



This issue concludes the fifth year of Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter!

Thank you for your support and subscription!

Practice Pair

Hello, Bowling Fans!

Welcome to another edition of *Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter*. The **Messenger** highlights the Geico Summer Swing. The **Strike Column** analyzes five bowlers just shy of superstardom. In the **Kingpin Column**, PBA player Jason Belmonte is the "Interview of the Month." **Breakpoint** covers the Indiana High School Bowling and Scholarship Tournament. The **Split Column** talks about the only player who has completed the Triple Crown twice. The **Spare Column** talks about Ryan Ciminelli winning his ninth regional. **In the Pocket** is the Top Ten Moments of the 2000s. **Bowlology** explains how to find a bowler's positive axis point. Finally, the **Tenth Frame** has my thoughts on a fan's drive to a bowling career. A new column called **Xtra Frame Spotlight** is an analysis of Bill O'Neil's success at the Badger Open. I hope you enjoy this edition of the *Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter*.

- Josh Hyde

Messenger

Geico Summer Swing Summary

At this years Geico Summer Swing it was just like the PBA World Series of Bowling, however there were some things that were different.

One change was the PBA had the Summer Swing at 3 different Centers. This allowed the bowlers to be challenged by the different lane surfaces and patterns.

Another change was the introduction of three new oil patterns. They are, Badger, Bear, and Wolf. The Badger is the longest in PBA history at 52 feet. The Bear is a 40 foot flat pattern just like the US Open. Finally, the Wolf is the shortest pattern ever at 32 feet.

The Bear has proven to be the toughest because the tournament has produced only one perfect game. On top of that the cut for the top 24 only took an average of 207.5 for 10 games. The leader was only 230 over. Belmonte made a late charge in qualifying to make the match play and by the end of the 26th game of qualifying and match play he lead the tournament for the step ladder finals.

Bowlers could bowl in one event. They did not have to bowl in all three. However if they wanted to bowl in the Milwaukee Open they would have to bowl in all three.

The Milwaukee Open was a combined score with the Badger, Bear and Wolf Opens. After 30 games of qualifying they cut to the top 28 for the cashers round. Those 28 bowlers came back and bowled 5 more games of qualifying. After a total of 35 games of qualifying they made a cut to the top 24. The top 24 qualifiers bowled 24 games of match play for top 5 step ladder finals. There were only 3 bowlers that made every final, Bill O'Neil, Mike Fagan and Chris Barnes.

During the course of match play in the Milwaukee Open they used all three different patterns. It was a very interesting Geico Summer Swing.

Finally, the PBA did the King of the Swing where each of the 4 winners of the Geico Summer Swing would be in the step ladder for the King of the Swing. The 5th and final spot would be a player that did not win the Badger, Wolf or Bear or Milwaukee Open.

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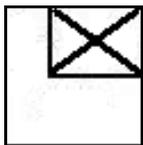
MISSION STATEMENT:

To provide bowling fans important bowling news, thoughtful analysis, and keen observations about professional and regional bowling tournaments.

VISION:

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

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Strike Column – 5 Great Bowlers Just Shy of Superstardom

Back in 2009, the PBA ranked the top 50 players of all time. Of course, bowling fans already know the top players. In contrast, the five players talked about below are guys who looked like they were going to be legends of the PBA Tour; however, by the end of their careers they came up just shy of superstardom. The bowlers that I am speaking of are Johnny Petraglia, Wayne Zahn, Jim Godman, Jim Stefanich, and Dave Davis. Between these five bowlers, they have a combined 60 PBA titles.

Johnny Petraglia became the second player in PBA history to complete the Triple Crown. He is also the first bowler to have won three consecutive titles in one season. Just recently in 2012, he became the first bowler to win titles in six different decades. He also bowled a 300 on national television at the 1994 PBA World Championship.

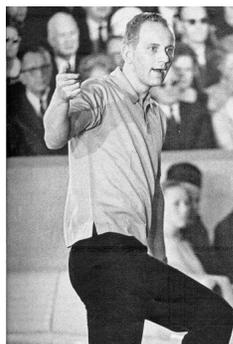
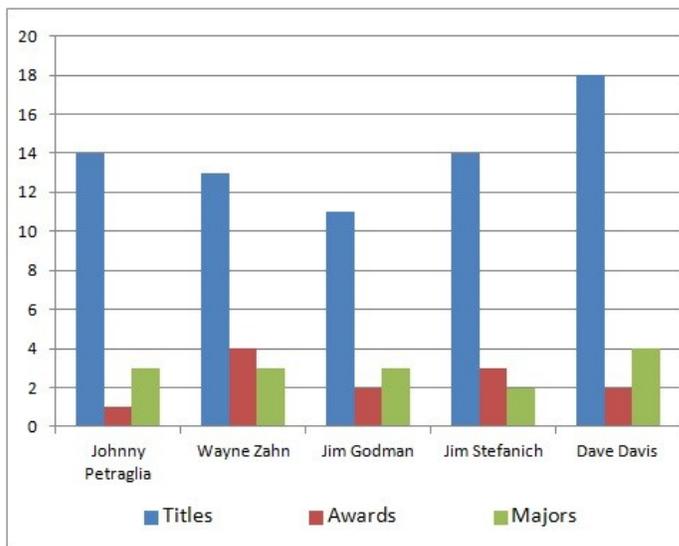
Wayne Zahn was the first player to earn the George Young High Average award consecutive years in 1966-67. Bowling fans might have expected him to take on Dick Weber. He became the second player to win two Majors in a single season. In 1966, he set an earnings record for the year as well as being named Player of the Year. He had a total of three Majors and 13 career titles.

Jim Godman became the first two-time winner of the Tournament of Champions. He was the 1965 Rookie of the Year. Godman amassed 11 career titles. He won the 1971 Masters. By the time he was 23, he had 3 PBA Tour titles. At the time, Jim was a modern day cranker. He was the first bowler to record three 700 series in a single tournament—the USBC in 1974. Godman is one of the few bowlers who was inducted into the PBA Hall of Fame and USBC Hall of Fame in the same year.

Dave Davis was the first southpaw superstar of the PBA Tour, winning four majors, one Player of the Year award, and 18 titles. His career spanned more than 20 years. He holds the record for leading the field by 770 pins. Davis won his first major title one year after joining the PBA—the PBA World Championship. Within 14 years of joining the PBA, Davis was inducted into the PBA Hall of Fame.

Jim Stefanich turned pro in 1965 and earned a spot in the 1967 Tournament of Champions, where he would eventually win as a rookie. Within three years, he won 10 of his 14 titles. He also won the Player of the Year and the High Average awards in 1968. He was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1980. He also became the third bowler to bowl a 300 on television.

All of these bowlers could have given the Anthonys, Webers, and Walter Rays a run for the top spot among the 50 greatest of all time. They just missed superstar status because of the amount of great bowlers in history. However, all five were still great in the early stages of the PBA.



Wayne Zahn



Dave Davis



Jim Stefanich



Jonny Petraglia



Jim Godman

Breakpoint



Indiana High School Bowling Camp & Scholarship Tournament

Summer is finally here! Indiana High School Bowling is sponsoring a 4-day camp for high school bowlers. Cooper's Sport Bowl in Anderson, IN, is hosting the event July 17-21. Campers will be housed at Anderson University.

Pre-registration is available until May 31st for a cost of \$449 per camper. From June 1st through July 10th, registration cost is \$499 per camper. These prices include housing and meals.

The camp will focus on team building while polishing individual bowling techniques. Also, the camp is promoting itself as a "college prep bowling course". To cap it off, a scholarship tournament will take place.

On Saturday, July 20th, 11am-5pm, Josh Hyde is tentatively scheduled to speak with campers in the concourse area about his newsletter, book, and website.

Interested campers can register online at ihsb.org or call toll-free at 1-800-424-8962.



Moments in History

The 1998 Majors

The year was 1998 and the first three majors were won by Walter Ray Williams, Jr., Pete Weber, and Mike Aulby. The last two majors were won by Dennis Horan, Jr. and Bryan Goebel. In the USBC Masters, Aulby had become the first bowler to win three Masters. Weber had won his second PBA World Championship. In the U.S. Open, Williams had won his first of two U.S. Opens. The other two Majors were won by great bowlers, but not household names. Three of the five Majors were won by the greats. Parker Bohn III became the 12th bowler to bowl a 300 on TV. Overall, it was a great season in the Majors!

Interview of the Month: Jason Belmonte

Q: What Major would you prefer to win? Why?

A: If I could win only one more major, I would want the US Open trophy in my hands. I want this one more than the others for two main reasons. The oil pattern is the hardest pattern we bowl on tour which gives the event its prestige and the 2nd reason is the long format. So not only is it difficult, but you have bowl on that difficult pattern for a long time if you are crowned the champion.

Q: Would you rather strike for a title or mark? Why?

A: Nothing beats the feeling of striking to win. It's what we dream about and to watch it become a reality is almost surreal.

Q: What do you think of the new PBA League and how could it be improved in the future?

A: I think the League has lots of potential. I would very much like the format of this league be more 'team' based, rather than individual. I have bowled in some amazing team atmospheres and it's extremely difficult to explain the feeling of winning as a team.

Q: How many bowling balls do you carry to a PBA Tournament?

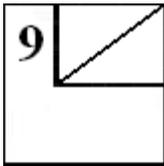
A: I carry anywhere between 6-9 balls per event.

Q: When did you decide to turn pro and what was the deciding factor?

A: I wanted to be the best bowler in the world. In order to do that, I had to climb the biggest mountain in bowling, the PBA. Realizing that I couldn't achieve goals by just looking at the PBA, I knew it was time to work harder than ever and jump into the fire with the big boys.



Correction: Pete Weber became the first and only bowler to complete the triple crown *twice* when he won the 2013 Tournament of Champions. His 26 years between titles in the same tournament is the longest in history.



The Spare Column is a column focusing on the PBA Central Region—top player stats, tournament highlights, interviews, and occasional updates from Bobby Jakel about what is going on in the Central Region.

Ciminelli Wins His 9th Regional

Elkhart, Ind.—Ryan Ciminelli bowled his way to a \$4,000 prize at the Elkhart Country Club Lanes on April 26-28.

In the opening round of qualifying of the 2013 PBA Country Club Lanes Central Open, E.J. Tackett led the field with a score of +425. Ciminelli was second with a score of +406. It took a score of +120 by Eugene McCune to make the cut. The last cash spot was a +87 score by Dan Perry.

In the match play portion, Ciminelli took a commanding lead, to claim the top spot of the stepladder finals. He had a total pinfall of 5162. Right behind him was Riga Kalfas with 4877 and David Traber with 4850. E.J. Tackett made the final cut by one pin over Liz Johnson at 4806. Ciminelli also went 9-3 in match play.

In the stepladder finals, Tackett started out strong against Traber, who struggled. At the end of the opening match, Traber found his line and struck out. Tackett could only muster up a 201 against Traber's 225.

In the semifinals, Traber opened with an 11-bagger, shooting a 298. Kalfas shot well, but fell short with a 240 score. Traber left a 6-10 on his fill ball. Traber's luck, however, did not follow him into the championship match.

Ciminelli prevailed in the championship match, defeating Traber 238-175, as he was attacking the whole day. His win was inspired by his fiancée's cousin's death, who died at 27 years old from cancer.

Championship Round Statistics:	
High Game	David Traber: 298
Low Game	David Traber: 175
High Match	Traber v. Kalfas: 298-240
Low Match	Ciminelli v. Traber: 238-175
Avg. Winning Game	254

Regionals RPI

The PBA announced that July 15 is the deadline for players to qualify for each regional. These RPIs will have a 1:2 ratio for cashing spots. It is a seasonal point list in which the players can qualify, along with some byes in the qualifying round for points leaders.

Each winner of the RPIs will receive a free spot into the fifth World Series of Bowling in October. The prize funds in each RPI is over \$25,000, and the top prize will pay \$6,000. The players are expected to qualify in the top 48 of their region. The top four will receive a two-round bye.

Players are required to compete in a minimum of 50 percent of the regional schedule. Players who finish 16th-32nd in total points standing are invited, however they must pay a \$220 entry fee. Players who finish 1st-15th will receive a free entry. The season runs from September 1, 2012 to July 15, 2013.

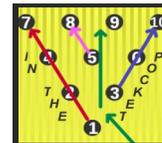
The winner of each RPI will compete in will have a chance to bowl on televised finals on ESPN. There they will have two semi-final matches, with three bowlers in each match. The top score in each match will advance to the championship match. The winner of the championship match will then get a birth into the 2014 Tournament of Champions. For more information on the RPIs, please visit pba.com.

RPI Schedule

South: Aug 2-4 at Break Point Alley Tavares, Fla.
Midwest: Aug 31-Sept 2 at Super Bowl Peru, Ill.
Southwest: Sept 6-8 Firelake Bowling Center Shawnee, OK
Central: Sept 13-15 Thunderbowl Lanes Allen Park, Mich.
East: Sept 20-22 Maple City Bowl Hornell, NY
West/Northwest: Oct 18-20 National Bowling Stadium Reno, Nev.

OPENING MATCH		1. Ryan Ciminelli—238	Ryan Ciminelli
	2. Riga Kalfas—240	David Traber—175	
3. David Traber—225	David Traber—298		CHAMPION
4. E.J. Tackett—201	SEMI-FINALS	CHAMPIONSHIP	

A condensed Top 10 Moments that have happened in bowling history or on the PBA Tour



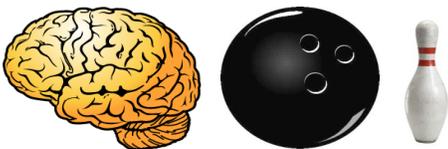
Top 10 Moments of the 2000s

10.
9.
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- 2000—Jason Couch becomes the first player to successfully defend his title at the Tournament of Champions.
- 2002—Doug Kent wins \$120,000 at the PBA World Championship.
- 2003—Norm Duke becomes the 16th bowler to shoot a 300 on television.
- 2007—Doug Kent becomes the player of The Year by winning 2 Majors.
- 2001—Mika Koivuniemi becomes the 1st player to win 2 Majors as his 1st 2 titles at the U.S. Open.

5.
4.
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2.
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- 2006—Walter Ray Williams, Jr. ties Earl Anthony at the PBA World Championship.
- 2002—Jason Couch becomes the first player to 3-peat the Tournament of Champions.
- 2008—Norm Duke wins three majors in a row at the PBA World Championship.
- 2008—Norm Duke becomes the 2nd player to win the Grand Slam and the 5th player to win the Triple Crown at the US Open.
- 2006—Walter Ray Williams, Jr. surpasses Earl Anthony by winning the Japan Cup.



BOWLOLOGY

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

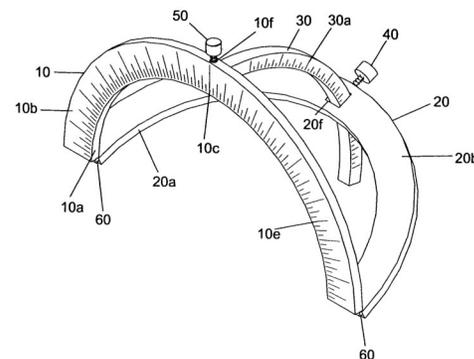
Finding a Bowler's Positive Axis Point

In order for a bowler to get a correct drilling layout they must figure out where their positive axis point is. I will be describing this process months Bowlology.

To do this accurately the bowler is going to have to throw the ball where there is oil on the

lane. Usually toward the center of the lane. Once the ball comes back through the ball return the bowler will mark the oil track around the surface of the ball.

If there are multiple rings around the ball, mark the one closest to the finger and thumb holes. Put the ball in the ball cup so the track is below the center of the ball and level with the table. At that point the bowler or pro shop operator will mark the top of the ball. The bowler will then throw another shot to see if the mark is stationary with the ball rotating around the mark when it is released.



A pencil, ball cup, and a quarter scale are useful tools to have.

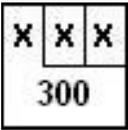
inches right of the grip center, left of grip center if you're left handed, and even to one inch above the center line. If you can't see the oil track on the surface of the ball, start with the tape in this area and move it around on successive shots until it's steady off your hand when the ball hits the lane.

Once you have found your release axis you can measure the distance your axis is right or left of the grip center and how far up or down from the center line it is.



Sample oil rings around a bowling ball to help a bowler find their positive axis point

Most bowler's axis point will be between 4 1/2 and 5 1/2



A Fan's Drive Toward a Bowling Career

Seven years ago, I mulled around an idea in my head—to report on what was happening in the bowling world: new products, tournaments, bowlers, etc. I realized, at an early age, that I wanted to be in the bowling industry. I thought of topics from 300-games to new bowling balls that were being introduced. Also, I had a website called probowlersuperfan.com. That was the start of the conversation, but the rest had yet to be formalized. Initially, I thought that I would be reinventing the wheel. Therefore, I did not pursue the newsletter idea at that time. Fast forward to now... I am celebrating the 5-year anniversary of Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter!

In 2008, at the Fort Wayne regional, I was just beginning the newsletter. Lyle Zikes gave me an idea to start charging for my newsletter. It was \$5 per year, and \$1 for advertising space. The following year, I increased the price for mailing to \$10. I went to a few local bowling tournaments and was able to generate some income. When I upped the cost the second year, there was a bowling tournament organization called the Michiana Bowlers Association (MBA) that I promoted my newsletter through. I was able to make over \$100 in one day!

My third year I decided to not charge because I was not getting subscriptions. In 2009, at the Fort Wayne Regional, I met Harry Wolfe who is the editor of American Bowler. As I always do, I was carrying my portfolio of my newsletter and he asked me if I could write a story about the regional for his newspaper.

In April 29, 2011, I changed my website from probowlersuperfan.com to joshhydeb bowling.com. I had always put my newsletter on the website, but I wanted to convert the website to tie in with the newsletter.

Nearly five years have past, and I have been able to write for the

Bowler's Journal. I would not have dreamed that by writing a newsletter, it would progress into writing for this magazine.

In November 2008, I had gone to PBA Tour Stop. It was there that I found out that I was not going to be able to go to the television show. I finally found a way to attend the television show. On the final day, Tom Clark, COO of PBA was in attendance and I decided to ask if it was possible to attend the television show for free. He stated that by writing my newsletters covering the PBA Tour that I would be able to attend.

As the readers may know, I do "Moments in History" and "The Strike Column". I wanted to incorporate these into a book that I was writing called "Bowling from Another View". There is a chapter in my book called "Bowling Experiences" where I incorporate the "Moments in History" and the "Strike Column".

As a member of the IBMA, the bowling writers receive press releases from the PBA via e-mail. I keep all of these along with the tournament notes from the PBA. All of these experiences have led up to the making of "The Fan's Drive Toward a Bowling Career".

By simply doing the "Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter", it has given me so many opportunities - such as going to the PBA Hall of Fame ceremony, going to my 24th and 25th PBA Major tournaments; writing a book; and writing an article for the Bowlers Journal International Magazine.

I hope you have enjoyed the past 5 years as much as I have.

Thank you for your support and dedication to the Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter.



The Bowler's Journal article about Josh Hyde and his interview with Doug Kent in May 2013



X-Tra Frame Spotlight

O'Neil's Quick Success at the Badger Open

During the Summer Swing Badger Open, Bill O'Neil cleared the front 21 frames with strikes. This was on the longest PBA pattern at 52 feet.

For a bowler to start off with a 300 and a 279 on this long pattern is an unbelievable accomplishment. He left the 8 pin on the first ball of the tenth frame. Bill ended up bowling a second 300 game in the first round of match play. During the qualifying portion of the Open, O'Neil had only one game under 200, but had a bad reaction in Match play. During the two rounds, he had six games under 200.

As a bowler with a 30 bonus pins from winning the match, with six games under 200, Bill was not able to capitalize on his qualifying score. He was third after qualifying, but 22nd and missed the TV show.