, along with Sylvester Thiel, at the top of the participation plateau.

Allison is a four-time champion at the tournament and is third on the all-time pinfall list with 122,468 pins through his first 70 appearances (192.2 average). He only trails USBC Hall of Famer Bill Lillard Sr. (124,087) and Norris (123,770) in total pinfall entering the 2023 event.

2023 USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS National Bowling Stadium Reno, Nev.

(Division leaders with hometown and pinfall)

As of May 9, 2023

#### **REGULAR DIVISION**

#### Team

## (Combined averages of 876 and above)

1, Chili Garlic Edamame (David O'Sullivan, Shawn Naumann, Ron Hurt, Sean Riccardi, PJ Haggerty), Las Vegas, 3,422. 2, Bowlers Headquarters, Muskego, Wis., 3,420. 3, Enhancements, Alva, Fla., 3,408. 4, DiLaura Brothers 1, Clinton Township, Mich., 3,374. 5, Big Trust, Clearwater, Fla., 3,338.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 351 and above)

1, Julian Brown, Jonesboro, Ga./Zack Carter, Des Plaines, III., 1,401. 2, Scott Kruppenbacher, Rochester, N.Y./Cassandra Leuthold, Lincoln, Neb., 1,388. 3, Jordan Gray, Columbus, Ind./Kyle Luckett, Indianapolis, 1,364. 4, Perry Crowell IV, St. Clair Shores, Mich./Jeffrey Mastny, Arlington, Neb., 1,362. 5, Shawn Naumann, Orlando, Fla./PJ Haggerty, Roseville, Calif., 1,360.

#### Singles

#### (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Kyle Luckett, Indianapolis, 775. 2, Jeremiah Smith, Mandan, N.D., 761. 3, Derek Eoff, DeForest, Wis., 756. 4, Steve Novak, Louisville, Ky., 747. 5, Kyle Geurtsen, Milwaukee, 742.

## **All-Events**

#### (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Derek Eoff, DeForest, Wis., 2,165. 2, Zachary Karr, Fremont, Neb., 2,120. 3, Blaine Weninger, Clackamas, Ore., 2,117. 4, Matthew McNiel, Alva, Fla., 2,096. 5, Jordan Gray, Columbus, Ind., 2,083.

#### **Team All-Events**

1, Chili Garlic Edamame (David O'Sullivan, Shawn Naumann, Ron Hurt, Sean Riccardi, PJ Haggerty), Las Vegas, 9,884. 2, High 5 Gear/RCL, Ocala, Fla., 9,734. 3, Bowlers Headquarters, Muskego, Wis., 9,696. 4, Storm Products Inc. 1, Alva, Fla., 9,667. 5, Enhancements, Alva, Fla., 9,622.

#### STANDARD DIVISION

#### Team

## (Combined averages of 776-875)

1, Surgically Repaired (Andy Peckys, Rick Nowalany, Robert Nowalany, Derek Webb, Malcolm Peckys), Darien, III., 2,977. 2, Mean Girls Bowling, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,967. 3, CA Style Mixed Plate, Hercules, Calif., 2,964. 4, River Rats, Winona, Minn., 2,961. 5, We Bowla Too, Clinton, Utah, 2,913.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 311-350)

1, James Fairley, Rockingham, N.C./David Farmer, Hamlet, N.C., 1,216. 2, Sal Trevino/Steven Funds, Lakeland, Fla., 1,213. 3, Daisy Spellman, Gresham, Ore./Scott Sepich, Portland, Ore., 1,203. 4, John Mulligan, Clinton Township, Mich./Tim DeMeulenaere, Macomb, Mich., 1,201. 5, Glen Hannaman/Scott Covelli, Pleasant Prairie, Wis., 1,200.

## **Singles**

## (Averages of 156-175)

1, Pat Gaddie, East Grand Forks, Minn., 682. 2, Cody Cox, Kokomo, Ind., 678. 3, Bradley Thompson, Greensboro, N.C., 667. 4, John Ta, Houston, 660. 5, Craig Kitaoka, Hercules, Calif., 659.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 156-175)

1, Matthew Grunzke, Albert Lea, Minn., 1,926. 2, John Kontos, Joliet, Ill., 1,850. 3, Justin Rose, Sussex, Wis., 1,848. 4, Glenn Schwandt, Mequon, Wis., 1,845. 5, Matt Gillen, Prior Lake, Minn., 1,838.

#### **CLASSIFIED DIVISION**

#### Team

## (Combined averages of 775 and below)

1, Hull Point Pursuit (Michael Hull, Tim Macias, Ryan Hailey, Chris Hull, John Hull), Kasilof, Alaska, 2,700. 2, Drink N Roll, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,649. 3, Bowlero Fun Center Fostoria, Fostoria, Ohio, 2,601. 4, McHenry Bowl 5, Modesto, Calif., 2,589. 5, Bruce Edwards Team 1, Brunswick, Ga., 2,569.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 310 and below)

1, Benny Sangalang, Hayward, Calif./Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,218. 2, Travis Soule, Grover Beach, Calif./Deanne Stote, Pismo Beach, Calif., 1,135. 3, Clayton Monson, Cooperstown, N.D./Garrett Heyerdahl, Hannaford, N.D., 1,125. 4, Joseph Pizzino/Fred Pugh, Salida, Colo., 1,099. 5, Ted Feltz/Matt Botkin, Coldwater, Ohio, 1,083.

## Singles

## (Averages of 155 and below)

1, Steve Maley, Waverly, Iowa, 615. 2, Danielle Elliott, Noblesville, Ind., 607. 3, Frank Jilek III, Santa Ana, Calif., 604. 4, Travis Secrest, Canton, Ohio, 600. 5, Doug Willmann, Olivette, Mo., 592.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 155 and below)

1, Doug Willmann, Olivette, Mo., 1,753. 2, Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,731. 3, Mark Bowen, Salisbury, Md., 1,689. 4, Aris DeLos Reyes, Union City, Calif., 1,652. 5, Joseph Truchan Jr., Ringwood, N.J., 1,647.

## Glenn Allison ties participation record at USBC Open Championships with 71st appearance

United States Bowling Congress and Professional Bowling Association Hall of Famer Glenn Allison tied the participation record at the USBC Open Championships on May 13 as he made his 71st appearance at the tournament.

Allison, of Corona, California, tied the mark set by USBC Hall of Famers Bill Doehrman and Joe Norris in 1981 and 2000, respectively, and Sylvester Thiel in 2016. Those four also are the only competitors in tournament history to reach 70 years on the championship lanes.

The 92-year-old right-hander made his tournament debut at the 1947 event in Los Angeles, and he's now made his annual appearance each year since 1954. He's a four-time champion at the event, winning Classic Doubles in 1962, Classic Team in 1964 and 1966 and Classic Singles in 1970.

Allison received a special plaque and chevron to commemorate the milestone, and he was joined by his family as he was honored during his march down Center Aisle at the National Bowling Stadium, where he addressed the many bowlers, fans and friends in attendance.

"I'm really very happy to have finally caught Joe Norris, Bill Doehrman and Sylvester Thiel," said Allison during his presentation. "There are a couple more ahead of me on the pinfall list, and if I can knock down enough pins, I'll pass them next year.

"It's been a very wonderful trip for all 71, and I really appreciate all of you rooting for me, especially my daughter, Suzanne, my son, Mark, and my grandson, Glenn II. They're here to bowl with me for my 71st tournament."

Allison bowled three games in his team event and part of his doubles set during his trip to the 2023 event to bring his career pinfall total at the Open Championships to 122,954. He's carried an average north of 191 for his 71 appearances.

He remains in third place on the all-time pinfall list at the Open Championships, trailing

USBC Hall of Famer Bill Lillard Sr. (124,087) and Norris (123,770). Allison now is 817 pins away from passing Norris and 1,134 pins away from taking over the top spot from Lillard.

## Robert Brissette becomes 27th bowler to reach 100,000 pins at USBC Open Championships

Robert Brissette of Petersburg, Michigan, became the 27th bowler in the 119-year history of the USBC Open Championships to join the 100,000-Pin Club during his team competition May 11 at the National Bowling Stadium.

The 86-year-old right-hander was working on a pair of strikes as he stepped up in the ninth frame of Game 2, and an eight count and spare conversion officially helped Brissette reach one of bowling's most prestigious milestones.

He entered the 2023 event needing 291 pins to earn the coveted crystal pin presented to those who achieve the feat, and after adding 1,291 pins to his career total, he now has knocked over 101,000 pins for a lifetime average of 190.2 over 59 appearances.

"There was a little bit of relief getting there, but I was very happy," Brissette said. "I was ecstatic with the response from the crowd and everything else. Bowlers are some of the greatest people in the world. I have never bowled with anyone I didn't like, and I've been around so many thousands of bowlers. When you get something you enjoy, and have good friends and family, you can't beat that."

Brissette started his career at the Open Championships during the 1961 event in Detroit, and he's made his annual appearance each year since 1967.

His top performance took place during the 1993 event in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he rolled sets of 706 in singles, 702 in team and 646 in doubles for a 2,054 all-events total.

Brissette looks forward to continuing his run at the Open Championships, with his 60th appearance coming up next year in Las Vegas.

"I'm just going to be ready to go if the Lord is willing," said Brissette, a member of the Greater Toledo USBC Hall of Fame. "I always look forward to it. As long as I have people that want me on a team, and I'm able to throw the ball, I'm going to keep doing it."

## Holliman rolls 300, 813 at National Bowling Stadium

Mykel Holliman of Denham Springs, Louisiana, joined an exclusive list at the USBC Open Championships on May 12 after rolling a 300 game on the way to an 813 series during his team competition at the 2023 event.

The 30-year-old left-hander kicked off his ninth tournament appearance with games of 255, 300 and 258 at the National Bowling Stadium to post the highest three-game set at the 2023 tournament, and he also became the 42nd bowler in the 119-year history

of the Open Championships to record both a 300 game and 800 series at the event.

He connected for the fifth 300 and second 800 of the 2023 tournament to help Lew Ansara Team 2 of Farmington Hills, Michigan, to a 3,257 total in Regular Team.

Holliman followed up his team set with 615 in singles and 544 in doubles to finish with a 1,972 all-events total.

#### A look ahead

Two more competitors are expected to reach 100,000 pins this week at the 2023 USBC Open Championships.

Dennis Lane of Kingsport, Tennessee, is 680 pins shy of 100,000 and will be bowling May 18 and 19 in Reno. Lane has knocked over 99,320 pins through his first 54 appearances for a career average of 203.9.

USBC Hall of Famer Bill Spigner of Vernon Hills, Illinois, will be in position to join the 100,000-Pin Club during his doubles and singles set May 21. Spigner, a member of the 1996 Team All-Events champion at the Open Championships, will enter his 55th tournament appearance with 98,885 pins (201.3 average) and need 1,115 pins to reach the milestone.

2023 USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS National Bowling Stadium Reno, Nev.

(Division leaders with hometown and pinfall)

As of May 16, 2023

#### **REGULAR DIVISION**

#### **Team**

#### (Combined averages of 876 and above)

1, Chili Garlic Edamame (David O'Sullivan, Shawn Naumann, Ron Hurt, Sean Riccardi, PJ Haggerty), Las Vegas, 3,422. 2, Bowlers Headquarters, Muskego, Wis., 3,420. 3, Enhancements, Alva, Fla., 3,408. 4, DiLaura Brothers 1, Clinton Township, Mich., 3,374. 5, Locker Guy 1, Owatonna, Minn., 3,345.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 351 and above)

1, Julian Brown, Jonesboro, Ga./Zack Carter, Des Plaines, Ill., 1,401. 2, Scott

Kruppenbacher, Rochester, N.Y./Cassandra Leuthold, Lincoln, Neb., 1,388. 3, Jordan Gray, Columbus, Ind./Kyle Luckett, Indianapolis, 1,364. 4, Perry Crowell IV, St. Clair Shores, Mich./Jeffrey Mastny, Arlington, Neb., 1,362. 5, Shawn Naumann, Orlando, Fla./PJ Haggerty, Roseville, Calif., 1,360.

## **Singles**

## (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Kyle Luckett, Indianapolis, 775. 2, Jeremiah Smith, Mandan, N.D., 761. 3, Derek Eoff, DeForest, Wis., 756. 4, Steve Novak, Louisville, Ky., 747. 5, Kyle Geurtsen, Milwaukee, 742.

## **All-Events**

## (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Derek Eoff, DeForest, Wis., 2,165. 2, Zachary Karr, Fremont, Neb., 2,120. 3, Blaine Weninger, Clackamas, Ore., 2,117. 4, Matthew Meyer, Alexandria, Minn., 2,108. 5, Matthew McNiel, Alva, Fla., 2,096.

## **Team All-Events**

1, Chili Garlic Edamame (David O'Sullivan, Shawn Naumann, Ron Hurt, Sean Riccardi, PJ Haggerty), Las Vegas, 9,884. 2, High 5 Gear/RCL, Ocala, Fla., 9,734. 3, Bowlers Headquarters, Muskego, Wis., 9,696. 4, Storm Products Inc. 1, Alva, Fla., 9,667. 5, Enhancements, Alva, Fla., 9,622.

#### STANDARD DIVISION

#### **Team**

## (Combined averages of 776-875)

1, Surgically Repaired (Andy Peckys, Rick Nowalany, Robert Nowalany, Derek Webb, Malcolm Peckys), Darien, Ill., 2,977. 2, Mean Girls Bowling, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,967. 3, CA Style Mixed Plate, Hercules, Calif., 2,964. 4, River Rats, Winona, Minn., 2,961. 5, We Bowla Too, Clinton, Utah, 2,913.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 311-350)

1, James Fairley, Rockingham, N.C./David Farmer, Hamlet, N.C., 1,216. 2, Sal Trevino/Steven Funds, Lakeland, Fla., 1,213. 3, Daisy Spellman, Gresham, Ore./Scott Sepich, Portland, Ore., 1,203. 4(tie), John Mulligan, Clinton Township, Mich./Tim DeMeulenaere, Macomb, Mich., and William Jones, Columbus, Ohio/David Jones, Zanesville, Ohio, 1,201.

## Singles

## (Averages of 156-175)

1, Pat Gaddie, East Grand Forks, Minn., 682. 2, Cody Cox, Kokomo, Ind., 678. 3, Gregory Au, Spokane, Wash., 674. 4, Bradley Thompson, Greensboro, N.C., 667. 5, Fred Hines Jr., Spokane, Wash., 665.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 156-175)

1, Matthew Grunzke, Albert Lea, Minn., 1,926. 2, John Kontos, Joliet, Ill., 1,850. 3, Justin Rose, Sussex, Wis., 1,848. 4, Fred Hines Jr., Spokane, Wash., 1,847. 5, Glenn Schwandt, Mequon, Wis., 1,845.

#### **CLASSIFIED DIVISION**

#### Team

## (Combined averages of 775 and below)

1, Hull Point Pursuit (Michael Hull, Tim Macias, Ryan Hailey, Chris Hull, John Hull), Kasilof, Alaska, 2,700. 2, Drink N Roll, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,649. 3, Bowlero Fun Center Fostoria, Fostoria, Ohio, 2,601. 4, McHenry Bowl 5, Modesto, Calif., 2,589. 5, Bruce Edwards Team 1, Brunswick, Ga., 2,569.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 310 and below)

1, Benny Sangalang, Hayward, Calif./Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,218. 2, Travis Soule, Grover Beach, Calif./Deanne Stote, Pismo Beach, Calif., 1,135. 3, Clayton Monson, Cooperstown, N.D./Garrett Heyerdahl, Hannaford, N.D., 1,125. 4, Joseph Pizzino/Fred Pugh, Salida, Colo., 1,099. 5, John Hines, Duluth, Minn./Brian Olson, Superior, Wis., 1,085.

#### **Singles**

## (Averages of 155 and below)

1, Steve Maley, Waverly, Iowa, 615. 2, Danielle Elliott, Noblesville, Ind., 607. 3, Frank Jilek III, Santa Ana, Calif., 604. 4, Travis Secrest, Canton, Ohio, 600. 5, Doug Willmann, Olivette, Mo., 592.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 155 and below)

1, Doug Willmann, Olivette, Mo., 1,753. 2, Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,731. 3, Mark Bowen, Salisbury, Md., 1,689. 4, Emilee Hughes, Auburn Hills, Mich., 1,681. 5, Len Silverston, Boulder, Colo., 1,658.

## OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS WEEKLY GLANCE (For May 17 – May 23, 2023)

## Lane celebrates 100,000 pins at the USBC Open Championships

Dennis Lane of Kingsport, Tennessee, describes himself as a steady and consistent bowler, but the list of accomplishments he's accrued across more than 50 years suggests he's consistently striking and performing to his best alongside many of the top names in the sport's long and storied history.

Lane added two more major milestones to his resume at the United States Bowling Congress Open Championships, as he became the 28th bowler in the 119-year history of the event to reach 100,000 pins while also making his 55th consecutive tournament appearance.

The 75-year-old right-hander entered the 2023 event at the National Bowling Stadium with 99,320 pins knocked down through his first 54 appearances, and after a 548 set in his team event, he needed just 132 pins in doubles and singles May 19 to earn the coveted crystal pin awarded to those who reach the mark.

In the eighth frame of his first game of doubles, Lane officially surpassed the number with an eight count on his first delivery. He finished his doubles set before electing to drop out of singles due to an injury to his right arm he had been battling during the week to bring his career pinfall at the event to 100,336.

Lane also entered the 2023 event as the tournament's all-time average leader for bowlers with at least 50 years of participation at the USBC Open Championships, and he now holds a 203.5 average at the event through 55 years.

Starting at the 2024 Open Championships, his name will be added to the banners hanging at the tournament venue recognizing those who have been able to join the 100,000-Pin Club at the event.

"It's going to be there for everyone to see from now on, and that's a big thing," said Lane, the 1977 Professional Bowlers Association Portland Open champion. "To accomplish that and know it's going to be there makes me feel good. Just to know a lot of the people that accomplished this – it's amazing to be able to join them.

"I had set the goal of reaching 20 consecutive years, and then it was just one more year – add another to it. I tried to be consistent, and I felt like I was. I never had any gigantic years, but we finished second in Tampa (1979), and I had a couple other top 10s. Even the first year I bowled in Cincinnati (1968), I shot 690 in singles, which was a big score back then. That kind of inspired me. I could bowl out here and do this. I was a consistent bowler and could adjust pretty well."

The festivities started with an honorary march down Center Aisle at the National Bowling Stadium for his 55th consecutive appearance, and he was joined by his wife, Beverley, as he received a plaque, chevron and watch to commemorate his longevity at the event.

The moment also was amplified as Beverley celebrated her 25th consecutive appearance.

"It meant a lot to share all of this with her, especially since it was her 25th, too," Lane said. "She had started when my father couldn't bowl – she ended up bowling for him – and from there, she started bowling and made it every year. So, we just make the journey together. To be able to do that with her, for her milestone, too, it was special."

## Bill Spigner joins 100,000-Pin Club at USBC Open Championships

USBC Hall of Famer Bill Spigner became the fourth bowler to reach 100,000 pins in a record-setting year for pinfall at the 2023 Open Championships as he added another accolade to his impressive career on the lanes and as an ambassador to the sport May 21 at the National Bowling Stadium.

Spigner, of Vernon Hills, Illinois, is the 29th bowler to achieve the milestone, and he accomplished the feat during his 55th appearance at the event.

The 73-year-old right-hander entered the 2023 Open Championships having knocked over 98,885 pins, and he earned the crystal pin awarded to those who reach the number with an eight count in his sixth frame during his first game of singles.

He finished his appearance with an all-events total of 1,514 to bring his career total to 100,399 pins for a lifetime average of 200.7 across 55 years.

Spigner joined fellow USBC Hall of Famer Bob Chamberlain Sr. of The Villages, Florida; Robert Brissette of Petersburg, Michigan; and Dennis Lane of Kingsport, Tennessee, in the 100,000-Pin Club at the 2023 event. It marked the first time four competitors have reached the pinfall milestone during the same tournament.

"It is hard to imagine 55 years of doing this," Spigner said. "When I started in 1967 in Miami, I fell in love with the tournament. It was never about winning, and it was never about the money – it was about participating. I think that's why I lasted, since I didn't bowl because I had to win or make money. I bowled because I loved the ABC, and now the USBC, national championship. Being up there forever means a lot, and hopefully, I can continue to bowl. Right now, I'm going to enjoy being part of the 100,000-Pin Club."

On the lanes, Spigner captured three PBA Tour titles. After he concluded his run on tour, opportune timing with a few future hall of famers helped to eventually lead to one of the most prolific performances in the history of the Open Championships.

Spigner collected his lone Eagle at the Open Championships as a member of Pollard's Bowl of Versailles, Indiana, at the 1996 event in Salt Lake City. The team, featuring USBC Hall of Famers Rick Pollard, Ron Pollard and Don Scudder and Jerry Kessler, set the tournament's Team All-Events record with a 10,425 performance that stood for 26 years.

The record was broken at the 2022 event in Las Vegas by Mento Produce of Baldwinsville, New York, with a 10,444 total. DiLaura Brothers 1 of Clinton Township, Michigan, surpassed the mark five days later with 10,585 to claim the victory and record at the end of the 2022 tournament.

"I had got off the tour and became eligible to bowl as a regular participant," said Spigner, who had sets of 775 in doubles, 691 in singles and 602 in team in 1996 for a 2,068 all-events total. "I bowled with Jerry Edwards in Chicago and asked if he needed a guy for his group. His teams were full, but he told me he knew somebody who might need someone on their team. It was the Pollard boys – Rick, Ron and their dad, Bill. The first year I bowled with them was in Jacksonville, and I bowled with them for a lot

of years. We didn't form a team to be a powerhouse team, but we became a good team that played well together.

"When we set the record in Salt Lake City, we had no idea. We were just bowling and got on such a run during singles and doubles, and all of a sudden, we were in the lead and set the record. We held on to it for 26 years, which was amazing. Records are meant to be broken, though, so I was happy for Mento Produce. They have some really solid players on their team who are good people for bowling."

When Spigner hasn't been competing, he's still spending time on the lanes as one of the most respected coaches in the sport. Along with his new spot in the 100,000-Pin Club, he's also one of 29 active USBC Gold-level coaches and part of the Team USA coaching staff.

Family support has been paramount along the way in both his bowling and coaching, and Spigner was thrilled to share his moments with them at the National Bowling Stadium, too.

During his ceremonial march down Center Aisle to recognize his 55th appearance, he was joined by his wife, Barb, sons, Robert and James, and grandsons, Judah and Gabriel.

He credits Barb in helping him every step along the way.

"My wife is the reason I kept going," Spigner said. "From Day 1, she supported what I did. I wouldn't have continued on and worked in the industry the way I have and done the things I have without her."

#### A look ahead

Brian Waliczek of Frankenmuth, Michigan, will return to the USBC Open Championships to put his Regular All-Events title on the line at the National Bowling Stadium.

The four-time Eagle winner captured the victory at the 2022 event in Las Vegas with a 2,241 total. He had steady sets of 750 in doubles, 746 in singles and 745 in team on his way to the win, and his overall effort helped Team NABR of Fairport, New York, to a second-place finish in Team All-Events at the South Point Bowling Plaza with a 10,538 total.

Waliczek will bowl team May 26 at 2 p.m. Pacific and doubles and singles May 27 at 6 p.m. Pacific.

Team NABR features USBC Hall of Famer and four-time champion Mike Rose Jr., three-time winners Adam Barta and Scott Pohl and 2013 Regular Team champion Vernon Peterson.

# 2023 USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS National Bowling Stadium Reno, Nev.

(Division leaders with hometown and pinfall)

As of May 23, 2023

#### **REGULAR DIVISION**

#### **Team**

## (Combined averages of 876 and above)

1, Chili Garlic Edamame (David O'Sullivan, Shawn Naumann, Ron Hurt, Sean Riccardi, PJ Haggerty), Las Vegas, 3,422. 2, Bowlers Headquarters, Muskego, Wis., 3,420. 3, Enhancements, Alva, Fla., 3,408. 4, DiLaura Brothers 1, Clinton Township, Mich., 3,374. 5, Locker Guy 1, Owatonna, Minn., 3,345.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 351 and above)

1, Julian Brown, Jonesboro, Ga./Zack Carter, Des Plaines, Ill., 1,401. 2, Scott Kruppenbacher, Rochester, N.Y./Cassandra Leuthold, Lincoln, Neb., 1,388. 3, Jordan Gray, Columbus, Ind./Kyle Luckett, Indianapolis, 1,364. 4, Perry Crowell IV, St. Clair Shores, Mich./Jeffrey Mastny, Arlington, Neb., 1,362. 5, Shawn Naumann, Orlando, Fla./PJ Haggerty, Roseville, Calif., 1,360.

## Singles

## (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Kyle Luckett, Indianapolis, 775. 2, Jeremiah Smith, Mandan, N.D., 761. 3, Derek Eoff, DeForest, Wis., 756. 4, Steve Novak, Louisville, Ky., 747. 5, Kyle Geurtsen, Milwaukee, 742.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Derek Eoff, DeForest, Wis., 2,165. 2, Zachary Karr, Fremont, Neb., 2,120. 3, Blaine Weninger, Clackamas, Ore., 2,117. 4, Matthew Meyer, Alexandria, Minn., 2,108. 5, Matthew McNiel, Alva, Fla., 2,096.

#### **Team All-Events**

1, Chili Garlic Edamame (David O'Sullivan, Shawn Naumann, Ron Hurt, Sean Riccardi, PJ Haggerty), Las Vegas, 9,884. 2, High 5 Gear/RCL, Ocala, Fla., 9,734. 3, Bowlers Headquarters, Muskego, Wis., 9,696. 4, Storm Products Inc. 1, Alva, Fla., 9,667. 5, Enhancements, Alva, Fla., 9,622.

#### STANDARD DIVISION

#### Team

## (Combined averages of 776-875)

1, Surgically Repaired (Andy Peckys, Rick Nowalany, Robert Nowalany, Derek Webb, Malcolm Peckys), Darien, Ill., 2,977. 2, Mean Girls Bowling, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,967. 3, CA Style Mixed Plate, Hercules, Calif., 2,964. 4, River Rats, Winona, Minn., 2,961. 5, We Bowla Too, Clinton, Utah, 2,913.

#### **Doubles**

#### (Combined averages of 311-350)

1, James Fairley, Rockingham, N.C./David Farmer, Hamlet, N.C., 1,216. 2, Sal Trevino/Steven Funds, Lakeland, Fla., 1,213. 3, Daisy Spellman, Gresham, Ore./Scott Sepich, Portland, Ore., 1,203. 4(tie), John Mulligan, Clinton Township, Mich./Tim DeMeulenaere, Macomb, Mich., and William Jones, Columbus, Ohio/David Jones, Zanesville, Ohio, 1,201.

#### **Singles**

## (Averages of 156-175)

1, Pat Gaddie, East Grand Forks, Minn., 682. 2, Cody Cox, Kokomo, Ind., 678. 3, Gregory Au, Spokane, Wash., 674. 4, Bradley Thompson, Greensboro, N.C., 667. 5, Fred Hines Jr., Spokane, Wash., 665.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 156-175)

1, Matthew Grunzke, Albert Lea, Minn., 1,926. 2, Stephen Powell, Effingham, Ill., 1,858. 3, John Kontos, Joliet, Ill., 1,850. 4, Justin Rose, Sussex, Wis., 1,848. 5, Fred Hines Jr., Spokane, Wash., 1,847.

#### **CLASSIFIED DIVISION**

#### Team

## (Combined averages of 775 and below)

1, Hull Point Pursuit (Michael Hull, Tim Macias, Ryan Hailey, Chris Hull, John Hull), Kasilof, Alaska, 2,700. 2, Drink N Roll, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,649. 3, Bowlero Fun Center Fostoria, Fostoria, Ohio, 2,601. 4, McHenry Bowl 5, Modesto, Calif., 2,589. 5, Bruce Edwards Team 1, Brunswick, Ga., 2,569.

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## (Combined averages of 310 and below)

1, Benny Sangalang, Hayward, Calif./Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,218. 2, Travis Soule, Grover Beach, Calif./Deanne Stote, Pismo Beach, Calif., 1,135. 3, Clayton Monson, Cooperstown, N.D./Garrett Heyerdahl, Hannaford, N.D., 1,125. 4, Joseph Pizzino/Fred Pugh, Salida, Colo., 1,099. 5, John Hines, Duluth, Minn./Brian Olson, Superior, Wis., 1,085.

## **Singles**

#### (Averages of 155 and below)

1, Steve Maley, Waverly, Iowa, 615. 2, John Minnick Jr., Yorktown, Va., 614. 3, Danielle Elliott, Noblesville, Ind., 607. 4, Frank Jilek III, Santa Ana, Calif., 604. 5,

Travis Secrest, Canton, Ohio, 600.

## **All-Events**

## (Averages of 155 and below)

1, Doug Willmann, Olivette, Mo., 1,753. 2, Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,731. 3, Mark Bowen, Salisbury, Md., 1,689. 4, Emilee Hughes, Auburn Hills, Mich., 1,681. 5, Len Silverston, Boulder, Colo., 1,658.

## OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS WEEKLY GLANCE (For May 24 - May 30, 2023)

## California team sets Standard record and takes lead at 2023 USBC Open Championships

The members of Irvine Team 1 of Corona, California, rolled the highest team game since the introduction of the Standard Division at the United States Bowling Congress Open Championships in 2017 on their way to the lead at the 2023 edition of the event May 27.

The team started their appearance at the National Bowling Stadium with 1,187 and finished with games of 869 and 960 for a 3,016 total. Surgically Repaired of Darien, Illinois, had held the lead in Standard Team since March 8 with 2,977.

The record-setting score in Game 1 for Irvine Team 1 was led by Erick Podwill's 254. He was followed by Dave Ellsworth (245), Greg Bill (245), Greg Nardo (222) and Andrea Fredericks (221).

The previous record belonged to 2022 champion JW's All Stars of Wellington, Florida. The team rolled 1,143 in its final game to collect the victory in Las Vegas with a 3,132 total.

Podwill also led the overall effort with a 644 series. Bill had 620, while Nardo (598), Fredericks (579) and Ellsworth (575) were not far behind.

The big performance from Irvine Team 1 stemmed from the group working together and staying relaxed at the NBS.

All five team members have bowled together in the same league for a long time, and they decided to give the USBC Open Championships a shot as a team this year.

"Four of us all bowl on the same team in league, and we recruited Erick to join us this year, making us complete," Fredericks said. "We are able to be brutally honest with each other about our performances, and that comes with the comfort of being good friends."

While everyone brings something special to the team, Fredericks noted that Nardo

serves multiple roles as the team's pro shop professional, captain, on-lane coach and supporter.

"All of the balls we used today worked well, and we all have Greg (Nardo) to thank for that," Fredericks said. "Greg really will take the time to help all of us out with what he is seeing out on the lanes, even if he's in the middle of bowling bad. We're all better for it."

The entire team is going to be watching the scores when they return to California, hoping their score is enough to record the victory in 2023.

"My two goals at this tournament every year are to put up a score good enough to win and shoot a 300," said Nardo, who made his fifth appearance at the Open Championships. "Hopefully this holds, and we can achieve an accomplishment we will be able to see on the scoreboard for the rest of our careers."

Standard Team includes five-player groups with combined entering averages of 776-875.

## Three 300s in two days at the National Bowling Stadium

Three bowlers connected for perfect games in the span of approximately 24 hours on May 26-27 at the 2023 USBC Open Championships, bringing the overall total to eight so far this year at the National Bowling Stadium.

Craig Nidiffer of Dearborn Heights, Michigan, added his name to the list during his first game of singles May 26. He added games of 195 and 192 for a 687 series.

The 37-year-old right-hander has found continued success at the Bowlers Journal Championships over the years, including wins in Open Singles (247, 300 and 299 for an 846 series) and Open Doubles (with Justin Neiman of Macomb, Michigan, with 1,601) at the 2017 event. He also rolled an 801 series in Open Singles at the Bowlers Journal in 2022 to finish in seventh place.

Michael Snell of Papillion, Nebraska, concluded his singles set May 27 with 12 strikes. The 2005-2006 Dexter High School All-American Team member had started the set with games of 206 and 200 before making his run in the final game for a 706 series.

The 35-year-old right-hander managed the pocket by using a different ball on each lane during his 300 at the National Bowling Stadium, and he was able to celebrate the achievement alongside his father (Mick), mother (Ruth) and wife (Jasmine).

Several hours after Snell's perfect performance, Ryan Lofton of Strafford, Missouri, connected for 300 to start his team event and added games of 196 and 225 for a 721 series.

Lofton, a two-hander, was celebrating his 23rd birthday on May 27 during his run to 300.

## Massachusetts bowler makes 50th consecutive appearance at Open Championships

Robert Charette of Florence, Massachusetts, celebrated his 50th consecutive appearance at the USBC Open Championships this week at the National Bowling Stadium.

Charette made his tournament debut at the 1973 event in Syracuse, New York, and he's knocked over 68,433 pins across his 50 years at the Open Championships for a lifetime average of 164.8.

2023 USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS National Bowling Stadium Reno, Nev.

(Division leaders with hometown and pinfall)

As of May 30, 2023

#### **REGULAR DIVISION**

#### Team

## (Combined averages of 876 and above)

1, Chili Garlic Edamame (David O'Sullivan, Shawn Naumann, Ron Hurt, Sean Riccardi, PJ Haggerty), Las Vegas, 3,422. 2, Bowlers Headquarters, Muskego, Wis., 3,420. 3, Enhancements, Alva, Fla., 3,408. 4, DiLaura Brothers 1, Clinton Township, Mich., 3,374. 5, Shot Makers Pro Shop, Toledo, Ohio, 3,351.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 351 and above)

1, Julian Brown, Jonesboro, Ga./Zack Carter, Des Plaines, Ill., 1,401. 2, Scott Kruppenbacher, Rochester, N.Y./Cassandra Leuthold, Lincoln, Neb., 1,388. 3, Jordan Gray, Columbus, Ind./Kyle Luckett, Indianapolis, 1,364. 4, Perry Crowell IV, St. Clair Shores, Mich./Jeffrey Mastny, Arlington, Neb., 1,362. 5, Shawn Naumann, Orlando, Fla./PJ Haggerty, Roseville, Calif., 1,360.

#### Singles

#### (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Kyle Luckett, Indianapolis, 775. 2, Jeremiah Smith, Mandan, N.D., 761. 3, Derek Eoff, DeForest, Wis., 756. 4, Steve Novak, Louisville, Ky., 747. 5, Jacob Gill, Albuquerque, N.M., 746.

#### **All-Events**

#### (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Derek Eoff, DeForest, Wis., 2,165. 2, Zachary Karr, Fremont, Neb., 2,120. 3, Blaine Weninger, Clackamas, Ore., 2,117. 4, Matthew Meyer, Alexandria, Minn., 2,108. 5, Matthew McNiel, Alva, Fla., 2,096.

#### **Team All-Events**

1, Chili Garlic Edamame (David O'Sullivan, Shawn Naumann, Ron Hurt, Sean Riccardi, PJ Haggerty), Las Vegas, 9,884. 2, High 5 Gear/RCL, Ocala, Fla., 9,734. 3, Bowlers Headquarters, Muskego, Wis., 9,696. 4, Storm Products Inc. 1, Alva, Fla., 9,667. 5, Enhancements, Alva, Fla., 9,622.

#### STANDARD DIVISION

#### **Team**

## (Combined averages of 776-875)

1, Irvine Team 1 (Erick Podwill, Andrea Fredericks, Dave Ellsworth, Greg Bill, Greg Nardo), Corona, Calif., 3,016. 2, Surgically Repaired, Darien, Ill., 2,977. 3, Mean Girls Bowling, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,967. 4, CA Style Mixed Plate, Hercules, Calif., 2,964. 5, River Rats, Winona, Minn., 2,961.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 311-350)

1, James Fairley, Rockingham, N.C./David Farmer, Hamlet, N.C., 1,216. 2, Sal Trevino/Steven Funds, Lakeland, Fla., 1,213. 3, Daisy Spellman, Gresham, Ore./Scott Sepich, Portland, Ore., 1,203. 4(tie), John Mulligan, Clinton Township, Mich./Tim DeMeulenaere, Macomb, Mich., and William Jones, Columbus, Ohio/David Jones, Zanesville, Ohio, 1,201.

## **Singles**

## (Averages of 156-175)

1, Pat Gaddie, East Grand Forks, Minn., 682. 2, Cody Cox, Kokomo, Ind., 678. 3, Gregory Au, Spokane, Wash., 674. 4, Bradley Thompson, Greensboro, N.C., 667. 5, Fred Hines Jr., Spokane, Wash., 665.

## **All-Events**

#### (Averages of 156-175)

1, Matthew Grunzke, Albert Lea, Minn., 1,926. 2, Stephen Powell, Effingham, Ill., 1,858. 3, John Kontos, Joliet, Ill., 1,850. 4, Justin Rose, Sussex, Wis., 1,848. 5, Fred Hines Jr., Spokane, Wash., 1,847.

#### **CLASSIFIED DIVISION**

#### Team

## (Combined averages of 775 and below)

1, Hull Point Pursuit (Michael Hull, Tim Macias, Ryan Hailey, Chris Hull, John Hull), Kasilof, Alaska, 2,700. 2, Drink N Roll, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,649. 3, Bowlero Fun Center Fostoria, Fostoria, Ohio, 2,601. 4, McHenry Bowl 5, Modesto, Calif., 2,589. 5, Bruce Edwards Team 1, Brunswick, Ga., 2,569.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 310 and below)

1, Benny Sangalang, Hayward, Calif./Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,218. 2, Travis Soule, Grover Beach, Calif./Deanne Stote, Pismo Beach, Calif., 1,135. 3, Clayton Monson, Cooperstown, N.D./Garrett Heyerdahl, Hannaford, N.D., 1,125. 4, Joseph

Pizzino/Fred Pugh, Salida, Colo., 1,099. 5, Robert Lashin, Hampstead, N.C./Austin Lewis, Wilmington, N.C., 1,089.

## **Singles**

## (Averages of 155 and below)

1, Steve Maley, Waverly, Iowa, 615. 2, John Minnick Jr., Yorktown, Va., 614. 3, Danielle Elliott, Noblesville, Ind., 607. 4, Frank Jilek III, Santa Ana, Calif., 604. 5, Travis Secrest, Canton, Ohio, 600.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 155 and below)

1, Doug Willmann, Olivette, Mo., 1,753. 2, Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,731. 3, Mark Bowen, Salisbury, Md., 1,689. 4, Emilee Hughes, Auburn Hills, Mich., 1,681. 5, Len Silverston, Boulder, Colo., 1,658.

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## **OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS WEEKLY GLANCE** (For May 31 – June 6, 2023)

## K and J Finishing 1 rewrites leaderboard, Kruml leads four events at 2023 USBC Open Championships

In what could eventually be viewed as one of the top overall performances in the history of the United States Bowling Congress Open Championships, Nick Kruml and his teammates on K and J Finishing 1 of Carpentersville, Illinois, are leaving the National Bowling Stadium with the lead in all but one event at the 2023 tournament after an incredible display on the lanes over June 2-3.

The arguments on where the effort could stand among some of the all-time great showings across the 119-year history of the event will become a little more clear at the end of the 2023 USBC Open Championships, but for now, Kruml is in position to win four titles – Regular Doubles with Christopher Wiley (1,438), Regular Singles (795), Regular All-Events (2,242) and Team All-Events (10,394).

Only three bowlers have won four titles during the same year at the tournament – USBC Hall of Famers Bill Lillard Jr. and Ed Lubanski in 1956 and 1959, respectively, and Mike Neumann in 1990.

As impressive as the numbers are individually for Kruml, the team's total effort shows why this powerhouse group has been primed for a big run at the event.

Ryne Greenwood moved into third place in Regular All-Events with 2,162, and Wiley

now is fourth with 2,134. Team USA's Nick Pate added 1,969, and Zachary Woelfel had 1,887 as K and J Finishing 1 took the lead in Team All-Events by 376 pins.

The team's 10,394 total across 45 games is the seventh highest Team All-Events score at the tournament.

Cincinnati's Riding Kenny's Coattails became the first team at the 2023 event to surpass the 10,000 barrier June 1 at the NBS with 10,018.

Kruml, a 29-year-old right-hander from St. Peters, Missouri, had games of 268, 280 and 247 to take the singles lead from Kyle Luckett of Indianapolis, who had held the top spot with 775. Kruml officially collected his share of the lead by delivering a strike on his first ball in the 10th frame of Game 3, and he struck out in the final frame in each of his three games in singles.

He added 724 in doubles and 723 in team to cruise to the lead in Regular All-Events by 77 pins. Derek Eoff of DeForest, Wisconsin, had led with 2,165.

The excitement started in doubles, as Kruml and Wiley put up near-identical efforts to take the top spot. Kruml had games of 239, 226 and 259 for his 724 set, and Wiley, who rolled a perfect game in doubles at the 2022 Open Championships in Las Vegas, had 219, 248 and 247 for 714.

Julian Brown of Jonesboro, Georgia, and Zack Carter of Des Plaines, Illinois, previously held the lead in Regular Doubles with 1,401.

On June 2, the group briefly moved into second place in Regular Team with a 3,433 total before dropping to third as The Bowling Shops 1 of Highland Village, Texas, passed their score during the same squad with 3,449.

Riding Kenny's Coattails took the lead in Regular Team on May 31 with 3,578.

K and J Finishing 1 was the runner-up in Team All-Events at the 2021 Open Championships, and the group finished ninth at the 2022 event.

Kruml, Greenwood, Wiley and Woelfel all competed together at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, while Pate bowled collegiately at Midland University during the same period.

"We worked together for four years," said Kruml, who made his ninth tournament appearance. "We work off each other very well, so we have a game plan and try to stick to it, and it just worked out pretty well this time."

After the strong start in team, the plan came together about as well as they could have hoped during doubles and singles.

They averaged 224 as a unit in doubles, and turned it up in singles to average more than 240 as a team. In addition to Kruml taking the top spot in singles, Wiley now sits in third with 762 (259, 245, 258) and Greenwood is fifth with 757 (244, 245, 268).

Cincinnati team powers to lead in Regular Team at National Bowling Stadium The members of Cincinnati's Riding Kenny's Coattails surged into the lead in Regular Team by 156 pins at the National Bowling Stadium on May 31, posting a 3,578 total at the 2023 USBC Open Championships.

Charles Easton started with 300 to help the team get to 1,228 in Game 1, and they continued to keep pace with 1,188 and 1,162 to conclude their run. The team easily cruised into the lead, passing the 3,422 posted March 18 by Las Vegas' Chili Garlic Edamame.

The score now sits as the second highest team series in the 119-year history of the Open Championships. Artistic Expressions 1 of Oklahoma City won the Regular Team title at the 2014 event, also held at the NBS, with 3,720.

Jeff Fehr led the way for Riding Kenny's Coattails with a 778 series and was joined by Easton (773), two-time champion Kenny Abner (723), Professional Bowlers Association Tour star Bill O'Neill (692) and Ron Pollard Jr. (612).

"We've seen some other teams start out strong and have some issues with the transition," Fehr said. "When we started strong in the second game, about midway through, I told the guys that we need to continue to keep going as hard as we can, because at some point, it was probably going to catch up with us a little bit. It did toward the middle of the third game and got a little bit tricky. Around the middle of the second game, though, we knew something special was happening."

Fehr has seen his fair share of great runs at the tournament, highlighted by crossing with his father – USBC Hall of Famer, five-time Open Championships titlist and 1994 USBC Masters champion Steve Fehr – and Abner when they captured wins in back-to-back years in 2006 (Regular Team) and 2007 (Team All-Events).

Getting to share this moment with his teammates is something he had a hard time describing.

"This is a feeling I've never felt before, and it's unreal," Fehr said. "I was on the companion team when my dad and Ken won in 2006 and 2007, and the excitement for them was special. I've been coming here for 26 years and have been waiting for this moment for a long time, and it's finally here. Now, we get to wait and see for a couple months."

Regular Team features five-player groups with combined entering averages of 876 and above.

#### South Carolina bowler takes Standard Singles lead in Reno

Propelled by a strong start in singles during her 11th USBC Open Championships appearance, Michelle Dabkowski of Lexington, South Carolina, took over the lead in the Standard Division on May 31 with a series total of 715.

The 40-year-old left-hander started off her set at a blistering pace at the National Bowling Stadium, delivering seven consecutive strikes in Game 1 to finish with 255. She continued in Game 2 with the front 10 to shoot 286. Although she slowed down in

Game 3 with 174, it was more than enough as she took over the top spot by 33 pins.

Pat Gaddie of East Grand Forks, Minnesota, had held the lead in Standard Singles since March 15 with 682.

Dabkowski, a former collegiate bowler at the University of Central Florida, had been out of the spotlight for a while before her performance at the Open Championships due to various injuries.

"I went back to the basics and focused on my pre-shot routine," Dabkowski said. "I tried not to overthink it. Everyone was cheering for me, and it's been a long time since I've had that. It felt really good."

The Standard Division features bowlers with entering averages of 156-175.

**First-time participant leads Classified Singles at USBC Open Championships**After taking some time to get comfortable in his USBC Open Championships debut, 18year-old Brenden Davis of Acworth, Georgia, was able to settle in on the way to the top
spot in Classified Singles on June 6.

Davis had games of 207, 216 and 217 for a 640 series. Steve Maley of Waverly, Iowa, had led Classified Singles since March 16 with 615.

Classified Singles includes bowlers with entering averages of 155 and below.

#### A look ahead

Sky Gettys of Thornville, Ohio, won the Standard Singles title at the 2022 USBC Open Championships with a record score, and he'll return to the event this week.

Gettys, who was making his 36th tournament appearance last year at the South Point Bowling Plaza, rolled games of 259, 227 and 277 for a 763 series to earn his first win at the event.

He will bowl his team event June 8 at 9:30 p.m. Pacific, and he'll follow with doubles and singles June 9 at 7 a.m. Pacific.

2023 USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS National Bowling Stadium Reno, Nev.

(Division leaders with hometown and pinfall)

As of June 6, 2023

#### **REGULAR DIVISION**

#### **Team**

## (Combined averages of 876 and above)

1, Riding Kenny's Coattails (Ron Pollard Jr., Jeff Fehr, Kenny Abner, Charles Easton, Bill O'Neill), Cincinnati, 3,578. 2, The Bowling Shops 1, Highland Village, Texas, 3,449. 3, K and J Finishing 1, Carpentersville, Ill., 3,433. 4, Chili Garlic Edamame, Las Vegas, 3,422. 5, Bowlers Headquarters, Muskego, Wis., 3,420.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 351 and above)

1, Christopher Wiley, Bettendorf, Iowa/Nick Kruml, St. Peters, Mo., 1,438. 2, Julian Brown, Jonesboro, Ga./Zack Carter, Des Plaines, Ill., 1,401. 3, Scott Kruppenbacher, Rochester, N.Y./Cassandra Leuthold, Lincoln, Neb., 1,388. 4, Jordan Gray, Columbus, Ind./Kyle Luckett, Indianapolis, 1,364. 5, Perry Crowell IV, St. Clair Shores, Mich./Jeffrey Mastny, Arlington, Neb., 1,362.

#### **Singles**

## (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Nick Kruml, St. Peters, Mo., 795. 2, Kyle Luckett, Indianapolis, 775. 3, Christopher Wiley, Bettendorf, Iowa, 762. 4, Jeremiah Smith, Mandan, N.D., 761. 5, Ryne Greenwood, Kenosha, Wis., 757.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Nick Kruml, St. Peters, Mo., 2,242. 2, Derek Eoff, DeForest, Wis., 2,165. 3, Ryne Greenwood, Kenosha, Wis., 2,162. 4, Christopher Wiley, Bettendorf, Iowa, 2,134. 5, Zachary Karr, Fremont, Neb., 2,120.

#### **Team All-Events**

1, K and J Finishing 1 (Ryne Greenwood, Christopher Wiley, Zachary Woelfel, Nick Pate, Nick Kruml), Carpentersville, Ill., 10,394. 2, Riding Kenny's Coattails, Cincinnati, 10,018. 3, Chili Garlic Edamame, Las Vegas, 9,884. 4, High 5 Gear/RCL, Ocala, Fla., 9,734. 5, Bowlers Headquarters, Muskego, Wis., 9,696.

#### STANDARD DIVISION

#### Team

## (Combined averages of 776-875)

1, Irvine Team 1 (Erick Podwill, Andrea Fredericks, Dave Ellsworth, Greg Bill, Greg Nardo), Corona, Calif., 3,016. 2, Surgically Repaired, Darien, Ill., 2,977. 3, Mean Girls Bowling, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,967. 4, CA Style Mixed Plate, Hercules, Calif., 2,964. 5, River Rats, Winona, Minn., 2,961.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 311-350)

1, James Fairley, Rockingham, N.C./David Farmer, Hamlet, N.C., 1,216. 2, Sal Trevino/Steven Funds, Lakeland, Fla., 1,213. 3, Daisy Spellman, Gresham, Ore./Scott Sepich, Portland, Ore., 1,203. 4(tie), John Mulligan, Clinton Township, Mich./Tim

DeMeulenaere, Macomb, Mich., and William Jones, Columbus, Ohio/David Jones, Zanesville, Ohio, 1,201.

## **Singles**

## (Averages of 156-175)

1, Michelle Dabkowski, Lexington, S.C., 715. 2, Pat Gaddie, East Grand Forks, Minn., 682. 3, Cody Cox, Kokomo, Ind., 678. 4, Gregory Au, Spokane, Wash., 674. 5, Bradley Thompson, Greensboro, N.C., 667.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 156-175)

1, Matthew Grunzke, Albert Lea, Minn., 1,926. 2, Roscoe Crabtree, Kokomo, Ind., 1,878. 3, Stephen Powell, Effingham, Ill., 1,858. 4, John Kontos, Joliet, Ill., 1,850. 5, Justin Rose, Sussex, Wis., 1,848.

#### **CLASSIFIED DIVISION**

#### **Team**

## (Combined averages of 775 and below)

1, Hull Point Pursuit (Michael Hull, Tim Macias, Ryan Hailey, Chris Hull, John Hull), Kasilof, Alaska, 2,700. 2, Drink N Roll, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,649. 3, Bowlero Fun Center Fostoria, Fostoria, Ohio, 2,601. 4, McHenry Bowl 5, Modesto, Calif., 2,589. 5, Simply Striking, Sunnyvale, Calif., 2,573.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 310 and below)

1, Benny Sangalang, Hayward, Calif./Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,218. 2, Travis Soule, Grover Beach, Calif./Deanne Stote, Pismo Beach, Calif., 1,135. 3, Clayton Monson, Cooperstown, N.D./Garrett Heyerdahl, Hannaford, N.D., 1,125. 4, Joseph Pizzino/Fred Pugh, Salida, Colo., 1,099. 5, Robert Lashin, Hampstead, N.C./Austin Lewis, Wilmington, N.C., 1,089.

#### **Singles**

## (Averages of 155 and below)

1, Brenden Davis, Acworth, Ga., 640. 2, Steve Maley, Waverly, Iowa, 615. 3, John Minnick Jr., Yorktown, Va., 614. 4, Danielle Elliott, Noblesville, Ind., 607. 5, Frank Jilek III, Santa Ana, Calif., 604.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 155 and below)

1, Doug Willmann, Olivette, Mo., 1,753. 2, Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,731. 3, Mark Bowen, Salisbury, Md., 1,689. 4, Emilee Hughes, Auburn Hills, Mich., 1,681. 5, Len Silverston, Boulder, Colo., 1,658.

## OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS WEEKLY GLANCE (For June 7 – June 13, 2023)

## Top spots remain the same at 2023 USBC Open Championships

There were no lead changes this week at the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Open Championships, and only one competitor claimed their spot in the top five at the National Bowling Stadium.

Matthew Sadler of Groveland, Illinois, now is second in Standard Singles after his performance June 10 in Reno, Nevada. Sadler rolled games of 253, 245 and 211 for a 709 series.

The left-hander needed a double in his final frame for the chance to take the top spot from Michelle Dabkowski of Lexington, South Carolina (715). Sadler recorded a strike on his first delivery but left the 4-7-8 combination on his second offering. He covered the spare to conclude his set.

Sadler added scores of 584 in team and 477 in doubles for a 1,770 all-events total, which places him in the top 50 for the Standard Division. Matthew Grunzke of Albert Lea, Minnesota, leads Standard All-Events with 1,926.

The Standard Division features bowlers with entering averages of 156-175.

#### A look ahead

A pair of celebrations will be taking place June 21 as USBC Hall of Famer Bob Goike of Canton, Michigan, and Mitchell Jabczenski of South Lyon, Michigan, join the 50-Year Club at the USBC Open Championships.

Goike is a three-time Eagle winner at the tournament. His first victory came in Regular All-Events during the 1984 event (2,142 total). He followed with back-to-back wins in Team All-Events as part of Lodge Lanes of Belleville, Michigan, in 1997 (10,293) and 1998 (10,421).

Goike was elected to the USBC Hall of Fame in 1996, and he'll enter his 50th consecutive appearance with a career pinfall of 88,177 for a lifetime average of 205.5.

Jabczenski has two titles at the Open Championships. His first win took place in Team All-Events at the 1987 event as a member of Detroit's Murdock Machine No. 1 (9,185). In 2013, he helped Lodge Lanes Too of Orlando, Florida, win the Regular Team title with a 3,538 total.

Jabczenski, who also will be making his 50th consecutive appearance, has knocked over 90,002 pins through his first 49 visits to the tournament for a career average of 204.

# 2023 USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS National Bowling Stadium Reno, Nev.

(Division leaders with hometown and pinfall)

As of June 13, 2023

#### **REGULAR DIVISION**

#### Team

## (Combined averages of 876 and above)

1, Riding Kenny's Coattails (Ron Pollard Jr., Jeff Fehr, Kenny Abner, Charles Easton, Bill O'Neill), Cincinnati, 3,578. 2, The Bowling Shops 1, Highland Village, Texas, 3,449. 3, K and J Finishing 1, Carpentersville, Ill., 3,433. 4, Chili Garlic Edamame, Las Vegas, 3,422. 5, Bowlers Headquarters, Muskego, Wis., 3,420.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 351 and above)

1, Christopher Wiley, Bettendorf, Iowa/Nick Kruml, St. Peters, Mo., 1,438. 2, Julian Brown, Jonesboro, Ga./Zack Carter, Des Plaines, Ill., 1,401. 3, Scott Kruppenbacher, Rochester, N.Y./Cassandra Leuthold, Lincoln, Neb., 1,388. 4, Jordan Gray, Columbus, Ind./Kyle Luckett, Indianapolis, 1,364. 5, Perry Crowell IV, St. Clair Shores, Mich./Jeffrey Mastny, Arlington, Neb., 1,362.

#### Singles

#### (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Nick Kruml, St. Peters, Mo., 795. 2, Kyle Luckett, Indianapolis, 775. 3, Christopher Wiley, Bettendorf, Iowa, 762. 4, Jeremiah Smith, Mandan, N.D., 761. 5, Ryne Greenwood, Kenosha, Wis., 757.

#### **All-Events**

#### (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Nick Kruml, St. Peters, Mo., 2,242. 2, Derek Eoff, DeForest, Wis., 2,165. 3, Ryne Greenwood, Kenosha, Wis., 2,162. 4, Christopher Wiley, Bettendorf, Iowa, 2,134. 5, Zachary Karr, Fremont, Neb., 2,120.

## **Team All-Events**

1, K and J Finishing 1 (Ryne Greenwood, Christopher Wiley, Zachary Woelfel, Nick Pate, Nick Kruml), Carpentersville, Ill., 10,394. 2, Riding Kenny's Coattails, Cincinnati, 10,018. 3, Chili Garlic Edamame, Las Vegas, 9,884. 4, High 5 Gear/RCL, Ocala, Fla., 9,734. 5, Bowlers Headquarters, Muskego, Wis., 9,696.

#### STANDARD DIVISION

#### Team

## (Combined averages of 776-875)

1, Irvine Team 1 (Erick Podwill, Andrea Fredericks, Dave Ellsworth, Greg Bill, Greg Nardo), Corona, Calif., 3,016. 2, Surgically Repaired, Darien, Ill., 2,977. 3, Mean Girls Bowling, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,967. 4, CA Style Mixed Plate, Hercules, Calif., 2,964. 5, River Rats, Winona, Minn., 2,961.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 311-350)

1, James Fairley, Rockingham, N.C./David Farmer, Hamlet, N.C., 1,216. 2, Sal Trevino/Steven Funds, Lakeland, Fla., 1,213. 3, Daisy Spellman, Gresham, Ore./Scott Sepich, Portland, Ore., 1,203. 4(tie), John Mulligan, Clinton Township, Mich./Tim DeMeulenaere, Macomb, Mich., and William Jones, Columbus, Ohio/David Jones, Zanesville, Ohio, 1,201.

#### **Singles**

## (Averages of 156-175)

1, Michelle Dabkowski, Lexington, S.C., 715. 2, Matthew Sadler, Groveland, Ill., 709. 3, Pat Gaddie, East Grand Forks, Minn., 682. 4, Cody Cox, Kokomo, Ind., 678. 5, Gregory Au, Spokane, Wash., 674.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 156-175)

1, Matthew Grunzke, Albert Lea, Minn., 1,926. 2, Roscoe Crabtree, Kokomo, Ind., 1,878. 3, Stephen Powell, Effingham, Ill., 1,858. 4, John Kontos, Joliet, Ill., 1,850. 5, Justin Rose, Sussex, Wis., 1,848.

#### **CLASSIFIED DIVISION**

#### Team

## (Combined averages of 775 and below)

1, Hull Point Pursuit (Michael Hull, Tim Macias, Ryan Hailey, Chris Hull, John Hull), Kasilof, Alaska, 2,700. 2, Drink N Roll, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,649. 3, Bowlero Fun Center Fostoria, Fostoria, Ohio, 2,601. 4, McHenry Bowl 5, Modesto, Calif., 2,589. 5, Simply Striking, Sunnyvale, Calif., 2,573.

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## **Singles**

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III, Santa Ana, Calif., 604.

## All-Events (Averages of 155 and below)

1, Doug Willmann, Olivette, Mo., 1,753. 2, Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,731. 3, Mark Bowen, Salisbury, Md., 1,689. 4, Emilee Hughes, Auburn Hills, Mich., 1,681. 5, Len Silverston, Boulder, Colo., 1,658.

## OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS WEEKLY GLANCE (For June 14 – June 20, 2023)

## Holbek rolls his second 300 game at USBC Open Championships

Cotie Holbek of Burlington, Wisconsin, quickly has made a name for himself as a top competitor in just a handful of appearances at the United States Bowling Congress Open Championships, and he added a second perfect game to his collection at the 2023 event June 19 during his team competition.

The 30-year-old right-hander became the 38th bowler over 119 years of competition to record multiple 300s at the USBC Open Championships, and he already was one of 42 players to own both a 300 game and 800 series at the event.

In just six tournament appearances, Holbek has won two Eagles (2018 Regular Singles with 802 and 2019 Regular Doubles with Steven Fisher of Winthrop Harbor, Illinois, with 1,478) to go along with his three honor scores.

Holbek started his team event with 270 in Game 1, finishing the effort with nine strikes. He went 12 for 12 in Game 2 on his way to 21 consecutive strikes at the National Bowling Stadium.

"When we first started practice, I stuck to my game plan to help the rest of the team out," Holbek said. "As we got a little bit further into Game 1, I looked at the guys and said I have to make a move, but I didn't want to move too much and get into everyone else's track. We came to the agreement to just move and make the adjustment.

"In the middle of Game 2, I had one shot I didn't think I threw well, but the guys told me the ball reaction still looked really good, so from there on out, I was just focused. Being there before helped with the nerves. I went through the motions and same preshot routine, and I got up there and did it."

With 570 at the turn, Holbek added another strike to start Game 3 to bring his total to 22 in a row. He started to fight some carry after that, however, and although he stayed clean, he lost the chance at 800 in the eighth frame.

He struck out in the ninth and 10th frames to finish with 228 for a total of 798 to help Towne & Country Lane #1 to a 3,382 score, putting the team in seventh place in the Regular Division.

Holbek was joined in the team effort by Robert Milbrath (750 series), David Gajewski (656), Anthony Buss (630) and Jerry Riemer (548).

Cincinnati's Riding Kenny's Coattails leads Regular Team at the 2023 Open Championships with a 3,578 total.

"In the second frame of Game 3, I left a 10 pin and saw a motion with my ball I hadn't seen before," Holbek said. "I kept making moves and happened to get it a touch fast in the eighth frame, and at that point, I knew I couldn't get to 800.

"But, I also wanted to get as many pins as I could for the team, since we still had a big number going. We worked very well as a team this year, as we normally do, and we're very happy with what we ended up with."

Holbek's 300 was the 10th perfect performance at the 2023 event and fifth overall in team competition. His first 300 at the Open Championships also took place in team during the 2021 event in Las Vegas.

With all of the success Holbek has found at the Open Championships, it was easy to see that his performance hit home on a personal level at the NBS.

"This one meant a lot because my grandpa (Ed "Frito" Wagner) has been gone for 15 years, and he was a mainstay in my bowling game before he passed away," Holbek said. "Today was his 78th birthday. I called my mom and grandma, and it got pretty emotional on the phone. I can't even explain how it feels to do this and just prove the knowledge that he instilled in my brain before he passed away is still here today and he's watching over me. It's an amazing feeling to show him where I'm at now."

#### Illinois bowlers take top spot in Standard Doubles

Damon Horst of Oswego, Illinois, and Ryan Liddell of Palos Hills, Illinois, raised the bar in Standard Doubles at the 2023 USBC Open Championships on June 20, posting a 1,261 combined total.

Horst paced the effort at the National Bowling Stadium, rolling games of 234, 220 and 214 for a 668 series. Liddell added games of 213, 200 and 180 for 593.

David Farmer of Hamlet, North Carolina, and James Fairley of Rockingham, North Carolina, had held the lead in Standard Doubles for more than two months after combining for 1,216 on April 12.

Horst and Liddell posted just the seventh set of 1,200 or higher in Standard Doubles at the 2023 event.

Horst also moved into third place in Standard All-Events with 1,862. He added 641 in singles and 553 in team. Matthew Grunzke of Albert Lea, Minnesota, leads Standard All-Events with 1,926.

Standard Doubles features bowlers with combined entering averages of 311-350.

#### A look ahead

Kyle Krol of Tinley Park, Illinois, and Kyle Damon of Orland Park, Illinois, will put their Regular Doubles title on the line this week at the 2023 USBC Open Championships.

Krol and Damon captured the victory at the 2022 event in Las Vegas with a 1,522 total. Krol led the effort with games of 242, 278 and 267 for a 787 series, and Damon added 276, 191 and 268 for a 735 set. It marked the first win for each at the Open Championships.

Krol and Damon will bowl their team event June 24 at 2 p.m. Pacific. They will bowl doubles and singles June 25 at 6 p.m. Pacific.

2023 USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS National Bowling Stadium Reno, Nev.

(Division leaders with hometown and pinfall)

As of June 20, 2023

#### **REGULAR DIVISION**

#### Team

#### (Combined averages of 876 and above)

1, Riding Kenny's Coattails (Ron Pollard Jr., Jeff Fehr, Kenny Abner, Charles Easton, Bill O'Neill), Cincinnati, 3,578. 2, The Bowling Shops 1, Highland Village, Texas, 3,449. 3, K and J Finishing 1, Carpentersville, Ill., 3,433. 4, Chili Garlic Edamame, Las Vegas, 3,422. 5, Bowlers Headquarters, Muskego, Wis., 3,420.

## **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 351 and above)

1, Christopher Wiley, Bettendorf, Iowa/Nick Kruml, St. Peters, Mo., 1,438. 2, Julian Brown, Jonesboro, Ga./Zack Carter, Des Plaines, Ill., 1,401. 3, Scott Kruppenbacher, Rochester, N.Y./Cassandra Leuthold, Lincoln, Neb., 1,388. 4, Jordan Gray, Columbus, Ind./Kyle Luckett, Indianapolis, 1,364. 5, Perry Crowell IV, St. Clair Shores, Mich./Jeffrey Mastny, Arlington, Neb., 1,362.

## Singles

## (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Nick Kruml, St. Peters, Mo., 795. 2, Kyle Luckett, Indianapolis, 775. 3, Christopher Wiley, Bettendorf, Iowa, 762. 4, Jeremiah Smith, Mandan, N.D., 761. 5, Ryne Greenwood, Kenosha, Wis., 757.

## **All-Events**

## (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Nick Kruml, St. Peters, Mo., 2,242. 2, Derek Eoff, DeForest, Wis., 2,165. 3, Ryne Greenwood, Kenosha, Wis., 2,162. 4, Christopher Wiley, Bettendorf, Iowa, 2,134. 5, Zachary Karr, Fremont, Neb., 2,120.

#### **Team All-Events**

1, K and J Finishing 1 (Ryne Greenwood, Christopher Wiley, Zachary Woelfel, Nick Pate, Nick Kruml), Carpentersville, Ill., 10,394. 2, Riding Kenny's Coattails, Cincinnati, 10,018. 3, Chili Garlic Edamame, Las Vegas, 9,884. 4, High 5 Gear/RCL, Ocala, Fla., 9,734. 5, Bowlers Headquarters, Muskego, Wis., 9,696.

#### STANDARD DIVISION

#### **Team**

## (Combined averages of 776-875)

1, Irvine Team 1 (Erick Podwill, Andrea Fredericks, Dave Ellsworth, Greg Bill, Greg Nardo), Corona, Calif., 3,016. 2, Surgically Repaired, Darien, Ill., 2,977. 3, Mean Girls Bowling, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,967. 4, CA Style Mixed Plate, Hercules, Calif., 2,964. 5, River Rats, Winona, Minn., 2,961.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 311-350)

1, Damon Horst, Oswego, Ill./Ryan Liddell, Palos Hills, Ill., 1,261. 2, James Fairley, Rockingham, N.C./David Farmer, Hamlet, N.C., 1,216. 3, Sal Trevino/Steven Funds, Lakeland, Fla., 1,213. 4, Daisy Spellman, Gresham, Ore./Scott Sepich, Portland, Ore., 1,203. 5(tie), John Mulligan, Clinton Township, Mich./Tim DeMeulenaere, Macomb, Mich., and William Jones, Columbus, Ohio/David Jones, Zanesville, Ohio, 1,201.

#### Singles

#### (Averages of 156-175)

1, Michelle Dabkowski, Lexington, S.C., 715. 2, Matthew Sadler, Groveland, Ill., 709. 3, Pat Gaddie, East Grand Forks, Minn., 682. 4, Cody Cox, Kokomo, Ind., 678. 5(tie), Emmett Farrister Jr., Berwyn, Ill., and Gregory Au, Spokane, Wash., 674.

#### **All-Events**

#### (Averages of 156-175)

1, Matthew Grunzke, Albert Lea, Minn., 1,926. 2, Roscoe Crabtree, Kokomo, Ind., 1,878. 3, Damon Horst, Oswego, Ill., 1,862. 4, Stephen Powell, Effingham, Ill., 1,858. 5, John Kontos, Joliet, Ill., 1,850.

## **CLASSIFIED DIVISION**

#### Team

## (Combined averages of 775 and below)

1, Hull Point Pursuit (Michael Hull, Tim Macias, Ryan Hailey, Chris Hull, John Hull), Kasilof, Alaska, 2,700. 2, Drink N Roll, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,649. 3, Bowlero Fun Center Fostoria, Fostoria, Ohio, 2,601. 4, McHenry Bowl 5, Modesto, Calif., 2,589. 5, Simply Striking, Sunnyvale, Calif., 2,573.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 310 and below)

1, Benny Sangalang, Hayward, Calif./Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,218. 2, Travis Soule, Grover Beach, Calif./Deanne Stote, Pismo Beach, Calif., 1,135. 3, Clayton Monson, Cooperstown, N.D./Garrett Heyerdahl, Hannaford, N.D., 1,125. 4, Joseph Pizzino/Fred Pugh, Salida, Colo., 1,099. 5, Robert Lashin, Hampstead, N.C./Austin Lewis, Wilmington, N.C., 1,089.

## **Singles**

## (Averages of 155 and below)

1, Brenden Davis, Acworth, Ga., 640. 2, Steve Maley, Waverly, Iowa, 615. 3, John Minnick Jr., Yorktown, Va., 614. 4, Danielle Elliott, Noblesville, Ind., 607. 5, Frank Jilek III, Santa Ana, Calif., 604.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 155 and below)

1, Doug Willmann, Olivette, Mo., 1,753. 2, Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,731. 3, Mark Bowen, Salisbury, Md., 1,689. 4, Emilee Hughes, Auburn Hills, Mich., 1,681. 5, Edmond Leggette, Sacramento, Calif., 1,672.

## OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS WEEKLY GLANCE (For June 20 – June 27, 2023)

## **USBC Hall of Famer Bob Goike celebrates 50 consecutive appearances at USBC Open Championships**

It's easy to appreciate and understand the passion Bob Goike of Canton, Michigan, has for the sport of bowling, the United States Bowling Congress Open Championships and his family, and all three have played a major role in helping the USBC Hall of Famer reach another milestone in his incredible career.

Goike, a three-time Eagle winner at the USBC Open Championships, celebrated his 50th consecutive tournament appearance June 21 at the National Bowling Stadium in a moment he was able to share with friends, family and longtime teammate and friend, Mitch Jabczenski of South Lyon, Michigan, who joined him in the 50-Year Club at the 2023 event during the same squad.

"This tournament, to me, has always been the greatest tournament in the world to bowl," Goike said. "You only get one time a year to try, and when we first started, you only got two practice balls in the team event and none in doubles and singles. You are bowling your national championship, and you only get one time every year to bowl.

"In the last 10 years, getting to 50 together has been our goal. Mitch and I were teammates for a long time, and he's been my friend and insurance agent for 45 years. It couldn't have worked out better. Bowling with Mitch has been phenomenal."

He got his start at the 1973 tournament in Syracuse, New York, and his breakthrough performance took place in Reno during the 1984 event. After some struggles the previous year, Goike set the tournament's all-events record to capture his first Eagle with a 2,142 total. The score stood as the top all-events total in the Regular Division until 1989.

He rolled sets of 760 in singles, 710 in doubles and 672 in team.

"As a kid, my dream was to always win an event and have an Eagle, but I never thought I would ever attain that," Goike said. "Then all of a sudden in 1984, it showed up.

"It's funny how the world is. In 1983, I had my worst event to that point. I came in 1984, and I break the record. I didn't even know I was breaking it when it was happening."

Goike had taken the all-events lead in February, and he quickly was reminded while still in Reno about the long wait ahead to see if his score would hold against the field.

"In the older days, they had the board where they put the names at, and they always had someone watching the board in a red coat to make sure nobody played with the names or numbers," Goike said. "I shot this score in February and am still in disbelief. We walk over to look at it, and the guy in the red coat walks over and asks if that's my score. I told him yes. He told me it was a pretty good score, but to wait until the good bowlers get here. I'm sitting there shooting this score in February, and I have to wait until July. As it turned out, nobody really got close. That was the start of a tremendous 20-year run. The things that happened were absolutely phenomenal."

The top-10 finishes started to add up at the Open Championships for Goike, and he quickly saw his name make its way to the top of the tournament's multiple average lists. He became the first competitor at the event to record four sets of 2,000 or higher in all-events.

He posted 27 consecutive games of 200 or higher from 1989-1992 to set another record at the tournament, which was tied in 2012 by five-time champion Matt McNiel and surpassed in 2018 by Professional Bowlers Association Tour champion Jakob Butturff (32 games).

In 1996, he was inducted to the USBC Hall of Fame.

Prior to his induction, Goike earned a spot as the first alternate to Team USA in 1995. His experience with Team USA also allowed him to meet an up-and-coming star in Chris Barnes, which eventually led to one of the greatest runs in the history of the Open Championships.

The members of Lodge Lanes won back-to-back Team All-Events titles in 1997 (10,293) and 1998 (10,421), with Barnes also winning Regular All-Events (2,151) and John Gaines earning the Regular Singles title (814) at the 1998 tournament in Reno.

The team featured Goike and three future USBC Hall of Famers in Barnes, Gaines and Patrick Healey Jr., with 1990 PBA Rookie of the Year Brad Kiszewski helping round out the team.

Although the team had a different look in 1999, they finished as the runner-up in Team All-Events by a single pin, and new addition and future PBA Hall of Famer Tommy Jones captured the Regular All-Events title with a 2,158 total.

"It's pretty funny how life happens," Goike said. "You have a 42-year-old guy meet a 20-something Chris Barnes on Team USA. We got to know each other and were riding the bus one time, and he asked me if I ever thought about putting together a team. I had been with the same group from back home for years, but he asked if we could put a team together. Basically, that's what happened. The first year, we didn't bowl that great in Salt Lake City, and then, we went nuts for two years. Even the next year, when Chris went on tour, we picked up Tommy when he was like 19 years old, and he won all-events that year.

"As I look back, two of my best friends now are Chris and John. Here's a kid from Wichita, a 42-year-old guy from Detroit and a guy who now lives in Florida but used to live in Baltimore. A friendship that you never would have thought of."

Through his continued success on the lanes, Goike also has had great support from his family at home. He and his late wife, Gloria, had four children – Bobby, Michael, Justin and Kristin (Jacobs) – and one of Goike's favorite experiences at the Open Championships was getting to bowl with all of his children at the 2012 event in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

All four of his children, along with Bobby's wife, Nicole, were in Reno to celebrate his 50th tournament.

In his 50th appearance at the Open Championships, Goike had a 1,650 all-events total to bring his career pinfall to 89,827 for a lifetime average of 205.

**Jabczenski makes 50th consecutive appearance at USBC Open Championships** The emotions were high for two-time Eagle winner Mitch Jabczenski as he returned to the USBC Open Championships for his 50th consecutive appearance June 21 at the National Bowling Stadium.

Jabczenski, of South Lyon, Michigan, made his debut at the 1973 event in Syracuse, New York, and he was joined in his ceremonial march down Center Aisle at the Taj Mahal of Tenpins by his wife, Dee, as he was presented with a plaque, chevron and diamond lapel pin to commemorate the achievement.

Moments after his presentation, he was able to watch as his teammate and longtime friend – USBC Hall of Famer Bob Goike of Canton, Michigan – also was recognized for 50 consecutive years at the Open Championships.

"This event has always had a special place in my heart, since you come here to show you are the best of the best each year," Jabczenski said. "It was a very emotional day for me trying to soak it all in. Above all things, I am so glad I was able to share this day

with Bob, since he is my mentor and one of my best friends."

Surrounded by family, friends and longtime teammates like Goike and Fred McClain of Allen Park, Michigan, who made his 51st tournament appearance this week in Reno, Jabczenski was overcome with feelings of joy while reflecting on the past 50 years.

One moment that easily stands out was returning to the same building where he was able to help Lodge Lanes Too of Orlando, Florida, capture the Regular Team title in 2013 with a then-record score of 3,538.

Competing alongside USBC Hall of Famers John Gaines and John Janawicz, Vernon Peterson and Scott Newell, Jabczenski and Lodge Lanes Too were able to break a 20-year-old record at the Open Championships by a single pin (Bruegger's Bagels of Albany, New York, with 3,537 in 1993) on the way to victory.

"Having my 50th year at the Stadium in Reno is really special because of the team Eagle I have here from when we broke the record in 2013," Jabczenski said. "I was blessed to be surrounded by such great bowlers then, and honestly, all throughout my career."

The win in 2013 was the second for Jabczenski. He also was part of the 1987 Team All-Events champion with Murdock Machine No. 1 of Detroit, which consisted of McClain, USBC and PBA Hall of Famer Gene Stus, two-time champion Ed Marzka and Randy Pierce.

Murdock Machine No. 1 put up a score of 9,185 to take home the title in Niagara Falls, New York.

With his 50th appearance in the books, Jabczenski has his eyes set on two more goals looking ahead in his career – the 100,000-Pin Club at the Open Championships and induction to the USBC Hall of Fame.

"Now that I got to 50, I really think I can get to 100,000 pins in the next few years," said Jabczenski, who now sits at 91,743 total pins for a lifetime average of 203.8 through 50 appearances after posting a nine-game total of 1,741 at the 2023 event. "If I can get to that 100,000-pin mark, I am hoping that would be enough to get me into the USBC Hall of Fame. Bob (Goike) is there, as he should be, and I want to be able to join him before my days of bowling are long gone."

**Georgia bowler leads Classified Singles at National Bowling Stadium**Bobby Johnson of Villa Rica, Georgia, was able to find the right look during his singles set June 20 on the way to games of 225, 225 and 207 to take the lead in the Classified Division at the 2023 USBC Open Championships with a 657 series.

Brenden Davis of Acworth, Georgia, had set the pace in Classified Singles on June 6 with a 640 series.

For Johnson, things started to click at the end of doubles. After starting with games of 155 and 146, he fired 245 to start his momentum toward his run in singles, finishing with a 546 series.

"My last game of doubles is when I figured something out," said Johnson, who made his fourth Open Championships appearance. "I shot 245 and was able to continue for the next couple of games."

The 42-year-old left-hander was able to put together four consecutive strikes in Game 1 and a stretch of six strikes in seven frames in Game 2 to get in position to take the lead in Game 3.

He stayed clean through his first seven frames and rolled back-to-back strikes in the eighth and ninth frames. Needing a mark in the 10th for a chance at the lead, he rolled his third consecutive strike and followed with eight pins on his next shot to move to the top of the leaderboard.

"I'm feeling great," Johnson said. "I bowled great and finally figured something out here. It would be awesome seeing my name up on those banners next year when I come to Vegas, so I just hope it continues to hold up."

The Classified Division features bowlers with entering averages of 155 and below.

#### A look ahead

Woody Jones of North Chesterfield, Virginia, will become the next member of the 50-Year Club at the USBC Open Championships on July 3 at 2 p.m. Pacific.

Jones, 74, made his tournament debut at the 1967 event in Miami, and he's knocked over 79,705 pins through his first 49 appearances for a lifetime average of 181.9.

2023 USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS National Bowling Stadium Reno, Nev.

(Division leaders with hometown and pinfall)

As of June 27, 2023

#### **REGULAR DIVISION**

#### **Team**

## (Combined averages of 876 and above)

1, Riding Kenny's Coattails (Ron Pollard Jr., Jeff Fehr, Kenny Abner, Charles Easton, Bill O'Neill), Cincinnati, 3,578. 2, The Bowling Shops 1, Highland Village, Texas, 3,449. 3, K and J Finishing 1, Carpentersville, Ill., 3,433. 4, Chili Garlic Edamame, Las Vegas, 3,422. 5, Bowlers Headquarters, Muskego, Wis., 3,420.

## **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 351 and above)

1, Christopher Wiley, Bettendorf, Iowa/Nick Kruml, St. Peters, Mo., 1,438. 2, Julian

Brown, Jonesboro, Ga./Zack Carter, Des Plaines, Ill., 1,401. 3, Scott Kruppenbacher, Rochester, N.Y./Cassandra Leuthold, Lincoln, Neb., 1,388. 4, Alex Aguiar, Dartmouth, Mass./Kristopher Prather, Plainfield, Ill., 1,366. 5, Jordan Gray, Columbus, Ind./Kyle Luckett, Indianapolis, 1,364.

## **Singles**

## (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Nick Kruml, St. Peters, Mo., 795. 2, Kyle Luckett, Indianapolis, 775. 3, Christopher Wiley, Bettendorf, Iowa, 762. 4, Jeremiah Smith, Mandan, N.D., 761. 5, Packy Hanrahan, Wichita, Kan., 759.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Nick Kruml, St. Peters, Mo., 2,242. 2, Derek Eoff, DeForest, Wis., 2,165. 3, Ryne Greenwood, Kenosha, Wis., 2,162. 4, Christopher Wiley, Bettendorf, Iowa, 2,134. 5, Zachary Karr, Fremont, Neb., 2,120.

#### **Team All-Events**

1, K and J Finishing 1 (Ryne Greenwood, Christopher Wiley, Zachary Woelfel, Nick Pate, Nick Kruml), Carpentersville, Ill., 10,394. 2, Riding Kenny's Coattails, Cincinnati, 10,018. 3, Chili Garlic Edamame, Las Vegas, 9,884. 4, High 5 Gear/RCL, Ocala, Fla., 9,734. 5, Bowlers Headquarters, Muskego, Wis., 9,696.

#### STANDARD DIVISION

#### Team

## (Combined averages of 776-875)

1, Irvine Team 1 (Erick Podwill, Andrea Fredericks, Dave Ellsworth, Greg Bill, Greg Nardo), Corona, Calif., 3,016. 2, Surgically Repaired, Darien, Ill., 2,977. 3, Mean Girls Bowling, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,967. 4, CA Style Mixed Plate, Hercules, Calif., 2,964. 5, River Rats, Winona, Minn., 2,961.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 311-350)

1, Damon Horst, Oswego, Ill./Ryan Liddell, Palos Hills, Ill., 1,261. 2, James Fairley, Rockingham, N.C./David Farmer, Hamlet, N.C., 1,216. 3, Sal Trevino/Steven Funds, Lakeland, Fla., 1,213. 4, Daisy Spellman, Gresham, Ore./Scott Sepich, Portland, Ore., 1,203. 5(tie), John Mulligan, Clinton Township, Mich./Tim DeMeulenaere, Macomb, Mich., and William Jones, Columbus, Ohio/David Jones, Zanesville, Ohio, 1,201.

## Singles

## (Averages of 156-175)

1, Michelle Dabkowski, Lexington, S.C., 715. 2, Matthew Sadler, Groveland, Ill., 709. 3, Pat Gaddie, East Grand Forks, Minn., 682. 4, Cody Cox, Kokomo, Ind., 678. 5(tie), Emmett Farrister Jr., Berwyn, Ill., and Gregory Au, Spokane, Wash., 674.

## **All-Events**

## (Averages of 156-175)

1, Matthew Grunzke, Albert Lea, Minn., 1,926. 2, Roscoe Crabtree, Kokomo, Ind., 1,878. 3, Damon Horst, Oswego, Ill., 1,862. 4, Stephen Powell, Effingham, Ill., 1,858.

5, Edward Sutherland, Maple Park, Ill., 1,857.

#### **CLASSIFIED DIVISION**

#### Team

## (Combined averages of 775 and below)

1, Hull Point Pursuit (Michael Hull, Tim Macias, Ryan Hailey, Chris Hull, John Hull), Kasilof, Alaska, 2,700. 2, Drink N Roll, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,649. 3, Bowlero Fun Center Fostoria, Fostoria, Ohio, 2,601. 4, McHenry Bowl 5, Modesto, Calif., 2,589. 5, Simply Striking, Sunnyvale, Calif., 2,573.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 310 and below)

1, Benny Sangalang, Hayward, Calif./Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,218. 2, Travis Soule, Grover Beach, Calif./Deanne Stote, Pismo Beach, Calif., 1,135. 3, Rick Wiser/Teresa Wiser, Umatilla, Ore., 1,126. 4, Clayton Monson, Cooperstown, N.D./Garrett Heyerdahl, Hannaford, N.D., 1,125. 5, Joseph Pizzino/Fred Pugh, Salida, Colo., 1,099.

## **Singles**

## (Averages of 155 and below)

1, Bobby Johnson, Villa Rica, Ga., 657. 2, Brenden Davis, Acworth, Ga., 640. 3, Steven Alberts, Apple Valley, Calif., 633. 4, Tommy Huynh, Portland, Ore., 624. 5, Steve Maley, Waverly, Iowa, 615.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 155 and below)

1, Doug Willmann, Olivette, Mo., 1,753. 2, Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,731. 3, Mark Bowen, Salisbury, Md., 1,689. 4(tie), Rick Wiser, Umatilla, Ore., and Tommy Huynh, Portland, Ore., 1,682.

## OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS WEEKLY GLANCE (For June 27 – July 4, 2023)

## Illinois bowler rolls 300 game at 2023 USBC Open Championships

Marvin Dobkins of Hoopeston, Illinois, may have not picked up a bowling ball for a little bit prior to his appearance this year at the United States Bowling Congress Open Championships, but it didn't stop him from putting together a special performance during the 2023 event.

The 58-year-old right-hander took advantage of his 10 minutes of warmup prior to the start of his team event June 27 at the National Bowling Stadium and proceeded to roll 12 strikes in Game 1 for a 300 game.

Dobkins' 300 was the 11th of the 2023 event and sixth in team competition at the Taj Mahal of Tenpins.

"We finished our leagues at the end of April," said Dobkins, who added games of 153 and 150 following his 300 for a 603 series. "I haven't picked up a bowling ball since, so I came in cold. The 10 minutes of warmup before was it. The adrenaline from rolling 300 after the first game was probably why the next two games weren't the best, but I'm glad I did it."

Although he benefited from a few Brooklyn strikes early on, Dobkins was locked in by the time he stepped up for his final frame.

The nerves may have been mounting as he tried for the second 300 game of his career, but he looked calm and collected after delivering his first two strikes of the 10th frame. He got to the pocket again for a light hit on his 12th shot, and the 7 pin was the last to fall.

"I was comfortable going in, but the first three were on the Brooklyn side," said Dobkins, who rolled his first 300 in 2017 at Hoopeston's Fast Lanes. "I found my line and went from there. There was definitely a lot of pressure. I could feel it a little bit when I started the 10th, and by the last shot, I could really feel it. I liked the way the last ball hit but wasn't sure if it was going to carry. I was glad it did."

Dobkins added sets of 527 in doubles and 513 in singles for an all-events total of 1,643 in the Standard Division. The Standard Division features bowlers with entering averages of 156-175.

## Virginia bowler joins 50-Year Club at USBC Open Championships

Woody Jones of North Chesterfield, Virginia, made his 50th appearance at the USBC Open Championships on July 3 and received a plaque, chevron and diamond lapel pin to recognize his dedication to the tournament.

The 74-year-old made his tournament debut at the 1967 event in Miami, and he had knocked over 79,705 pins through his first 49 appearances for a career average of 181.9.

#### Three changes in the top five at the National Bowling Stadium

There were no lead changes this week at the 2023 USBC Open Championships, but three events saw new names move into second place.

On June 30, Robert Quintero Jr. of Aurora, Illinois, took over second in Standard Singles with a 712 series. He rolled games of 278, 211 and 223.

Michelle Dabkowski of Lexington, South Carolina, leads Standard Singles with 715.

On July 1, the father-and-son pair of Frank and Austin McCauley of Eagle Mountain, Utah, used a big final game to move into second in Standard Doubles with a 1,241 total.

Austin McCauley led the way at the NBS with games of 204, 158 and 267 for a 629 series, and Frank McCauley had 142, 224 and 246 for a 612 set.

Damon Horst of Oswego, Illinois, and Ryan Liddell of Palos Hills, Illinois, hold the lead in Standard Doubles with 1,261.

Competing on the same pair as the McCauleys, Jason Ashcroft of West Jordan, Utah, was able to take second in Classified All-Events with 1,738. Doug Willmann of Olivette, Missouri, leads with 1,753.

Ashcroft had 662 in doubles, 570 in team and 506 in singles to earn his spot on the leaderboard.

#### A look ahead

Alex George of Wichita, Kansas, will put his title on the line in Regular Singles this week at the 2023 USBC Open Championships.

George fired games of 290, 279 and 279 for an 848 series to capture the victory last year at the South Point Bowling Plaza in Las Vegas. It marked his first win at the Open Championships.

The score sits as the sixth highest set in tournament history and fourth overall on the list in singles competition.

George will be on the lanes at the National Bowling Stadium for his team event July 6 at 9:30 p.m. Pacific and doubles and singles July 7 at 9:30 p.m. Pacific.

2023 USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS National Bowling Stadium Reno, Nev.

(Division leaders with hometown and pinfall)

As of July 4, 2023

#### **REGULAR DIVISION**

#### Team

## (Combined averages of 876 and above)

1, Riding Kenny's Coattails (Ron Pollard Jr., Jeff Fehr, Kenny Abner, Charles Easton, Bill O'Neill), Cincinnati, 3,578. 2, The Bowling Shops 1, Highland Village, Texas, 3,449. 3, K and J Finishing 1, Carpentersville, Ill., 3,433. 4, Chili Garlic Edamame, Las Vegas, 3,422. 5, Bowlers Headquarters, Muskego, Wis., 3,420.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 351 and above)

1, Christopher Wiley, Bettendorf, Iowa/Nick Kruml, St. Peters, Mo., 1,438. 2, Julian

Brown, Jonesboro, Ga./Zack Carter, Des Plaines, Ill., 1,401. 3, Scott Kruppenbacher, Rochester, N.Y./Cassandra Leuthold, Lincoln, Neb., 1,388. 4, Alex Aguiar, Dartmouth, Mass./Kristopher Prather, Plainfield, Ill., 1,366. 5, Jordan Gray, Columbus, Ind./Kyle Luckett, Indianapolis, 1,364.

## **Singles**

## (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Nick Kruml, St. Peters, Mo., 795. 2, Kyle Luckett, Indianapolis, 775. 3, Christopher Wiley, Bettendorf, Iowa, 762. 4, Jeremiah Smith, Mandan, N.D., 761. 5, Packy Hanrahan, Wichita, Kan., 759.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Nick Kruml, St. Peters, Mo., 2,242. 2, Derek Eoff, DeForest, Wis., 2,165. 3, Ryne Greenwood, Kenosha, Wis., 2,162. 4, Christopher Wiley, Bettendorf, Iowa, 2,134. 5, Zachary Karr, Fremont, Neb., 2,120.

## **Team All-Events**

1, K and J Finishing 1 (Ryne Greenwood, Christopher Wiley, Zachary Woelfel, Nick Pate, Nick Kruml), Carpentersville, Ill., 10,394. 2, Riding Kenny's Coattails, Cincinnati, 10,018. 3, Chili Garlic Edamame, Las Vegas, 9,884. 4, High 5 Gear/RCL, Ocala, Fla., 9,734. 5, Bowlers Headquarters, Muskego, Wis., 9,696.

#### STANDARD DIVISION

#### Team

## (Combined averages of 776-875)

1, Irvine Team 1 (Erick Podwill, Andrea Fredericks, Dave Ellsworth, Greg Bill, Greg Nardo), Corona, Calif., 3,016. 2, Surgically Repaired, Darien, Ill., 2,977. 3, Mean Girls Bowling, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,967. 4, CA Style Mixed Plate, Hercules, Calif., 2,964. 5, River Rats, Winona, Minn., 2,961.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 311-350)

1, Damon Horst, Oswego, Ill./Ryan Liddell, Palos Hills, Ill., 1,261. 2, Frank McCauley/Austin McCauley, Eagle Mountain, Utah, 1,241. 3, James Fairley, Rockingham, N.C./David Farmer, Hamlet, N.C., 1,216. 4, Sal Trevino/Steven Funds, Lakeland, Fla., 1,213. 5, Daisy Spellman, Gresham, Ore./Scott Sepich, Portland, Ore., 1,203.

## Singles

## (Averages of 156-175)

1, Michelle Dabkowski, Lexington, S.C., 715. 2, Robert Quintero Jr., Aurora, Ill., 712. 3, Matthew Sadler, Groveland, Ill., 709. 4, Pat Gaddie, East Grand Forks, Minn., 682. 5, Cody Cox, Kokomo, Ind., 678.

## **All-Events**

## (Averages of 156-175)

1, Matthew Grunzke, Albert Lea, Minn., 1,926. 2, Roscoe Crabtree, Kokomo, Ind., 1,878. 3, Damon Horst, Oswego, Ill., 1,862. 4, Stephen Powell, Effingham, Ill., 1,858.

5, Edward Sutherland, Maple Park, Ill., 1,857.

#### **CLASSIFIED DIVISION**

#### Team

## (Combined averages of 775 and below)

1, Hull Point Pursuit (Michael Hull, Tim Macias, Ryan Hailey, Chris Hull, John Hull), Kasilof, Alaska, 2,700. 2, Drink N Roll, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,649. 3, Bowlero Fun Center Fostoria, Fostoria, Ohio, 2,601. 4, McHenry Bowl 5, Modesto, Calif., 2,589. 5, Simply Striking, Sunnyvale, Calif., 2,573.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 310 and below)

1, Benny Sangalang, Hayward, Calif./Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,218. 2, Travis Soule, Grover Beach, Calif./Deanne Stote, Pismo Beach, Calif., 1,135. 3, Rick Wiser/Teresa Wiser, Umatilla, Ore., 1,126. 4, Clayton Monson, Cooperstown, N.D./Garrett Heyerdahl, Hannaford, N.D., 1,125. 5, Joseph Pizzino/Fred Pugh, Salida, Colo., 1,099.

#### Singles

## (Averages of 155 and below)

1, Bobby Johnson, Villa Rica, Ga., 657. 2, Brenden Davis, Acworth, Ga., 640. 3, Steven Alberts, Apple Valley, Calif., 633. 4, Tommy Huynh, Portland, Ore., 624. 5, Steve Maley, Waverly, Iowa, 615.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 155 and below)

1, Doug Willmann, Olivette, Mo., 1,753. 2, Jason Ashcroft, West Jordan, Utah, 1,738. 3, Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,731. 4, Mark Bowen, Salisbury, Md., 1,689. 5(tie), Rick Wiser, Umatilla, Ore., and Tommy Huynh, Portland, Ore., 1,682.

## OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS WEEKLY GLANCE (For July 4 – July 11, 2023)

**Simard posts 813 to take singles lead at 2023 USBC Open Championships**David Simard of Granby, Quebec, Canada, rolled the first 800 series on the doubles and singles oil pattern at the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Open Championships on July 6 to take the lead in Regular Singles with 813.

The 41-year-old right-hander fired games of 290, 257 and 266 at the National Bowling Stadium, and his overall effort also helped him into second place in Regular All-Events with a 2,216 total.

Simard started his run in singles after tossing 299 to finish his doubles set for a 723 series, and he added 680 in his team event.

In his final four games, he knocked down 1,112 pins for a 278 average. Simard had a

stretch from Game 3 of doubles through the fifth frame of Game 2 in singles that featured 27 strikes on 29 deliveries.

Nick Kruml of St. Peters, Missouri, previously led Regular Singles with 795 and tops Regular All-Events with 2,242.

After starting doubles with 224 and 200, a ball change and jump to the left helped Simard to see the right shape and start stringing strikes together at the NBS.

"We had a game plan at the beginning, and we broke them down pretty well," said Simard, who made his seventh appearance at the USBC Open Championships. "I made the right move in the third game. I switched balls and shot 299. I tried it on my fill ball in the second game and made the switch.

"I made a big move but kept the same break point – I tricked my hand a bit. I tried to keep my speed slower and let the ball shape. I kept moving left after that."

The big finish in doubles also helped Simard and Quebec's Henrik Tremblay into the top 10 in Regular Doubles with 1,351. After a slow start in Game 1 with 144, Tremblay turned it around to finish with 240 and 244 for a 628 series to help the pair into ninth place.

Kruml and Christopher Wiley of Bettendorf, Iowa, lead Regular Doubles with 1,438.

After making the turn in singles at 547, Simard started his final game with seven strikes. He left and converted a 10 pin the eighth frame, and a strike in his ninth meant any type of mark in his final frame would push him into the lead.

He delivered another strike to start his 10th frame and finished with a seven count and spare to cap the third overall 800 series of the 2023 Open Championships.

Christopher Tuholski of Battle Ground, Washington, and Mykel Holliman of Denham Springs, Louisiana, each had an 800 series during team competition this year. Tuholski had an 804 set, and Holliman had 813.

Simard knew everything was coming together for a big number as he made his way down the stretch, but he didn't know the exact number he was chasing.

Now, he will see if the number remains at the top of the leaderboard for his first win at the Open Championships.

"Honestly, I hadn't checked the scores since the beginning of the tournament," said Simard, who has been a member of the Canadian national team 10 times in his career and helped Canada claim the bronze medal in team at the 2018 International Bowling Federation World Championships in Hong Kong. "I come here to have fun with my friends, and we try to do our best every time. I knew it was a good score for maybe a top-five finish, but I didn't know I was the leader until I was finished.

"Maybe I'll check the scores more now, but my score is on the board, so they have to catch it. We'll see what happens. It would be amazing to win. An Eagle here means a

## Two 300s rolled at National Bowling Stadium

Two bowlers achieved perfection this week at the 2023 USBC Open Championships, bringing the total at the National Bowling Stadium to 13 for the year.

Michael Martell of Brooklyn, New York, recorded his second 300 at the Open Championships on July 4 during his final game of singles. The 25-year-old left-hander also rolled a 300 during team competition at the 2021 event in Las Vegas, and he's now one of 39 bowlers to own multiple perfect games at the tournament.

Martell, who finished as the runner-up at the USBC Masters in April, had started his singles set with games of 199 and 142 before regrouping for his final game to finish with a 641 series. He added 705 in doubles and 634 in team for a 1,980 all-events total in his third Open Championships appearance.

Aaron Ruiz of Nashville, Tennessee, posted his 300 game in the middle of his team event July 7 on the way to a 789 series to help Dude, Where's My Shoes? of Muskegon, Michigan, to seventh place in Regular Team with a 3,391 total.

The 26-year-old right-hander started his set with 232 and closed with 257. He added 712 in singles and 599 in doubles to also take over 10th place in Regular All-Events with 2,100.

The team performance featured games of 1,112, 1,181 and 1,098, and Ruiz was joined at the NBS by Mike Dole (719 series), Gregory Young (673), Kamron Doyle (635) and Riley Smith (575).

The group also moved into fourth place in Team All-Events with 9,745. Ruiz's 2,100 was followed by Young (1,960), Dole (1,935), Doyle (1,922) and Smith (1,828).

**Missouri bowler joins father in 50-Year Club at USBC Open Championships** Steve Wiemer of Springfield, Missouri, celebrated his 50th consecutive appearance at the USBC Open Championships on July 8 at the National Bowling Stadium.

The 66-year-old joined his father as a member of the 50-Year Club at the tournament. Roger Wiemer made 51 Open Championships appearances. Steve Wiemer's brother, Randy Wiemer, also made his 48th consecutive tournament appearance this week in Reno.

Steve Wiemer had sets of 594 in doubles, 538 in singles and 534 in team for his 50th appearance, finishing with a 1,666 all-events total. He now has toppled 86,695 pins in his career at the Open Championships for an average of 192.6.

He made headlines at the 2022 Open Championships in Las Vegas, rolling a 300 game during his doubles set at the South Point Bowling Plaza.

#### A look ahead

David Hurtt of Lafayette, Indiana, is scheduled to make his 50th consecutive appearance at the USBC Open Championships this week.

The 73-year-old made his tournament debut at the 1973 event in Syracuse, New York, and he's knocked over 88,819 pins over his first 49 appearances for a lifetime average of 201.4.

At the 2002 Open Championships in Billings, Montana, Hurtt helped Lafayette's Bruno's Pizza capture the Regular Team title with a 3,473 total. He posted a 711 series in the winning performance.

Hurtt is scheduled to bowl his team event July 12 at 2 p.m. Pacific.

2023 USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS National Bowling Stadium Reno, Nev.

(Division leaders with hometown and pinfall)

As of July 11, 2023

#### **REGULAR DIVISION**

#### **Team**

## (Combined averages of 876 and above)

1, Riding Kenny's Coattails (Ron Pollard Jr., Jeff Fehr, Kenny Abner, Charles Easton, Bill O'Neill), Cincinnati, 3,578. 2, The Bowling Shops 1, Highland Village, Texas, 3,449. 3, K and J Finishing 1, Carpentersville, Ill., 3,433. 4, Chili Garlic Edamame, Las Vegas, 3,422. 5, Bowlers Headquarters, Muskego, Wis., 3,420.

#### **Doubles**

#### (Combined averages of 351 and above)

1, Christopher Wiley, Bettendorf, Iowa/Nick Kruml, St. Peters, Mo., 1,438. 2, Julian Brown, Jonesboro, Ga./Zack Carter, Des Plaines, Ill., 1,401. 3, Scott Kruppenbacher, Rochester, N.Y./Cassandra Leuthold, Lincoln, Neb., 1,388. 4, Alex Aguiar, Dartmouth, Mass./Kristopher Prather, Plainfield, Ill., 1,366. 5, Jordan Gray, Columbus, Ind./Kyle Luckett, Indianapolis, 1,364.

#### Singles

## (Averages of 176 and above)

1, David Simard, Granby, Quebec, Canada, 813. 2, Nick Kruml, St. Peters, Mo., 795. 3, Kyle Luckett, Indianapolis, 775. 4, Gary Faulkner Jr., Memphis, Tenn., 764. 5, Christopher Wiley, Bettendorf, Iowa, 762.

## **All-Events**

#### (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Nick Kruml, St. Peters, Mo., 2,242. 2, David Simard, Granby, Quebec, Canada, 2,216. 3, Derek Eoff, DeForest, Wis., 2,165. 4, Ryne Greenwood, Kenosha, Wis., 2,162.

5, Christopher Wiley, Bettendorf, Iowa, 2,134.

## **Team All-Events**

1, K and J Finishing 1 (Ryne Greenwood, Christopher Wiley, Zachary Woelfel, Nick Pate, Nick Kruml), Carpentersville, Ill., 10,394. 2, Riding Kenny's Coattails, Cincinnati, 10,018. 3, Chili Garlic Edamame, Las Vegas, 9,884. 4, Dude, Where's My Shoes?, Muskegon, Mich., 9,745. 5, High 5 Gear/RCL, Ocala, Fla., 9,734.

#### STANDARD DIVISION

#### Team

## (Combined averages of 776-875)

1, Irvine Team 1 (Erick Podwill, Andrea Fredericks, Dave Ellsworth, Greg Bill, Greg Nardo), Corona, Calif., 3,016. 2, Surgically Repaired, Darien, Ill., 2,977. 3, Mean Girls Bowling, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,967. 4, CA Style Mixed Plate, Hercules, Calif., 2,964. 5, River Rats, Winona, Minn., 2,961.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 311-350)

1, Damon Horst, Oswego, Ill./Ryan Liddell, Palos Hills, Ill., 1,261. 2, Frank McCauley/Austin McCauley, Eagle Mountain, Utah, 1,241. 3, Bryan Melton, Springdale, Ark./David Ruiz, Los Angeles, 1,229. 4, James Fairley, Rockingham, N.C./David Farmer, Hamlet, N.C., 1,216. 5, Sal Trevino/Steven Funds, Lakeland, Fla., 1,213.

## **Singles**

## (Averages of 156-175)

1, Michelle Dabkowski, Lexington, S.C., 715. 2, Robert Quintero Jr., Aurora, Ill., 712. 3, Matthew Sadler, Groveland, Ill., 709. 4, Pat Gaddie, East Grand Forks, Minn., 682. 5, Cody Cox, Kokomo, Ind., 678.

#### **All-Events**

#### (Averages of 156-175)

1, Matthew Grunzke, Albert Lea, Minn., 1,926. 2, Roscoe Crabtree, Kokomo, Ind., 1,878. 3, Damon Horst, Oswego, Ill., 1,862. 4, Stephen Powell, Effingham, Ill., 1,858. 5, Edward Sutherland, Maple Park, Ill., 1,857.

#### **CLASSIFIED DIVISION**

#### Team

## (Combined averages of 775 and below)

1, Hull Point Pursuit (Michael Hull, Tim Macias, Ryan Hailey, Chris Hull, John Hull), Kasilof, Alaska, 2,700. 2, Drink N Roll, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,649. 3, Bowlero Fun Center Fostoria, Fostoria, Ohio, 2,601. 4, McHenry Bowl 5, Modesto, Calif., 2,589. 5, Simply Striking, Sunnyvale, Calif., 2,573.

## **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 310 and below)

1, Benny Sangalang, Hayward, Calif./Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,218. 2, Travis Soule, Grover Beach, Calif./Deanne Stote, Pismo Beach, Calif., 1,135. 3, Rick Wiser/Teresa Wiser, Umatilla, Ore., 1,126. 4, Clayton Monson, Cooperstown,

N.D./Garrett Heyerdahl, Hannaford, N.D., 1,125. 5, Joseph Pizzino/Fred Pugh, Salida, Colo., 1,099.

## **Singles**

## (Averages of 155 and below)

1, Bobby Johnson, Villa Rica, Ga., 657. 2, Brenden Davis, Acworth, Ga., 640. 3, Steven Alberts, Apple Valley, Calif., 633. 4, Tommy Huynh, Portland, Ore., 624. 5, Steve Maley, Waverly, Iowa, 615.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 155 and below)

1, Doug Willmann, Olivette, Mo., 1,753. 2, Jason Ashcroft, West Jordan, Utah, 1,738. 3, Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,731. 4, Mark Bowen, Salisbury, Md., 1,689. 5(tie), Rick Wiser, Umatilla, Ore., and Tommy Huynh, Portland, Ore., 1,682.

## OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS WEEKLY GLANCE (For July 12 – July 18, 2023)

## Eagle winner celebrates 50 consecutive appearances at USBC Open Championships

David Hurtt of Lafayette, Indiana, made his 50th consecutive appearance at the United States Bowling Congress Open Championships on July 12, becoming the 19th competitor to reach the milestone at the 2023 event.

The 73-year-old had his day in the spotlight with a ceremonial march down Center Aisle at the National Bowling Stadium, where he received a plaque, chevron and diamond lapel pin to commemorate the achievement.

"I was a little intimidated coming down that aisle and was overcome with nerves, and my first game shows it," said Hurtt, who was part of Team USA in 1996. "Walking out today, I started to reminisce on the first year I bowled this event, and it just never gets old. I think for everyone, whether it is your first year or 50th year, the march out for nationals will always get your blood pumping."

Hurtt made his debut at the USBC Open Championships during the 1973 event in Syracuse, New York, and he's primarily bowled with the same group of talented competitors.

At the 2002 event in Billings, Montana, Hurtt and his Bruno's Pizza teammates – Michael McCormick, Terry Clayton, Gary Ness and Steve Hartman – captured the Regular Team title with a score of 3,473.

The members of Bruno's Pizza have bowled all but one year together since their victory in Billings, and it is one of Hurtt's favorite things about bowling the Open

## Championships.

"Not many folks can say they've bowled with their original winning team for this long," said Hurtt, a member of the Indiana State USBC Hall of Fame. "While it's getting harder and harder to do so as we get older, it is still something we all look forward to each year."

With his 50th Open Championships in the books, Hurtt has his eyes set on joining the 100,000-Pin Club at the tournament and getting to 55 appearances as well.

He was able to close out his trip to Reno with a 557 series in singles, 547 in team and 543 in doubles for an all-events total of 1,647. He now has a career pinfall total of 90,466 for a lifetime average of 201 at the event.

"What I really want to do is get my name up on that banner for 100,000 pins," Hurtt said. "That is a list of legends I would be honored to join, and I believe I have enough in the tank to reach that number here soon in the next few years."

## Multiple changes in top five at National Bowling Stadium

Several bowlers made their charge at the top of the leaderboard over the last week at the 2023 USBC Open Championships.

In Regular Doubles, Detroit's Carleton Chambers and Justin Sims of Ventura, California, took over fourth place with a 1,378 total.

Chambers led the way with games of 245, 246 and 268 for a 759 series at the National Bowling Stadium, while Sims had 204, 215 and 200 for 619.

Warren Crawford of McKinleyville, California, moved into fifth place in Regular All-Events with a 2,147 total. Crawford, who had a 300 game at the 2013 Open Championships, had sets of 755 in singles, 706 in doubles and 686 in team.

The 755 series also helped Crawford into 10th place in Regular Singles.

In the Standard Division, the husband-and-wife team of Mark Hill Jr. and Schrie Hill of Eagle River, Alaska, posted a combined score of 1,228 to take over fourth place in Standard Doubles.

Mark Hill Jr. had games of 207, 190 and 247 for a 644 series, and Schrie Hill rolled 271, 157 and 156 for 584.

Jackie Capra of Kingwood, Texas, improved each game in singles on the way to fifth place in the Classified Division with a 618 series. She posted games of 176, 209 and 233 to move into the top five.

Sets of 614 in singles, 580 in team and 528 in doubles helped Las Vegas' Gary Nishikawa to fourth place in Classified All-Events with 1,722. Nishikawa's performance in singles also helped him tie for seventh in the division.

## A look ahead

The 2023 USBC Open Championships will conclude July 24 after 143 consecutive days of competition.

The 2023 event started March 4, marking the tournament's 14th visit to Reno and 11th trip to the National Bowling Stadium.

The final day will feature three squads of doubles and singles competition. The squad times will be at 7 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Pacific.

2023 USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS National Bowling Stadium Reno, Nev.

(Division leaders with hometown and pinfall)

As of July 18, 2023

#### **REGULAR DIVISION**

#### Team

## (Combined averages of 876 and above)

1, Riding Kenny's Coattails (Ron Pollard Jr., Jeff Fehr, Kenny Abner, Charles Easton, Bill O'Neill), Cincinnati, 3,578. 2, The Bowling Shops 1, Highland Village, Texas, 3,449. 3, K and J Finishing 1, Carpentersville, Ill., 3,433. 4, Chili Garlic Edamame, Las Vegas, 3,422. 5, Bowlers Headquarters, Muskego, Wis., 3,420.

#### **Doubles**

#### (Combined averages of 351 and above)

1, Christopher Wiley, Bettendorf, Iowa/Nick Kruml, St. Peters, Mo., 1,438. 2, Julian Brown, Jonesboro, Ga./Zack Carter, Des Plaines, Ill., 1,401. 3, Scott Kruppenbacher, Rochester, N.Y./Cassandra Leuthold, Lincoln, Neb., 1,388. 4, Carleton Chambers, Detroit/Justin Sims, Ventura, Calif., 1,378. 5, Alex Aguiar, Dartmouth, Mass./Kristopher Prather, Plainfield, Ill., 1,366.

## **Singles**

#### (Averages of 176 and above)

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#### **All-Events**

#### (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Nick Kruml, St. Peters, Mo., 2,242. 2, David Simard, Granby, Quebec, Canada, 2,216. 3, Derek Eoff, DeForest, Wis., 2,165. 4, Ryne Greenwood, Kenosha, Wis., 2,162. 5, Warren Crawford, McKinleyville, Calif., 2,147.

#### **Team All-Events**

1, K and J Finishing 1 (Ryne Greenwood, Christopher Wiley, Zachary Woelfel, Nick Pate,

Nick Kruml), Carpentersville, Ill., 10,394. 2, Riding Kenny's Coattails, Cincinnati, 10,018. 3, Chili Garlic Edamame, Las Vegas, 9,884. 4, Dude, Where's My Shoes?, Muskegon, Mich., 9,745. 5, High 5 Gear/RCL, Ocala, Fla., 9,734.

#### STANDARD DIVISION

#### Team

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#### Singles

## (Averages of 156-175)

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## **All-Events**

## (Averages of 156-175)

1, Matthew Grunzke, Albert Lea, Minn., 1,926. 2, Roscoe Crabtree, Kokomo, Ind., 1,878. 3, Damon Horst, Oswego, Ill., 1,862. 4, Stephen Powell, Effingham, Ill., 1,858. 5, Edward Sutherland, Maple Park, Ill., 1,857.

#### **CLASSIFIED DIVISION**

## **Team**

## (Combined averages of 775 and below)

1, Hull Point Pursuit (Michael Hull, Tim Macias, Ryan Hailey, Chris Hull, John Hull), Kasilof, Alaska, 2,700. 2, Drink N Roll, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,649. 3, Bowlero Fun Center Fostoria, Fostoria, Ohio, 2,601. 4, McHenry Bowl 5, Modesto, Calif., 2,589. 5, Simply Striking, Sunnyvale, Calif., 2,573.

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#### **All-Events**

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1, Doug Willmann, Olivette, Mo., 1,753. 2, Jason Ashcroft, West Jordan, Utah, 1,738. 3, Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,731. 4, Gary Nishikawa, Las Vegas, 1,722. 5, Mark Bowen, Salisbury, Md., 1,689.

#### 2023USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS COMES TO CLOSE IN RENO

**RENO, Nev.** – The 2023 United States Bowling Congress Open Championships concluded its 143-day run at the National Bowling Stadium on July 24, with 9,565 five-player teams and more than 47,000 bowlers taking part in the 119th edition of the event.

The 2023 tournament kicked off March 4, marking the event's 14th trip to Reno and 11th visit to the NBS.

Bowlers competed in team, doubles and singles across nine games, which also determined each individual's all-events total. The tournament featured three average-based divisions (Regular, Standard and Classified), and the top score in each discipline will earn the coveted Eagle trophy awarded to the champion.

The top overall team across 45 games (all five players' combined scores for team, doubles and singles) also will be named the Team All-Events champion.

All scores from the 2023 USBC Open Championships are unofficial and pending verification.

Nick Kruml of St. Peters, Missouri, put himself in position to claim a pair of Eagles with an incredible run during his ninth tournament appearance June 2-3.

The 29-year-old right-hander finished the 2023 event with the lead in Regular All-Events at 2,242 and Team All-Events as part of K and J Finishing 1 of Carpentersville, Illinois, with 10,394.

Kruml also finished the 2023 event in second place in Regular Singles (795) and Regular Doubles with Christopher Wiley of Bettendorf, Iowa (1,438), and he helped K and J Finishing 1 to third place in Regular Team (3,433).

K and J Finishing 1 featured Kruml, Wiley, Ryne Greenwood, Zachary Woelfel and Team USA's Nick Pate. All five players entered the 2023 event in search of their first win at the Open Championships after a runner-up finish in Team All-Events in 2021.

"The runner-up finish was the moment where we knew we could do it, but we wish we had 40 more pins," Kruml said. "We knew we were making a pretty good run and probably were going to pass the number by a good amount. I wanted to beat it by 200, because the last time we took it over, I wasn't very confident in that score.

"When we left in first, third and fourth in all-events, and Nick's and Zach's numbers were really good, I couldn't see another group beating that. I felt pretty darn confident in that one, and if a group did beat it, they definitely deserved it."

Kruml's run to the top spot in Regular All-Events featured sets of 795 in singles, 724 in doubles and 723 in team at the National Bowling Stadium.

K and J Finishing 1 finished 376 pins ahead of the next closest group in Team All-Events, recording the seventh highest 45-game total in tournament history.

Along with Kruml's 2,242 topping the leaderboard in Regular All-Events, Greenwood finished fourth with 2,162 and Wiley was sixth with 2,134. Pate and Woelfel posted 1,969 and 1,887, respectively.

"We've had a group chat going the past couple days and definitely have been talking about it and saying that we can finally breathe because we did it," Kruml said. "It's nice to get the monkey off our back. We've been close a few times, so it made it a lot better to finally do it. Hopefully, we can give it a couple more runs with the team we have."

With less than three weeks to go at the 2023 tournament, Kruml also was leading Regular Singles and Regular Doubles with Wiley and was in position to join USBC Hall of Famers Bill Lillard Jr. (1956) and Ed Lubanski (1959), along with Michael Neumann (1990), as the only competitors at the Open Championships to win four titles in a single year.

A pair of impressive performances in July at the Taj Mahal of Tenpins shook up the standings and helped place three bowlers in line for their first wins at the Open Championships.

On July 6, David Simard of Granby, Quebec, Canada, posted an 813 series to move into the lead in Regular Singles.

Simard, a 42-year-old right-hander, finished his doubles set with 299 before firing games of 290, 257 and 266 in singles for the only 800 series on this year's doubles and singles oil pattern.

"I didn't check the scores before we bowled the tournament, so I didn't even know I was the leader until after my squad," said Simard, who has been a member of the Canadian national team 10 times. "But, I was checking a few times a day after I bowled. Every morning, I checked if anyone passed me, and I would check again during the day. There were a couple long days.

"I felt so great that day. The execution, the mental game, everything was perfect on that day. It means a lot. I think it's probably the greatest tournament to win. So many

great bowlers bowl this tournament, and it's pretty exciting to win."

Simard's 813 in singles also helped him to second place in Regular All-Events with a 2,216 total. He also posted sets of 723 in doubles and 680 in team.

With just two days left to go at the 2023 event, the team of DeeRonn Booker of Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Mark Curtis Jr. of Chattanooga, Tennessee, put together an incredible rally in their final two games to take over the top spot in Regular Doubles with 1,482.

Booker and Curtis, both 32-year-old right-handers, had just 381 after their first game July 22. They followed with 563 and 538 in their final two games, rolling 40 combined strikes in their final 47 deliveries in the set.

"We were able to catch lightning in a bottle, and it's still hard to process that we managed to average 275 on that pattern for those two games," Curtis said. "It truly was a magical run. They talk about getting in the zone and the only thing you see is the lane, and it felt like for two games, we got there.

"An Eagle is a goal you work for your whole life, and it is a crowning achievement in a career. To take doubles home with someone that I've been friends with for 20 years – it's incredibly special. Our friendship will last forever now because we're bonded through this very special moment."

Booker led the way with games of 213, 289 and 258 for a 760 series, and Curtis bounced back from a 168 start to finish with 274 and 280 for a 722 set.

"I'm still trying to believe it," Booker said. "I've been telling myself for the last 48 hours just to breathe. It's something that I've been wanting forever. I love history and being a part of history. Every bowler who bowls wants to compete and have a chance to have this phone call, and I want to thank everyone. This has been an absolute dream come true.

"The experience of winning with someone you're extremely close to left both of us speechless. We've both been through quite a bit, and to be able to share this with each other is huge."

The members of Riding Kenny's Coattails of Cincinnati rolled the second highest team set in Open Championships history on May 31 to take the lead in Regular Team with a 3,578 total.

Powered by Charles Easton's 300 in Game 1 for a 1,228 start at the NBS, the team added 1,188 and 1,162 on its way to the top of the standings.

Jeff Fehr led the performance with a 778 series, while Easton finished with 773. Kenny Abner, who's now in position to claim his third Eagle, had 723, while Professional Bowlers Association Tour star Bill O'Neill and Ron Pollard Jr. finished with 692 and 612, respectively.

"There were certainly a few late nights," Fehr said. "We had a team chat going, looking

at the Stars of the Day so we knew who was coming in and there definitely was some scoreboard watching. The last few days of the tournament, I had a 3 a.m. alarm set to see if anyone was getting close so I could sweat it out as they were performing. I didn't want to wait for the scoreboards to update. It was crazy, but looking back at it, the 53 days went by pretty quickly. We're glad it's over and in the books."

Fehr and Pollard also have the chance to build on their family's legacy on the biggest stages in bowling.

Fehr's father, Steve, is a USBC Hall of Famer, five-time Eagle winner at the Open Championships and the 1994 USBC Masters champion. His mother, Nancy, also is part of the USBC Hall of Fame and has claimed three wins at the USBC Women's Championships.

Pollard's father, Ron, and uncle, Rick, are both USBC Hall of Famers and worked together to win Team All-Events at the 1996 Open Championships. His aunt, Vicky, and wife, Jamie, won Classified Doubles at the 2015 tournament. At the Women's Championships, his aunt, Regina Pollard-Strawser, is a three-time titlist.

"My mom and dad were there to witness what we did, and that was so special for me," said Fehr, who also helped Riding Kenny's Coattails to second in Team All-Events in 2023 with 10,018. "To give my mom a hug after we were done – I don't think the smile on my face could have been any bigger than that. My dad got to watch the first two games before bowling the team practice session to get ready for his shift, and to give him a hug once he got back – he was so excited for us. They've both been through it and know what the feeling is like when you take the lead and shoot that big score.

"It's incredible to be in the club of champions, and it's something I've aspired to be in. It's one of the reasons why I put in all the time to practice and go to tournaments to try and get better. My 26th try was the magic number, and I'm so glad the first one was a team event, so I get to share it with these guys. I wouldn't want to share it with anyone else."

The members of Irvine Team 1 of Corona, California, posted the highest team game since the introduction of the Standard Division in 2017 to record the top score in Standard Team with 3,016 on May 27.

Irvine Team 1 started with 1,187 to set the record and followed with 869 and 960 to get to the top spot.

Erick Podwill paced the team effort with a 644 series and was joined by Greg Bill (620), Greg Nardo (598), Andrea Fredericks (579) and Dave Ellsworth (575).

The top individual performance in the Standard Division took place April 29-30 as Matthew Grunzke of Albert Lea, Minnesota, ascended to the lead in all-events with a 1,926 total.

The 44-year-old right-hander used sets of 674 in team, 637 in singles and 615 in doubles to post his top showing in 21 years of competing at the Open Championships.

Michelle Dabkowski of Lexington, South Carolina, took over the lead in Standard Singles on May 31 with a 715 series at the National Bowling Stadium.

The 40-year-old left-hander started her first game with seven strikes on the way to 255, and she improved to 10 consecutive strikes to start Game 2 to post 286. Although the striking slowed down in the final game, Dabkowski filled all but one frame to finish with 174 to secure the top spot.

In Standard Doubles, the pairing of Damon Horst of Oswego, Illinois, and Ryan Liddell of Palos Hills, Illinois, combined for the top total during their appearance June 20, finishing with a 1,261 total.

Horst, who also finished in third place in Standard All-Events with 1,862, led the way with games of 234, 220 and 214 for a 668 series. Liddell added 213, 200 and 180 for 593.

The longest wait after taking the lead belonged to the members of Hull Point Pursuit of Kasilof, Alaska. The team of Michael Hull, Tim Macias, Ryan Hailey, Chris Hull and John Hull posted the top score in Classified Team on March 23 with 2,700.

Hull Point Pursuit had steady games of 898, 896 and 906 to place its name at the top of the standings.

John Hull led the team with a 621 series and was followed by Macias (555), Michael Hull (516), Hailey (507) and Chris Hull (501).

Doug Willmann of Olivette, Missouri, rolled to the top of the leaderboard in Classified All-Events on April 8-9 with a 1,753 total.

The 39-year-old right-hander posted sets of 639 in team, 592 in singles and 522 in doubles.

The top spot in Classified Singles was put together June 20 by Bobby Johnson of Villa Rica, Georgia, with a 657 total.

Johnson, a 42-year-old right-hander, had games of 225, 225 and 207.

Charles Garcia of Fremont, California, and Benny Sangalang of Hayward, California, posted a 1,218 total April 15 to finish in the top position in Classified Doubles.

Garcia had games of 265, 164 and 199 during the set for a 628 series, which also helped him to third place in Classified All-Events with 1,731. Sangalang had 212, 175 and 203 for 590.

They also moved into second place in Classified Team during their trip to Reno, helping Drink N Roll of Chula Vista, California, to a 2,649 score.

Three 800s were rolled at the 2023 Open Championships to go along with 15 300s, nine 299s, a pair of 298 games and 20 other instances of competitors posting 11 consecutive strikes during a single game.

In addition to Simard's 813 in singles, Christopher Tuholski of Battle Ground, Washington, and Mykel Holliman of Denham Springs, Louisiana, reached 800 sets during their team events.

Tuholski recorded the first 800 of the 2023 event, rolling games of 236, 279 and 289 for an 804 series April 29. Holliman used games of 255, 300 and 258 for an 813 series May 12.

Longevity and pinfall also highlighted the 2023 event, with USBC and PBA Hall of Famer Glenn Allison of Corona, California, making his 71st tournament appearance to tie the participation record.

Allison joined fellow USBC Hall of Famers Bill Doehrman and Joe Norris, along with Sylvester Thiel, with 71 appearances at the Open Championships with his trip to the National Bowling Stadium on May 13.

The four-time Eagle winner made his tournament debut at the 1947 event in Los Angeles, and he's now less than 1,150 pins away from setting the all-time pinfall mark at the tournament.

Allison has knocked over 122,954 pins for a lifetime average of more than 191 through 71 appearances.

He's third on the pinfall list at the Open Championships, trailing Lillard (124,087) and Norris (123,770). Allison now is 817 pins away from passing Norris and 1,134 pins away from taking over the top spot from Lillard.

Four competitors also joined Allison in the 100,000-Pin Club at the Open Championships during the 2023 event.

USBC Hall of Famer Bob Chamberlain Sr. of The Villages, Florida (March 15-100,554 pins); Robert Brissette of Petersburg, Michigan (May 11-101,000); Dennis Lane of Kingsport, Tennessee (May 19-100,336); and USBC Hall of Famer Bill Spigner of Vernon Hills, Illinois (May 21-100,399), each earned their crystal pin at the NBS, expanding the exclusive club to 29 members.

A total of 20 bowlers celebrated their 50th tournament appearance at the 2023 event. There now have been 332 competitors all-time to reach the participation milestone.

The 2024 Open Championships will be held from March 2 - July 22 at the South Point Bowling Plaza in Las Vegas. Registration is open for the 2024 tournament.

2023 USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS National Bowling Stadium Reno, Nev.

## (Division leaders with hometown and pinfall)

As of July 24, 2023

**NOTE:** All standings are unofficial and pending final verification.

#### **REGULAR DIVISION**

#### **Team**

## (Combined averages of 876 and above)

1, Riding Kenny's Coattails (Ron Pollard Jr., Jeff Fehr, Kenny Abner, Charles Easton, Bill O'Neill), Cincinnati, 3,578. 2, The Bowling Shops 1, Highland Village, Texas, 3,449. 3, K and J Finishing 1, Carpentersville, Ill., 3,433. 4, Bowlers Connection 1, Glendale Heights, Ill., 3,430. 5, Chili Garlic Edamame, Las Vegas, 3,422.

## **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 351 and above)

1, Mark Curtis Jr., Chattanooga, Tenn./DeeRonn Booker, Albuquerque, N.M., 1,482. 2, Christopher Wiley, Bettendorf, Iowa/Nick Kruml, St. Peters, Mo., 1,438. 3, Julian Brown, Jonesboro, Ga./Zack Carter, Des Plaines, Ill., 1,401. 4, Scott Kruppenbacher, Rochester, N.Y./Cassandra Leuthold, Lincoln, Neb., 1,388. 5, Carleton Chambers, Detroit/Justin Sims, Ventura, Calif., 1,378.

#### Singles

## (Averages of 176 and above)

1, David Simard, Granby, Quebec, Canada, 813. 2, Nick Kruml, St. Peters, Mo., 795. 3, Kyle Luckett, Indianapolis, 775. 4, Gary Faulkner Jr., Memphis, Tenn., 764. 5, Christopher Wiley, Bettendorf, Iowa, 762.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 176 and above)

1, Nick Kruml, St. Peters, Mo., 2,242. 2, David Simard, Granby, Quebec, Canada, 2,216. 3, Derek Eoff, DeForest, Wis., 2,165. 4, Ryne Greenwood, Kenosha, Wis., 2,162. 5, Warren Crawford, McKinleyville, Calif., 2,147.

#### **Team All-Events**

1, K and J Finishing 1 (Ryne Greenwood, Christopher Wiley, Zachary Woelfel, Nick Pate, Nick Kruml), Carpentersville, Ill., 10,394. 2, Riding Kenny's Coattails, Cincinnati, 10,018. 3, Chili Garlic Edamame, Las Vegas, 9,884. 4, Bay Area Pro Shop, San Jose, Calif., 9,767. 5, Dude, Where's My Shoes?, Muskegon, Mich., 9,745.

#### STANDARD DIVISION

## **Team**

## (Combined averages of 776-875)

1, Irvine Team 1 (Erick Podwill, Andrea Fredericks, Dave Ellsworth, Greg Bill, Greg Nardo), Corona, Calif., 3,016. 2, Surgically Repaired, Darien, Ill., 2,977. 3, Mean Girls Bowling, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,967. 4, CA Style Mixed Plate, Hercules, Calif., 2,964. 5, River Rats, Winona, Minn., 2,961.

#### **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 311-350)

1, Damon Horst, Oswego, Ill./Ryan Liddell, Palos Hills, Ill., 1,261. 2, Frank McCauley/Austin McCauley, Eagle Mountain, Utah, 1,241. 3(tie), Bryan Melton, Springdale, Ark./David Ruiz, Los Angeles, and Linda Matthias/Brandon Matthias, Tecumseh, Kan., 1,229. 5, Mark Hill Jr./Schrie Hill, Eagle River, Alaska, 1,228.

#### **Singles**

## (Averages of 156-175)

1, Michelle Dabkowski, Lexington, S.C., 715. 2, Robert Quintero Jr., Aurora, Ill., 712. 3, Matthew Sadler, Groveland, Ill., 709. 4, Pat Gaddie, East Grand Forks, Minn., 682. 5, Cody Cox, Kokomo, Ind., 678.

#### **All-Events**

## (Averages of 156-175)

1, Matthew Grunzke, Albert Lea, Minn., 1,926. 2, Roscoe Crabtree, Kokomo, Ind., 1,878. 3, Damon Horst, Oswego, Ill., 1,862. 4, Stephen Powell, Effingham, Ill., 1,858. 5, Edward Sutherland, Maple Park, Ill., 1,857.

#### **CLASSIFIED DIVISION**

#### **Team**

## (Combined averages of 775 and below)

1, Hull Point Pursuit (Michael Hull, Tim Macias, Ryan Hailey, Chris Hull, John Hull), Kasilof, Alaska, 2,700. 2, Drink N Roll, Chula Vista, Calif., 2,649. 3, Bowlero Fun Center Fostoria, Fostoria, Ohio, 2,601. 4, McHenry Bowl 5, Modesto, Calif., 2,589. 5, Simply Striking, Sunnyvale, Calif., 2,573.

## **Doubles**

## (Combined averages of 310 and below)

1, Benny Sangalang, Hayward, Calif./Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,218. 2, Travis Soule, Grover Beach, Calif./Deanne Stote, Pismo Beach, Calif., 1,135. 3, Rick Wiser/Teresa Wiser, Umatilla, Ore., 1,126. 4, Clayton Monson, Cooperstown, N.D./Garrett Heyerdahl, Hannaford, N.D., 1,125. 5, Joseph Pizzino/Fred Pugh, Salida, Colo., 1,099.

#### Singles

## (Averages of 155 and below)

1, Bobby Johnson, Villa Rica, Ga., 657. 2, Brenden Davis, Acworth, Ga., 640. 3, Steven Alberts, Apple Valley, Calif., 633. 4, Tommy Huynh, Portland, Ore., 624. 5, Jackie Capra, Kingwood, Texas, 618.

#### **All-Events**

(Averages of 155 and below)

1, Doug Willmann, Olivette, Mo., 1,753. 2, Jason Ashcroft, West Jordan, Utah, 1,738. 3, Charles Garcia, Fremont, Calif., 1,731. 4, Gary Nishikawa, Las Vegas, 1,722. 5, Mark Bowen, Salisbury, Md., 1,689.