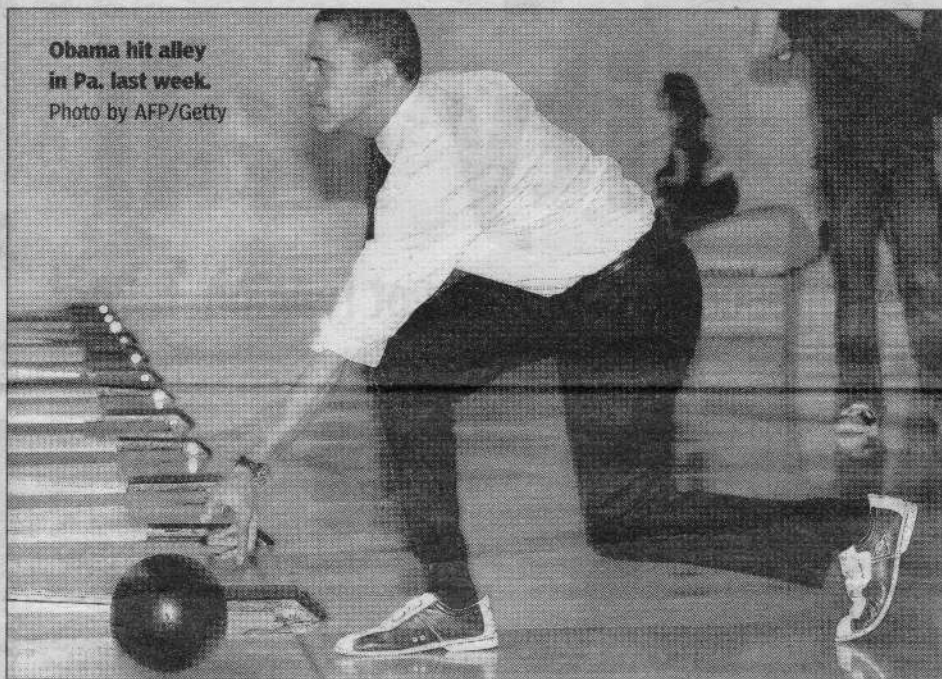


She bowls him over



Obama hit alley in Pa. last week.
Photo by AFP/Getty

BY STEPHANIE GASKELL
and MICHAEL McAULIFF
DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITERS

BARACK OBAMA scored an embarrassing 37 out of 300 at a Pennsylvania bowling alley last weekend. He may want to take a few pointers from Gabriella Lamas.

She racked up a 47 — and she's only 10 years old.

"I get up close and aim for the middle arrow and then throw it as hard as I can," said the fourth-grader from West New York, N.J., who studies at Columbia Grammar School in Manhattan.

"It's pretty easy," she crowed as she and her 48-year-old stay-at-home mom, Hilda Lamas, bowled at 300 New York at Chelsea Piers in Manhattan yesterday.

Like Obama, Gabriella got a few gutter balls, but she kept trying and eventually bested the 46-year-old presidential hopeful by 10 points.

Her biggest tip for Obama to improve his score the next time he

10-yr.-old who knocks down more pins than Bam offers tips

heads to the lanes: "You have to look at the pins when you throw it."

Gabriella said she didn't see news coverage of Obama bowling but guessed that he probably "looked kind of funny."

"It's cool that he bowls," she said.

Being a good bowler doesn't make you a good President, she said.

"The President should be someone who cares and someone that's going to do what's best for people," she said. "It would be good for the President to bowl sometimes — to have fun — but not all the time."

Gabriella, who's been bowling since she was 5, said her mom taught her the sport.

"It's kind of sad because

bowling is something everyone did growing up as a family — and it was affordable," Lamas said, adding that she hasn't decided who will get her vote.

"Now it's all video games and cell phones. It's nice to be able to get out and do something with the kids. Bowling is a nice, pure sport that the whole family can do together."

With Gabriella showing how easy a victory over Obama would be, at the alleys at least, rival Hillary Clinton jokingly challenged him to a Democratic version of "Kingpin."

"I am challenging Sen. Obama to a bowl off, a bowling night right here in Pennsylvania, winner take all," Clinton said in an apparent April Fools' offer while stumping in Philadelphia.

Clinton even offered to "spot him two frames," a joke that let her play the jock card against the avid hoops player.

"It's time for his campaign to get out of the gutter, and for all the pins to be counted," she quipped.

sgaskell@nydailynews.com

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Gabriella Lamas, 10,
gives Obama bowling
tips. Photo by Andrew
Savulich/Daily News