

RAI DOBLMEIER



CITY OF RESIDENCE: Alexandria, Virginia

SOCIAL STATUS: single

EDUCATION: 2 years of college

EARLIEST BOWLING MEMORY: When I was 8 years old, I saw a man bowling with a high swing and good form. I was amazed, and I wanted to be like him.

MY PREFERRED BOWLING BALL BRAND: Currently my brand is Storm, but for most of my youth and young adult bowling, it was Hammer.

WEIGHT OF MY BOWLING BALL: 14 pounds

BEST PART OF MY BOWLING GAME: My release is smooth, and I was told by the coach for Jason Couch that I had a near-perfect release.

WORST PART OF MY GAME: I need to improve controlling my speed and maintaining it on a consistent basis.

MY WORST OR MOST EMBARRASSING BOWLING MOMENT: My most embarrassing moment was upon arriving at the bowling center, I realized I left my bowling shoes at home. I used house shoes and bowled 160 game. My mom arrived with my shoes, and I bowled a 269 game.

MY BIGGEST THRILL IN BOWLING: The biggest thrill for me was to bowl internationally in Australia and Taiwan to represent the United States at the Deaf Olympics games. I was the youngest person ever to be on the Men's Bowling Team at 16 years old.

BEST TACTIC I USE TO HANDLE PRESSURE: I take deep breaths on the approach before I start.

SPARE-SHOOTER RATING (10 = best / 1 = worst): 9

MAKEABLE SPARE COMBINATION I DON'T WANT TO SEE IN THE 10TH FRAME: 6-9-10.

IMPORTANCE OF BOWLING IN MY LIFE (10 = most / 1 = least): 9

MOST IMMEDIATE BOWLING GOAL: My goal is to improve my form to avoid back injuries and to consistently control my speed.

INTERESTS OUTSIDE OF BOWLING: Currently, I enjoy playing disc golf as much as I can, and I see several parallels with bowling.

BIGGEST MISCONCEPTION ABOUT MYSELF: People are surprised that I bowl so well because I'm deaf, but my deafness does not effect my bowling at all.

FAMOUS LIVING PERSON I MOST ADMIRE: Pete Weber because he follows his gut when making bowling decisions as he plays.

FIRST THING I'D BUY IF I WON THE LOTTERY: I would buy a bowling center.

STRANGE AND UNUSUAL FACT ABOUT ME: I was born in Lithuania and came to the United States at 6 years old.

NEXT RISK I WANT TO TAKE: I would like to finish college and set up my own business.

IF I HAD MORE TIME, I WOULD....: work out more to improve my bowling game.

THE ONE PLACE I WANT TO VISIT: I would like to go back to Lithuania and see where I grew up and find my brother and sister.

FAVORITE MEAL: Salmon and potatoes

FAVORITE BEVERAGE: Red Cherry Mountain Dew

MY MOST OVERUSED PHRASE: "No pain, no gain"

MY NICKNAME: Dobby

PRODUCT FOR WHICH I'D LIKE TO BE SPOKESMAN: In general, Apple products because they have improved my life as a deaf person.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION I CAN NEVER KEEP: Working out on a consistent basis.

TASK I HATE TO DO: Working in the yard, like grass cutting and taking care of the gardens.

SUBJECT ABOUT WHICH I'D LIKE TO KNOW MORE: I would like to know more about video editing.

QUALITY I MOST ADMIRE IN MY FRIENDS: Loyalty is what I admire most.

THREE FAMOUS PEOPLE (LIVING OR DEAD) I'D INVITE TO MY HOME FOR DINNER: Pete Weber, Walter Ray Williams Jr., and Parker Bohn III.

MY NUMBER ONE PET PEEVE: I don't like it when friends are not loyal or trustworthy.

ONE WORD THAT BEST DESCRIBES ME: *Humorous* because I use humor to break down communication barriers between deaf and hearing people.

MY BIGGEST PERSONAL REGRET: I regret not finishing college at an earlier age.

NOBODY KNOWS I AM GOOD AT: I love to play pranks on people.

WEB SITE I VISIT MOST DAYS: I love to watch any Web site that has bowling or disc golf information.

MY HEROES IN LIFE: My mom

TRAIT I MOST DEPLORE IN MYSELF: I feel that I can waste time and not accomplish things.

MY MOST TREASURED POSSESSION: My phone because it is my communication tool.

NECESSARY EXTRAVAGANCE: I will buy a new bowling ball or a new disc for disc golf.

MY GREATEST PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT: As a junior bowler, I won the Pepsi Tournament in Rhode Island three years in a row. As a young adult bowler, I won the title of Masters Champion in National Deaf Bowling tournaments three times.

IF I COULD BE GRANTED ONE WISH, IT WOULD BE....: to have a bowling girlfriend.

MY FUTURE PLANS: I plan to finish college, get a good job, or set up my own business.

PHILOSOPHY I LIVE BY: My motto is to "expect the unexpected in life."

Rai Doblmeier, 34, rolled 105 games and thus had perfect attendance in the First Neters league at Bowl America Falls Church this season. Big deal, you say? Indeed, as Rai was a substitute the entire season, and one that likely was highly requested: He averaged 229.3, had a high game of 289, a top series of 822, and scored 14 700 series. As a regular member of the Falls Church Commercial league, he averaged 231.3 for 108 games, with highs of 279 and 802, along with 19 700 series.