



Josh Hyde is a Honorary PBA Member since 2001 and a BWAA Member since 2006.

Volume 4 Issue 1

July 2011



Ron Mohr, winner of the Senior U.S. Open

Practice Pair

Hello, Bowling Fans! Welcome to the new year of *Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter*. The **Messenger** features the Senior US Open. The **Strike Column** highlights the 2006 Dexter Tournament of Champions. In the **Kingpin Column**, I will talk about the experience of volunteering for Brunswick. Also, the **Interview of the Month** is Bill O'Neil where he shares some of his thoughts about the state of bowling. I've added a new feature—**Split Column**—check it out! The **Spare Column** describes a fairly new tournament that was played in Indiana. Finally, in the **Tenth Frame**, I will talk about what you can see at various bowling tournaments.

Enjoy this edition of this month's *Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter*!

Messenger

Mohr's First Senior Major Title Was No Small Task

Ron Mohr defeated Walter Ray Williams, Jr. 246-189, in the Senior U.S. Open which was no small task as he had to beat two Hall of Famers and "The Legend" Harry Sullins. This win was his fifth Senior Tour title and his first major Senior title. The other Hall of Famer was Wayne Webb. Webb, who finished fourth, was trying to become the tournament's first three-time winner. He was returning to Senior Tour competition after missing the first four tournaments of the season due to knee surgery earlier this year.

Mohr became victorious by climbing the ladder. At the beginning of the championship round, he qualified fourth.

The first match saw Mohr taking down PBA Hall of Famer Wayne Webb in a high scoring match, 265-258. Normally, a 258 score in a U.S. Open match would win the game, but not this time. In the sixth frame of the first match, he converted the 4-10 split, not an easy task to make.

In the semifinal, he met 2009 PBA Senior World Championship winner Harry Sullins.

"In the semifinal match, I made too much of an adjustment and threw a cou-

ple of bad shots," Mohr said. "I thought I was going to have to make more of a major move after the first match, but the transition really wasn't that drastic for me so I just made a small couple board adjustment and got back on track."

After the first round of qualifying, Mohr was in 67th place. Winning from this position was an amazing feat.

The championship match saw Mohr taking on the Number 2 bowler of all time, Walter Ray Williams' Jr. He did it by striking with a 246 over Walter Ray's 189. This win gave Mohr a lead going into the next Senior Tournament. To date, he is ahead of Walter Ray for the Senior PBA Player of the Year race.

You see the reason why Mohr has a hard task in front of him going into the Championship round of the Senior U.S. Open. On top of that, he was the 4th seed going into the finals.

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Stepladder Results

Match One – Mohr def. Webb, 265-258;
Semifinal match – Mohr def. Sullins, 220-211;

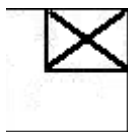
Championship match – Mohr def. Williams Jr., 246-189.

MISSION STATEMENT:

To provide bowling fans important bowling news, thoughtful analysis, and keen observations of both professional and local bowling tournaments.

VISION:

To be the highest quality bowling publication that the author can create using the best of his knowledge and observation.



Strike Column — 2006 Dexter Tournament of Champions

The fourth greatest show that I ever watched was the 2006 Dexter Tournament of Champions. For a major tournament, it was definitely one of the highest scoring majors in the history of the PBA. When I think of majors, I think of demanding lane conditions and difficulty getting to the 1-3 pocket, not a strike-fest!

The show featured four talented players on the PBA Tour: Chris Barnes, Steve Jaros, Tommy Jones, and Amleto Monacelli were the finalists in the championship round. Jaros was trying to defend his title. However, three other players were trying to say something about that. Throughout the whole tournament there were very few games under 200. This is exceptionally rare for a major. In the round of 16, Parker Bohn III had the highest average of anybody, but he was matched up against Chris Barnes. Chris was able to beat Parker when he needed to beat him.

Round of 8

High Game 1: A Monacelli 300

High Game 2: T. Jones 299

High Game 3: T. Jones 290

Low Game 1: R. Allen 193

Low Game 2: C. Barnes 205

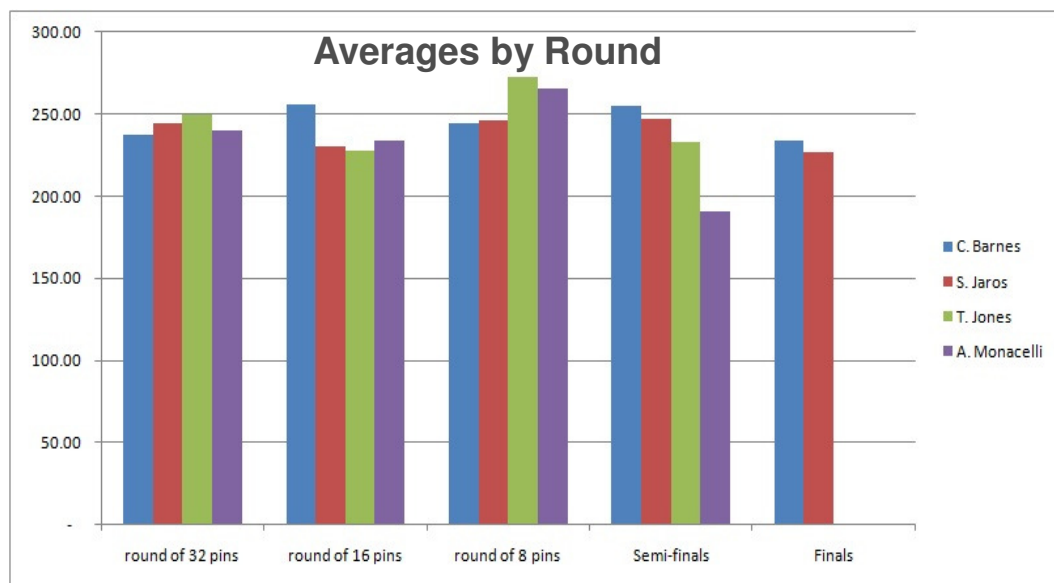
Low Game 3: M. Koivuniemi 216

Indeed, the best of the best were in the finals of the Tournament of Champions. The show had a player, Jaros, that was trying to defend his title while up and coming stars, Jones and Barnes, were trying to take it from him. Also, Amleto Monacelli, a super star from past years, was trying to win his second major title. It was one of the most perfect championship rounds for one of the greatest bowling tournaments in major professional bowling.

One of the interesting things, as I was doing research for this article, was that Chris Barnes had shot one of the lowest games in the round of 8. This did not faze him at all as he won his second major title.

Last month, we talked about the event in which he won his first major title as being one of the hardest fields in pro-

fessional bowling history. His second major then followed with the same talent. Tommy Jones had the second and third high game in the round of 8. Tommy easily could have won this tournament with two high games in the round of 8. With these four finalists, the winner was definitely going to be the best player. The prestige of this tournament is so great. A pro bowler winning this particular tournament feels like he has beaten all the best players in the world. The format was a single elimination match play format. Lane conditions were a 39 ft. pattern that enabled the high rev players to get the ball in the 1-3 pocket. Barnes first two majors were hard to win with the amount of talent that both tournaments had for the finals.



\$230,000 DEXTER TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS

CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND

Pos. Name, City & State

Bowler	Pins	Games	Ave	Earnings
1. Chris Barnes, Flower Mound, TX	489	2	244.50	\$ 100,000
2. Steve Jaros, Yorkville, IL	474	2	237.00	\$ 30,000
3. Tommy Jones, Simpsonville, SC	233	1	233.00	\$ 10,000
4. Amleto Monacelli, Venezuela	191	1	191.00	\$ 10,000

PLAYOFF RESULTS - Jaros def. Jones, 247-233; Barnes def. Monacelli, 255-191; and in the championship game, Barnes def. Jaros, 234-227.

Moments in History Volunteering for Brunswick

In 1994, my friend Nick Gates and I had the opportunity to volunteer for Brunswick in Troy, MI at the US Open Tournament. Our job was to help Parker Bohn III sort out the bowlers' shirts to be used during the televised Championship round. It was a great feeling to know I was helping Brunswick.

Sorting the shirts at the beginning of each tournament was one of Parker's responsibilities for being on the Brunswick Pro Staff. The shirts are stored week to week in a plastic tub all together. Brunswick sorts them out by color, style and size. Each week, Parker would have to sort them out and see how many shirts they had left and if any more were needed for the next week's tournament.

It was part of our job to help Parker. It was great to help Parker but also Brunswick. This made me feel like I was contributing

to the success of my favorite bowling ball company. In the tub were also towels that the players got to choose from.

One of Brunswick's marketing strategies was that the T.V. shirts' logos were larger than the typical shirt logo so that television viewers could see it better. Another strategy was that the logo was a different color. This made them stand out. The pros need to give as much exposure to the companies that give them incentives.



This is what Parker had to do every week. Not only did Brunswick supply shirts and towels but there were also accessories that the bowler

could use on the show. Brunswick, like other companies, benefits from getting all that TV exposure.

It just so happens that the week of this tournament, Brunswick was introducing a new ball called the Gold Rhino Pro ball. This ball happened to win the tournament for Justin Hromek.

If I had the chance to help again, I would do it in a heartbeat.



Interview of the Month—Bill O'Neil

2010 World Series of Bowling?

A: I thought it was really good since I led after the 60 games. For me, I have had a lot of success in the World Series of Bowling. It's something I really enjoy. I enjoy the longevity and all of the games, and I think that it is a really good thing.

Q: If you had to bowl against Mika or Barnes, who would you pick, and why?

A: This is a pretty hard question. They are both excep-

tional bowlers. I would probably pick Barnes only because he's had my number on TV the last couple of times. It would be more of a revenge factor than actually picking a guy who is easier to beat.

Q: Did you like having all of the patterns being a part of the PBA World Championships, or would you rather have separate World Championships?

A: For me, I like having all of the patterns be included in one big event. It shows the versatility of the guys who

make it. You can see that by the guys who did make it. Some of the most versatile bowlers in the world made that telecast.

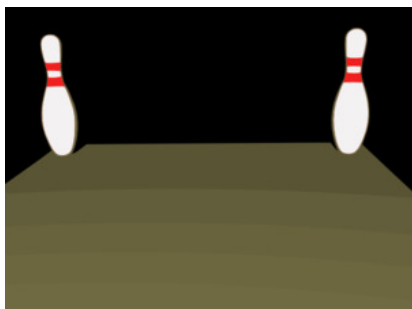
Q: Has your game changed in the last 5 years?

A: Yeah, my game's changed quite a bit. When I first started as a rookie, my push away went directly to the right, got the ball behind my back. It took me a few years to correct that and get it to where it needed to be. If you watch my first couple of shows then watch me now, it is completely different, and thank God for that.

Q: What do you think of the idea of the World Bowling Tour?

A: I think the World Bowling Tour is a great idea. I think we need to get to bowl around the world, and try to see exactly how good everybody here is compared to other bowlers in the rest of the world.

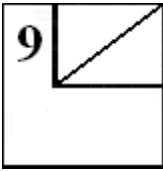
Q: What did you think of the



Split Column

Hugh Miller became the 40th pro bowling millionaire in career earnings by finishing in the top 24 in the Senior U.S. Open last month.





Northern Indiana Bowlers Tour

Date: 6-5-2011
 Location: Warsaw, IN
 Center: Warsaw Bowl
 Pattern: Scorpion
 # of Entries: 11
 High Game 1: 185 Bowler: Bill Crane
 High Game 2: 237 Bowler: Bart Loe
 High Game 3: 204 Bowler: Bill Crane
 High Game 4: 210 Bowler: Bill Crane
 High Game 5: 214 Bowler: Michael Kittrell
 High Series: 988 Bowler: Bart Loe
 Finals Number: 913 Bowler: Cody Dravecky

Dravecky wins his first NIBT Title with an average of 228.5 in the Championship round

On June 5, 2011, the Northern Indiana Bowlers Tour saw eleven bowlers battle it out for the top three spots in the finals. They were at the Warsaw Bowl center in Warsaw, IN. The shot was the Scorpion pattern from the 2010-2011 Lumber Liquidators PBA season. The shot played tough as it only took a 185 by Bill Crane in the first game. The lanes started to open up and the scores got higher and higher as the day wore on. Bart Loe had a high game of 237 in game two. This was the high game of the whole day. The shot was definitely a tough one as it took a score of -87 by Cody Dravecky to make the finals. The leader, Bart Loe, shot -12 to lead the tournament. This was a fun tournament to watch. If a bowler was able to keep the ball in play and make his spares, he had very good chance at leading this event. With a 185 being high for the first game, the spectators knew it was going to be a grind out day.

Cody Dravecky knew he was good once he made the finals. His motivation was the birth of his daughter earlier in the week. Cody put together the best two games of day during the finals. He was using a Hammer Psycho to beat Bill and Bart for the title. He beat Bill 231-185 in the first match and beat Bart 226-148 in the final.

Upcoming Format for NIBT

Beginning in August, the NIBT is hoping to have a longer format and a better turnout. They will have a points race, a major tournament, and a bracket or round robin finals. The ratio for cashing in these tournaments will be 1:5. The first round will see the bowlers qualify over 5-6 games before they cut to the 1:5. If a bowler makes the first cut they will automatically cash. Next round, they will bowl 3-5 games before they cut to the finals. The major that they have lined up is a 2-day event where the format is qualifying in the first day. The top 1:5 will advance to the next day where they will bowl the second round of qualifying with the pinfall carrying over from the first day. The finals will be a top eight in a round robin format. The winner of the event will receive a spot in the U.S. Open!! This is a great opportunity to see how Indiana bowlers can handle a season long format. The number of entries in the tournaments determine the number of points possible. Example: If there are 60 bowlers in one tournament, the winner will receive 60 points, second place will receive 59, and so on all the way down. Additional points will be awarded for high qualifier and high game of the day.

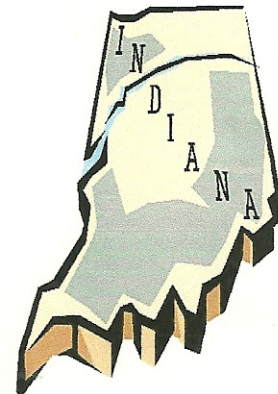
Many of the bowlers want a more challenging pattern to bowl a tournament. They have decided to have an older PBA pattern to accommodate what the bowlers want.



NIBT Warsaw Scorpion

	Bart Loe - 148
Bill Crane - 185	Cody Dravecky 226
Cody Dravecky 231	

**Cody Dravecky
Champion**



Bowling Fan Novelties— *A League of Ordinary Gentlemen*

In the spring of 2006, the PBA came out with a documentary called *A League of Ordinary Gentlemen*. Walter Ray Williams Jr., Wayne Webb, Chris Barnes, and Pete Weber were featured. This film talks about what our favorite pro bowlers go through on the PBA Tour.

Toward the beginning of the movie, Steve Miller, PBA President, is shown addressing the bowlers in a pre-season meeting discussing the future of the PBA. Steve says one of the themes is going to be **“Only one can win”** and the other theme **“The March to the World Championship.”** He also mentioned the sports that the PBA was ahead of as far as ratings. At the conclusion of this meeting, they showed some of the reactions and thoughts of the players about what Steve Miller said. A couple of the tournament directors talked about a way that the PBA could cut expenses. They discussed that at the beginning of the season each player would be allotted only 8 PBA patches. If additional patches were wanted, they would have to pay a dollar per patch. In the past, players were given as many patches as they wanted at no cost.

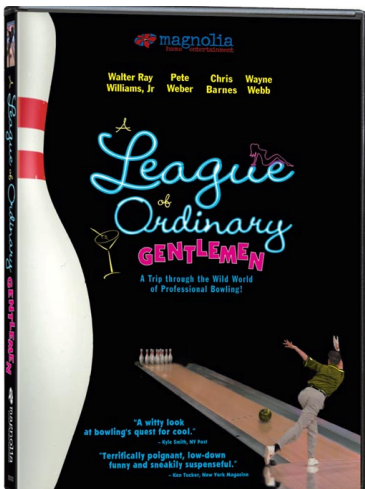
This film documents how Chris Peters, Rob Glaser, and Mike Slade, former Microsoft executives, purchased the PBA in 2000 for \$5 million which was equivalent to the cost of a Minor League Baseball team at that time. In another segment, Pete Weber states that the public describes the stereotypical bowler as a “blue collar, drinkin’, smoking’ idiot.”

Filmed during the '02—'03 PBA Tour season, bowling fans are able to see what bowlers do in their personal lives in addition to bowling in tournaments. The social aspect of the sport was also examined. This is a great way to see our favorite pro bowlers from another perspective. .

A League of Ordinary Gentlemen talks about back in the day, when bowling was on every Saturday afternoon, the super bowlers of the PBA were Dick Weber and Earl Anthony. Walter Ray said that in a time when American families had limited television channels to watch, bowling was at its prime and watched by many.

A League of Ordinary Gentlemen shows highlights of the last show that ABC telecast in 1997. The championship match was between the #1 and #2 bowlers in the world, Walter Ray Williams, Jr. and Pete Weber, respectively. What a match to go out on! An interesting fact was that Pete Weber threw the last ball on that last show. On the first show, Dick Weber, Pete’s father, won the first televised tournament.

Copies of the DVD are currently available through Amazon.com for \$9.98, but quantities are limited. My personal copy of this DVD is autographed by Wayne Webb, Walter Ray, Jr., Pete Weber, and Chris Barnes.



Clockwise L to R: Scenes from “League of Ordinary Gentlemen” - DVD cover, Walter Ray Williams, Jr., Wayne Webb, Pete Weber (and wife, Tracy), Chris Barnes - the 4 bowlers that were featured in the documentary.



X	X	X
300		

Tenth Frame— Editorial Bowling Tournaments

In this publication, I mostly talk about professional bowling tournaments. However, in the spare column, I report on smaller bowling events. These tournaments that I report on are in my geographical area and are events primarily for amateur bowlers. Some of these tournaments are like the professional events, so amateur bowlers can get a feel of what it is like to bowl professionally. Occasionally, these tournaments have a regional pro who bowls in it.

These tournaments can have qualifying and match play. Generally, they only last one day but some run for the weekend. There are also the larger events like the Mega-Bucks Tournament, which last one week; and the USBC Nationals, which runs for a few months. Finally, you have your State and City tournaments. These tournaments just have three events: singles, double, and teams. All three of these events do not have match play, but they are still considered tournaments.

Bowlers can be challenged to do their best on these types of events. The regional pro will typically feel like he has an advantage because of his experience on the PBA regional program.

Now the lane conditions are probably going to be more challenging which makes the bowler adjust and use his or her arsenal wisely. The tournament also will make the bowlers change lanes. This is so that a bowler can't get too comfortable on a pair. This movement is what our favorite pros do on a weekly basis. They can't get too comfortable on a pair because they move for every game. Besides that, they don't bowl in the same center every week. The amateur tournaments provide the same experience as the pro tournaments. It can also be interesting to see how the amateur adjusts when he or she gets in trouble on

the lanes. Bowling in these events can give the amateurs a feel of the required skills needed to attack the lanes. An amateur is going to have between 6-10 balls where a pro could have 20-30 balls. This allows each type of bowler to have different strategies to overcome the challenges of the lanes. Every bowler goes through transition of the lanes. The transition period is a hard task to figure out because the bowler doesn't know what the ball is going to do. This can be a trial and error for the bowler, and if they're not staying clean, they could have a very low game.

Last month, at the Northern Indiana Bowlers Tour, the bowlers got to bowl on the Scorpion pattern and it was interesting that the leader couldn't keep a 200 average. However, if a pro was bowling this tournament, he could capitalize on the shot and demolish the field. These are the differences of a pro bowling tournament and an amateur bowling tournament. A pro is going to know how the lanes are going to break down before an amateur may detect it. The amateur is going to have a disadvantage because he or she has not had much experience bowling on the PBA patterns. It doesn't mean that they can't bowl well on these patterns, but it does mean that they are going to struggle to learn how to bowl in these tougher lane conditions.

An amateur tournament offers fewer games than a pro tournament does. In addition to that, the amateur will not practice as much as the pro. If an amateur is bowling an open field on the PBA Tour, he will probably practice more before the tournament. However, he still won't practice as much as a pro will.

An amateur may cash in two PBA Regional Tour events and one PBA Senior Tour event per season.

This could be a great opportunity for an amateur to discover how he/she measures up to the greatest bowlers in the world. If his/her performance falls short, he/she knows what to work on. This is what bowling in tournaments is all about. Thanks for reading this edition of *Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter*.



L to R: Johnny Petraglia, Pete Weber, Billy Hardwick, and Mike Aulby—a poster of the first four original Triple Crown winners. The last two Triple Crown winners, Norm Duke and Chris Barnes, are not included here.



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. What major does the USBC host?
2. Who won the 2006 Tournament of Champions?



Last Month's PBA Wizard Trivia Winner

Not awarded.

- Last Month's Answers:
1.) Mika Koivuniemi
2.) Chris Barnes