GARY GARNAAS, Bettendorf, Iowa
Born June 28, 1957

At the age of 43, many athletes are on the downhill side of their careers. Not so for Bettendorf's Gary Garnaas, easily one of Iowa's top left-handed bowlers.

Gary joined his first ABC sanctioned league at age 17. Since that time, he has tossed many noteworthy scores. The most recent of these came in the 1999 Iowa State Tournament in Dubuque, Iowa. In the leadoff position on the Pro Connection Pro Shop team, Gary tossed a 759 series which helped establish a new tournament record of 3571. That score allowed Pro Connection to repeat as the Open Division Champions. That team won the tournament in Sioux City in 1998, with a 3467 score.

Gary continued his Dubuque outing with a 716 in singles and 784 in doubles. His resulting 2259 all-events total, a 251 average, was also a state tournament record. Combined with a 676 by Joel Carter, the resulting 1460 earned the pair the 1999 doubles crown.

In a 27 year career, Garnaas has had an unending number of successes on the lanes. At age 22, on December 13, 1979, Gary tossed three straight games of 279, totaling 837, to tie the ABC record of the highest triplicate score ever bowled to that date. The record now, of course, is 300. His 837 was the highest series bowled in the Tri-City Classic League in the 80 years of operation

Gary bowled his first season average over 200 in the 1978-79 season. In throwing his 209 average, he averaged 238 for the last six weeks of that season. As a Tri-City Classic member, Gary claimed four average titles. His first was the 209 in 1978-79 season. Other championships were 219 in 1981-82, 216 in 1983-84 and 221 in 1988-89, Since that time, Gary has had 11 years of 200 or better averages in the Tri City Classic League, with the low being 212 and the high being 231. Gary also bowls in the Downtown League in Davenport, where he has recorded averages from a low of 211 and a high of 227. This season he is at a 228 average.

The talented lefty has had a total of eight 800 series, and is pushing the 300 mark in 700 series rolled to date. Even more impressive is the 28 perfect games he has bowled. Gary has been a member of the Tri-City Classic championship team on 13 different occasions, the last of which was with his long standing partner, Joel Carter, as a teammate.

In his hometown Greater Davenport Bowling Association, Garnaas has claimed three association tournament championships. These were in doubles in 1989, all-events in 1993 with a scratch 2175 figure, and team in 1994. During the latter event, Garnaas contributed a 763 series toward the team's 3537 scratch score.

During his long and illustrious career, Gary has claimed one PBA Regional title, as well as having 7 wins in the Greater Iowa Bowling Association series of tournaments. He is a respected member of the Greater Davenport Bowling Association Hall of Fame, and also of theTri-City Classic Bowling Hall of Fame.

The Greater Davenport Bowling Association is extremely proud to submit the name of Gary P. Garnaas for consideration toward the possible election to the Iowa State Bowling Association Hall of Fame.

Inducted in 2001 in the Bowling Ability Category