



SHORTSTOP KEEPS ROLLING

AT-RISK YOUTHS BENEFIT FROM LEGAL PROFESSIONALS AS GENEROSITY IS RIGHT UP THEIR ALLEY.

Strikes, spares and turkeys were cheered and applauded at the second annual Shortstop Bowling Tournament in Fountain Valley, which benefited the Orange County Bar Foundation's juvenile crime diversion program.

The nonprofit - made up of legal professionals from all over the county - invited co-workers, board members and the community to Fountain Bowl.

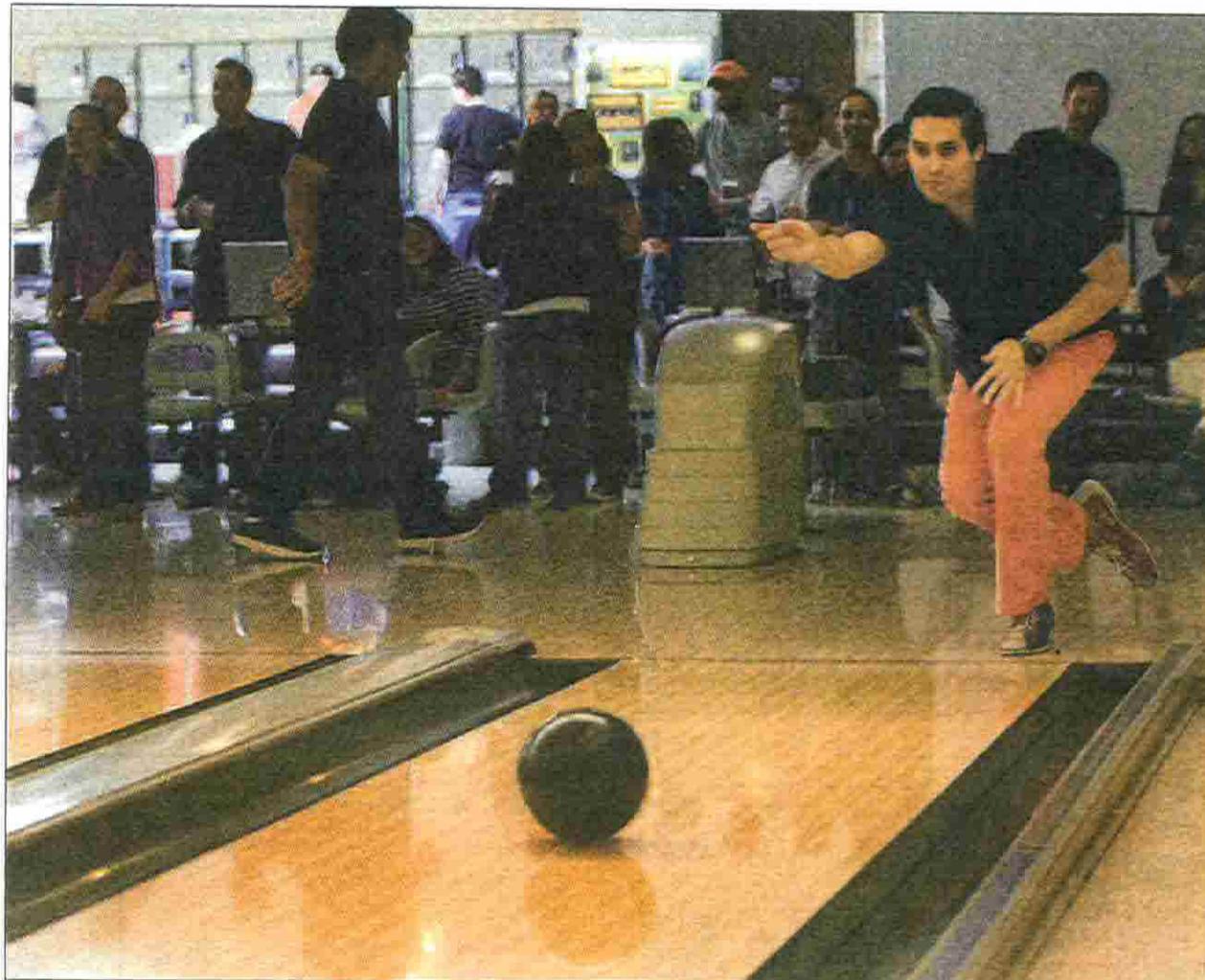
"Different law firms form teams and compete against each other to raise money. It's a lot of fun," said **Linda Guyett** of Santa Ana, a legal secretary for Rutan & Tucker and the coordinator of the event. Shortstop strives to keep juvenile offenders out of the legal system by showing them the consequences of crime. "It's a fine line for offenders getting into trouble or having someone help them get out of trouble. We've all had second chances and they deserve one, too."

Friendly competition led to bragging rights as winners claimed raffle prizes and silent auction items while enjoying pizza, soda and cookies.

The biggest prize was the \$3,347 netted for OCBF, which will help as it continues to aim at achieving a low recidivism rate.

"It's incredibly successful; we have a 90 percent restoration rate within one year. If they go through the legal system, they have a 65 percent chance of being arrested again," said **Collie James** of Capistrano Beach, president of OCBF. "It's about helping kids be the best they can be."

Shortstop's success stems from including families in the program. "The parents have to be involved, too - it's a re-



PHOTOS: JOSHUA SUDOCK, ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

Bowlers turned out to help raise funds for Shortstop's programs to aid juvenile offenders.

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You can join Team Shortstop and support the programs of the Orange County Bar Foundation at the OC Marathon on Sunday. Visit ocharfoundation.org to learn about running or donating.

quirement of the program - because it's the family at risk, not just the kid," said OCBF executive director **Karen Ruan** of Lake Forest.

Santa Ana resident **Sujei Vasquez**, 16, is a believer. "My brother went through the Shortstop program and so did my cousin," she said. "It gave them an opportunity instead of going to juvenile hall, and it's helpful for the parents, too. It opens their eyes."

- MORGAN McLAUGHLIN, FOR THE REGISTER



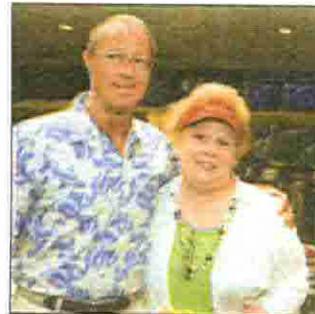
The Wesierski & Zurek team arrives at Fountain Bowl in Fountain Valley for the second annual Shortstop Bowling Tournament on March 30.

IN THE DETAILS

PARTICIPANTS BOWLED OVER BY ITEMS IN THE SILENT AUCTION.



Collie James, Karen Ruan and Robert Diaz, from left, pose at the event.



John Hurlbut and Linda Guyett take part in the bowling fundraiser.



A framed and autographed Ted Williams picture set was on auction.



Four Anaheim Ducks glasses came with this wine tool set.