

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



Left: Amleto Monacelli, winner of the Etonic PBA Senior U.S. Open; Right: Mike Edwards, winner of the USBC Senior Masters.

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## **Practice Pair**

Hello, Bowling Fans! Welcome to another year of Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter. The Messenger talks about an International Superstar winning the PBA Senior U.S. Open also Edwards wins his first career major the USBC Senior Masters. The Strike Column talks about the Top Ten Greatest Who Were Also Rookies of the Year. In the Kingpin Column, I talk about the Mazza winning at the AMF Dick Weber Classic. The Interview of the Month will be with Brian Valenta. The Split Column talks about the players who have converted the 7-10 split on national TV. The Spare Column summarizes the Doug Barth Memorial Shootout at the Fort. Bowlology talks about timing with regard to bowling. The Tenth Frame is a commentary about the Top Ten Stories of the 2011-2012 PBA Tour Season. Thanks for making this newsletter possible! As a side note, I was just awarded First Place in the BWAA amateur writing contest in the editorial category.



## Messenger

### International Superstar wins Etonic PBA Senior U.S. Open

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of last month, PBA Senior tour history was made at the Etonic Senior U.S. Open as Amleto Monacelli won his first PBA Senior title. He became the first international professional bowler to win a Senior PBA Tour title. He defeated PBA Hall of Famer Walter Ray Williams Jr. with a score of 255 to 247. For the second consecutive year, Walter Ray Williams Jr. fell short in the championship match of the PBA Senior U.S. Open. He could have doubled in the tenth to win the title, but he failed to do so.

There were 3 PBA Hall of Famers in the step ladder finals of the Etonic PBA Senior U.S. Open: Wayne Webb, Amleto Monacelli and Walter Ray Williams, Jr. PBA veteran Mike Edwards was the 4<sup>th</sup> and final guy to get into the step ladder finals. He defeated Wayne Webb in match 1 268-244. Mike faltered in the semi-final game to Monacelli 235-225. It took an average of 252 to win a game in the step ladder finals.

It was a high scoring tournament. Walter Ray Williams, Jr. averaged 235 for the 51 games at the Etonic Senior U.S. Open. He had a 300 in the second to last round of match play. He also went undefeated in the second to last round of match play averaging an astounding 260 for the 8 games. After

being just 35 pins above the first cut, he managed to climb the leader board to first place.

Monacelli, a 19 time titlist on the PBA Tour said "It is so unbelievable to win against one of the greatest bowlers of all time, I'm just very happy." He is one of the pioneers to win a PBA title as an international star. On top of that, he became the first international player to be inducted into the PBA Hall of Fame. He was also recently inducted into the United States Bowling Congress Hall of Fame.

#### Final Standings:

Amleto Monacelli, Venezuela, 490 (two games), \$15,000.

Walter Ray Williams Jr., Ocala FL, 247 (one game), \$8,000.

Mike Edwards, Tulsa OK, 493 (two games), \$5,500.

Wayne Webb, Columbus, OH, 244 (one game), \$4,500.

#### Stepladder Results:

Match 1: Edwards def. Webb 268-244 Semifinal Match: Monacelli def. Edwards 235-225

Championship Match: Monacelli def. Williams, Jr. 255-247

#### MISSION STATEMENT:

To provide bowling fans important bowling news, thoughtful analysis, and keen observations about 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-Top 10 Greatest Who Were Also Rookies of the Year

In the 53-year PBA history, there have only been three players that have received the Player of the Year and Rookie of the Year honors. These players are Mike Aulby, Chris Barnes, and Tommy Jones. It's hard to believe that there have only been three players that have successfully accomplished this feat.

Perhaps the greatest player that has not earned Player of the Year is Pete Weber. He has won ten titles with plastic urethane resin reactive and particle balls. Adapting their game to different equipment is what a bowler has to do. Pete Weber won five U.S. Opens. Winning one U.S. Open is every bowlers' dream. Winning five is unheard of.

Mike Aulby has done everything in professional bowling. He is one of six players to complete the triple crown and one of two players to complete the Grand Slam. He is the only player to complete the Super Slam. He has won every major that there is in professional bowling. To win every Major is the greatest thing a professional bowler can do. He has bowled a 300 game on national television to win a title. Mike Aulby is probably the greatest bowler in the history of the PBA.

Chris Barnes has really lived up to his title in the <u>50</u> <u>Greatest Players in PBA History</u> book. In the book, his caption reads "laying the groundwork for a Hall of Fame career". In the past two seasons, he has become the sixth player to complete the Triple Crown. He has also become the 22nd player to roll a perfect game on television. And... his career isn't over yet.

Rhino Page had the best rookie season in the history of the PBA. He did it by advancing through the TQR in every event he entered. This is hard to do as a pro bowler. The bowler has to compete more games than the exempt player. He made a couple finals in the '07-'08 season after going through the TQR. This is a hard task to do. Page had became the 20th player to roll a perfect game on television.

To roll a perfect game on television is another factor in becoming one of the greatest of the tour.

Jason Couch is probably one of the greatest bowlers of all time. He won three Tournament of Champions in a row (1999, 2000, and 2002). That feat is a hard thing to do be-

Year	Bowler	Titles	Majors
2009	Jason Belmonte	4	0
2008	Ryan "Rhino" Page	3	0
2006	Bill O'Neil	3	1
2002	Tommy Jones	13	2
1998	Chris Barnes	13	3
1992	Jason Couch	16	4
1984	John Gant	4	1
1980	Pete Weber	36	9
1979	Mike Aulby	29	8
1967	Mike Durbin	14	3

cause the bowler is bowling against the best field that a bowling tournament can have. He was the 1992 Rookie of the Year. Just recently he got inducted into the PBA Hall of Fame.

Bowling fans may or may not like Jason Belmonte. However, he is revolutionizing the sport of bowling by throwing the ball with two hands. He won three titles at this year's World Series of Bowling. On top of that, he bowled a 300-game in the Mike Aulby division of the World Championship on television. Being one of the pros to bowl a 300-game on national television means that the bowler is one of the greatest bowlers in the world.

John Gant—many bowling fans thought he was the next Earl Anthony in the mid-80s. After being retired for many years, he came out of retirement to win the 1995 Johnny Petraglia. In that tournament, he climbed the ladder to win his third title. Winning four games on TV is a challenging task.

Mike Durbin was one of the promising stars of the PBA Tour winning three Firestone Tournament of Champion titles. Just like Gant, he retired early only to come back years later. Durbin won his first Tournament of Champion titles in 1972. A decade later, he won his second. He became the first bowler to get inducted into the PBA Hall of Fame and win the Tournament of Champions in the same week. He also won titles using 3-4-5 step approaches. He was the first great, versatile bowler.

Bill O'Neil is becoming a superstar on the PBA Tour with three titles and a bunch of television showings. Its hard to believe he only has three titles. He has won one major, the US Open. For being a bowlers first major to win the US Open is stating that he is ready to become a PBA superstar. Back in 2010 he just about became the fourth player in history to win both the PBA Player of the Year and Rookie of the Year, and having won that in 2006. His nickname is "The

Real Deal," he is living up to that name.

Tommy Jones became the second player in history to get Player and Rookie of the Year (2006, 2002 respectively). He was the fastest bowler to win ten titles ever. Just like O'Neil his first major win was the US Open. Even though it seemed like he has fallen into a slump he is still one of the greatest players on the PBA Tour.

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## **Moments in History**

## Mazza On Top at AMF Dick Webber Classic

The PBA always had a stepladder format. Bowling fans liked the television show; however, they really wanted to see how the pros got to the finals. In the 1994 Dick Weber Classic, the bowling fans had an opportunity to see how a unique round robin arena format works. Instead of 5 players, the PBA had the top 4 players in the Round Robin finals. The 4 finalists would each bowl three games against each other with the top 2 advancing to the Championship game. Their scores were based on a par 200. If they bowled over 200, they were plus. If they bowled under 200, they were minus. Also, they would get 30 bonus pins for winning their

match. For example, if they bowled a 195 and won, they would be plus 25. After each of the players bowled each other one time, the top two would advance to the Championship game. The winner of the last

game would win the tournament. This was more of a tournament than a typical stepladder format.

Back in 1994 the finalists were John Mazza, Joe Firpo, Parker Bohn III and Bob Learn, Jr. After the first game, Parker was in last position on the totem pole. All of the players were striking a lot. Mazza had received a \$5,000 bonus for leading the tournament before the live TV finals. The second game saw Bohn defeat Firpo 259-221. Even though Firpo had 2 games over 220, he was still down by 16 pins to Bohn. He needed to beat



his opponent and hope that something bad would happen to Bohn. Parker doubled in the 10th to advance to the Championship game. Firpo finally won his 3rd game with a score

of 247, but it was too late. Mazza kept on striking shooting a 794 series (including his bonus). In the Championship game, Bohn and Mazza met. Bohn was well in control of the match, however, late in the game he suffered back-to-back open frames which cost him the title. Mazza answered by striking and taking advantage of Bohn's mistakes. Mazza collected \$60,000 for his fine performance.

This was probably the most exciting tournament on television that I have seen.

## **Interview of the Month—Brian Valenta**

- What major would you want to win and why?
- By far and away, the U.S. Open. It's the hardest and most fun. It makes you make shots. In the past, Opens get extremely hard, and they are fun. Also, it is our (U.S) open championship and that means a lot to me.
- Would you rather strike or spare to win?
- Both. (LOL...) I would rather strike a good pure ten in the pit strike. Because when you have the pressure of having to throw a strike to win, it makes it that much harder and more satisfying.—that you threw the best
- shot under the hardest conditions and everything was on the line.

- What do you think of a nonexempt field?
- I am hoping it would create more buzz and encourage more people to come out and bowl. I think it would result in more established fields and more prize money and longer formats. I think/hope that it would have a a nice impact on bowling and the PBA.
- What are my plans for the off season?
- I think I might invest in some things after I pay off some bills. This summer, I decided not to take off too much. I'm bowling with friends and having fun. Also, I am going to Italy and traveling the U.S. for bowling. I think, at this

- point in my life and career, I can't stop too much. I am trying to be more competitive and striving to be the best I can. I would like to win a few tournaments here and there and build confidence going in to next year.
- What is my favorite ball of all time?
- That's a tough one. I have thrown many good balls in my day. I think the original Black Widow was great, but my most favorite ball was the Dynothane Vendetta Particle. I could throw that ball on anything and anywhere. I had a look and a chance anywhere I went, and I just had total control with that ball. Some balls I'm throwing now are catching, up for sure.

- Do international bowlers deserve a larger presence on tour?
- I hope I don't offend some people, but NO. I don't think they DESERVE a larger presence. I think the same goes for everyone - you pay your money and you bowl. This is one game that I don't think you deserve anything. You can throw a great shot and deserve to strike, but you could leave a stone 8 pin. I hope they come over. I mean, it makes it harder. I want to bowl against the best in the world, Osku, Dom Barrett, Stu, and Belmo to name a few. They are some of the best international bowlers in the world. I would rather have them in the field then not—just pay to get



There have been three bowlers that have converted the 7-10 split on national television:

Mark Roth (1980), John Mazza (1991), and

Jess Stayrook (1991).



## **Spare Column**

The Spare Column is a column focusing on the author's perspective on local bowling tournaments and/or PBA tournaments that he has attended or watched.

#### Hale Wins the Doug Barth Memorial Shootout at the Fort

Fort Wayne, Indiana, was the site for the Doug Barth Memorial Shootout on June 1-June 3, 2012. One hundred thirty-five entrants descended upon Georgetown Bowl to compete for the \$5,000 top prize. The lane pattern used was the Mexico City pattern.

The scores were high in the first round. It took a score of +27 by Alan Brown to make the first cut. There were 89 bowlers fighting for 45 spots for the next round. Jimmy Cook led the round with a score of +221 which earned him a bye into the semifinals. The round started with Aaron Lorinez's high game of 266. Also, Terry Rohrer turned in a 264 game. Game 2 saw Josh Soloman roll a 277 game. Dale Albert followed with a 266. In the 3rd game, local bowler Jeff Grego had a 268 along with former Team USA member E.J. Tackett's 257. Former PBA member, Kurt Pilon, shot a 269 for Game 4. In Game 5, Rob Gotchall turned in a 284 while Brandon Novak bowled a 280. The last game of the round saw Jeff Fehr shoot a 259. The average high for each game was 270.

The next round had 44 bowlers vying for 22 spots for Sunday's finals. Aaron Hawkins claimed 22nd place with a +84 after the first 6 games. Forty-four bowlers advanced to the next round to bowl 3 more games. Round 1 scores were carried forward for the next round. A former exempt player, Mike Machuga, started off with a 268 game. Dale Albert rolled a 244 in the next game. A score of +121 was needed to advance to Sunday's Finals which was set by Terry Rohrer.

In the Re-entry Squad, a total of 45 bowlers

were bowling for the top 9 spots to get into Sunday's Finals. Brian Waliczek threw a perfect game to get things started. In the second game, he had a 245 game. In the third game, Waliczek had a 237. It took a score of +69 by Jeff Grego to advance to Sunday's Finals.

Eliminator Sunday saw 31 bowlers battling for 16 spots for the next elimination. It took a score of +18 by "Bubble Boy" Terry Rohrer to make the cut. The next round took a score of +31 to advance. Round 3 saw a cut of +60 set by Bob Hale. In the third Eliminator round, Bob Hale was the number at +60. It was interesting because it seemed like when the bowlers left their pairs, they went from striking to leaving open frames. By virtue, current Exempt player, Mike Wolfe, who was up by 33 pins going into Game 2 missed the cut. Wolfe really struggled in Game 2 and could not find the pocket.

Bob Hale had the high game of 279 in the round of four. Mike Wolfe had the second high game of 249. He was 33 pins ahead of Jimmy Cook. Both Wolfe and Hale struggled in Game 2 of the round of four. Cook ended up getting lined up and shooting the highest score for that round. The Championship match saw Jimmy Cook and Bob Hale going head to head for the title. Hale found the line and was able to stay on top of it. Cook had the chance to win the title, but he opened the last four frames of the Championship game giving Hale the biggest win of his bowling career.

Bob Hale used an older ball, the *Black Widow*. He has a high series of 811. When asked about how he managed to get himself out of trouble in Game 2 of the semifinals, he stated, "I realized that I just had to breathe."

## <u>FINALS</u>

Bowler	Cut Number
Terry Rohrer	+18
Terry Rohrer	+31
Bob Hale	+60

## **Messenger-Continued**

## **Edwards Wins his First Career Major**

At this years 2012 USBC Master's there was a field size of 283 bowlers vying for the \$16,000 top prize. The four finalists were Gary Dickinson, Amleto Monacelli, Hugh Miller and Mike Edwards.

In the 1st match Amleto defeated 2 time USBC Senior Masters winner Gary Dickinson 771-538. Monacelli was trying to win back to back Senior Major titles, but fell a little short to Hugh Miller 634-571. Miller had the right to bowl tournament leader Mike Edwards in the championship match.

Miller needed to beat Edwards in 2 three game matches to claim the title. Miller needed all 3 Strikes to win match 1 of the 2 so that he would have a chance to claim the title. However Miller couldn't strike all three times to have the match continued into the second match. By Miller failing to strike all three times in the tenth of the first match this gave Edwards his first Career Senior title and first Major

title.

Edwards was quoted as saying "This is validation to let me know that I'm legitimately back because I have had a rough year and a half. My father died 5 months ago and I really lost my passion for bowling. I hope the Senior Tour will revitalize my career, especially now that I have won a major."

He went on to state, "Sitting on the bench to win has never happened to me. It didn't hit me for a second and I had to add up the score again real quick. I don't think it has sunk in yet."

Step Ladder Results:

Match 1: Monacelli defeated Dickinson 771-538

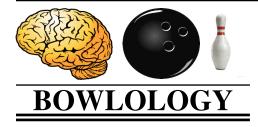
Semifinals: Miller defeated Monacelli 634-571

Championship Match: Edwards defeated Miller 701-691

#### Final Results:

- 1. Mike Edwards (701) \$16,000
- 2. Hugh Miller (1325) \$8,000
- 3. Amleto Moncelli (1342) \$6,000
- Gary Dickinson (538) \$4,600

For more information on the 2012 USBC Senior Masters, log on to www.bowl.com.



In this section, a topic will be picked based on the bowling knowledge of the great Josh Hyde.

#### **Timing**

Bowling can be simple if a bowler has a good solid game with his/her timing. A good example of good timing is a string attached to the bowler's toe and finger. If a bowler has a string tied to both when the foot moves the finger will follow. This is good synchronized timing. So many bowlers think that they need a different ball, but maybe they need to work on their timing instead.

Early timing is when the ball is pushed out without movement of the foot. Late timing is when the foot is moved prior to moving the ball. Early or late timing can cause the bowler to pull the shot causing the ball to go brooklyn

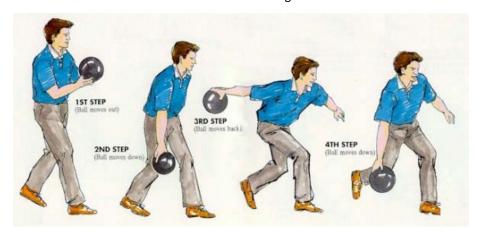
or be light in the pocket. Early or late timing can also eliminate a bowler's possibility of having a pendulum swing. If the bowler is always trying to get the ball back in the right position, he/she is not letting gravity take charge of the bowling swing.

Common mistakes to avoid:

- Getting fast with the feet
- Pushing away inconsistently leading to being early or late with the timing
- Muscling the shot
- Allowing the swing to bump outward from the body in the early

- stages which causes the ball to
- Dropping the ball into the swing
- Holding the ball in front of the torso so that the arm must swing circuitously just to clear the body
- Failing to concentrate fully on all shots, even the seemingly easy ones

These are just some of the mistakes to avoid with a bowler's timing. See the diagram below for an example of good timing.



# 300

## **Tenth Frame — Commentary**

## **Top Ten Stories of the '11-'12 PBA Tour Season**

In the middle of last month, THE BOWLING GUY, Jason Thomas, wrote about the top ten storylines of the 2011-12 PBA Tour season. He did very well at describing each story. Some of the top stories were; Blanchard falls, Barnes perfecto on TV, Weber's 5<sup>th</sup> US Open victory and also Belmonte's perfecto on TV. These top stories made the 2011-12 PBA Tour Season an unforgettable season.

Every season has its superstars. Rather it be Roth, Anthony, Holman, Aulby, Williams Jr., or Weber. This year it was Rash, Fagan and Belmonte. They were always on the television show. This is what it takes to become a superstar on the PBA Tour. Each of these three bowlers were in the top stories from Jason Thomas' Season in Review. I would have to agree with Thomas' article. However, I would add the big three because of Fagan, Rash and Belmonte. These three bowlers were legends of 2011-12 PBA Tour season. All three of these bowlers dominated the World Series of Bowling. Josh Blanchard was indeed the Rookie of the Year, but not because of his fall. He did prove himself as a professional bowler. He made another show in the first ever exclusive X-tra Frame event. Even though he did not do very well in that show he still got to that point. This is hard to do as a rookie.

Chris Barnes has stated that he is the dominate player on the PBA Tour. Bowling a 300 in the championship round is another accomplishment of being a great player. I still believe he will one day win three to five titles in one season.

Mike Fagan just proves himself over and over again. Winning the USBC Masters is another way a bowler can say, "I am ready to compete." This is what he did during the Master's tournament. In the match play portion of the tournament he bowler five out of six 700 series. His only loss was to Chris Barnes during the top seed match, and he even bowler a 743 series while Barnes shot 800. However, on championship Sunday he got his revenge as he defeated Barnes 246-213.

In the beginning of the '11-'12 season the PBA announced that they would have four exclusive online events. If bowling fans wanted to see these tourna-

ments they would have to subscribe to the XTRA Frame. Norm Duke, who bowling fans knew was a great player won two of these events back to back. The last one that he won he averaged 264 in the championship round. Duke is indeed one of the greatest player of the PBA.

In the Aulby division of the quarter final in the PBA World Championship, .Jason Belmonte bowled a 300 in the Quarterfinals. With him doing that, he proved that he could be a professional bowler.

Rash breaks through at the TOC. After 4-1/2 years of not winning a tournament, Sean Rash finally won at this year's tournament. He did it by defeating Ryan Ciminelli 239-205. This also enabled him to become the Player of the Year.

The international bowlers dominated at the WSOB. The international players at the WSOB were Stuart Williams, Andres Gomez, Dom Barrett, and last but not least - Jason Belmonte. These guys won all the Animal Pattern championships. There are definitely great bowlers around the world that can bowl on the PBA tour. History was made at this year's U.S. Open. Pete Weber won his fifth U.S. Open surpassing his legendary PBA hall of fame. Dick Weber by winning his fifth U.S. Open. He also became the first bowler to win 3 U.S. Open titles in 3 different decades.

Making his first television debut in the second exclusive X-tra Frame event, Newell made his first television debut at the Richart Ford Open presented by Columbia 300. He threw a gutter ball on his first frame, then vaulted into the winners' circle. This is an amazing accomplishment after throwing a gutter ball in the Championship round. After he threw the shot, he thought to himself, it can't get any worse. He ran over the field averaging 246 in his 3 games in the championship game.

This past season was a historical season for the PBA Tour. The PBA had 3 bowlers that dominated the PBA Tour. A new thing happened with having the X-tra Frame tournaments. It will be exciting to see what the PBA comes up with in the future.



Parker Bohn, III (center) accepting my 1st place award for the 2012 BWAA Amateur Writing contest, editorial submission. Also pictured are: Jim Goodwin (left), President of the BWAA; and Chris Beard (right), Chairman of the Amateur Writing Contest.



#### PBA TRIVIA WIZARD

Please submit your answers via e-mail to: josh@joshhydebowling.com. 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?

- Who became the first player to win Rookie of the Year and Player of the Year?
- Name 1 of the 2 players that bowled a 300 on national TV in the 2011-12 PBA tour season?



#### **Last Month's PBA Wizard Trivia Winner**

Winner Awarded—Chirs Mort

Last Month's Answers:

- 1.) Pete Weber
- 2.) Bobby Cooper