

BOWLING

Budweiser draft Wednesday

By WAYNE RAGUSE
of the Journal Star

The \$10,000-plus Budweiser Masters Team Tour bowling league moves a step nearer reality Wednesday night at Landmark Recreation Center.

That's when the eight captains selected by the league's board of directors will each draft seven bowlers from a list of 75 to fill their rosters.

Captains selected by the board include George Brunsman, Doug Nordvall, Steve Osborne, Gary Sullivan, Gary Smith, Bill Peterson, Mark Sutherland and Esra Friederich.

Captains will draw lots to determine draft order and also which of the eight Anheuser-Busch products will be their team names.

Budd Jacob of Brewers Distributing Co., has selected Natural Light, Michelob, Michelob Light, Michelob

Classic Dark, LA, Bud Light, Busch and Budweiser as names for the teams.

Jacob has committed \$7,500 to the league, which is patterned after the Anheuser-Busch St. Louis Bowling Proprietors Association Masters Traveling League.

Who will be the first-round draftees prompts much speculation.

There will be seven bowlers who carried 200 or better averages this past season and would be considered top candidates to be among early selections.

They include Rob Johnson (212), Kenneth Alley (212), Joe Bussone (200), J. Scott DePauw (205), Joe Green (201), Jeff Downer (203) and John Brown (203).

Also sure to draw some attention in the early round is Steve Davis of

Peoria Heights, who carried a 210 league average during the 1982-83 season, when he also won two PBA regional titles and averaged 215. Davis has not bowled regularly in a league for the past two seasons.

Besides the drafting of bowlers, the board will go over rules drawn up in meetings which began last October. The meeting will start at 7 p.m.

All bowlers who submitted applications are urged to attend the meeting along with area bowling proprietors.

The board of directors were somewhat disappointed when only three women submitted applications — Sue Meyers, Gladys Green and Jill Morgensen.

The eight captains are asked to report at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday so the draft format can be explained.

BOWLING

Michael Video smashes 3400 barrier

George Brunsman nearly left Mount Hawley Bowl Thursday night disappointed his Michael Video team had missed setting a Greater Peoria Bowling Association record.

But he overlooked another and wound up celebrating anyway when Michael Video broke the 3400 team series barrier.

On Thanksgiving Eve, Brunsman was bowling in the Budweiser Masters Team Tour at Mount Hawley when L.A. broke the Sun Ripe Juice single-game record of 1215 set Nov. 13, 1953, at old Peoria Bowl.

The L.A. team, composed of Steve Estes (279), Rich Aubuchon (204), Jim Hopkins (245), Mike Freeman (211) and Gary Smith (277), bowled a 1216 game.

Their opponents that night, Budweiser, broke a GPBA series record that had survived nearly 60 years of assault by Peoria bowlers.

The Budweiser team, composed of Sue Meyers (618), Laverne Dascher (648), Arvin Schroeder (642), Bob McManus (705) and Steve Osborne (759), had produced a 1168-



WAYNE
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Bowling

1144-1090 — 3372 series. It erased a 1106-1067-1170 — 3343 bowled by Peoria Life Insurance Company at Saratoga Recreation Jan. 9, 1928.

But Thursday night, Michael Video, captained by Brunsman, started its assault with games of 1110 and 1112.

"We wanted to shoot another high 1100," said Brunsman.

When No. 3 bowler Dan Moreland started with the first nine strikes, his teammates "just wanted to make good shots and try and keep Dan loose," said Brunsman. "We all talked to each other more than usual to keep each other pumped up."

Moreland finally left a 10 pin in

the 10th frame and settled for 267. Jack Dries Jr. started the third game 1210 total with 257. Team sponsor Bob Michael added 239. After Moreland came Randy Phillips and Brunsman.

"Randy struck out in the 10th and I got the first strike so we knew we had 1200," said Brunsman, who finished 212 after Phillips' 244. "As soon as we finished we tried to remember what the L.A.'s team game record was. We thought we might have the record."

"But Randy Vaughn came down and said it was 1216."

It took a while to realize what Michael had really accomplished.

With Dries turning in 258-236-257 — 741, Michael 196-198-230 — 624, Moreland 196-236-267 — 699, Phillips 268-232-244 — 744 and Brunsman 192-220-212 — 626, Michael's series was 1110-1112-1210 — 3432.

Finally it sunk in.

Not only was the series better than Budweiser's 3372, it had broken the 3400 barrier for GPBA bowlers.

And Osborne's prediction — after his team's record Thanksgiving Eve that some team would shoot 3500 on the conditions now allowed by the ABC — took even more meaning.

Brunsmann, who is secretary in two leagues, says he's aware many of the 170-average bowlers are starting to move up the average scale.

"It seems everybody's getting more action out of their bowling balls on the short oil dressing."

Michael Video got so much action, sponsor Bob probably wished he had used his firm's equipment to record all of it.

Would that mean there could be an asterisk in the record book?

* First GPBA record recorded on video.

Peorian Ann White, above, works on a 43-inch table centerpiece for her sister. The floral arrangement, which uses a type of flower called

washed vinyl, will sit on a 127-inch-long antique table. This tiger lily arrangement, right, is one of White's smaller silk floral works.

ART LAND/Journal Star

bowling feat for the record books — unofficially

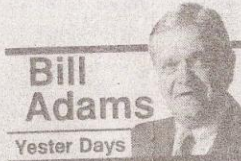


CLARENCE BRAYSHAW

Back in 1906, a Peorian named Clarence Wesley Brayshaw became famous in the world of bowling when he became the first person ever to bowl back-to-back perfect games.

But before you start reaching for your bowling record books, let me hasten to add you won't find it recorded there. The reason: The four alleys in the Empire, where he performed this feat, were not certified by the American Bowling Congress, even though they met that organization's requirements.

The bowling federation's records show a man named Frank Caruana of Buffalo, N.Y., to be the first to perform the feat in sanctioned play, on March 5, 1924.



Bill Adams

Yester Days

But why weren't the alleys certified?

Mainly because George Young, the manager of the Empire, and Walter Payne, manager of the alleys, didn't want their lanes tied up with league bowling. They wanted them for open play bowling. They felt that other bowling establishments like Peter's, Bauer's, the Faust, the Star, the Alps and Schindler & Miller provided

the town with ample alleys for league play.

Charles Catlin of Peoria bowled a perfect game on the new lanes in December 1904, when five of Chicago's best teams came and bowled against five of Peoria's best, to dedicate the new Empire lanes that year.

The better city bowlers had urged the management to cer-

tify the lanes but they refused.

Finally the city's best bowlers, wanting to bowl on the newest alleys in town, decided to form a league and bowl at the Empire anyway. Young and Payne finally granted their wish and the new league was called the Peoria League.

For years, it was said that there was something wrong

Please see ADAMS, Page A6

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1987

Rash of 300s

Area men's leagues awash in perfect scores

By WAYNE RAGUSE
of the Journal Star

There's been a rash of 300s again in the Peoria and Pekin men's bowling associations and four of the authors in the past three weeks each had different feelings about his honor score.

George Brunzman of Peoria, a 37-year-old lefty, had his 300 at Mount Hawley Bowl in the Fellowship League. He feels he got a little notice when the week before he rolled a 286 game.

"There's more oil out there, so my ball will hold the pocket most nights," said Brunzman, who had a pair of 290s also at Mount Hawley as his personal highs.

"And the series with the 300 I just didn't leave any 7-pins. I guess I left one in about the sixth frame of the third game." Little wonder that Brunzman totaled 300-244-238 — 782.

"I really didn't think about (300)," said Brunzman, who was rolling a Columbia Black U-Dot. "I had all of them buried except for a slow 7-pin on the 10th ball. And after I got it I couldn't believe it."

It was sort of old hat for 25-year-old Pekin bowler Doug Goss when he notched his fifth 300 at Roxy's Lanes in Pekin while bowling in the Imperial League.

But this one wasn't old hat.

"My older brother Frank had never seen any of my others," said Goss, who had a 224-300-208 — 732 series. "In fact, he'd never even seen anybody come close.

The first game I didn't start well, but I finished the game with the last five or six in a row. I knew I was



Combs



Goss



Brunzman



Hughes

locked in.

"Frank was more excited than I was when I got the last strike."

"I was a little nervous during it, but not as bad as the others," said the right-handed Goss, who was using a Red Hammer. "And if I don't tell you I sorta double-dribbled one that kicked out a 7-pin, my buddy Dillard Clark will."

Goss, whose 300 was part of a 3466 series bowled that night by Natkin Services, said "One of these days I'm gonna get an 800 series."

And then there was 22-year-old Kenny Combs' 300 in the Checkmate League at Mount Hawley.

This one, the young righthander's second, was a matter of finances and saving face.

"After I got the first six strikes, I thought to myself, 'If I don't keep going I wasn't going to win the pot because it usually takes 260 to win it,'" said Combs, who employed a Black U-Dot. "I had to do something, because I'm a youth coach at Landmark and the junior team that rolled that big series has really been giving it to me.

"I had no idea it was coming. I haven't been bowling as well this

year as I did last year. I can count the number of 300 opportunities I've had this year. Last year there were a lot of 'em."

And proving the 300 epidemic isn't confined to the under-40 set, 61-year-old Tom Hughes bowled 246-300-194 — 746 in the Classic League at Rosewood Lanes.

Hughes, who was estatic to throw an 800 series and average over 200 last season at age 60, has always told himself "not to give up, sooner or later I knew I was bound to get (a 300)."

And Hughes had some real doubt when he finally did.

"When I got up to throw the last ball (Black U-Dot) it felt like it weighed 50 pounds," said Hughes. "Especially after the first step. And after I threw it I wanted it back to throw again.

"The 4-pin stood maybe for a second. I couldn't tell, but everybody said it was leaning straight ahead all the time."

And then Hughes tried to duplicate the pin's hitting the deck.

"I hit the floor and thanked the Lord I got it," said Hughes, who bowls in five leagues.