

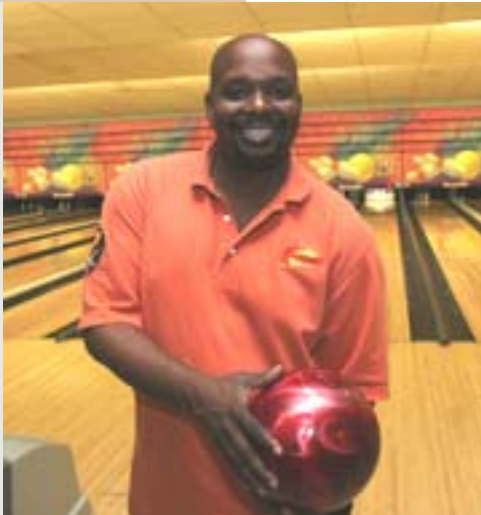
Newsletter



May 2007

ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

Billy Oatman earns the Harry Golden PBA Rookie of the Year Award



The 41-year-old Oatman (Chicago) became the first African-American and the oldest bowler in PBA history to earn PBA Rookie of the Year honors, surpassing C.K. Moore who was 39 years old when he won the award in 1996. Oatman led all rookies in points – finishing 37th in the 2006-07

as George Branham III, Curtis Odom and Rod Pasteur, and to be an inspiration to the African-American youth is what I really wanted to do by coming out on Tour. They were great bowlers and great people, and right now because of the window of opportunity I have, I want to take the ball and run with it.”

Oatman was lucky to be on Tour at all in 2006-07. He finished 11th in the 2006 Denny’s PBA Tour Trials, one spot shy of an exemption, but Ritchie Allen deferred his exemption later in the summer due to an injury, and Oatman was next in line. The switch made him the first African-American to earn an exemption since the Tour switched to an all-exempt format in 2004.

“I want to take the ball and run with it.”

PBA World Point Rankings to regain his exemption for 2007-08 – as well as earnings (\$46,145) and match play appearances (7). He finished second among rookies with a 216.14 average.

Oatman, who also became the first left-handed bowler since Moore to win the award, nearly won a title in his first career television appearance, finishing second to Jason Couch in the 2007 Motel 6 Classic in January.

“It’s an honor. I feel really good to be able to put a smile on my mom’s face and my fiancé’s face, and to be able to celebrate with all my friends who rooted for me and supported me through everything,” Oatman said. “To be in the same breath

“I feel like the Ferris Bueller of the PBA Tour. You only get one life so you have to live it with everything you’ve got,” Oatman said. “Once I got the exemption that wasn’t the end. That was just the beginning and I understood how important it was for me to not just be there but to succeed. I worked really hard on my game and worked even harder on my mental game so I could succeed against the competition. I wasn’t satisfied with just being there.”

Story provided by the PBA.com

THE BILLY OATMAN GIVE'EM A CHANCE FOUNDATION

The vision of **The Billy Oatman Give'em a Chance Foundation** will promote America's Favorite Indoor Sport of Bowling while striving to provide minority bowlers with the opportunity to join the Professional Bowlers Association (PBA). This foundation is in honor of Hank Hardy one of Billy Oatman's favorite bowling coaches.

The “Billy Oatman Give'em a Chance Foundation will provide sponsorship, leadership and coaching to bowlers who with proper training, will have the ability to compete against the best bowlers in the world.

Our goal is to provide minority bowlers with the resources to participate on the PBA National Tour.

In providing these services we will strive to utilize the most efficient, proven and current technologies, including the best equipment available. Consistent with this goal, we plan to offer a proactive approach; (a) coaching to youth (b) coaching to experienced bowlers (c) participating in bowling tournament competitions and (d) creating and enhancing a positive image of minority bowlers throughout the United States of America.

Our philosophy is that there are many minority bowlers who have the talent to compete as professional bowlers if given the chance to receive the proper resources, guidance, financial support and education they need to succeed.

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CONTACT INFORMATION

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Billy Oatman Earns Exemption for 2007-08 - Despite Injury

Written By Annette Scott



Despite an injury during the final round of the Denny's World Championship Billy Oatman held onto his exemption. "I did a 360° turn running out a strike and when I came down I said UH OH! That didn't feel good!! I tried to take a step and my leg collapsed. I was in excruciating pain." says Oatman.

I was on the phone with Billy's mom and she kept saying "when you spoke to Billy this morning was he OK? Then after the 4th game she said "Are you sure there was nothing wrong with his leg when you spoke with him this morning?" I assured her that Billy was fine when I spoke to him and I had no idea why his scores were dropping so fast.

Oatman said, "The final game I decided to throw it slow and curve the ball and hope it struck. The key was to make the best shot I possibly could without being able to support my weight. I guess my adrenalin started flowing pretty good and I was able to pull out a 225 game with the back 6 strikes." After the last game Billy told his mom

that "I'm glad I prayed this morning. I don't know how I threw the back 6 strikes in the last game for 225."

After Billy finished bowling he called me and said, "Baby, I injured myself and I'm

on my way to the hospital. I can't even walk."

"I felt like I was not going to make exemption, I was nervous, people were calling me telling me I was exempt. But I could not trust that. I was waiting for the phone call from the PBA. When the call came, then, I breathed a sigh of relief because I was exempt for next year" says Oatman.

Billy "O" states "during the 2nd game when I injured myself I started with a 3 bagger and a spare. The next ball was a strike and I went into my antics. After injuring myself I turned that 220 game into 168. The 4th game I was in so much pain I was thinking about giving up on myself mentally. But, I decided to fight. I felt more pain in my leg than I have ever felt in my life, I couldn't even spare."

"I did a 360° turn running out a strike and when I came down I said UH OH!"

Each game after the injury, Billy "O's" standings dropped during the tournament. Standings are important during the last tournament of the season. When you have guys fighting for their lives to remain on tour with an exemption, everyone seemed to be passing Billy by. It didn't look good and it was hard to watch, for the people at the tournament and the rest of us watching online.

Qualifying Round - Block 3

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| (1) 176 | (4) 136 |
| (2) 168 | (5) 152 |
| (3) 175 | (6) 225 |

FINAL PBA POINTS STANDINGS FOR 2006/07

Pos Name

- 1 Wes Malott
- 2 Chris Barnes
- 3 Pete Weber
- 4 Doug Kent
- 5 Jason Couch
- 6 Patrick Allen
- 7 Parker Bohn III
- 8 Norm Duke
- 9 Ryan Shafer
- 10 Tommy Jones
- 11 Mike DeVaney
- 12 Walter Ray Williams Jr
- 13 Mike Scroggins
- 14 Tony Reyes
- 15 Sean Rash
- 16 Tommy Delutz Jr
- 17 Jack Jurek
- 18 Bill O'Neill
- 19 Mika Koivuniemi
- 20 Joe Ciccone
- 21 Chris Loschetter
- 22 Mike Edwards
- 23 Steve Jaros
- 24 Brad Angelo
- 25 Danny Wiseman
- 26 Jeff Carter
- 27 Brian Kretzer
- 28 Mike Wolfe
- 29 Tim Criss
- 30 Michael Haugen Jr
- 31 Chris Warren
- 32 Riga Kalfas
- 33 Michael Fagan
- 34 Eugene McCune
- 35 Brian Himmeler
- 36 Tom Baker
- 37 Billy Oatman
- 38 Mike Machuga
- 39 Patrick Healey JR

Billy Oatman's Photo Gallery



Billy Oatman Wins!!

PBA Central Region Brunswick/Hillsboro Ford

Written By Annette Scott



Billy began the Central Regional with a 'good look'.

After qualifying Billy called and said that he was 278 pins over and would make match play the next day. I told him that I needed him to call me after each match and don't wait until the end to call me. I said to him "tomorrow is Title Day." I also told him that all you have to say is "one down 3 to go, two down two to go, three down one to go, etc..."

did he do?" Billy replied, "I don't know, I couldn't watch, so I came out here and called you. I'm going back in to see what happened." I told Billy "Don't worry he won't double to beat you." Billy said, "You should not have said that, I know he's going to double now!"

When I didn't get a call back. I began calling the bowling center to see if they could tell me if Billy was bowling in the championship round. The bowling center had their phones transferred to the kitchen because they didn't want the phone to ring during the tournament. I was getting frantic!

Then finally Billy called and said, "I had to strike out to force Riga Kalfas to double in the tenth to beat me." I asked Billy, "What happened?" Billy said, "I don't know! I couldn't watch, I came outside and called you again." I told him again, "Billy he will not strike out because today is TITLE DAY". As soon as I said that someone came outside and told Billy that he had won. I screamed, "YES!" Billy had won! Riga got the first strike in the tenth and being a lefty, he left a seven pin on the next ball. Billy then called his mom with the best Mother's Day gift he could possibly give her; His First PBA Regional Title!!

Billy laughed.

After the first match Billy called with a long sigh. I responded with "One down three to go!" He said, "Yes I just swept Ronald Holiday. I'll call you after the next match."

Billy called back saying, "two down two to go, I defeated Emilio T. Mora Jr." I knew Billy was going to win; I could feel it! The next call, Billy said, "Annette I did the best I could. I needed to strike out to shut out Eugene McCune and I went 8 spare 9. Two strikes from Eugene and I'm done." I said, "What

WHAT'S NEW

Check out Billy Oatman's Journals online at BillyOatman.com

Register for the Fan Club at BillyOatman.com Receive news updates.

Check out the Photo Gallery online at BillyOatman.com

Check out Billy Oatman on YouTube.com Put Billy Oatman in the search box.

Billy Oatman Bobble heads coming soon.

Purchase your Billy Oatman Wear on BillyOatman.com

Organize a Billy Oatman Meet & Greet with Billy Oatman at your center. Private Lessons also available after the Meet and Greet.



Billy "O", Tracey Morgan, Renee and Morris Jackson



Billy "O" &

Comedian Martina Franklin

Jason Couch & Billy Oatman Partners in PBA Summer Series



Billy Oatman & Jason Couch Partners
in the PBA Summer Series

The PBA announced today details of the PBA All-Star Shootout Hosted by Six Flags St. Louis, a special summer series featuring 16 Denny's PBA Tour all-stars who will compete in a made-for-TV doubles tournament to air throughout the summer on ESPN.

The PBA All-Star Shootout Hosted by Six Flags St. Louis, also sponsored by Denny's, Motel 6 and the United States Bowling Congress (USBC), will take place June 14-17 at Six Flags St. Louis in Eureka, Mo. The 16 players will be paired into eight teams who will participate in a doubles competition. The winning team will split \$50,000 with all other teams earning a minimum of \$15,000.

The tournament marks just the fourth televised PBA event held outdoors and the first since 2001 when Jason Couch won The Villages Sun Bowl in The Villages, Fla. The finals of a PBA Senior Tour event in 2000 were also televised from The Villages. The only other PBA tournament held outdoors was the 1999 Brunswick Long Island Open/New York City Experience – won by Eric Forkel – which was held in Bryant Park in New York City.

The eight teams set to participate in the PBA All-Star Shootout Hosted by Six Flags St. Louis are:

Pete Weber and Sean Rash
Robert Smith and Tony Reyes
Doug Kent and Danny Wiseman
Tommy Jones and Wes Malott
Norm Duke and Walter Ray Williams Jr.
Jason Couch and Billy Oatman
Chris Barnes and Mika Koivuniemi
Patrick Allen and Parker Bohn III

Competition takes place Thursday, June 14 and Friday, June 15, followed by two days of appearances and exhibitions by the 16 bowlers. The event features an alternate shot doubles competition with the field divided into two groups of four teams. Each group will participate in a preliminary qualifying round with the top team in each group moving on to the championship round.

The Qualifying Round will feature round robin match play with each team facing the other three teams in their group once. The top team in each group based on overall record will advance, with ties broken by head-to-head records.

The Championship Round will consist of two singles matches followed by a doubles match. One point will be awarded for each singles match win and two points will be awarded for the doubles match win. In the event of a tie, a one-ball sudden death roll-off will take place.

The special event, which will take place on the Scorpion oil pattern, will feature a unique scoring system wherein any team striking on their fill ball in the 10th frame will be allowed to continue until they can no longer strike. Each additional strike after the fill ball will add 10 bonus pins to the team's final score.

Additionally, a bonus of five pins will be awarded for each split converted during a match. Bowlers will alternate shots throughout the competition so that bowlers will attempt to pick up their teammates' spares.

The PBA All-Star Shootout Hosted by Six Flags St. Louis will air over five consecutive weekends beginning with the first two of 15 shows airing on June 24 from 1-2 p.m. ET.

Provided by the PBA

Billy Oatman and Jason Couch are partners in the PBA All-Star Shootout Hosted by Six Flags St. Louis it will air over five consecutive weekends beginning with June 24 from 1-2 p.m. ET.

Below is a complete list of air dates. All dates and times (1-2 p.m. ET) are subject to change.
Sunday, June 24, 2007
Sunday, July 1, 2007
Sunday, July 8, 2007
Sunday, July 15, 2007
Saturday, July 21, 2007
Sunday, July 22, 2007

*Join the
Billy Oatman Forum
Register online at
BillyOatman.com*

*Check out Billy Oatman
on
YouTube.com
Put Billy Oatman in the
search window*

*Want to have a Fund
Raiser for The Billy
Oatman Give'em a
Chance Fund? Billy
Oatman will make an
appearance at your
event!*

*Contact us at:
866-269-5644
773-368-3175*

*Organize a
Meet & Greet
Q & A Session
with Billy Oatman
Private lessons available
on the 2nd day.*

*Contact us at:
866-269-5644
773-368-3175*



Thanks to all,

It's official I am the 2006-07 Rookie of the Year!! I appreciate your support. I couldn't have done it without out. I also won my first Regional Title this month!!

I dedicate this to you!

Thank you and may God Bless you,

Billy Oatman

The Billy Oatman Give'em A Chance Foundation

Make checks Payable to:
Billy Oatman Give'em A Chace Foundation

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