LEE HOSGOOD



BIRTHDATE: October 12, 1951 in Southeast D.C.

CITY OF RESIDENCE: Bowie, Maryland.

MARITAL STATUS: Married, with three daughters.

EDUCATION: Graduated from Potomac High School in Oxon Hill and later took firefighter classes from the University of the District of Columbia—fire service hydraulics, etc.

CURRENT JOB: Co-owner of Crofton Classic Pro Shop.

2001-02 LEAGUES: Polish Open and Tri-Nitely at Crofton.

HIGH GAME/SERIES: Five sanctioned perfect games / 792 series

BEST PART OF MY GAME: Once I find a line, I hit it, and I usually find the oil line very quickly.

WORST PART OF MY GAME: My worst part right now is my physical game because of my surgeries (major shoulder surgery last August, two previous knee reconstructions). It affects my consistency.

BEST TACTIC I USE TO HANDLE PRESSURE: I try to refer back to my youth coaching. My one youth coach used to always tell me to keep it simple: Keep it simple, keep it basic, and just repeat the shot.

ALL-TIME FAVORITE BOWLER: Carmen Salvino.

WHEN I WATCH BOWLING ON TV, I WANT TO SEE THESE FIVE PROS: Pete Weber—he's got to be on top. I love his enthusiasm, I love his drive. I love everything about what he does. Norm Duke, Parker Bohn III, David Ozio—I love his consistency—and probably Chris Barnes.

LOCAL BOWLERS I MOST ADMIRE: [NCABA Hall of Famer] Ron Holt. He's so unassuming. He beats you, and you don't feel bad about it because he's such a nice guy!

SPARE-SHOOTER RATING (10 best - 1 worst): Probably a 9.

IMPORTANCE OF BOWLING IN MY LIFE (10 most – 1 least): If you go by my family, it's a 10. For me, it was a 10, but it's probably dropped to an 8 because I have children, grandchildren, and other interests.

INTERESTS OUTSIDE OF BOWLING: Hunting and fishing—big time!

I drive to Camdenton, Missouri every November to an annual deer hunt. That's like my annual pilgrimage. I don't care if it's in the middle of a league—in the middle of a championship—I'm going hunting! It doesn't always make my team or my partner happy, but I do it every year, so it's not like it's a big surprise.

FAVORITE MEAL: Prime rib.

FAVORITE BEVERAGE: Diet Pepsi with lemon. FAVORITE MOVIE: The Shawshank Redemption.

FAVORITE STORE: It's got to be Wal-Mart.

FAVORITE WEB SITE: www.USATODAY.com.

ONE THING I'D OUTLAW AT THE BOWLING CENTER: Rude people, and those who complain about lane conditions when they haven't even tried to make a single adjustment. You just want to scream at them sometimes, but you know you can't, so you have to bite your tongue quite often.

PRODUCT FOR WHICH I'D LIKE TO BE SPOKESMAN: Storm bowling equipment—with no hesitation.

TASK I HATE TO DO: Laundry.

THREE FAMOUS PEOPLE (LIVING OR DEAD) I'D INVITE TO MY HOME FOR DINNER: President George W. Bush, Pete Weber, and Dick Weber.

ONE FAMOUS ATHLETE I'D PAY TO SEE COMPETE: Mark McGwire.

ONE WORD THAT BEST DESCRIBES ME: Steady.

BIGGEST PERSONAL REGRET: I would have liked to try the pro tour when I was younger, but career choices made it difficult, if not impossible.

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Not being able to finish my career at firefighting. I had planned on being an arson investigator. I had wanted to accomplish more for the citizens of the city. With the D.C. Fire Department, however, there is no percentage of disability—you're either zero percent disabled or 100 percent disabled. To be promoted to become an arson investigator, you have to be able to pass a full duty physical—even though I would never have to fight another fire again. It was a "Catch 22" that I was caught in.

NOBODY KNOWS I'M GOOD AT: Cooking. I'm an excellent cook. I love to cook.

I INDULGE MYSELF BY...: I usually go out for a good meal. I'm one for finding new restaurants. I always try to find something new, something different. That's why I always have trouble keeping my New Year's resolution of losing weight!

ONE THING I'D CHANGE ABOUT MYSELF: To be more patient with myself and my kids.

IMMEDIATE BOWLING GOAL: Shoot an 800.

PARTICULAR TALENT I WISH I HAD: I just wish I did better what I can do now.

BEST PIECE OF ADVICE I'VE EVER HEARD: Keep it simple.

IF I COULD BE GRANTED ONE WISH: That 9/11 never happened. Being a retired fireman ... that was a day I wish never would have happened.

LIFE GOALS: Besides retiring and becoming a gentleman farmer, I would like to be able to look back on what I've accomplished. I have all intentions of bowling some senior regionals either this year or next year since I've just turned 50 and now qualify to become a senior.

PHILOSOPHY I LIVE BY: It's something I tell my kids all the time: Whatever it takes to succeed—as long as it's legal—do it. Just do it.