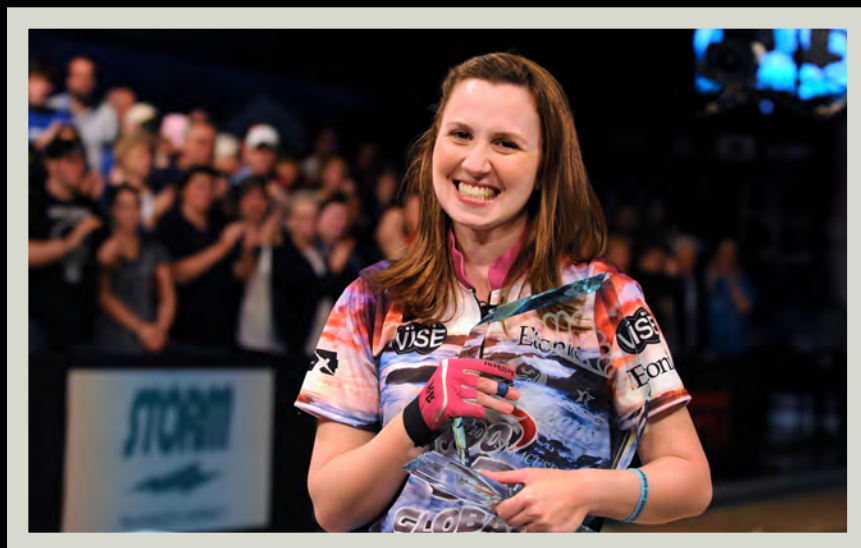


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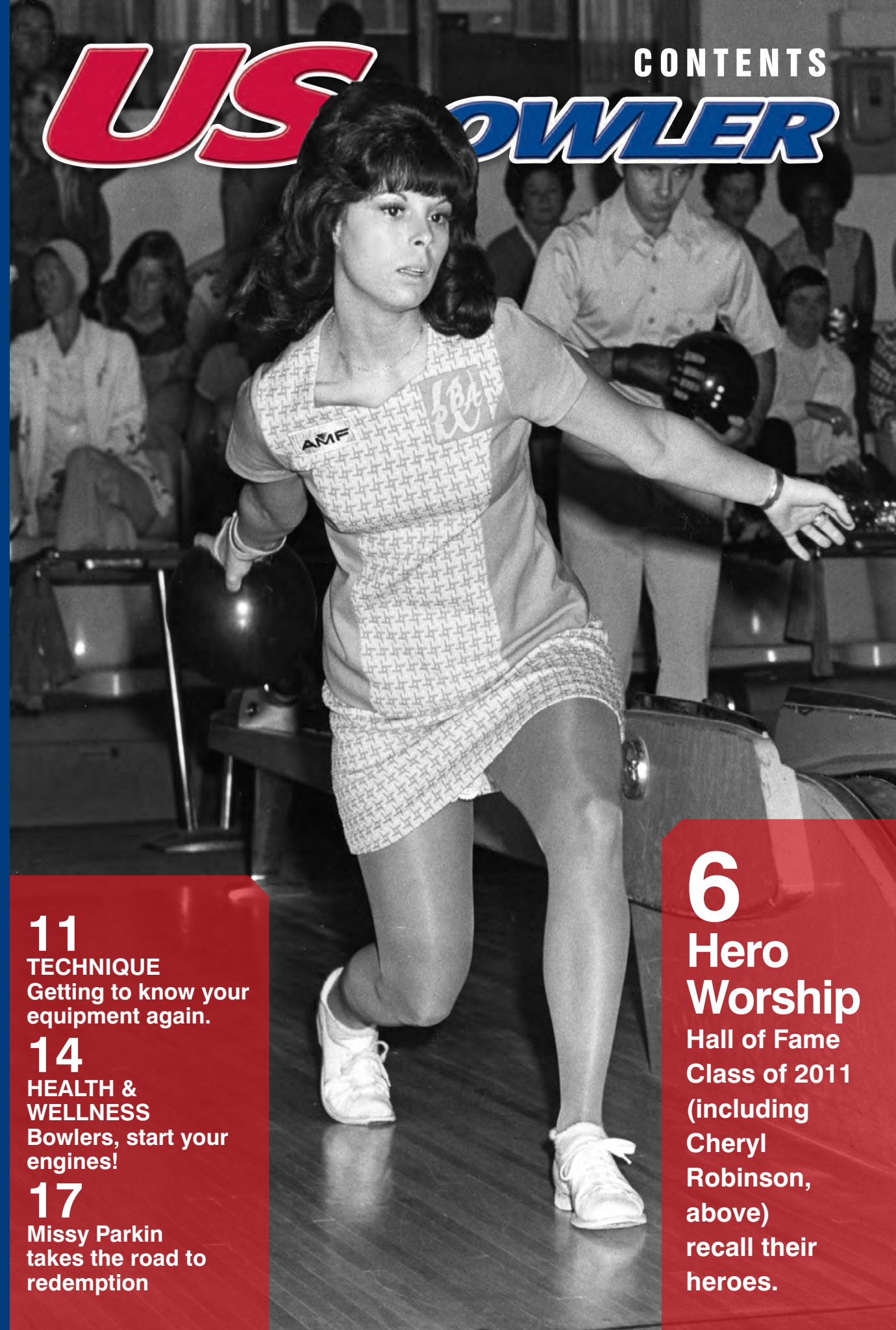
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recall their
heroes.



USBOWLER

NATIONAL NEWS

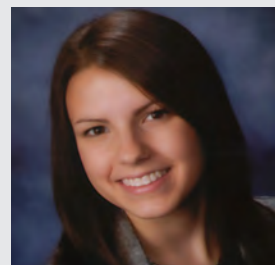
Being a team captain puts you in the driver's seat, literally! By the close of the USBC Open Championships, four lucky team captains will leave Reno in shiny new Chevy Silverado pickup trucks, courtesy of the USBC Eagle's Nest. The Eagle's Nest, a joint venture through USBC and the Reno-Sparks Convention & Visitors Authority, was formed to recognize and reward dedicated team captains. Nearly 6,000 captains receive a monthly e-newsletter, featuring tournament tips and special offers from event sponsors. Additionally, the Eagle's Nest has already awarded three pickup trucks. Ed Davis Jr. of Havre De Grace, Md., Tom Elston of Sterling Heights, Mich., and John Conway of Boise, Idaho, were the first three lucky winners.



KEEP ON TRUCKIN'

Ed Davis, Jr., reacts to winning a new Chevy truck at the USBC Open Championships.

[CLICK ON THE PLAY BUTTON ABOVE FOR ED DAVIS, Jr., INTERVIEW](#)



Dexter/USBC High School All-American Team

Ten high school bowlers, including Alberta E. Crowe Star of Tomorrow Award winner Nicole Mosesso, were selected to the Dexter/USBC High School All-American Team.

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE](#)



USBC Rulebook Available for Mobile Devices

Rules questions can now be answered laneside on mobile devices with the downloadable USBC 2010-2011 Rulebook.

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Spots Open in USBC Convention Pro-Am

Donation to International Bowling Hall of Fame and Museum gives attendees a chance to bowl with a pro bowler at the International Training & Research Center.

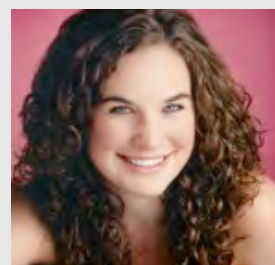
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SMART Fund Financials Released

USBC's bowling scholarship funding corporation, dedicated to protecting youth scholarship monies, reports stability and a record asset base.

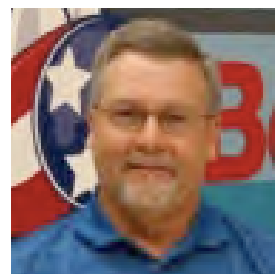
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Youth Bowler Earns Zeb Scholarship

High School senior and USBC Youth member Katherine Welsh earns a \$2,500 scholarship for excellence on the lanes and in the classroom.

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Herman Glenn Named USBC Director of Equipment Specifications

USBC Bronze coach will lead advance testing and re-search of bowling balls, lanes, pins and lane dressing.

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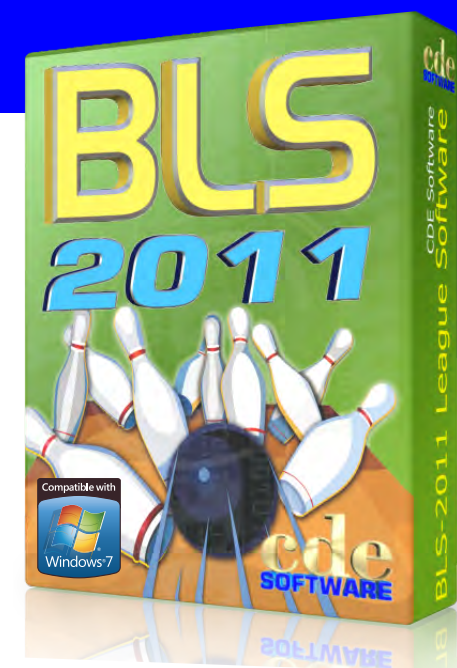
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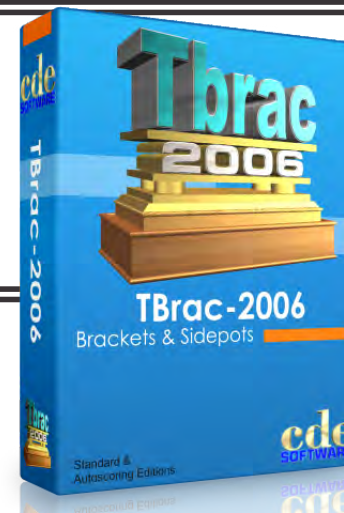
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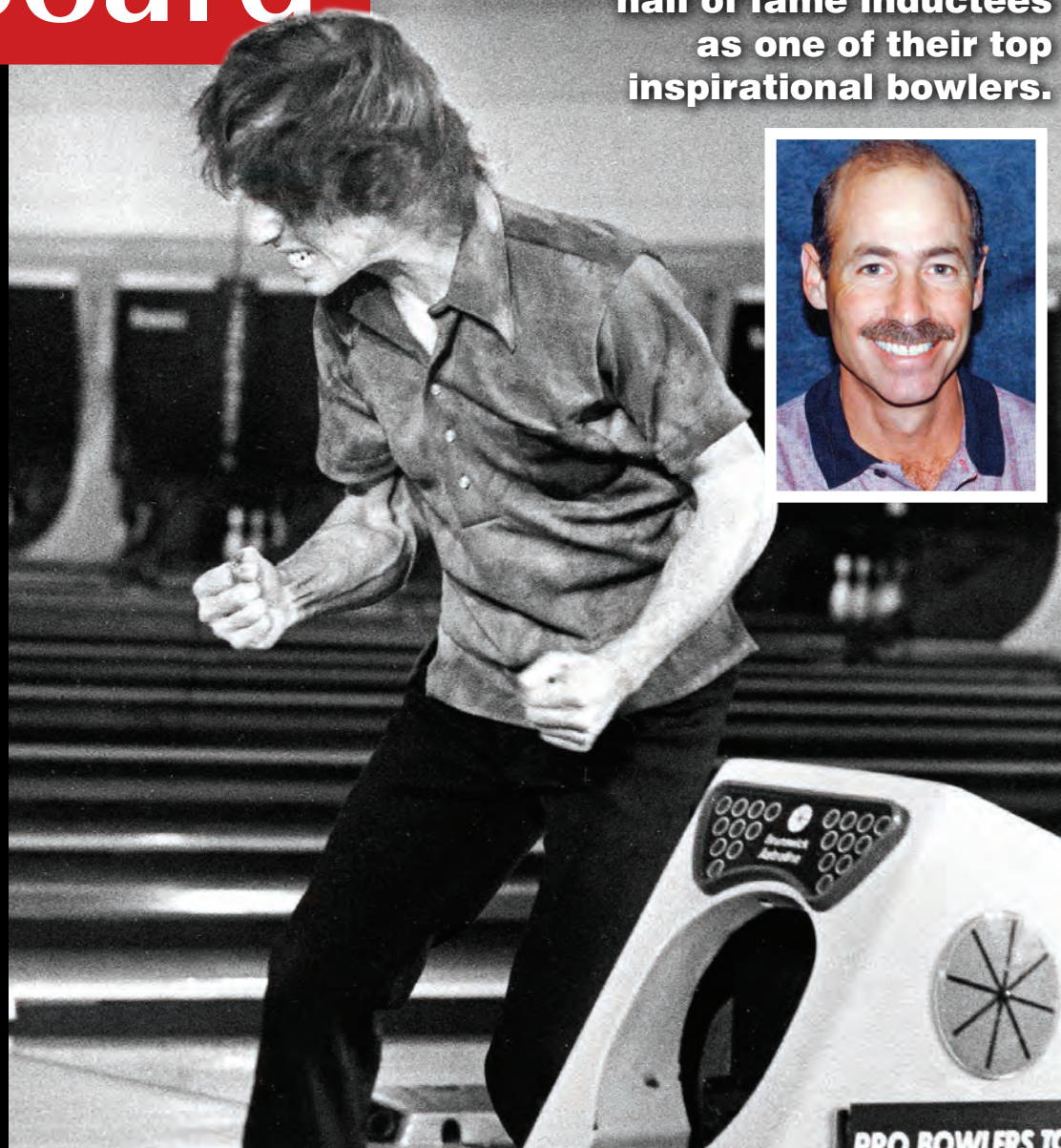


Bulletin Board

Hall of Fame Heroes

The USBC Hall of Fame will welcome six new members on July 1 at the Gaylord Texan Resort and Convention Center in Grapevine, Texas. While each of the inductees earned his or her place in bowling's shrine on their own merit, each also had heroes they admired and emulated.

US Bowler asked the six honorees a simple question: **AS YOUR BOWLING CAREER BEGAN, WHO WAS YOUR HERO? AND WHY?**



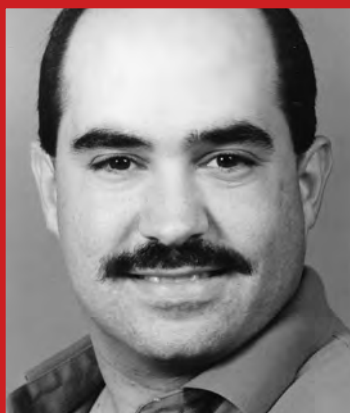
Marshall Holman was most-mentioned by hall of fame inductees as one of their top inspirational bowlers.



Carol Gianotti Superior Performance

My mum was my bowling hero when I was growing up here in Australia. She represented the state and Australian team in bowling, and I really wanted to follow in her footsteps. She gave me all the support and was an inspiration (along with my dad) to become very successful at what I loved to do. We ended up bowling together and competing against one another on many occasions.

Also, when I was growing up in Australia I always watched tapes of **MARSHALL HOLMAN**. He had a great game and such style! What a legend!



Del Ballard, Jr. Superior Performance

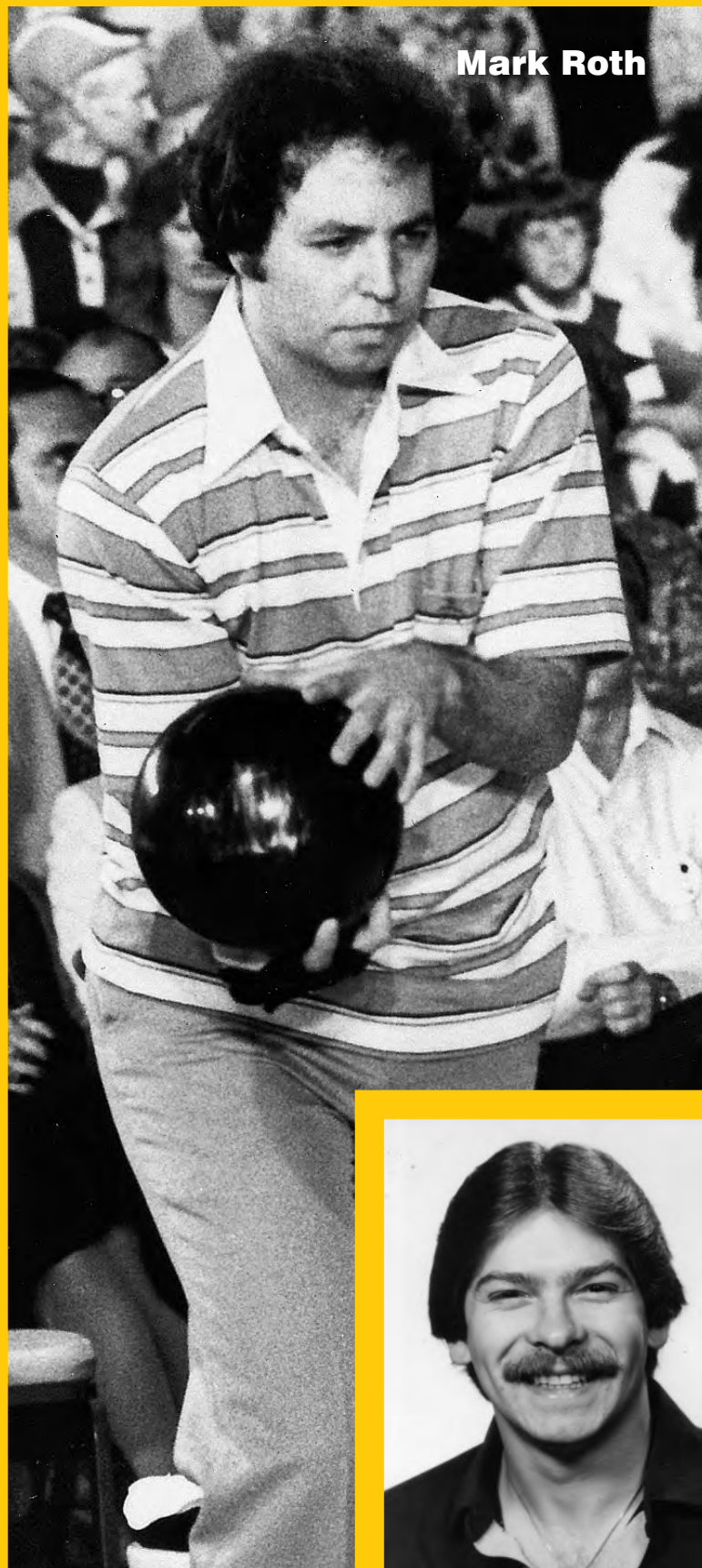
MARSHALL HOLMAN. He appeared to hate to lose as much as I did. He showed his emotions on the lanes, and that's the only way I knew to bowl.



Jeff Richgels Outstanding USBC Performance

MARSHALL HOLMAN because he was one of the best and was by far the most entertaining bowler to watch on Tour. I also admired Earl Anthony and Mark Roth.

Mark Roth



Alberta Crowe



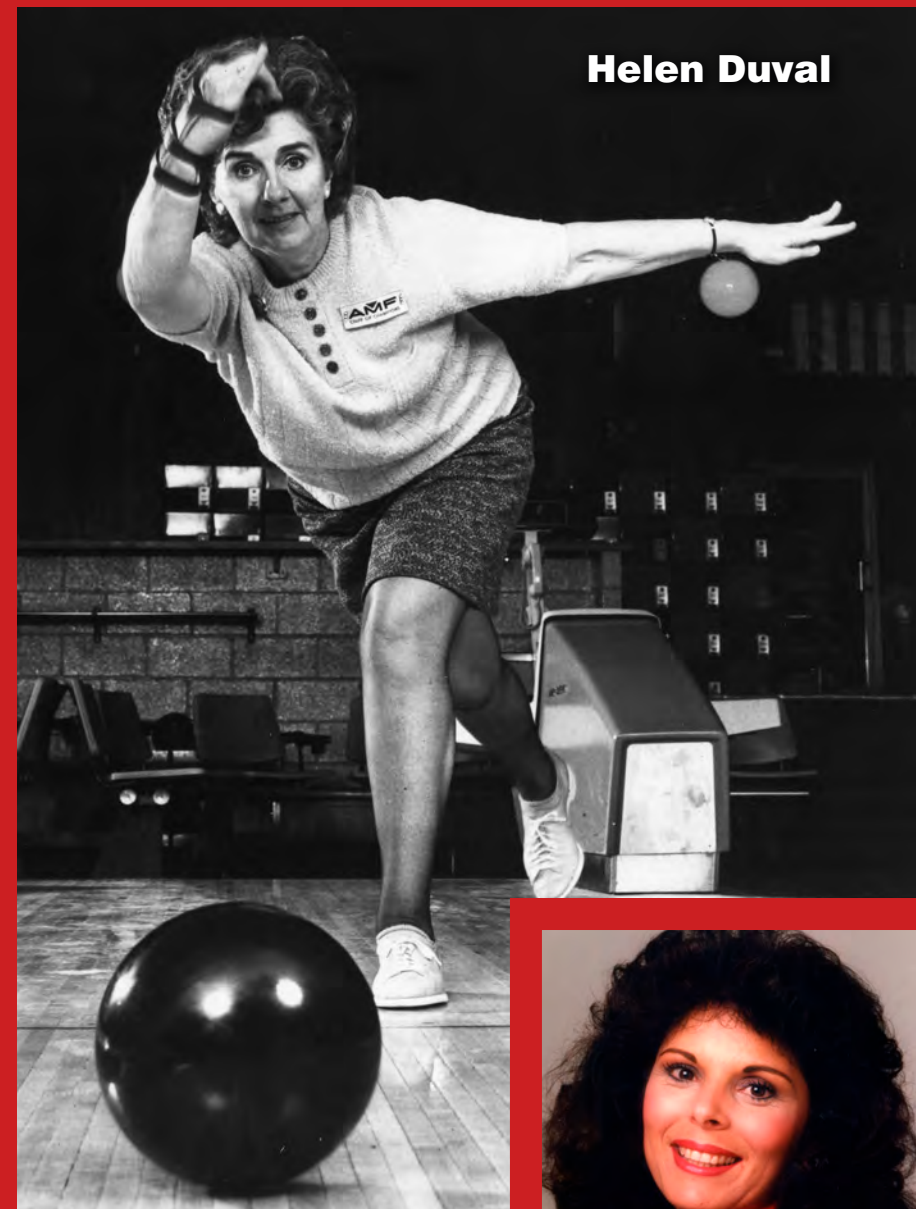
Roseann Kuhn Meritorious Service

When my bowling career began, Alberta Crowe was the WIBC President, and at that time she was my hero. I read every story about her, admired her love for WIBC, her superb way of conducting meetings, and how she dealt with people and situations. I learned a lot from her and hoped that one day I could handle myself as she did. I worked for four other WIBC Presidents and each of them had a huge impact on my career. I consider them my heroes as well!

Wayne Webb Superior Performance

Mark Roth was my bowling hero, the big reason being because he hooked it, and so did I!

Helen Duval



Cheryl Robinson Veterans

I would have to say Helen Duval. I looked up to her because she loved life. She never had a bad word to say. She dedicated her life to her work and was a very strong-willed person always willing to go the extra mile. Also, she taught me how to cook zucchini and introduced me to Jane's Seasonings!

IN THE ZONE

Men's Team USA once again dominated PABCON, striking gold in four of six events

AFTER sweeping all six gold medals at the previous two Pan American Bowling Confederation Men's Championships, Team USA got off to an uncharacteristically balky start in Guadalajara, Mexico, site of the 2011 American Zone action.

The first gold medal awarded in the 16-country competition went to Manuel Otalora of Colombia, with Team USA's Mike Fagan earning bronze.

"There's no doubt that the talent level in the American Zone has gotten stronger," noted Team USA's Chris Barnes, a veteran of international competition.

Following that unlikely scenario, however, Team USA gobble up four of the remaining five gold medals, including a record-shattering per-

formances in both doubles and trios, and the all-important team title. The Americans were also shut out of the match play Masters final, although Bill O'Neill and Barnes earned bronze medals.

O'Neill proved to be Team USA's star. The 29-year-old, three-time Pro Bowlers Tour titlist anchored the squad's team event run, including a double in the final frame to close out silver medalist Puerto Rico. O'Neill's 5,596 total pinfall (233.17 average) also earned him the all-events gold,

outdistancing Canada's Dan MacLelland and Otalora.

Following the tournament-opening singles event, Team USA's Walter Ray Williams Jr. and Patrick Allen turned in a record-setting performance in doubles. With both of



Bill O'Neill



TEAM MEETING: Click on the play button (above) to watch Bill O'Neill (far left, with teammates Chris Barnes, Wes Mallot, Walter Ray Williams Jr., Mike Fagan and Patrick Allen) toss the clinching shot in the team finals at PABCON.

the Americans' other duos already eliminated from medal contention, Williams and Allen carried the Team USA mantle with style, led by Williams' 298 in the opening game. Williams and Allen posted a six-game total of 2,917, easily surpassing Team USA's Tommy Jones and Chris Barnes' 2,788 mark set in 2009. Canada's MacLelland and Michael Schmidt took silver.

The Americans were their dominant selves in trios, grabbing gold and silver. This time Barnes, O'Neill and Fagan etched their names in the

record book with a 4,179 total for six games. And, again, O'Neill paved the way with a 1,560 effort. Williams, Allen and Wes Mallot earned the silver with 4,035. The gold medalists erased the trio record of 4,024, set by Team USA in 1989.

Contention for the team title was tight throughout, with the U.S., Canada and Puerto Rico all within striking distance deep into the final game. O'Neill's final-frame double gave Team USA a 6,772 total. Puerto Rico's late charge fell short, finishing with 6,584.



SINGULAR SENSATIONS: Click on the play button (above) to hear Brittnei Hamilton and Kyle Barnes discuss their Intercollegiate Singles Championship wins.

ACING THEIR FINAL EXAMS

Hamilton, Barnes earn Intercollegiate Singles Championship crowns

VANDERBILT star Brittnei Hamilton may have had a slight edge on the competition heading into the 2011 USBC Intercollegiate Singles Championship in Euless, Texas. The college junior is also a member of both Team USA and Junior Team USA, and both held training camp sessions at the International Training and Research Center in the weeks leading up to the

singles competition.

Hamilton's finely tuned game was evident from the very beginning, as she outdistanced the 16-player field by nearly 300 pins during the 12-game qualifying session. Seeded into the quarterfinal round of match play, Hamilton then lost just a single game in three best-of-five matches to earn the women's title. In the champion-

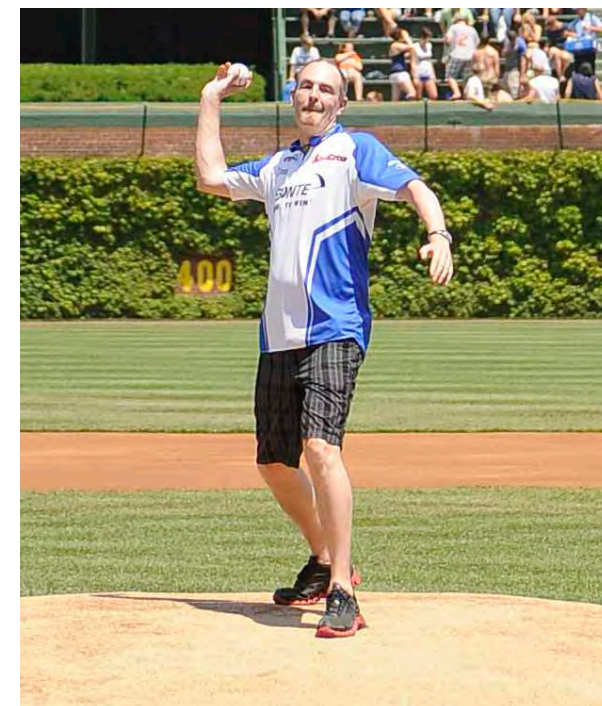
ship match, Hamilton scored a 3-0 win over Central Florida's Kara Bunting. Bunting, second after qualifying, was trying to make it two straight women's singles titles for Central Florida, with teammate Jenn Boisselle having won the 2010 crown.

"It means a lot, representing Vanderbilt," said Hamilton, who led the Commodores to a second-place finish in the 2011 NCAA Women's Bowling Championships. "It's nice to bring a national championship back there."

In the men's division, Kyle Barnes of Middle Tennessee took a slightly longer route to the title, qualifying seventh in the 24-man field and needing four match-play wins to capture the crown. In the title match, Barnes needed a strike on his first ball in the final frame to secure a 3-2 win over Junior Team USA member Jacob Kent of Robert Morris-Illinois.

"When I left the 10 pin and that messenger came rolling across," Kent said, recalling the clinching strike, "the only thing I was hoping was that the pin in front of it didn't stop it. But it hit it and knocked it right over and that was quite possibly the greatest feeling in the world."

Ironically, Barnes, a first-team All-American at Pikeville in 2008 before transferring, did not bowl collegiately in 2010-11. Barnes earned his trip to Euless through one of four sectional qualifying events held in March.



MIKA MAKES HIS PITCH

PBA Tour star Mika Koivuniemi, in Chicago to participate in the GEICO PBA Team Shoot-out at 10pin Bowling Lounge, attempted an overhand strike when he threw out the first pitch at Wrigley Field on Memorial Day prior to the start of the Chicago Cubs-Houston Astros game. The reigning PBA Player of the Year's offering was low and outside, but the Cubs still could have used his help. The Astros won the game, 12-7.

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Technique

Summer offers a great opportunity to get reacquainted with your equipment



GETTING TO KNOW YOU

By Carolyn Dorin-Ballard

League and tournament season may have come to an end, but that doesn't mean you should pack your bowling equipment into a closet and let it sit until the fall. Summer offers a great opportunity to get in a little practice and stay in bowling shape.



HOW MUCH SURFACE?

How much surface should you adjust? There are so many options. A league bowler with one or two balls is likely to use equipment that's not overly reactive to begin with, so the pro shop operator would probably suggest a 1000-grit Abralon pad on the ball to show fairly significant surface change.

The higher-average bowler with multiple balls will probably try a variety of subtle surface changes to his or her arsenal. Grit sets range all the way from 180 to 4000, so there are a host of options.

And remember, your practice should always have purpose. League is for score. Practice is for learning about the game and your equipment. Practice is where you'll uncover all of the options and adjustments that will allow you to increase your score when you get back into league.

One aspect of the game that few bowlers, regardless of their level of play, take the time to address is getting to know their equipment. Bowling balls are designed to do different things, and bowlers who own four or five balls go to league and tournaments and use them the exact same way every time.

The typical scratch bowler may have at least four balls, and the average league bowler may only have two. Still, each can learn to make their ball do something different on the lanes by simply changing the surface of the ball. By that I mean

taking a shiny ball and dulling the finish or, conversely, taking a dull ball and making the surface shiny. These subtle changes will make the ball react differently. Observing and understanding the different reaction of the ball will teach you how to line up differently when you do get back to league play.

Even if you are in a "fun" league and have only one ball, this exercise could help. If your ball isn't hooking, adding a little surface to the ball will allow you to line up in the same spot and create more hook.

LET'S GET STARTED

If you're going to practice on a typical house pattern, take one of the balls in your arsenal and throw a game with it. Watch what the ball does. Watch how it reacts on the lane.

Going into the next practice

game, change the surface of that ball. Few bowlers are familiar with changing the surface of their equipment, so I suggest asking the local pro shop owner to do it for you. Explain to the operator what you're trying to accomplish. Share as much information about your game as you can. On the same lane, maintain your normal position, stance and target, and begin another game. Watch how differently that same ball reacts now that the surface has been altered. Make the appropriate adjustments on the lane, moving your feet to the left or to the right, and note the different reaction. Keep your adjustments simple. You're trying to get a better understanding of how the surface change has affected your ball.

After trying shiny and dull on one lane, move to a fresh lane and see what the differences are. If you have to adjust to find the pocket, what

adjustments would you make? Again, look for ball reaction, then move your feet accordingly left or right.

The degree of difference in the ball's reaction is predicated on a variety of factors, like ball speed, rev rate, rotation off of the hand, etc. Ball speed is probably the biggest factor with the average league bowler. If you throw the ball really hard, you'll probably want more surface because your ball gets further down the lane before it has time to react. If you throw the ball slow on a house pattern, you'll probably need your ball shined up a bit because it rolls a little sooner and grips the lane too soon.

Better understanding of your equipment will benefit your game in many ways. Higher-average bowlers will see a big difference, particularly in the newfound versatility of their arsenal. A bowler who carries five balls for all practical purposes now carries nine or 10. And a ball they thought would never work on certain conditions is all of a sudden useful.

Bowlers need to understand that little adjustments like this can change the way they view their equipment, see the lane and recognize all of their options from week to week.

— *Carolyn Dorin-Ballard is United States Bowling Congress Director of Coaching Certification & Development.*

*Join us as we welcome six
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Jeff Richgels



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FITNESS

WARM UP TO THE TASK

A dynamic warm up offers numerous benefits

By Nick Bohanan

Do you warm up before you bowl? If so, how?

Proper warm up prior to any sporting activity is more important than you might think, and can have a positive impact on your performance in several ways.

Unfortunately, bowling has

lagged behind other sports both in its understanding and implementation of warm-up regimens. For starters, few bowlers bother warming up before throwing their first ball, and even when they do, their warm-up routine is only marginally beneficial. That's because bowlers tend to do static stretching, like bending over to touch their toes or stretching their



A GOOD WARM UP ISN'T A STRETCH: Click on the play button (above) to view Women's Team USA member Bryanna Caldwell demonstrate dynamic warm ups.



WARM-UP ACTIVITIES

Make sure your warm up includes exercises that keep your muscles moving.

- 20 Jumping Jacks
- 10 Squats
- 10 Lunges, each leg
- 10 Side Lunges, each leg
- 10 Leg Swings, each leg
- 10 Hip Circles, forward and backward, each leg
- 10 Windmills, each side
- 10 Torso Twists, each side
- 10 Side Bends, each side
- 10 Arm Swings
- 10 Arm Circles, forward and backward

hamstrings. That doesn't increase blood flow, so there is no performance benefit.

What research has determined is that static stretching (simply standing and stretching a single muscle for 15-30 seconds) is actually more beneficial after the sporting activity as a means of cooling down and preparing the body for recovery.

What is much more beneficial is a dynamic warm up, where you are moving your muscles continuously through a range of motions — jumping jacks, leg swings, stationary bike, etc. Dynamic exercises increase your heart rate and increase blood flow to certain areas, and by increasing blood flow you're increasing the temperature of those muscles. The increase in temperature makes the muscles more elastic, which, in turn, decreases your risk of pulling a muscle.

A dynamic warm up also releases hormones that are used to break down the energy sources that are stored in the muscle, and you'll get better performance because you're supplying the muscle with the fuel that it needs to contract.

Bottom line: There are multiple benefits to a dynamic warm up.

As mentioned, bowling lags far behind some other sports in this

area. In some sports, elite athletes spend 30 minutes or more warming up with dynamic exercises. With Team USA, we start out with 20-30

jumping jacks because it's a full-body exercise. Then we'll go right into 10-20 squats (without weights), followed by 10-15 lunges on each leg. We'll also do arm and leg swings.

Obviously, the average league bowler, or more competitive bowlers, may not have the time or desire to work out so vigorously before they bowl. But even a 10-minute dynamic warm up will help in many

ways. The key, however, is that the warm up should lead directly into the activity. In other words, performing the warm up at home or in a hotel room (if you're at a tournament) is a waste of energy. The temperature of the muscles starts to cool down almost immediately, so you would lose the benefit of warming up.

So, before you take that first practice throw, start with 10-20 jumping jacks. Then try a few lunges on each leg, followed by a few squats. For your upper body, try arm swings — fanning your arms back and forth, and also in full circles, forward and backward, small and big. Your warm up doesn't need to be too long, but it should be long enough to make you sweat just a bit and increase your respiration rate.

Self-conscious about standing in a crowded bowling center doing jumping jacks? Consider this: While other bowlers are spending the first 10 minutes of their 15-minute practice time getting loose, the warmed-up bowler can concentrate on getting lined up right out of the gate!

— Nick Bohanan is United States Bowling Congress Sports Performance Specialist.

Safe Dynamic Stretches

These stretches can be performed safely if the bowler has taken the time to get warmed up through a light jog or other light physical activity — jumping jacks, elliptical, stair climber, etc.

WALKING TOE TOUCHES

Kick leg forward as high as possible without causing pain: looks like a toy soldier.

WALKING LUNGES WITH TRUNK ROTATIONS

Forward lunges. In the down position rotate body to the left and right

IRON CROSSES

Lying on back with arms out from the body, lift right leg up and rotate over towards left hand. Try to get foot as close to hand without raising the shoulders of the floor. Repeat with other leg.

SCORPIONS

Similar to Iron Crosses except lying on

stomach. Lift leg up and rotate back toward opposite hand.

WINDMILLS

Arms extended out to the side while standing straight (wing span) and legs slightly spread apart, bend over at waist and then rotate trunk, taking right hand to left foot then left hand to right foot.

CHAIN BREAKERS

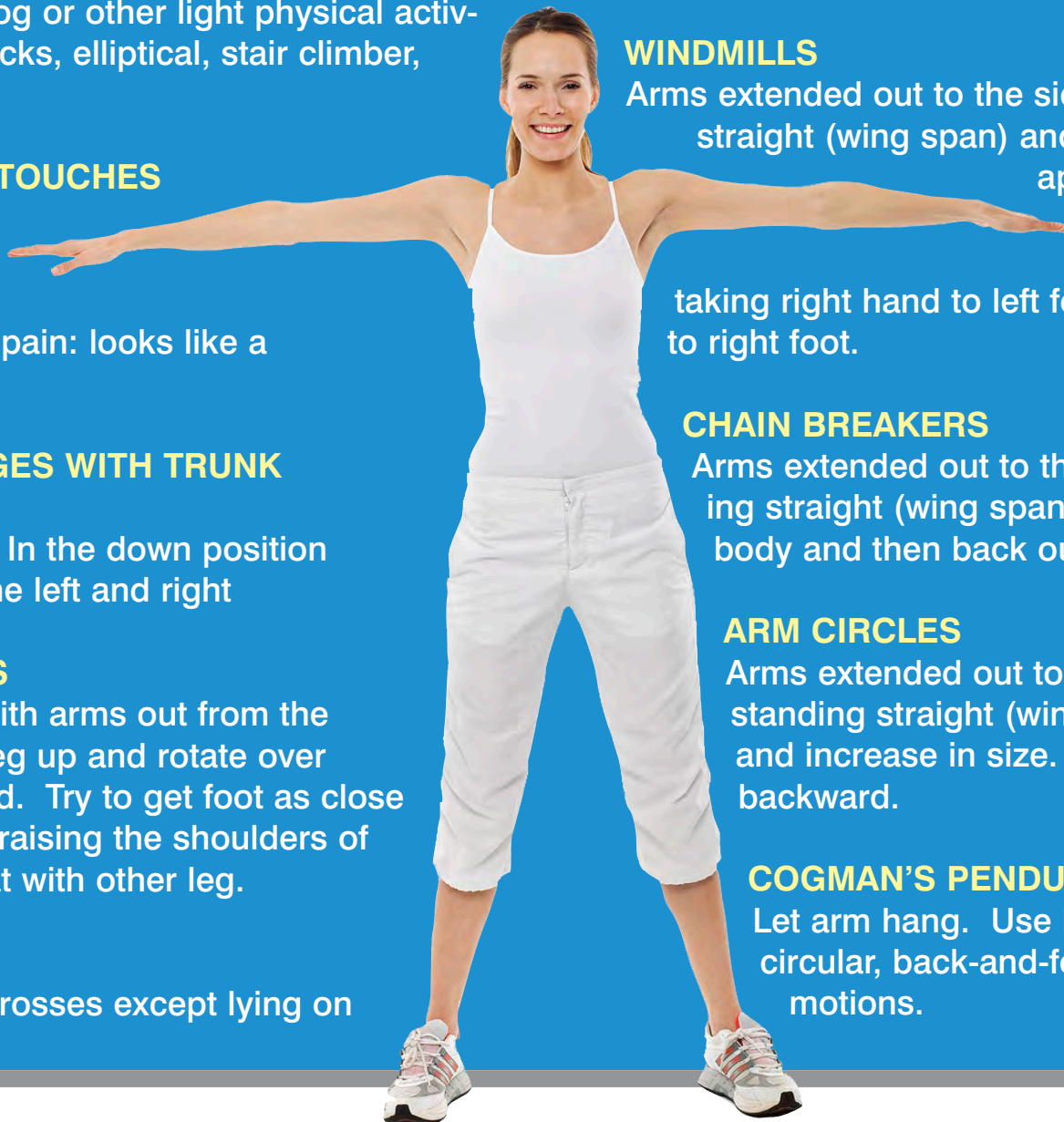
Arms extended out to the side while standing straight (wing span). Bring arms across body and then back out.

ARM CIRCLES

Arms extended out to the side while standing straight (wing span). Start small and increase in size. Do forward and backward.

COGMAN'S PENDULUM

Let arm hang. Use body weight to create circular, back-and-forth and side-to-side motions.





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CROWNING ACHIEVEMENT

MISSY PARKIN'S PATH FROM CHILD PRODIGY TO QUEENS CHAMP HAS HAD ITS CHALLENGES, BUT NOTHING SHE COULDN'T HANDLE

Before you can find redemption, you must first suffer despair.

For Missy Parkin, despair came in the form of a pocket 7-10 split on national television. Needing only a mark in the 10th frame to dispatch Kelly Kulick at the 2010 USBC Queens in El Paso, Texas, Parkin (then Missy Bellinder) watched in utter disbelief as her “perfect” shot left a terribly imperfect result. She went numb. Just like that, it was over — no more shots to throw, nothing left to do but collect her bowling balls and exit.

By **Mike Panozzo**



Kulick went on to beat Anne Marie Duggan and Tennifer Milligan to capture her second Queens crown, while Parkin returned to her Fullerton, Calif., home wondering what more she needed to do to win her first major title.

"I was devastated for quite a while," recalls the 29-year-old Parkin. "It's awesome to make TV shows, but you also need to be able to win and I hadn't been able to do that thus far."

Fitting, then, that redemption came a year later with that very same title at stake.

Armed with a new grip and release, and an all-business approach to the game, Parkin exorcised her 7-10 demons and snagged that elusive pro crown with a 214-189 win over Elysia Current in the final match of the 2011 Queens in Syracuse, N.Y.

"Mentally, the loss in 2010 put me down for awhile" Parkin says. "But

in the end it made me work harder. And I became a little tougher."

Not that Missy Parkin's drive has ever come into question.

From 10-year-old bowling prodigy to teen phenom, from Junior Team USA star to collegiate All-American and Player of the Year, and from high school honor student to *magna cum laude* college graduate, Parkin has always pushed herself to excel.

Nor has anyone ever questioned her toughness or ability to adapt.

Parkin's desire to bowl in the prestigious Greater Los Angeles Junior All Stars prompted the traveling league to adjust its age minimum. When her Cal State Fullerton women's bowling team disbanded, Parkin simply joined the

men's squad and anchored it to a fourth-place finish in the Intercollegiate Bowling Championships. And

when the Women's Professional Bowling Association

Pro Tour folded, Parkin took on

Professional Bowlers Tour regional events and the European Bowling Tour.

Still, for someone who had achieved so much success



A DEAD RINGER: A teen sensation, Parkin (middle ring) was a fixture on Junior Team USA from 1998 through 2001, winning the first Junior Olympic Gold Championship and getting an opportunity to train with Team USA at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo.

at such an early age, the seven-year wait between Parkin's college graduation and her first major pro title seemed like an eternity.

"It was a long-awaited victory," she admits, "but well worth the wait. And one thing I've learned from my bowling career is that the first hurdle is always the toughest. After that, things tend to snowball. I have a lot of confidence now, and every bowler will tell you that the game at this level is mostly mental and all about having confidence."

THE ROAD MOST TRAVELED

As is often the case with someone intelligent and driven, Parkin is painfully organized and has taken a systematic

approach to her bowling career, taking advantage of all the opportunities the game offers along the way.

Under the tutelage of her father, Frank Bellinder, a longtime PBA member and pro shop owner, Parkin always seemed to be a few steps ahead of the bowling curve.

By the age of 10, Parkin was averaging 165 in a scratch traveling league. As a 14-year-old, Parkin rolled a trio of 300 games, each in a different bowling center. The teen sensation was quickly drafted into the Greater Los Angeles Junior All Stars traveling league. Because the league's minimum age was 15, a special rule was implemented to allow Parkin to compete. In the mostly boys'



A SPLITTING HEADACHE: Parkin was en route to a major breakthrough at the 2010 USBC Queens when a pocket 7-10 split in the final frame against eventual champion Kelly Kulick ended her dream and tested her resolve.

my game from anyone other than my dad. But we had Fred Borden, Jeri Edwards and Palmer Falgren. You listen to those people.

“Every time I’d come home from camp, I’d tell my dad, ‘Let’s go to the bowling center. I want to show you what I learned!’”

The Junior Team USA stint also prepared Parkin for what was a highly successful, albeit unlikely, college bowling career.

“Junior Team USA definitely helped me get ready for college,” she says. “Just learning about team building, how to line up off your teammates to break down the lanes and how to handle pressure shots.”

At the start, Parkin didn’t want to bowl in college. She had her sites set on attending UCLA, which has no bowling program. Despite a 4.0-plus grade point average at Rosary High School, Parkin wasn’t accepted at the prestigious state school. Instead, she attended California State-Fullerton, in her backyard, and was coaxed into joining the women’s bowling team.

“That was one of the best decisions I ever made,” Parkin confesses. “College bowling is unlike anything else in bowling. It’s so intense, and your teammates become your very best friends. Some of the best memories I had in college

league, Parkin simply averaged 200 and helped her squad to the league title.

None of which surprised her father.

“Unlike my other two daughters [Dawn and Cindy], Missy was always a great listener,” jokes Frank, whose Precision Pro Shop at Saddleback Lanes in Mission Viejo became Missy’s second home. “She’s very disciplined too, so

she’d come to the pro shop after school and wouldn’t go to the lanes to practice until she finished her homework.”

One of the nation’s top junior bowlers, Parkin aspired to be part of the Team USA bowling program. She qualified for the Junior Team USA squad in 1998 in style, winning the first Junior Olympic Gold championship, and was a

fixture on the team through 2001.

After years of listening only to her father, the Team USA experience added even more depth to her game.

“I got to go to the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs,” she gushes. “It was the first time I had an outsider’s perspective on my game, and the first time I really allowed input into

were traveling with my teammates and meeting other players from around the country.”

The college experience was actually enhanced when the Cal State-Fullerton women’s team disbanded after two years. Parkin simply joined the men’s squad, where she was a two-time first team All-American and Collegiate Bowler of the Year.

“That was an awesome time,” she recalls. “We’d travel to events and run into Sean Rash at Wichita State, Bill O’Neill at Saginaw Valley and other great bowlers. Bowling in that atmosphere helped me a lot.”

Yet another challenge was thrown Parkin’s way in 2003 when the women’s pro tour folded just six months before her college graduation. She joined the PBA, bowling in regional tournaments, and made an unsuccessful run at the exempt tour.

“I decided to use my college degree [in communications and public relations] and went to work for a PR agency in Newport Beach. I worked on press releases and event organization. It was really interesting work.”

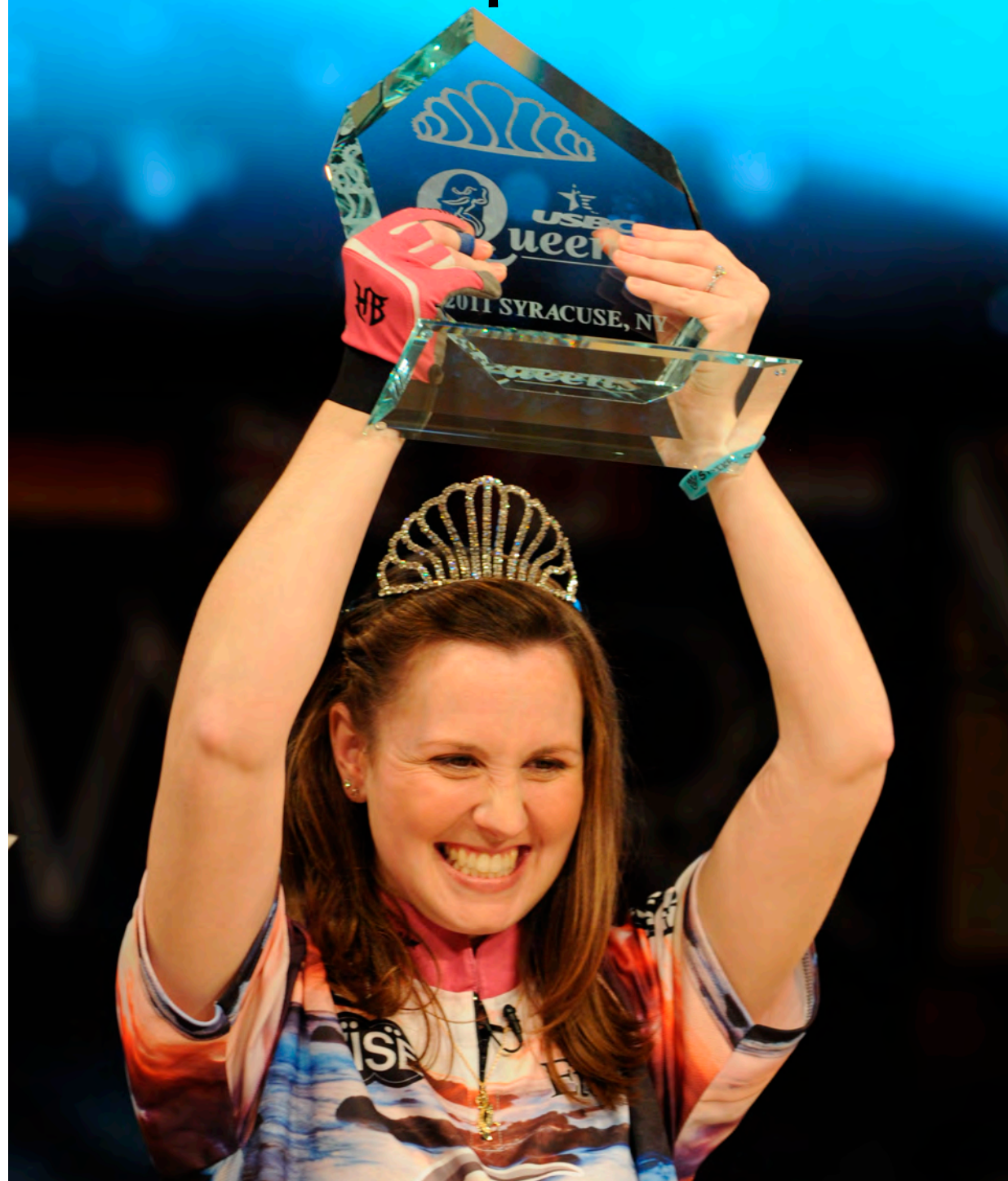
Frank Bellinder, however, had other ideas.

“After six months I told her I’d make her a deal,” Frank remembers. “I told her I’d pay her to work at the pro shop and she could bowl in whatever events she could find. I told her we’d give it a year.

“She was way too good a bowler to be working 10-hour days in an office.”

Parkin bowled everywhere. She entered all of the big-money events in

“This sport needs women’s bowling to come back. Bowling has done so much for me. Bowling paid for my college in scholarships I won through junior bowling. I want all those little girls bowling out there to have something to aspire to, and bowlers to aspire to be like.”



Vegas. She traveled to Europe to bowl in the European tour. She even bowled in Asia.

And for three years, she bowled “on tour” in the U.S.

“The Women’s Series lasted only three years, and it was only four events each year, but to me it was a tour,” Parkin says of the mini-tour that co-terminated the Pro Bowlers Tour from 2007-2009. “It was tough. Only 16 spots and I qualified all three years. We were traveling, playing alongside the men, had our own paddock. It was a great experience.”

With a powerful game that belies her petite frame (5-foot-4, 118 pounds), Parkin reached the title match in the very first series event, losing to Carolyn Dorin-Ballard in Taylor, Mich. She reached her second final in Vernon Hills, Ill., where she lost to Michelle Feldman.

“Still, I felt like I was living my dream,” she says.

Not that her dream is complete. Missey and husband Drew have taken over Precision Pro Shop, and she is preparing for the upcoming Women’s U.S Open at Cowboys Stadium. And she has high hopes for her own game and the sport.

“I’ll bowl on whatever tour I can,” she insists. “If it’s the men’s tour, so be it.

“But this sport needs women’s bowling to come back. Bowling has done so much for me. Bowling paid for my college in scholarships I won through junior bowling. I want all those little girls bowling out there to have something to aspire to, and bowlers to aspire to be like.”

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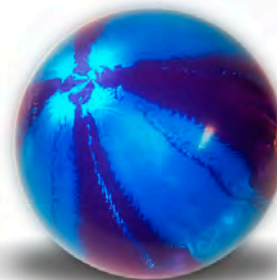
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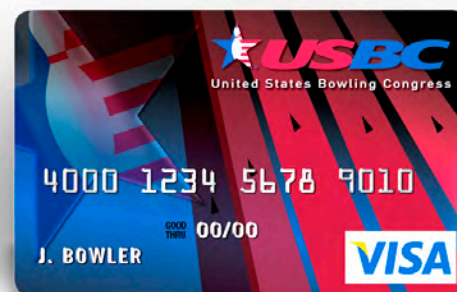
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