

"Superior Performance"



Tim Criss has loved bowling since he was 3 year sold. He would go and watch his Dad and brother bowl in leagues at the "late" Bel Air Bowl. He also never missed the PBA Show on Saturday afternoons. And one of his biggest thrills would be when the tour came to Baltimore and he could go and watch it in person.

Tim began participating in youth leagues at the age of 9. He won several high average awards. He excelled in the Lion's Club Tournament and many other YABA regional tournaments. The highlight of Tim's junior career was winning the Scratch division of the State Coca Cola Tournament. As the winner, he represented

the state of Maryland in the national finals where he finished 11th.

After graduation from C. Milton Wright High School in 1984, Tim turned his attention toward adult tournaments and immediately turned pro. He became a consistent casher in the Professional Bowlers Association's Eastern Region.

Locally for the next few years, Tim continued to bowl leagues and became a force at Cecil-Harford Association 700 Club Tournaments winning several. As a league bowler, Tim never averaged under 200.

In 1992, Tim's hard work and consistent bowling finally paid off when he won his first PBA regional title in State College, PA. He didn't stop there. Two tournaments later he captured his 2nd title in Syracuse, New York and by the end of the 1992 season. Tim had been named the Eastern Region Player of the Year. In 1993, Tim won 2 more titles. Then in 1995, as a full-time bowler, Tim went on to win 4 more regional titles that year and again captured the honor of Eastern Region Player of the Year for 1995.

With his regional success of '92, he acquired a sponsor to bowl full-time on the Professional Bowlers Association National Tour beginning the 1993 season. Tim along with his wife Cherie, daughter Amanda and dog Oakley travel week to week by motor home. After moderate success the first 4 years (making 3 telecasts and consistent cashing), his breakthrough year came in 1997 where he won his first 3 PBA national titles and made 7 television appearances. In 1998 Tim won his 4th title in Richland, WA.

Some other highlights of Tim's 1997 and 1998 years include being named 1st Team All-American for both years. In 1998, Tim won the Steve Nagy Sportsmanship award. It's an award given to those who display good sportsmanship on and off the lanes and the winner of the award each year is chosen by fellow professional bowler association members. Also in 1998, due to the fact that he was one of 3 bowlers nominated for the PBA player of the year honors, Tim and his wife attended ESPN's ESPY Awards in New York City.

In 1999, Tim won his 5th title, the PBA National Championship. The National Championship is one of four majors on the PBA tour. That same year he was selected to the Bowling Magazine 2nd Team All American.

For the past 5 years, Tim has represented the PBA at the Japan Cup Tournament in Tokyo, Japan. The Japan Cup takes the top 16 players on the PBA's point list. Tim made the Japan Cup telecast in 2000 finishing in 5th place. To date, Tim has 11 PBA Regional Titles and 5 National Titles. He has made 25 television appearances. As well as Tim's 5 first place finishes, he has 4 seconds, 4 thirds, 4 fourths and seven 5th place finishes with a career to date television average of 215.65. He's rolled a total of 34 three hundred games (of which 26 have been shot in PBA Tournaments) and has a high series of 867.

Although recently, Tim has not been involved in local league or tournament play, he religiously practices in local bowling centers and still maintains his Cecil-Harford Association card. After his professional bowling career comes to an end, he intends on staying in the bowling industry. Tim would ultimately love to own a bowling center that can help contribute to the growth of the sport of bowling.