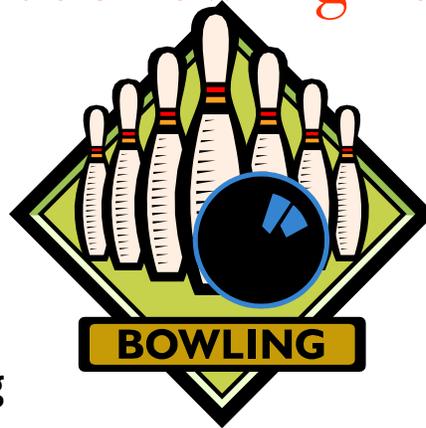


Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 3

September 2009



PBA World Series of Bowling

In this month's edition of the Josh Hyde Bowling Newsletter, we will be talking about the PBA World Series of Bowling. We will look inside the PBA truck and introduce a new part of the newsletter entitled "Strike Column." So, enjoy this edition of the Josh Hyde Bowling Newsletter!

Last month, the PBA began a new era called the PBA World Series of Bowling. It was held in Taylor and Allen Park MI, near the Detroit metro area. With more than \$2 million in the prize fund, the PBA made sure that 100% of the prize fund went to the bowlers! This was the greatest competitive bowling in the history of bowling. They also expanded the field from 64 to 72 bowlers. Furthermore, the PBA included some international names and a veteran to the tournament field. It was like a high roller for the best players in the world with sweepers and a main event. For the first time, the PBA had sweepers as a side action for the TQR players. It was definitely an event to see with five main events plus the sweepers. This made it

exciting for the bowling fans to watch.

The first main event was an open field with a retro format where the pros bowled three qualifying blocks. Then they cut to the top 24 for round robin match play. In addition, the top 1/3 of the field cashed.

All of the other events used the Scorpion, Shark, Chameleon, Cheeta, and Viper pattern championships. The formats for the pattern championships were fourteen games of qualifying, and then they cut to the top thirty-two except they had seventy-two bowlers instead of sixty-four. Instead of thirty-two bowlers making the cut, they took the top twenty-eight bowlers, so that the top four high qualifiers could get a bye into the round of matchplay. The first round of matchplay saw twenty four bowlers bowling the best of seven games, where the bowlers had to win four games to advance to the round of sixteen. The top four qualifiers came into the round of sixteen to bowl the winners of the round of twenty eight. All of those bowlers would bowl another best of seven match to see who would go to the round of eight. In the round of eight, as in the rounds of twenty eight and sixteen, the top four bowlers would advance to the ESPN Finals.

Continued on Page 2



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PBA World Series	1&2
Moment in History	2
PBA Trivia Wizard	2
Strike Column	3
Last Month's Trivia Answers and Winner	4
Commentary	4

Moments in History

The year was 1993 and the tournament was very hard for that week. I always heard that the PBA tour truck which they have was like a pro shop for the pros. I had seen it from a distance, but wanted to see inside it. Parker Bohn III was working on a ball for the night block and he showed me the operations. The truck was filled with about 1,000 bowling balls from the bowling manufacturers. So they were drilling a lot of bowling balls for the week. The interesting thing was that that the

Kingpin Column



pros had to know what pitch they liked, where they wanted the pin, the center of gravity, and if they wanted

an extra hole or not. All that the ball drillers did was punch 3 or 4 holes in the ball and the bowlers then sand out the holes and put the grips in the ball. They told me that they drilled 100 balls that week which is about average for a tournament week. It was very interesting to see how the PBA truck works.

Interview of the Month: Robert Smith

1. How was your experience of the PBA world Series of Bowling?
My Experience was one of awe and frustration. Bowling in the WSOB was fun with all the tournaments.
2. How can they improve on the World Series of Bowling?
I would like to see maybe 2-3 bowling centers used instead of one center.
3. Where would you like to see the World Series of Bowling held?
Why?
Las Vegas. Bowling in Vegas is big, and I believe the turnout for fans would be bigger.
4. Please feel free to add a com-

ment.
All in all, the WSOB was a success. Like anything else that is first try, there are a few things that need to be fixed.



PBA Trivia Wizard

Please submit your answers via e-mail to: jhbnl@comcast.net. The first person that answer this correctly will get a 10% coupon sponsored by bowlinggift.com. Thank you bowlinggift.com for contributing to the Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter.

Who will be the next PBA Trivia Wizard?

1. Who won the 1999 PBA National Championship?
2. Who won the 2009 U.S. Open?



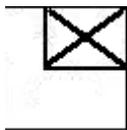
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Strike Column: Knowing the Two Greatest Bowlers Today, as a PBA Superfan

I've been going out on the PBA tour for twenty-two years with the opportunity to meet and speak with Pete Weber and Walter Ray Williams Jr., and it has been a great honor and a thrill. It was an adventure to be a witness in two of the greatest moments in the history of the PBA, performed by two of the most legendary bowlers of today.

The first greatest moment was when Pete Weber won after the passing of his legendary father, Dick Weber. The other great moment was when Walter Ray tied Earl Anthony at the 2006 PBA World Championship with the same number of titles. These are just a couple of the reasons why it's a thrill and an honor to know Walter Ray and Pete Weber.

One night after match play, Walter Ray Williams Jr. asked if my mom and I wanted to go out to eat. We were kind of skeptical at first, but we took the opportunity to go out to eat with him, and it was neat to actually dine with the greatest bowler ever. It gave me a chance to know Walter Ray as a person. He was one of the nicest guys I have ever met. Another time, I also was given an opportunity to go inside his motor home. This was a neat occasion, because it also gave me a chance to know what his

home life was like.

Not only have I had to chance to develop a personal relationship with Walter Ray, but I have seen his greatest accomplishment professionally. Probably his greatest achievement was when he won the 2006 PBA World Championship. To be the best, you have to beat the best, and this is exactly what Walter Ray did. He beat the great Pete Weber. I remember figuring out the bracket to see if Walter Ray and Pete Weber could meet for the title. I knew that they could even before they met in the championship match. They did just that, and I remember thinking, "Man, this is the greatest championship major

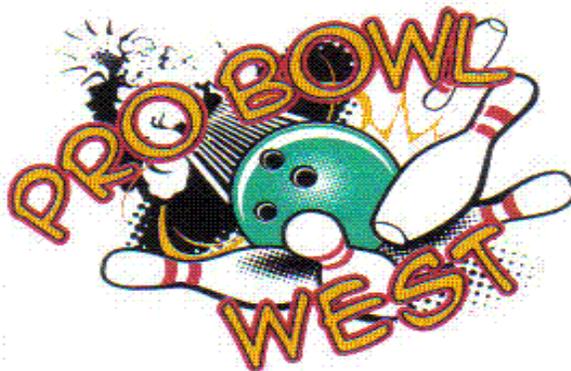
match I have ever attended!" It was an incredible experience.

I have a web site and I have had the chance to interview Walter Ray and Pete Weber. Pete Weber was a surprise to interview because I thought that he would not want to give me a chance to speak with him. This was my opportunity to know what his thoughts were on the Denny's PBA Tour, and bowling in general. It was interesting to hear him talk about the US Open. He described it as the 'true test' in bowling. I couldn't agree with him more. This is why he is so great at the tournament, and why he has won it four

times. He said you have to make your spares and stay out of trouble. I had the honor of witnessing his first title after the passing of his legendary father, Dick Weber. This was a great moment in the history of the Denny's PBA Tour.

Walter Ray is the greatest bowler ever. Pete Weber is the greatest bowler to throw a hook. Pete is the only player to really throw a good hook, and keep it under control. He doesn't get very many splits, and that is what being one the greatest bowler's means. Walter Ray can throw the ball straight and be accurate, and that's another key element of being a great professional bowler. As you can tell, these are the greatest bowlers that will ever throw a bowling ball for a living.

Not only do I know them, but I am in the same elite group of professional bowlers, as an honorary PBA member. As you can tell, knowing the two greatest bowlers is a unique opportunity.



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The Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter has added another column called the "Strike Column." This column could be an article or a stat from Probowlersuperfan.com. This column will be added to the remainder of the issues. Please enjoy this addition to The Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter.

Commentary

As this publication reviewed the PBA World Series, it was my opinion that it definitely brought out the best bowlers in the world.

The big question in the previous month's edition was "Which tournament is better. The PBA, Regionals, or Mega-bucks?" I also questioned the size of the prize fund that the PBA had in previous years. In a way, the World Series of Bowling shows that the PBA is the best tournament. With the top four high qualifiers getting a bye in the first rounds of match play and having sweepers throughout the tournament, this is as close to having a "high roller" event that bowlers can attend.

If they would only have three game qualifiers for the main tournament or a re-entry option, then it would be hard to consider this a PBA tournament.

This reporter thinks that this was what Tom Clark was trying to do in the PBA World Series of Bowling. He did a fine job of it. However, to be eligible for the sweepers, he couldn't be an exempt bowler for the 09-10 season. Therefore, a bowler that was eligible for a sweeper was a bowler who bowled in the TQR. The only difference is that they are the best players in the world instead of amateurs.

With over 100 hrs. of bowling on Extra Frame, you can get a feel of what the bowlers go through. You can see what the bowlers were doing frame by frame before the finals. Hopefully this gave the bowling fans more appreciation for the pros than ever before. The Extra Frame coverage was excellent for the bowling fans in this way.

Even the International Exemption players could not beat the PBA players. Therefore, the PBA has the best bowlers in the world.

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Ronnie Russell's drill sheet for the PBA 09 Plastic Ball Championship. I also have this ball!!!

I understand why Tom Clark wanted the international exemption for the PBA World Series of Bowling, except that the exempt bowlers that the PBA has are truly the best bowlers in the world. We definitely saw that in the World Series of Bowling. I think that the international bowlers that want to compete on the PBA Tour need to come over and earn their way onto the tour. Either by the tour trials, the regional programs, or the TQRs. I think we saw time and time again that these bowlers are the best at throwing a bowling ball. As for the Golden Parachute exemption, I think it was about time the PBA did this. There are too many players that were great yesterday, but are not out today. It will be interesting to see who will try to get an exemption for the Golden Parachute award.

Thanks for reading this edition of the Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter.

Last Month's PBA Wizard Trivia Winner

NOT AWARDED!

Last Month's Answers:

- 1.) Jason Couch
- 2.) Wes Malott



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