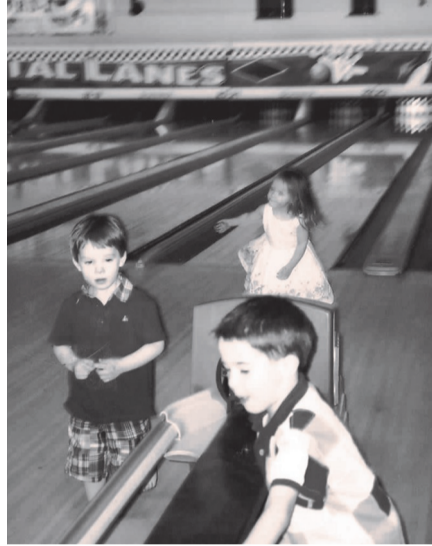


(Continued from page 23)
Coast-To-Coast



(Picture Right): Parker Bohn III and wife Leslie work together with their bowling ventures. (Picture Above): Their lovely children hard at Bowling!

Chris Barnes won the Bowling Skills competition over the 2008 Bowler of the Year Patrick Allen 3-0.

Duke has actually bowled the best this season as he won two of the six major tournaments including the US Open and was only the fifth player to win the Denny's PBA Triple Crown.

Norm said he was inspired to win by the attendance of his son Branden for the first time along with his family. The tournament was a family affair with the attendance of Barnes' TV regular twin sons Ryan and Troy and his wife Lynda who was also a pro bowler on tour in the same era as Parker's wife Leslie. It was reminiscent of the TV reality show "My Dad Is Better Than Your Dad" because the bowlers brought out their children to root them on.

Bohn said the constantly increasing gasoline prices have caused great hardship on the tour since most bowlers use mobile homes to travel from stop to stop.

"I'm absolutely elated to win the Roll to Riches and it will go a long way toward college funds for my two younger sons," Bohn said. "I want to thank all of the fans who voted for me and Motel 6 for the sponsorship and especially Jason Couch and his dad Cliff for the use of their bowling center here in downtown Orlando. It'll go a long way for us and it will buy a lot of gasoline even as the price continues to rise. This is the largest paycheck we get on the PBA Tour."

Bohn wishes the PBA could pay the bowlers this much all of the time. The amount of money paid to Bohn is about the same as a typical winning check on the PGA Champions Tour in golf.

"I have three car seats for the kids to load in our motor home along with a little thing known as my bowling equipment so we take space to the maximum but it's worth it," Bohn said. "It takes Leslie up to 15 minutes to load everything for us grabbing the stuff off the carousel."

Parker's wife Leslie Bemish Bohn was center stage at the conclusion of the tournament as were their two sons and met Parker, strangely enough, at a collegiate bowling tournament. She bowled as a team regular in college at Wichita State where she met Parker.

"I was the alternate on Team USA in 1993 and 1995," said Leslie. "I was the MVP on the Ladies Tour in 1990 and I won a single title on my four-year stint on tour. You dream about winning this much money in a tournament and getting only one chance so this is our dream come true."

Bohn beat his brother-in-law Doug Kent who is married to Leslie's sister Chrissie, another family bowler. Parker is a patriarch extraordinaire including his extended family of Parker Bohn IV and Evan, his two sons from a previous marriage and his three children by Leslie featuring Justin and Brandon who greeted their dad at the ESPN-TV finals and daughter Sydney.

Kent won the Roll to Riches Challenge last year and was the first in the family to defeat Norm Duke six to three. Barnes won it in 2006. Kent also won part of the skills competition in 2007 to outshine his brother-in-law last year.

Michael Haugen, Jr. said the injury to his middle finger on his right bowling hand contributed to his elimination in the opening match where all six bowlers competed in the six frame match.

Duke won two of the six majors this season and overcame his nagging calf injury in his sliding leg and proprieter Jason Couch is still nursing his knee injury but will return next season.

Democratic Presidential candidate Barack Obama went bowling recently at West Chester State University near Philadelphia, PA on his campaign trail and disappointed his fans including some members of the West Chester State Collegiate bowling team by scoring a 37 which is as much as Parker Bohn or Norm Duke would

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score in less than two frames. After hooking the ball several times into the right channel with his left hand, Obama exclaimed "when I go to the White House I'm taking out the lanes in the basement and putting in a basketball court instead."

Obama played hoops extensively as a teenager growing up in Chicago when he went by the name Barry. Presidential Candidate Hillary Clinton challenged her competitor to "bowl a game against me and I'll even spot you're a couple for frames."

Clinton likes bowling and used the White House lanes when Bill was President and the lanes date back to the Nixon Administration when he bowled for hours to get his mind off the political disaster known as Watergate. Speaking of disasters, both Presidents Bush have bowled on these lanes.

When George H.W. Bush was campaigning for President, he bowled in public and embarrassed himself when he accidentally put on two non-sliding shoes and fell over on the lanes. At least in the White House they can screw up privately. There have been no reports issued as to whether Monica Lewinsky had any bowling talent.

Parker Bohn III and Doug Kent are the first Brother-In Laws to bowl together in the Roo to Riches, Florida

