



March 23, 2011

KOIVUNIEMI, DORIN-BALLARD STILL ON TOP OF WORLD BOWLING TOUR RANKINGS

ARLINGTON, Texas – Although there was no movement among the leaders after five events, the top three in the World Bowling Tour rankings were shaken up a little bit after the conclusion of the Kuwait Open.

Finland's Mika Koivuniemi and the United States' Carolyn Dorin-Ballard did not compete in the Kuwait Open but held onto the top spot in the rankings of the World Bowling Tour, presented by the World Tenpin Bowling Association.

Koivuniemi leads the men's rankings with 125 points, earned in three events, while Dorin-Ballard has accumulated 145 points in four events.

American Chris Barnes, who also did not compete in Kuwait, dropped from second to fourth after strong showings by Sean Rash of the United States and Osku Palermaa of Finland.

Rash earned 25 ranking points at the Kuwait Open to bring his season total to 90, good enough for second place, while Palermaa picked up 30 points in Kuwait to up his total to 76 points. Barnes is fourth with 68.

Kelly Kulick of the United States remained in second place in the women's rankings, but Nina Flack of Sweden jumped into third place by earning 30 points in Kuwait. Flack has totaled 85 points in three events and moved past Finland's Krista Pollanen, who is now fourth with 80 points.

The World Bowling Tour is made up of various events around the world throughout the course of 2011. Players earn points based on how they finish in the event and those points will be tabulated throughout the season to determine the top three men and top three women who will be invited to compete in the World Bowling Tour Finals presented by the Professional Bowlers Association.

The World Bowling Tour Finals are scheduled to take place at the PBA's World Series of Bowling in late 2011 and will feature a total prize fund of \$40,000. The event will be aired nationally in the United States.

The top three men and top three women will bowl a stepladder finals format in their respective divisions at the World Bowling Tour Finals. The prize money for each division is the same, with the winner taking \$10,000, second place earning \$6,000 and third place winning \$4,000.

The next stop on the World Bowling Tour in Bangkok, Thailand, from Sept. 24-30 and the tour wraps up with the AMF Australian Masters from Oct. 10-22 in Sydney, Australia.

The World Tenpin Bowling Association, which is made up of more than 100 bowling federations, governs the sport throughout the world. For more information on WTBA and the World Bowling Tour, visit WorldTenpinBowling.com.



WORLD BOWLING TOUR POINTS

Top 25 after five events (Pos., Name, Country, Points)

MEN

1, Mika Koivuniemi, Finland	125
2, Sean Rash, USA	90
3, Osku Palermaa, Finland	76
4, Chris Barnes, USA	68
5, Tore Torgersen, Norway	61
6, Dominic Barrett, England	60
7, Paul Moor, England	55
8, Martin Larsen, Sweden	53
9, Chris Loschetter, USA	51
10, Norm Duke, USA	50
10, Tom Hess, USA	50
10, Syafiq Ridhwan, Malaysia	50
10, Tommy Jones, USA	50
14, Jason Belmonte, Australia	47
14, Ronnie Russell, USA	47
16, Kimmo Lehtonen, Finland	41
17, Jack Jurek, USA	40
17, Thomas Larsen, Denmark	40
19, Lucas Legnani, Argentina	33
20, Dennis Eklund, Sweden	32
21, Marco Baade, Germany	30
21, Mike DeVaney, USA	30
21, Ryan Shafer, USA	30
24, Karl Wahlgren, Sweden	29
25, Chris Warren, USA	28
25, Gery Verbruggen, Belgium	28
25, Stuart Williams, England	28

WOMEN

1, Carolyn Dorin-Ballard, USA	145
2, Kelly Kulick, USA	100
3, Nina Flack, Sweden	85
4, Krista Pöllänen, Finland	80
5, Liz Johnson, USA	70
6, Clara Guerrero, Colombia	50
6, Helen Johnsson, Sweden	50
8, Sandra Andersson, Sweden	46
8, Jazreel Tan, Singapore	46
10, Rocio Restrepo, Colombia	40
10, Tannya Roumimper, Indonesia	40
12, Nicki Ainge, England	38
13, Mai Ginge Jensen, Denmark	35
13, Missy Parkin, USA	35
15, Anna Orlova, Russia	30
16, Victoria Johansson, Sweden	27
16, Rebecka Jr. Larsen, Sweden	27
16, Elin Adolfsson, Sweden	27
16, Patricia Luoto, Germany	27
20, Joline Persson Planefors, Sweden	26
21, Bryanna Caldwell, USA	25
21, Heidi Manninen, Finland	25
21, Marilyn Planchard, France	25
24, Diandra Asbaty, USA	24
24, Vanessa Fung, Hong Kong	24
24, Marija Tkachenko, Latvia	24
24, Hee Kar Yen, Malaysia	24

ENDS

For further information, please contact:

World Tenpin Bowling Association

Kevin Dornberger, President

Tel: +1 800 514 2695

president@worldtenpinbowling.com

www.worldtenpinbowling.com