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Tenpin Slants

his wins being against Parker Bohn III and Jason Couch, the tournament's eventual winner. Norton wound up in 23rd place and collected \$2,050. He was cheered all the way by a huge rooting section that included his WIBC Hall of Fame mother, Virginia Norton, and his maternal grandfather, Dale Park.

The Dick Weber Open was a great on-the-lanes pro experience for young Scott Norton, a former U. S. National Amateur champion.

TOURNAMENT NOTES: A frequently asked question during the **Dick Weber** Open was, "Why is first place only \$30,000 (or \$10,000 less than usual)?" According to **Dave Osborn**, "It was because, although **Denny's** is the PBA's umbrella sponsor, this tournament did not have a title sponsor (such as **Motel 6**, **Ace Hardware**, etc.)." Someone said, "They (the PBA) should've made first place \$60,000 (for the Dick Weber Open)"...

Hall of Famer **Carmen Salvino**, who competed in the tournament, was asked if made all the PBA stops. "No," he replied, "I usually bowl in only the four major tournaments; however, I entered this one out of respect for Dick Weber." His eyes got teary as he said that. Salvino and Weber, of course, were competitors in the PBA's early years and were close friends...

Speaking about Hall of Famers, others on hand at Fountain Bowl were **Glenn (Mr. 900) Allison**, **John Jowdy**, **Barry Asher** and **Andy Marzich**...Jowdy utilized his coaching skills to conduct a mini clinic between squads. Among those seeking his help were Seniors stars **Dale Eagle** and **Don Sylvia**. Eagle and Sylvia were among the 13 graybeards entered in the tournament, none of whom survived the first cut...

A surprise tournament spectator was the appearance of **Bill Taylor**, the 85-year-old "Guru of Bowling," who now resides in Switzerland. Taylor, who quipped that he's "still trying to save bowling," was en route to Houston, where he's scheduled to conduct a clinic at **Bill Lillard's** bowling center...Another surprise visitor at Fountain Bowl was SoCal Hall of Famer **Fred Riccilli**, also 85. The former proprietor of Champion Lanes in Garden Grove recently suffered a horrific diabetic coma and almost died. Now looking chipper, Riccilli said, "I check my blood sugar twice a day"...

Self-described bowling purist **Del Ballard Jr.** thought there were "some good things and some bad things" about the old-style format. He said the good things included the fact that players got to bowl more games and the spectators were able to see all the pros perform. And the bad? "If you're stuck in the middle of the (match play) pack, there's little chance of moving up into the top-five spots for the TV show," Ballard said...



Brutus the manatee, featured in the photo above, likes to hang out in the warmer waters at Blue Spring State Park during the cooler winter months in Florida. Brutus, who can be adopted through Save the Manatee Club's Adopt-A-Manatee program, is the largest manatee at the spring, weighing in at about 1,800 pounds.

Many people from around the globe are becoming more aware of the endangered manatee and the problems these gentle, harmless vegetarians face day to day. Sadly, 2005 proved to be the second-highest year for manatee mortality on record, with a documented 396 deaths. There are only about 3,000 manatees left in the United States.

<http://www.savethemanatee.org>

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