



The area's top players of 1993

This ranking for calendar year 1993 is based on a subjective assessment of players who participated in at least four scratch tournaments in this area—or "outside" scratch events played by local association members. (Wow! How demanding—one scratch tournament every 13 weeks!)

Again, this is *my* personal opinion/observation/assessment that comes from either bowling in or attending nearly all, if not all, local scratch events that carried over pins. This ranking does not necessarily represent the "best bowlers"—whatever that is—but instead attempts to give credit/recognition to *players* who participated against their peer group in *scratch events*.

1. Richard Dodge — wins three PBA regionals plus local events ... has potential to be national superstar ... his win in Masters at Centreville gave him a *slight* edge over Anthony Chapman.

2. Anthony Chapman — won two Masters tournaments plus international events ... he is a well-rounded player with an excellent future.

3. John Gaines — Baltimore's premier player bowled enough local events to be considered ... he wins under all types of conditions ... champion person with a championship game.

4. Lee Brosius — *always* a threat to win, *always* cashes ... may be the all-time best in the area for the \$.

5. Richard Wolfe — won third regional, made TV finals at Brunswick World Open ... 1994 could be his year on tour ... he is definitely learning how to bowl on the highest level.

6. Terry Wiley — he's back bowling and doing it well ... even wins a Masters and carries a top tournament average.

7. Brian DeMatte — won a Masters event and also has a top tournament average ... if he ever took the game seriously, he could become a national star.

8. Jim Lewis — won third PBA southern regional ... is capable of winning any event.

9. Scott Leonard — *the* 1993 surprise area player ... won Masters at Twinbrook and cashed in nearly every event he entered.

10. Magic Gray — bowled consistently well nearly all year in all types of events.

11. John Tragert — bowled very well all year ... is capable of winning any event he enters ... may have the best physical game in the area.

12. Russell Rose — won PBA regional as a non-member ... is very capable of winning most tournaments he enters.

13. John Murphy — another 1993 surprise ... his job keeps him from bowling in as many tournaments as he would like, but when he does bowl, his strong ball always keeps his scores close to the top.

14. David Kneas — yet another 1993 surprise ... bowled very, very well all year in local events ... when he played, he was always near the top.

15. Tony Walton — inconsistent year, but when he gets it on-line, this fine young player will always be very close to the top.

16. Frank Gallo Jr. — won Masters at University ... very capable of winning most any event ... a steady performer.

17. Jim Robinette — won 1993 Virginia U.S. Open qualifier and had a solid year on PBA Senior Tour ... this NCABA Hall of Famer is a threat to win *any* event he enters.

18. David Reed — did not bowl as much last year ... his natural ability always gives him the potential to produce the big winning scores.

19. Tom Middleton — when his job permits, he quietly cashes all the time.

20. Stuart Ramsey — solid player with solid cash record.

21. Rick Wallace — one of the area's most talented young players.

22. Bobby Holmes — made TV show on PBA Senior Tour ... "The Greatest" is always a threat.

23. Brad Tolson — won a Metro Scratch Tournament ... always a threat to cash.

24. Greg Wilson — this young player did well in PBA southern regionals ... has the potential to become a solid national player.

25. John Morgan — when he bowled in local events, he did well ... also had a good year in PBA southern regional competition.

26. Gary Harris — won first Masters tournament ever held—it won't be his last.

27. Scott Bailey — the managing partner of The Strike Zone Professional Bowling Store very quietly went around cashing in nearly every event he entered.

28. Dan Morris — when "the left" is not shut out, this "young lefty" plays well.

29. Bill Kaelin — always capable of producing "monster" numbers for the \$.

30. Todd Larson — Had a solid cash record ... always has potential to shoot the big score.

31. Hollis McMullen — the shootout board "king" ... seemingly always takes home more green when he bowls in tournaments.

32. Larry O'Neill — NCABA Hall of Famer still has potential to win or cash big in any local event.

33. Jim Long — has solid year on PBA Senior Tour, including a TV appearance ... unfortunately, he does not support local events.

34. Stephen L. Gibson — won Masters event at Capital Plaza on tough conditions ... he can play.

35. Richard Holmes — solid person, solid game, solid record.

36. Bobby Hall II — when he learns to "think the game" and allows himself to get the winning edge, this very talented young bowler will reveal great potential.

37. Mark Glover — his health keeps him from bowling regularly ... when in good health, he produces good scores.

38. Lisa Rand — premier local woman player ... capable of winning *any* local event she enters.

39. John Parks — his cash record speaks for itself.

40. Nick Serino — steady regional casher ... would like to see him in more local events.

41. Brian Szamborski — another "surprise" 1993 player ... has developed into a steady casher.

42. Rod Cahow — not as productive as in previous year, but still one of the best.

43. Tim Colley — with his power game, he is capable of producing powerful numbers ... if he ever learns to play (i.e., think) the game, his roller-coaster career will smooth out into a nice train ride up the potential mountain of stardom.

44. Ron Bauer — this senior player is always a threat to do some cashing.

45. Steve Trimble — has solid game ... when he plays, he bowls well.

46. Willie Coleman — when his health permits, Willie always plays the game very well.

47. A. Jane Timmons — this fine lady always seems to produce a Hall of Fame performance.

48. **Danny Sharritt** — quietly established a good record with some solid performances.

49. **Bobby Hall I** — this future NCABA Hall of Famer can still knock them down with the best.

50. **Ken Shaw** — “either-hand Ken” has impressive cash record in PBA southern regionals.

51. **Brian Poole** — *when* he plays, he always plays very well.

52. **Ken Szymanski** — “Mr. Revs” is a threat to rev up a big number in any tournament.

53. **Bill Dontigney Jr.** — when will the “real” Bill Dontigney emerge?

54. **John Makay** — if he ever develops consistency, look out.

55. **J.C. Arbogast** — consistency is definitely *not* J.C.’s favorite word.

56. **Jim Troutman** — no surprise here.

57. **Gary Mills** — did some early-year steady cashing.

58. **Greg Goetz** — on the spur of the moment, “The Doctor” can unretire and bowl well without preparation ... one of the all-time best ... (Doc: “The Editor” is *still* waiting for your next contribution!).

59. **Chuck Gadbois** — with non-slow starts, this senior could have an impact on the PBA Senior Tour.

60. **Kendra Cameron** — her job kept her off the practice lanes in '93 ... if she works a steady practice routine into her schedule, she will be able to hold her own with anyone ... great potential here.

ALTERNATE

● **Ron Holt** — one of the most talented bowlers in the area ... *when* this future NCABA Hall of Famer actually bowls in scratch events, his talent is amply demonstrated.

PBA member and USA BOWLING-certified instructor Gary Parsons currently is teaching his widely-acclaimed “Bowling Achievement” classes Sunday evenings at Alexandria Bowl. He is employed by Red Nelson’s Bowlers World.

IN FUTURE ISSUES:

● Interviews with Bobby Holmes and Mike Hahn.

NOTE: Harry Ladson currently is on assignment. His “Perspective” column will return soon.

The Guru’s “Honorable Mention” list — Feb. '94

1994’s “BREAKTHROUGH” PLAYERS

The following is a list of some of the younger players who I think will probably become major local players this year. Each has the potential to reach a level of stardom in bowling.

● **Steve Attilis** — has made major improvements in his game the past year ... with future improvement, he will be real tough in scratch competition.

● **Jon Babcock** — knows the game ... with some real free time to practice, Mr. Babcock could win anywhere anytime.

● **Mike Bache** — with a down-and-in condition, Mike has the potential to hold his own with many players.

● **Pedro Carrasco** — aiming to regain the stroke (and the press) he had in 1988.

● **Bob DeMartino** — returned to the area last year ... he can bowl ... no doubt.

● **Tim Dingus** — Manassas young (age: 16) star ... has awesome potential ... with natural maturation could come national recognition at a young age ... great, great potential.

● **Chris Durst** — may be the area’s best plastic ball player ... learning to “think the game”.

● **Gerry Flemming** — one of the area’s best now ... should break through with some major wins in '94 ... knows how to think the game.

● **Paulus Ford** — with some work on his physical game, this very competitive bowler can pull out some surprises in '94.

● **Joe Forseth** — has made major improvement this past year ... ready to make a move in '94?

● **Barry Hartman** — has matured into a solid player ... could very well establish himself this year.

● **Rob Jardine** — again, when this young, talented player learns to play on tougher conditions, he has the potential to become one of the area’s best ... potential is awesome.

● **Jimmy Jones** — this young lion, when on, is able to hold his own with anyone.

● **Danny Nicholson** — his style may not be orthodox, but he can shoot some numbers for the \$.

● **Jon Nordin** — this Australian “loan” has the physical game to do well in any tournament.

● **Tim Pometto** — Bowie’s promising young player is learning the game and cashing regularly in scratch events ... excellent roll on his ball ... solid physical game.

● **Eric Richardson** — with some breaks, this young player has the potential to product a lot of winning scores.

● **Mark Robinson** — is progressing along nicely ... could very well produce some big scores in '94.

● **Mike Ryan** — when the lanes are “open-to-the-right,” Mike can hold his own with anyone.

● **Norman Smith** — one of the most disciplined players I have seen in a long time ... needs to bowl with the right group of players to push career upwards.

● **Mike Tafoya** — talent plus affective development plus effective (skill) development equals great player. Mike has one of these. Does he have the discipline to develop the other two? If he does, greatness is a possibility.

● **Lewis Twine** — with the problems and adjustments of 1993 in the past, Lewis may be ready to establish himself as a major player in '94.

● **Mike Whittington** — one of Richmond’s best ... he will be bowling in more local tournaments ... has national player possibilities ... those Nation’s Capital Area players who do not know him will this year ... great potential.

● **Charlie Zost** — a very solid physical game ... NCABA Hall of Famer Carl Zost’s grandson has real potential.

ALTERNATE

● **Gary Parsons** — this not-so-young player has figured out why he slumped in the second half of 1993 ... he shall return.