



Josh Hyde is an Honorary PBA Member since 2001 and an IBMA Member since 2006.

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Left: Jason Belmonte, 2013 USBC Masters winner  
Right: PBA League logo



## Practice Pair

Hello, Bowling Fans!

Welcome to another edition of *Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter*. The **Messenger** highlights the 2013 USBC Masters. The **Strike Column** analyzes the Viper pattern. In the **Kingpin Column**, The Moment in History talks about the saddest day in professional bowling history. **Breakpoint** covers the announcement of the new Xtra Frame app and the sponsorship for the Tournament of Champions. The **Split Column** talks about the bowlers who won the Steve Nagy Sportsmanship award multiple times. The **Spare Column** focuses on the first three rounds of the PBA League. **In the Pocket** is the Top Ten things in USBC Master's history. **Bowlology** explains how to read an oil graph. Finally, the **Tenth Frame** editorializes A Chance of a Lifetime. I hope you enjoy this edition of the *Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter*.

- Josh Hyde

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## Messenger

### Belmonte Wins USBC Masters

Jason Belmonte won his first major title—the USBC Masters—by defeating Wes Malott 258-245 on Feb. 24.

Belmonte did so by forcing Malott to have to strike out in the tenth frame, to win by one pin. Malott tripped the four-pin on his first ball in the tenth frame. However, on his second ball, he left a 3-6 -10 spare, giving Belmonte the win. Belmonte did what he needed to by striking out at the end of the game.

Bohn's expense and would go on to win 255-248. In the semi-finals, it was a low scoring affair, as Stuart Williams and Malott could only come up with a 387 score (202-185), giving Malott the chance to face tournament leader Belmonte in the championship game.

This was Belmonte's first major, and was also the second time a two-hander has won a major.

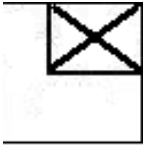
In the first match, Parker Bohn III defeated Mika Koivuniemi 278-246. Bohn had the front eight before leaving a three -pin in the ninth frame. Bohn had to double to shut out Koivuniemi, prevailing in the tenth. The next match saw Bohn take on Malott, but Malott had a front six at

Championship Round Stats	
High Game:	Parker Bohn III (278)
Low Game:	Stuart Williams (185)
High Match:	Mika Koivuniemi/Bohn (246/278)
Low Match:	Wes Malott/Stuart (202/185)
Average Winning Game:	248.25

		Champion	
		Jason Belmonte	
1) Jason Belmonte - 258			
2) Stuart Williams - 185	Wes Malott - 245		
3) Wes Malott - 255	Wes Malott - 202		
4) Parker Bohn III - 278	Parker Bohn III - 248		
5) Mika Koivuniemi - 246			

**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.*



# Strike Column – Viper Pattern Analysis

Viper is one of the shortest patterns on the PBA Tour. Players are best to start playing straighter. The length of this pattern is 37 feet and using the Rule of 31, the board would be 6.

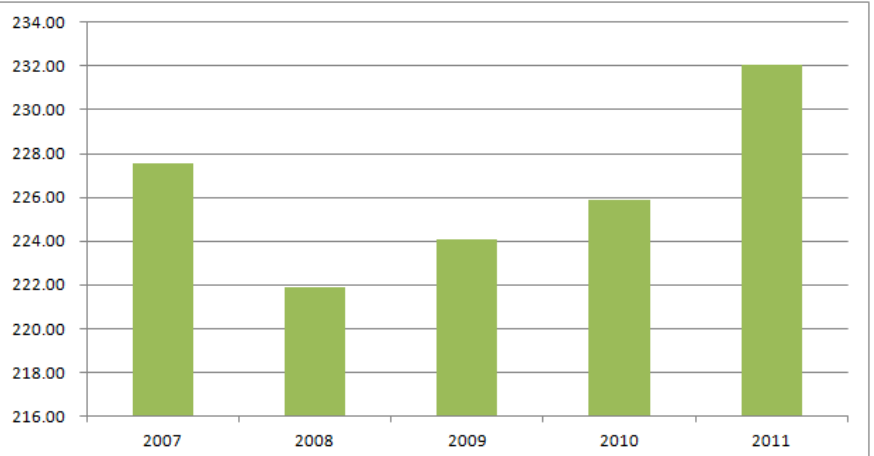
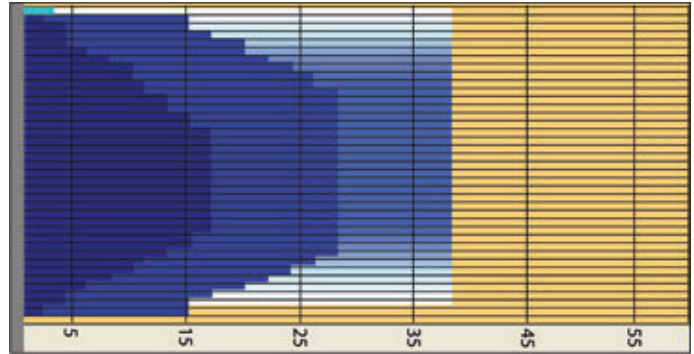
There are 7 players averaging 230 or better on this pattern. Brad Angelo has won both of his titles on this pattern. Some of the big names who have done well on this pattern are: Patrice Allen, Parker Bohn III, Mike Fagan, Sean Rash, Walter Ray Williams. Mika Koivuniemi.

There are multiple players that have multiple championships appearances on this pattern. Mika leads the group with three appearances with the most recent at this year's World Series of Bowling. This Championship round featured the best bowlers of the Viper pattern, Mika, Mike Fagan, Sean Rash, and Brad Angelo. It was a nail biter as Brad won his second title by 1 pin over Mika.

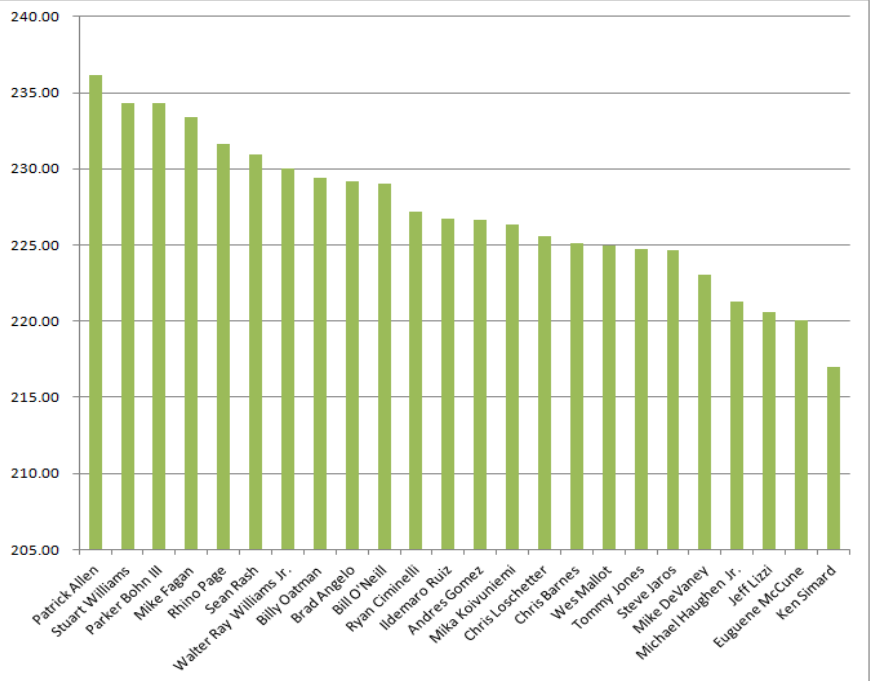
In 2005 at the Bowler's Paradise.com Classic in Hammond, Indiana, Pete Weber won on this pattern his first title after the passing of his father. Patrick Allen leads the pack with an average of 236. My first 200+ game on a PBA pattern was on Viper. I shot a 237 on my birthday. Sean Rash used the New Brunswick Aura during the 2012 Viper Championship.

During this five pattern series, I hope bowling fans learned how hard the lanes are on the PBA Tour.

Viper oil pattern graph



Bowler	Average	Tournaments	Last Tournament
Patrick Allen	236.18	1	2007
Stuart Williams	234.35	1	2011
Parker Bohn III	234.34	1	2007
Mike Fagan	233.40	2	2012
Rhino Page	231.65	2	2009
Sean Rash	230.93	2	2012
Walter Ray Williams Jr.	230.06	2	2008
Billy Oatman	229.44	1	2007
Brad Angelo	229.17	2	2012
Bill O'Neill	229.00	1	2010
Ryan Ciminelli	227.21	1	2009
Ildemaro Ruiz	226.76	1	2011
Andres Gomez	226.68	1	2010
Mika Koivuniemi	226.30	3	2012
Chris Loschetter	225.55	1	2008
Chris Barnes	225.14	1	2007
Wes Mallot	224.97	1	2008
Tommy Jones	224.73	1	2010
Steve Jaros	224.62	1	2009
Mike DeVaney	223.05	1	2010
Michael Haughen Jr.	221.31	1	2009
Jeff Lizzi	220.61	1	2007
Eugene McCune	220.03	1	2007
Ken Simard	217.00	1	2007



Above: Individual average leaders over past five seasons

Top Right: Average bowler score by year

Bottom Right: Individual average leaders over past five seasons (bar graph)

# Moments in History

## Saddest Day in Pro Bowling

In 1997, the PBA ended its 35th year with ABC Television. It was ironic because Dick Weber was on the very first show that ABC telecast for the pro bowling tour. Pete Weber ended up making the Championship round for the last show. In fact, he threw the last ball.

The Championship match featured the #1 and #2 bowlers in the world—Walter Ray Williams, Jr. and Pete Weber. Walter Ray forced Weber to double and get 8 on his fill ball to win the title. Weber came up short by coming a little high on the head pin and leaving a 3-6-10 spare. Both Weber and Williams were chasing the 2 million dollar in career earnings mark at that time. Both fell short in this tournament.

During qualifying match play, the tournament leader only averaged 217. Walter Ray was the tournament leader.

The show featured Walter Ray, Weber, Doug Kent, and Steve Jaros. They also had a King of the Hill match where Ricky Ward and Brian Voss faced off. Ward defeated Voss 194-167. Ward earned \$10,000 for winning the game. Brian Voss and Amleto Monacelli were top ten finishers in the tournament. Norm Duke was just outside the top ten at 11th place. The lowest average in the top 24 was Dave D'Entremont with a 197. Many of the bowlers were averaging 2'0. Shooting a 200 was a great score that week.

Why was this the saddest day in pro bowling? Chris Schenkel was known as the "Voice of Pro Bowling", and this was to be the last tournament in which he announced. His distinctive voice and enthusiasm for the sport was evident in each of his broadcasts. He was also one of the pioneers of professional bowling.



Schenkel was going to be sorely missed as he was widely respected and admired. June 21, 1997, was definitely the saddest day in professional bowling.

At left: Chris Schenkel

At right: Pete Weber



At left: Walter Ray Williams, Jr.

## Breakpoint: Barbasol to Sponsor the ToC

On February 15, the PBA announced that Barbasol will sponsor the Tournament of Champions, which is set to start March 27 and end March 31. The Tournament of Champions will resume being a traditional tournament in which bowlers must have a PBA Tour title.

For this prestigious tournament, the field consists of 48 recent champions of the PBA Tour, plus any past

champions of the Tournament of Champions. The tournament will consist of 24 games of qualifying, with the top 24 players advancing to match play.

These bowlers will then return to bowl 24 more games of match play. The top five bowlers after 48 games of qualifying and match play will advance to the televised step-ladder finals on March 31.

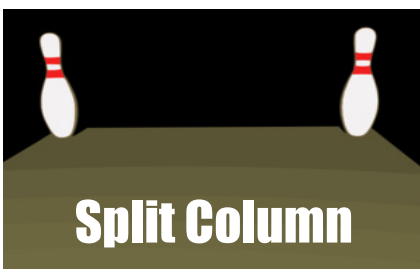
The PBA will induct Danny Wiseman and Doug Kent into the PBA Hall of Fame on the eve of the finals.



## XTra Frame App Now Available

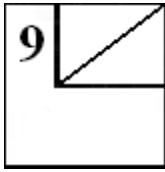
On February 19, the PBA announced that Xtra Frame had an app now for mobile devices. Bowling fans can use their Apple or Android devices, notably the iPad. NeuLion created the app for XTra Frame.

PBA fanatics can go to Google Play or iTunes Store to download this new app. However, to use the app, you must be a PBA XTra subscriber.



**There have been two bowlers who have won the Steve Nagy Sportsmanship award three times, Justin Hromek and Steve Martin. Parker Bohn III won it four times in a row.**





# Spare Column

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.

## Round One of PBA League

The Brooklyn STyLES won the opening round of the PBA League at Thunderbowl in Allen Park Michigan. They did it by defeating New York City WTT KingPins 225-215 in the championship game. Rash doubled in the tenth to win the first round of the PBA League. They earned 18 points from the victory. In the semi-final, the Kingpins defeated Motown Muscle 226-191. In this game, both teams were matching strikes and spares before Jones opened a lead in the sixth for the KingPins.

## Round Two of PBA League

Rhino Page won the Clash Round for the Dallas Strikers which gave them the opportunity to get more points in the Second Round of the PBA League. However, the KingPins got on a roll by averaging 223.33 through the stepladder finals. This moved them into the points lead with three rounds to go.

### Championship Round Stats:

**High Game:** Strikers, 278 (Round 1)

**Low Game:** Philly Hitmen, 162 (Round 3)

**High Match:** Strikers v. Atom Splitters, 278-171 (Round 1)

**Low Match:** NY KingPins v. Philly Hitmen, 211-162 (Round 3)

**Average Winning Game:** 221.9

## Round Three of PBA League

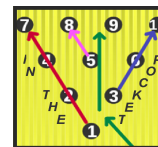
Mike DeVaney won the Clash round, giving the Philadelphia Hitmen the right to bowl in the third round of the stepladder. The first match saw Philadelphia defeat the Brooklyn Styles soundly 214-196. In the semi-finals, the Hitmen had a hard time hitting the pocket, and could only get 162. The New York KingPins shot 211, advancing to a showdown with the Motown Muscle in the championship round. Scott Norton had a chance to win the match, by striking the first ball in the tenth frame, but he came up short, leaving the seven pin. This gave the Muscle the win.

### Current standings after three rounds:

1. New York City WTT KingPins – 32
2. Motown Muscle – 27
3. Brooklyn STyLES – 25
4. Hitmen – 17
5. Dallas Strikers – 16
6. Atom Splitters – 13
7. L.A. X – 11
8. Jack Rabbits – 4

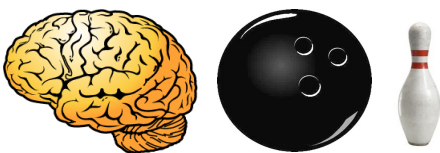
	Below: NYC WTT KingPins		Below: Dallas Strikers		Below: Motown Muscle		Below: Brooklyn STyLES
Above: L.A. X		Above: Atom Splitters		Above: Philly Hitmen		Above: Jack Rabbits	

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



## Top Ten Moments in USBC Masters History

- 10.** 1957: Dick Hoover successfully defends his Master's title, he becomes the first to accomplish that feat.
- 5.** 2007: Sean Rash wins his first Masters while going undefeated in the championship round of the PBA tour.
- 9.** 1998: Parker Bohn III shoots 300 on national television.
- 4.** 2006: Doug Kent wins his 2nd Masters. He would go on to win Player of the Year.
- 8.** 2012: Missy Parkin becomes the highest placed female in Master's history by finishing 12th.
- 3.** 1984: Earl Anthony wins his 2nd Masters coming out of retirement.
- 7.** 2004: Danny Wiseman shoots 289 at Miller Park.
- 2.** 1966: Billy Welu becomes the 2nd bowler to defend his title.
- 6.** 2010: Walter Ray Williams Jr. shoots 290 to win his 2nd USBC Masters.
- 1.** 1998: Mike Aulby becomes the 1st bowler to win 3 Masters.



## BOWLOLOGY

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

The tournament host occasionally posts a graph to tell the bowlers how long the pattern is, how much oil volume is on the lane, and what the pattern looks like. So, what does all of this

mean? Well, for starters, the bottom numbers (refer to graph at right) are the board numbers of the lane.

Forward oil (the red area of the graph) is laid down the first 16 feet of the lane, then buffed out to 44 feet. That means the oil tapers out, like down a hill. With reverse oil (green area of the graph) starting at 32 feet and continues to the heads. Bowlers will bowl down the lane from heavier oil into light oil into the backend.

Volume is how much oil is on the lane and is measured in milliliters. Pattern shape is the shape of the oil on the lane. The chart at the right is similar to a top

hat. Other shapes are: Christmas tree, block, and flat.

The white area of the graph (no green or red color) indicates the dry area of the lane where the friction is higher.

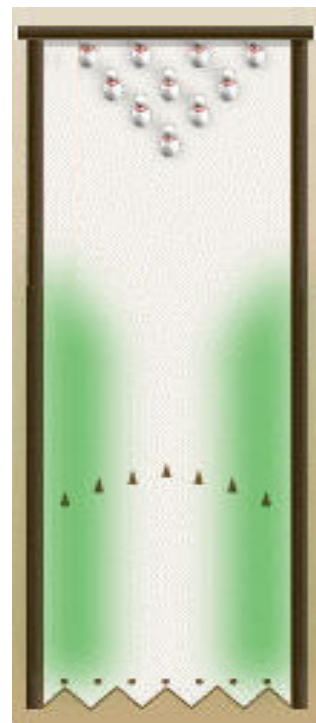
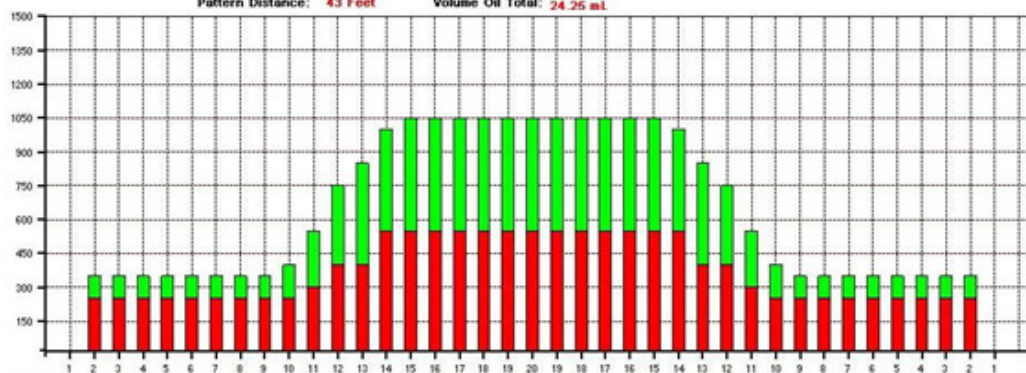
**Below: Reverse block oil pattern**  
**Bottom Left: Top Hat oil pattern**

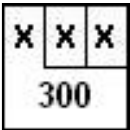
Arrow	Item	2-6L16L-20	6-10L16-20	11-15L16L-20	16L-20-20-16R	16L-20-20-16R	20-16R15-11R	20-16R10-6R	20-16R5-2R
Zone	uL Arrow	360	360	840	1050	1050	840	360	360
Zone	Zone Ratio	3	2.92	1.25	1	1	1.25	2.92	3

Track	Item	3L-7L18L-18R	8L-12L18L-18R	13L-17L18L-18R	18L-18R17R-13R	18L-18R12R-8R	18L-18R7R-3R
Zone	Description	Outside Track: Middle	Middle Track: Middle	Inside Track: Middle	Middle: Inside Track	Middle: Middle Track	Middle: Outside Track
Zone	Track Zone Ratio	3	2.19	1.05	1.05	2.19	3

Oil Per Board: 60 uL      Forward Oil Total: 11.85 ml      Reverse Oil: 10.4 ml  
 Pattern Distance: 43 Feet      Volume Oil Total: 24.25 ml





**A Chance of a Lifetime**

At the end of last month, I was going to be writing for Bowlers Journal through Parker Bohn III, Norm Duke, Chris Barnes, and the Bowlers Journal. They made a way for me to go down to the Tournament of Champions in Indianapolis at the end of next month. Back in January, I did an editorial called Bucket List for Bowling. In that editorial, I mentioned the fact that I would love to do an article for Bowlers Journal International. I had also mentioned how I would love to go to every major twice. The Tournament of Champions is one major that I have not gone to twice. I am killing two birds with one stone.

I was thrilled to learn that the 2013 Tournament of Champions would be held in my home state—in Indianapolis, IN. I found out last summer. Also, I am truly honored to be able to write a column for the Bowler's Journal.

These are some of the things that I will be doing at the TOC:

- Watching the final round of qualifying and all rounds of Match Play
- Going to the PBA Hall of Fame ceremony
- Bowling in the Pro-Am
- Being interviewed by Bowlers Journal International
- Being at the live telecast for the Tournament of Champions

- Seeing the taping of the PBA League Finals

I will be fortunate enough to attend the PBA Hall of Fame ceremony were Doug Kent and Danny Wiseman will be going into the PBA Hall of Fame on the eve of the Tournament of Champions televised finals. This, I believe, will be the highlight of my trip.

Also, in the past, I have gotten a PBA credential; however, this time, the credential will indicate "MEDIA". This will serve as my ticket to get into the ToC.

I am also going to get to bowl in the Pro-Am. This is the best Pro-Am that a bowling fan can bowl in. In each game, the amateur bowls with a PBA titlist. The chances of bowling with a Walter Ray, Jr. and Pete Weber go up. In most Pro-Ams that amateurs bowl in, you might bowl with a local pro that you do not know.

Additionally, I will be able to be a part of PBA Tour history with the PBA League Championship Finals. They will be taping it after the Live Finals of the Tournament of Champions.

It will be exciting to see if some of the past names that have won this tournament can make Match Play. It is always a thrill to watch the greatest bowlers of all time.

They want me to do a story of my choosing, and I chose to do an interview with PBA Hall of Fame inductee Doug Kent. I will be conducting that interview prior to the tournament and submitting it to Bowlers Journal International.

Its been a dream of mine to be interviewed by the Bowler's Journal about my passion for bowling. I hope I can share this passion with the other readers of the Bowler's Journal.

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



**PBA TRIVIA WIZARD**

Please submit your answers via e-mail to: [josh@joshhydebowl.com](mailto:josh@joshhydebowl.com). The first person that answers this correctly will get a 10% coupon sponsored by [bowlinggift.com](http://bowlinggift.com). Thank you [bowlinggift.com](http://bowlinggift.com) for contributing to the Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter.

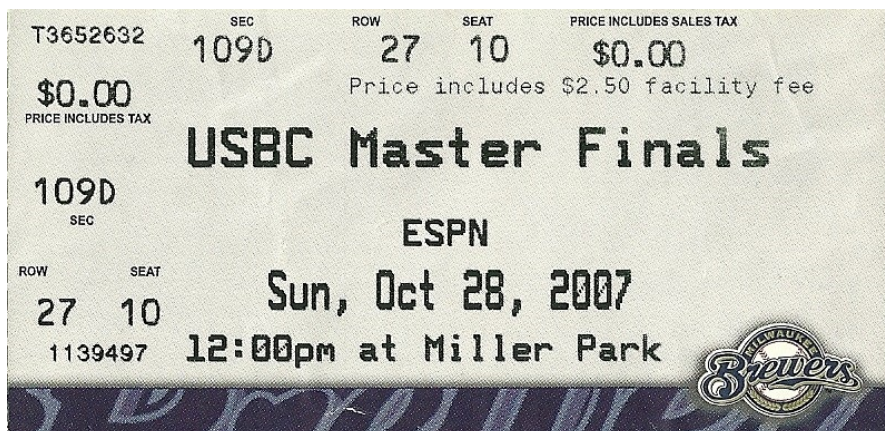
*Who will be the next PBA Trivia Wizard?*

1. Name one of the two members of the 2013 PBA Hall of Fame inductees.
2. Who won the 2013 PBA World Championship?



**Last Month's PBA Wizard Trivia Winner**  
**Winner Awarded: Not Awarded**

Last Month's Answers:  
1.) Doug Kent and Danny Wiseman  
2.) Parker Bohn III



*2007 My USBC Master ticket to the finals*