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## Practice Pair

Hello, Bowling Fans!

Welcome to another issue of **Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter**. **Messenger** discusses Jason Belmonte winning an ESPY. The **Strike Column** analyzes the top stars of this decade. The **Spare Column** highlights Parker Bohn's third PBA50 title. The **Tenth Frame** is a commentary on a conversation between Bill Taylor and Frank Baker that might have taken place. **The Open Frame Column** discusses Josh Hyde's Bowling Ten Pin Staffer's club.



Thanks for reading **Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter**.

- Josh Hyde

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## Messenger

### Belmonte Wins ESPY

Jason Belmonte won the 2015 ESPY for the best bowler for the year. Other nominees were Parker Bohn III and Mike Fagan. Parker Bohn III won the PBA Players Championship at Woodland Bowl in Indianapolis, Indiana. Mike Fagan captured his second major at the 2015 PBA World Championship. He is currently leading in earnings an average for 2015 PBA tour season. He also has the first two Majors of the season.

Jason Belmonte became the first player to win the USBC Masters three times in-a-row and the second player to win three times overall, joining Mike Aulby. He also became the second player in PBA history to successfully defend his Tournament of Champions title earlier this year. Belmonte also become the sixth player to win back to back Player of the Year honors. No bowler has won back-to-back honors in the last 15 years. He is the best player on the PBA tour at this time and is looking to three peat his Chris Schenkel PBA Player of the Year honor.

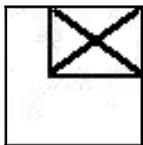
If Jason does get his third Chris Schenkel Player of the Year honor, it would be seventeen seasons since Walter Ray Williams Jr. had completed the honor. He would join Mark Roth, Earl Anthony, and Walter Ray William Jr. as the only players to accomplish the honor.

Belmonte is the best bowler on the PBA Tour right now according to sport fans and bowling fans. He has appeared in the TOC championship round in the last four years, winning two of them.



2015 ESPY Award Winner

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## Strike Column—Top Stars of the 2010's

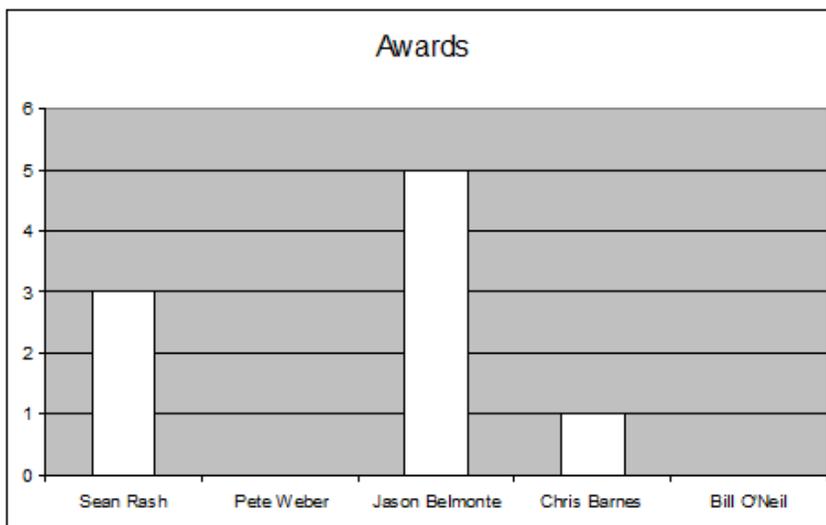
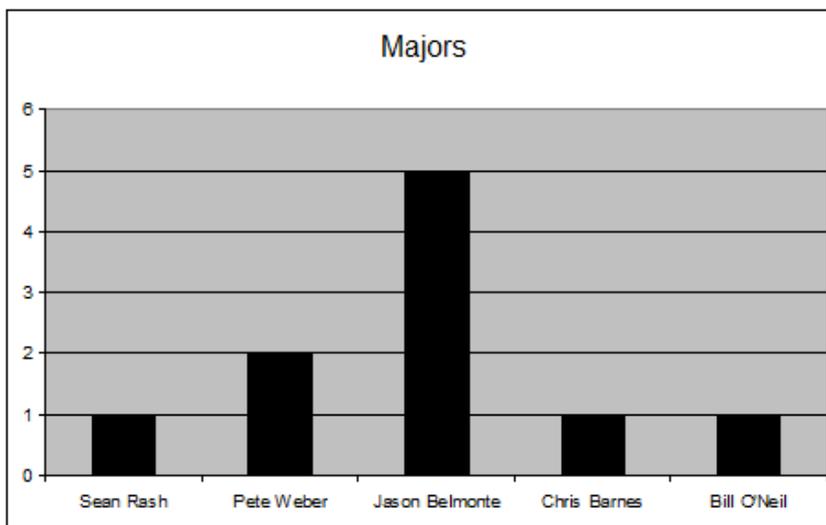
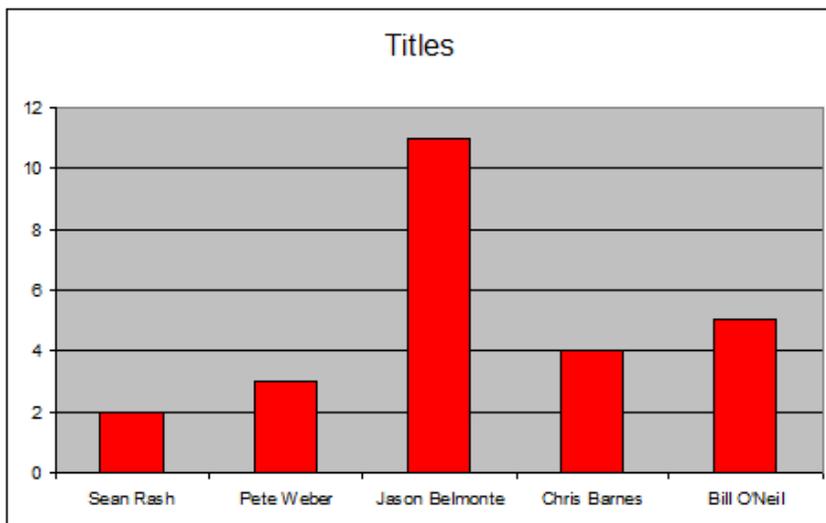
Jason Belmonte is perhaps the best bowler today on the PBA Tour. He has become the first bowler to three-peat the USBC Masters and the second player to successfully defend his Tournament of Champions title.

However, there are other players that are also dominating the Tour. These bowlers are Sean Rash, Bill O'Neil, Chris Barnes, and Pete Weber. The charts on the right show how they stack up to Belmonte in titles, majors, and awards.

Bill O'Neil has dominated the Summer Swing over the last three seasons. In 2011, Chris Barnes became the sixth player to complete the Triple Crown when he won the PBA World Championship. In 2012, Pete Weber became the only player to win five U.S. Opens, and a year later he became the first player to complete the Triple Crown twice at the Tournament of Champions.

Sean Rash became the first player to bowl two perfect games on national television in 2015. He is also a threat on the PBA Tour. He also won the PBA Player of the Year, High Average Award, and Point Leader Award for his 2011-12 season.

All of these players have been lighting up the PBA Tour in the 2010's.



## Moment in History

### Petraglia Perfect Game

In the 1994 PBA World/National Championship a couple things happened during that show. One, it was the first time two brothers were in the championship match going for a PBA Major Title. The brothers were David and Dale Traber. The second thing that happened was that Johnny Petraglia would shoot a perfect game on National Television. He did it against Walter Ray Williams, Jr. Every shot was in the pocket, and Johnny would be the only bowler to shoot a 200 game



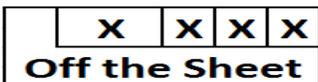
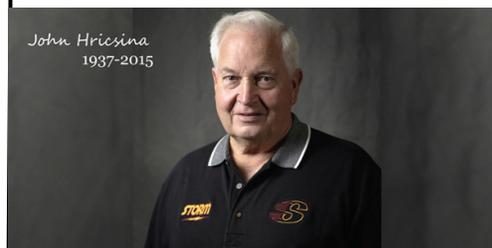
on the show. In the first game, Petraglia scored 237 while defeating Eric Forkel's score of 181.

Petraglia earned \$100,000 for throwing a perfect game. When they interviewed him afterward, he said that his kids do not have to worry about going to college because that money would go toward his childrens' education. Johnny had the best line of the day. If he would have beat Dale Traber in the next game, he would have won his second PBA National/World Championship and his 15th career PBA tour title.

## Breakpoint

### Former PBA50 Player of the Year John Hricsina passes away at 77

On July 21, the bowling world lost another great PBA50 player, John Hricsina. He was a great bowler on the PBA50 Tour. He had \$394,000 in career earnings. He is one of seven bowlers to throw a perfect game on the PBA50 Tour in the championship round. He defeated Avery LeBlanc 300 to 213. He had 25% rate of making the championship round during his PBA50 career. The year that he had multiple wins (1990) resulted in Hricsina becoming PBA50 Player of the Year. John Hricsina will be greatly missed.



*This column is dedicated to the **Bowlers Journal International**. They just celebrated their 100-year anniversary this month. I will be summarizing BJI articles periodically in the *Josh Hyde Bowling Newsletter*.*

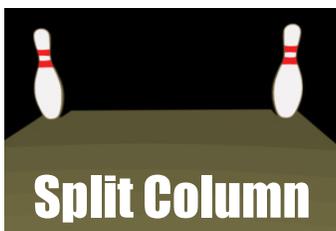
A couple of months ago, I wrote about Pete Weber's Majors and regrettably overlooked mentioning his two PBA50 Major titles. Last month, *Bowlers Journal International Almanac* took a look at his Majors. They listed his titles in chronological order. Bob Johnson

## Pete Weber—12 Major Titles

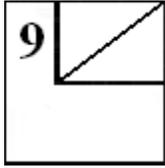
highlighted 5 interesting Pete Weber facts. For instance, his first and last PBA Major title was the Tournament of Champions on the regular PBA Tour. He owns more U.S. Open titles than either Don Carter or his father, Dick, who both won 4 All Stars (now known as the U.S. Open). On five occasions, Weber has went through the step ladder to win five of his majors. That is half of his titles. Pete Weber is perhaps the greatest bowler to win the majors.

The article also mentioned that he has tied Earl Anthony with ten Major Titles on the PBA Tour plus his two on the PBA50 circuit. He is the second bowler to win both the U.S. Open and U.S. Senior Open. He has never earned the honor of PBA Player of the Year. Pete is also the first player to earn PBA and PBA50 Rookie of the Year.

He has been PBA member for 36 years and is still at the top of his game.



**Pete Weber has won at least two majors in each of the last four decades.**



## Spare Column

*The Spare Column is a column focusing on the PBA Central Region and other miscellaneous information about the PBA.*

### Bohn III Wins His Third PBA50 Title

Parker Bohn III wins his third career PBA50 title at the Treasure Island Resort and Casino Open last month. He did it by defeating PBA Hall-of-Famer Pete Weber 259-238. Pete opened up with a strike-spare, then strung 4 strikes in a row before leaving a 10-pin. Meanwhile, Bohn had the front 7 before leaving a 2-4-6-7-10 split in the 8th frame. He failed to convert the split. This gave Weber a chance to put some pressure on Bohn. However, Weber left more 10-pins and could not put any pressure on Bohn. Bohn needed to fill 20 in the tenth to win by one pin. Bohn got up and struck out. He claimed his 3rd PBA50 title.

In the opening game, Bohn defeated Ron Mohr 242-193. In the next game, he defeated Mike Scroggins 268-216. In the semifinals, Bohn won his match against another PBA Hall-of-Famer Brian Voss 258-202.

After 16 games of qualifying, Ron Mohr was leading the field with a score of +577. It took a score of +144 by John Durak to make the cut. Tho-

mas Ream was the Super Senior cut number with a score of +53. Mike Dias was the low number to receive a 2-round bye with a score of +425.

“I know it sounds like a cliché but you have to take one game and one tournament at a time, especially at this point in the season,” Bohn said. “When you look at a finals lineup like we had tonight with this much talent, if you even think about thinking too far ahead you’re asking for trouble.”

**At right:**  
Parker Bohn III, winner of the 2015 Treasure Island Resort and Casino Open.



PBA50 Treasure Island Resort & Casino Open TOURNAMENT STATS	
16 Game Cut Super Senior +/-	+53 Thomas Ream
16 Game Cut Bowler +/-	+144 John Durak
16 Game Cut Bowler for 1-round bye+/-	+299 Don Blatchford
16 Game Cut Bowler for 2-round bye+/-	+425 Mike Dias
16 Game Leader + 2 Rounds bye	+577 Ron Mohr
5 Game Cut Casher Round	+66 Darryl Traber
5 Game Cut Casher Round Leader	+134 Steve Stein
5 Game Match Play Modified Round Robin cut	+135 Peter Knopp
5 Game Match Play Round Robin Leader	+365 Brian Voss
6 Game Match Play Modified Round Robin cut	+284 Rohn Mohr
6 Game Match Play Round Robin Leader	+370 Pete Weber
300 games (0) -	

Championship Round Stats	
High Game	268 Parker Bohn III
Low Game	193 Rohn Mohr
High Match	P. Weber vs P. Bohn III 259-238.
Low Match	R. Mohr vs P. Bohn III 242-193
Average Winning Game	256.75

		1. Pete Weber-238	Parker Bohn III
		2. Brian Voss-202	Parker Bohn III-259
	3. Mike Scroggins-216	Parker Bohn III-258	<b>Champion</b>
4 Parker Bohn III- 242	Parker Bohn III-268		
5. Rohn Mohr-193			

**Mastermind Einstein**



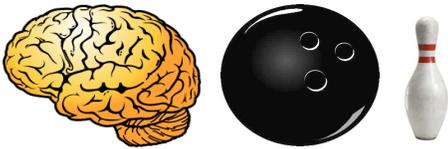
**CORE TYPE**  
Modified Mastermind Asymmetric  
**COVERSTOCK**  
Relativity Hybrid Reactive  
**COLOR**  
Red/Silver/Blue  
**FINISHING STEPS**  
500, 2000, 4000 Siaair  
**WEIGHTS**  
12-16 Pounds  
**RG MAX**  
2.552  
**RG MIN**  
2.504  
**RG DIFFERENTIAL**  
0.048  
**RG AVERAGE**  
Center Heavy (1)4.1Cover Heavy (10)  
**HOOK POTENTIAL**  
Low (10)230High (250)  
**LENGTH**  
Early (25)100Long (235)  
**BREAKPOINT SHAPE**  
Smooth Arc (10)125Angular (150)



**Brute Strength**



**CORE TYPE**  
Brute Low RG/Low Differential Symmetrical  
**COVERSTOCK**  
Savvy Hook Hybrid Reactive  
**COLOR**  
Gold/Black  
**FINISHING STEPS**  
500 Siaair, Royal Compound  
**WEIGHTS**  
12-16 Pounds  
**RG MAX**  
2.523  
**RG MIN**  
2.491  
**RG DIFFERENTIAL**  
0.032  
**RG AVERAGE**  
Center Heavy (1)3.5Cover Heavy (10)  
**HOOK POTENTIAL**  
Low (10)205High (250)  
**LENGTH**  
Early (25)105Long (235)  
**BREAKPOINT SHAPE** Smooth Arc (10)110Angular 150



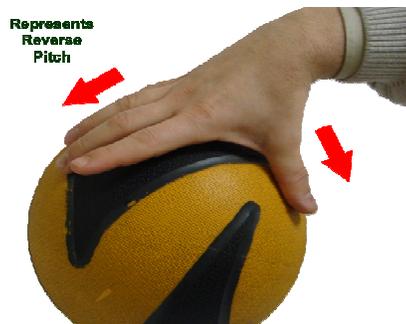
**BOWLOLOGY**

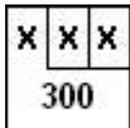
*In this section, a topic will be picked based on the bowling knowledge of Josh Hyde*

**Pitches**

To get a better feel, bowler's can put holes in their ball in which it can properly feel comfortable. If bowlers are having trouble, getting out of the ball, a reverse pitch might be helpful. Chris Barnes uses a forward pitch and that makes it possible for him to have a larger thumb hole. If a bowler wants to get out of the ball quicker, than a reverse pitch is another answer. A bowler is hanging to much in the ball, this will allow them to exit the ball cleanly and if they are having to much trouble with having to much finger rotation, a reverse pitch will help solve this

problem. Forward and reverse pitch can make a bowler's span longer or shorter. A forward pitch will make a bowler's spin shorter while a reverse pitch will make the bowler's span longer. A bowler must consult their pro-shop operator, that can assist with the best pitch that the bowler needs.





## A Striking Conversation between Bill Taylor and Frank Baker



*First of all, I must preface this by stating that this conversation did not really occur. However, I believe this is how the interaction might have played out.*

**Bill Taylor:** I am concerned with how our sport is going by adding bowling balls in the market.

**Frank Baker:** Why is that, Bill?

**Bill:** Because I believe it would take the athletic ability out of the sport. The **Yellow Dot** and the **LT48 Johnny Petraglia** balls have more hook than a rubber ball does. First, the ABC allows a synthetic pin to be on the decks of the lanes which allows more pin carry to take effect causing the bowlers to not to have to hit the pocket as precisely in getting a strike.

**Frank:** You know, Bill, a product has to be tested a million times before it can be approved.

**Bill:** Yes, I know that, but ABC is not preserving the integrity of the game. Thirty years from now, bowling balls will be so far advanced in technology that pro shop operators can make a ball do certain things on the lanes.

**Frank:** Right now, there is one style of player that can bowl well. This will enable different strategies to occur. Look at what Mark Roth and Marshall Holman are doing on the PBA Tour. They have revolutionized the game of bowling. If there is only one style that brings success, many bowlers will not want to continue to bowl.

**Bill:** I know, but remember the phrase KISS (Keep It Simple Stupid)? I am just afraid that our integrity of the sport of bowling will be compromised. With the **Yellow Dot** and the **LT48** balls coming out on the market,

this will have a snowball effect. Bowlers will just expect their ball to hook on the lane.

**Frank:** Again, Bill, a product must be tested one million times before it can be approved. Bowlers and bowling fans could explain bowling like golf in that bowlers have balls that go longer down the lane and other balls that hook earlier on the lane. Non-bowlers can better understand bowling this way.

**Bill:** That should not be a reason to make different bowling balls.

**Frank:** What is the difference when you made a product that with differ-

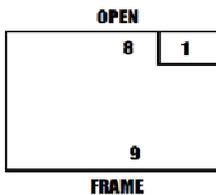
ent weights, a bowler can make a ball do different things on the lane.

**Bill:** Well, that is different because only one ball is still being used, rather than using multiple balls. If it is not broke, than why fix it?

**Frank:** Well, Bill, the bowlers will still have to roll the ball down the lane. What you are anticipating is that bowling will suffer because of the introduction of ball technology.

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

### Ten Pin Staffers



Last month, **Josh Hyde Bowling** made a decision to start the Ten Pin Staffers program. This program is for experts in the sport of bowling. They have to pass an exam with a score of at least 130 out of 150. There are 15 questions worth 10 points a piece. **Josh Hyde Bowling** awarded Teresa Ross on July 25 and then Dennis Bergendorf on July 19. Teresa scored a perfect score of 150 with Dennis scoring a 148. As the first to successfully pass the exam to be a Ten Pin Staffer.

As achieving this award, they will have the opportunity to write for **Josh Hyde Bowling**. To inquire about this exam, any **Josh Hyde Bowling Newsletter** subscriber can email Josh at [joshhydeb bowling.com](mailto:joshhydeb bowling.com).

**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.*