

NOVEMBER 14, 2024

CALIFORNIA

BOWLING NEWS

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Kaven Massey DOMINATES & Wins 2024 Forest Players Invitational *Elias O'Hollaren P-o-Y and Jr. P-o-Y*

LAKE FOREST — The top 16 bowlers of the season competed this past Tuesday to stake claim to the Forest Players Invitational Championship.

Bowlers that earned their spots in the finals were all guaranteed to cash a minimum of \$200, with first place paying out \$1000.

Everyone bowled 8 games of match play with bonus pins, and the top 4 would advance to the stepladder finals.

The tournament was contested on dual patterns. The left lane was 41' Harry Smith, and the right lane was 39' Mike Aulby.

After finishing 2nd in last year's Invitational, losing in the title match

to Buddy Lucas, Kaven Massey was on a mission this year to improve on last year's results.

He got out of the gates quickly and continued adding onto his lead with each game.

For his 8 games, he averaged 241 and was clear of the next bowler by over 300 pins, securely putting him in the championship match.

To put into perspective how impressive he bowled, the rest of the field averaged 196.60.

The other three spots in the stepladder were up for grabs.

Going into the position round game, places 2 through 10 were separated by less than 100 pins. Anyone with a big continued on page 5



Kaven Massey



Elias O'Hollaren



Lets Go Bowling!

The Legend Of Tillie Taylor

by Dave Williams

While looking for information on Floretta McCutcheon, the most famous female bowler prior to all time great Marion Ladewig, I came upon a number of references to yet another famous female kegler that filled a void between the years of McCutcheon (1920's and 30's) and

Ladewig (1950's and 60's). Her name was Tillie Taylor.

It's hard to piece together the incredible career of Ms. Taylor because there's no Wikipedia page or documentation at bowl.com. However, when you start looking, there's a fair amount of informa-

tion about Tillie Taylor on websites, videos and in blogs containing photos and newspaper clippings.

Tillie was born in Newark, N.J., and began her career in and around New York City. She is perhaps best known for a series of films, one of which was called "Splits,

Spares and Strikes," appearing in the early 1940's. This particular film was a combination of instruction for beginners, as well as comic relief. There's also a couple of minutes devoted to trick shots at the end of the clip.

One of the trick shots continued on page 3



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Taylor continued from page 1

Tillie performed is the "billiard bowling" shot used today by Chris Barnes, converting the 7-10 split on two different lanes (7 pin on the left lane, and 10 pin on the right lane). Another is the "crooked pin tunnel" made famous by Andy Varipapa, where Tillie rolled a ball between two rows of pins placed on the lane, curving the ball perfectly and picking up the 7 pin, without toppling any of the other pins. In Andy's version, he used a row of show girls, rather than bowling pins!

Speaking of Andy, it was Mr. Varipapa that first suggested Tillie and Ohio teen bowling star Davey Davidson (1921-2010) tour the country to promote women and youth bowling in the early 1940's. Both Taylor and Davidson were stars at an early age, with Taylor winning the USBC Singles Championships in 1942 (659 series) and Davidson rolling four perfect 300 games before the age of nineteen.

After his touring days, Davidson went on to become a bowling proprietor in Ohio. He is a member of numerous bowling halls of fame in the state, including Middletown, Hamilton and Butler. He was one of the original 33 members of the Professional Bowlers Association (PBA), according to his obituary notice at Wilson-Schramm-Spaulding in Middletown.

Ms. Taylor also became involved in bowling center operations, as manager of the Roxy Bowling Centre in New York City. The attractive, green-eyed brunette had a top sanctioned game of 279 to go with her USBC national singles title. Tremendously popular with bowling fans, her greatest ambition was to interest everyone in bowling.

One of her chief concerns, according to an article in the Bronxville Review Press (October 31, 1940), was convincing women that there was nothing to the out-of-date notion that a bowling 'alley' was no place for a lady.

Here now is a look at "Splits, Spares and Strikes," featuring Tillie Taylor:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UWon_RLct4M

Tillie Visits The Troops

In 1941, Tillie Taylor and male professional Tony Sparando made their way to Great Britain to entertain the troops and participate in the Coast to Coast Bowling Tournament. The event took place from December 1st-31st, with the national finals that followed in January of 1942.

It was during this time that the United States entered into the war following Japan's surprise attack on Pearl Harbor (Hawaii) on December 7th, 1941. Taylor and Sparando were sponsored by the British and American Ambulance Corps, and conducted many exhibitions during their stay in England.

Sparando, who hailed from Rego Park, N.Y., was inducted into the USBC Bowling Hall of Fame in 1968. Impaired vision kept Sparando from using the targets on the lane. He instead used a method of drawing an imaginary line from the foul line, curving toward the 1-3 pocket. Tillie Taylor mentions this same method of lining up in the Splits, Spares and Strikes video.



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Back home in The States, Tillie would continue to tour the country throughout the remainder of the decade, with newspaper clippings originating in places as cosmopolitan as New York City, Dallas and San Antonio, to the more rural hamlets of Mount Vernon, N.Y., McCormick, South Carolina, and Louisville, Kentucky. There's even an interesting stop-action sequence of Tillie Taylor's approach from 1945, posted at Dr. Jake's Bowling History Blog.

It's noted that Tillie had a very high backswing, reminiscent of current star Pete Weber and others. She also "planted" the final step in her approach, almost identical to that of Hall of Fame member David Ferraro.

Photos and articles about Ms. Taylor are available for purchase from such commercial websites as eBay, historicimages.com, and newspapers.com.

WHAT ABOUT YOU? Do you have any memories

or information about Tillie Taylor, who in later life went by the names Tillie Taylor-Syring and Tillie Taylor-Yezo? If you do, please let us know and we will share your information in an upcoming column.

Portions of the preceding column included information derived from:

- Splits, Spares and Strikes video, provided by Gorn-green at YouTube.com
- Vernon Heights Recreation Center advertisement, October 17, 1940
- Bronxville Review-Press article, October 31, 1940
- Vintage Pamphlet of Bowling Tips provided by Kinney's Shoe Store, 1940
- British-American Ambulance Corps News Release, 1941
- San Antonio Express-News article, 1942
- Tony Sparando, USBC Hall of Fame
- Davey Davidson obituary, Wilson-Schramm-Spaulding, 2010

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Claude Heffington- Top Bowler and Bowling "GURU"

CLAUDE HEFFINGTON Top Bowler and Bowling "GURU"

by Frank Weiler

Claude Heffington is a great bowler. He has been very good for decades and continues to perform on the lanes **like it is 1999 all over again**. While I believe 1999 was another good year for Claude, a year he probably rolled some honor scores and averaged about 210, this year has been a pretty good year as well.

So many senior bowlers wish **it could be like 1999 all over again**, a year when we all were a quarter century younger and bowling so well. Not Claude Heffington! **Why?** Because Claude is bowling as good as ever today.

While many seniors reminisce about the **"Good old Days"** Claude stays focused on today. He lives and bowls in the here and now. **Why?** Because Claude is bowling today as well as when he bowled in 1999. **It is like 1999 all over again** for Claude Heffington.

Claude has found a way to hold **Father Time** at bay and quiet the beckoning of **Mother Earth**. No one, **no bowler**, no mortal looks forward to returning to the dust from which they came. No worry though for Claude. He may have found the **Fountain of Youth!**

With every bend, with every stretch, with every twist, with every turn Claude seems to become younger. He exercises regularly and competes with the same **vim and vigor** he displayed on the lanes **just like he did in 1999**.

I think Claude has always been a big fan of **Richard Simmons** and **Jack LaLanne**. Both of these **Guru's** of health and longevity have helped millions of their disciples enjoy fulfilling and happy life's. Decades of success, decades of prosperity and decades of

accomplishment. It may be that Claude's successful approach to bowling, combining a cautious aggressiveness and a cunning carefulness, is a product of following Richard Simmons' and Jack LeLanne's philosophy. A philosophy he preaches and which has led to his becoming a local **"Bowling Guru"** of sorts.

Simmons preached that fitness is for everyone and that exercise should be fun and accessible to all body types. His message was simple: **Balance and Positivity**. Adopt a lifestyle of balance and moderation in everything. Focus on what you can do and what you like to do. Focus on what you like about yourself.

Jack LaLanne (Francois Henri LaLanne) the **"God-father of Fitness"** lived an incredible life. While he achieved fame, fortune and performed many amazing physical feats he always preached the importance of humility and gratefulness. He advocated for regular activity and maintaining a regular routine. He would often say that "the most important skill for success is the ability to consistently work towards goals that are important to you while maintaining a sense of perspective and happiness. That it's not incredible achievements, but daily habits that determine who you are and what you accomplish".

Work daily at becoming a better bowler. Develop a daily routine for improving your bowling game and stick to it. That's what Fitness Guru Jack LeLanne and Bowling Guru Claude Heffington would agree on.

"Bowling Guru" Claude Heffington is also a **"Top Bowler"**. Claude is still topping local Bowling Charts and Leader Boards. He is still topping local Senior Leagues in average, **just like he did in 1999**.



Buell family bowlers on Halloween night. Desiree, young (11 months) Anthony & Jagger Buell

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Forest Inv. continued from page 1

game could jump in. That bowler was Kasey Uyesugi, who shot 235 with a clutch double in the 10th to jump from 9th place all the way to 4th.

Uyesugi met Mikey Villarreal in match one. Mikey held a 13-pin lead through six frames and was working on a double when he left the 6-7-10 split. He missed them all, leaving the door wide open for Uyesugi. Uyesugi jumped all over the open by doubling in the 7th and 8th frames. Villarreal was never able to recover, losing the match 195-217. In the semi-final match, Uyesugi went up against Elias O'Hollaren, who became the first bowler to win both Jr. Player of the Year and regular Player of the Year in the same season.

O'Hollaren led in overall points and his season featured five tournament victories as well as an astounding cashing-rate over 75% of the time. Uyesugi would have his hands full, and this would be an exciting match. O'Hollaren held a 31-pin lead halfway through the match after Uyesugi left a solid 9 in the 5th frame and solid 10 in the 6th frame. O'Hollaren then left a 10 pin in the 8th frame to keep Uyesugi's hopes alive. Kasey ended up throwing the last 6 strikes to finish up with 248, forcing O'Hollaren to throw the first two in the 10th. Elias stepped up and buried all three in the 10th to win the match with a 258.

The title match was now set with the two bowlers who were the top two point getters of the season. Masey doubled in the 2nd and 3rd frames to take an early lead. O'Hollaren, who was locked in the match before, lost his look, especially on the right lane. In the 5th frame, he missed the 2-8 to give Masey a bigger lead. Masey then doubled in the 7th and 8th frames to essentially put the match out of reach. Masey went on to victory 202-195. Congratulations Kaven!!! The new season begins this Tuesday at 7pm on 2007 Weber Cup Day 3.

Standings:

- 1st Kaven Massey (7-1 match play record) +538 \$1000
- 2nd Elias O'Hollaren (4-4) +229 \$700 SMART
- 3rd Kasey Uyesugi (4-4) +201 \$600
- 4th Mikey Villarreal (6-2) +217 \$550
- 5th Kevin Valmonte (6-2) +197 \$500
- 6th Bobby Campagnale (5-1-2) +187 \$450
- 7th Katelyn Abigania (4-4) +147 \$400 SMART
- 8th Marshall Degnan (3-5) +141 \$400
- 9th Buddy Lucas (4-4) +119 \$350
- 10th Jerry Vertigan (3-5) +116 \$350
- 11th Jeff Hickenbottom (3-4-1) +107 \$300
- 12th Kyle Duster (4-4) +55 \$300
- 13th Matt Zweig (3-5) +43 \$250
- 14th Michael Marmolejo (3-4-1) +24 \$250
- 15th Rob Johnson (3-5) -99 \$200
- 16th Eric Williams, Jr (0-8) -109 \$200



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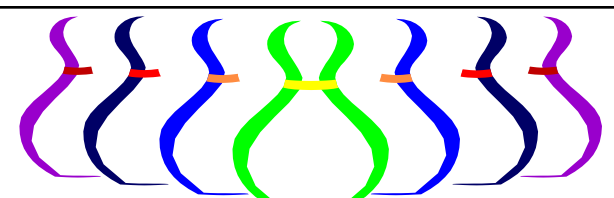
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38th Year! Brunswick® INVITATIONAL

Family Ties and Pro Approach Oak Tree Top The Standings at 13-2

by David Yamauchi

DOWNEY - The Brunswick Invitational took to the lanes for the third week of the short pattern with bowlers getting their arsenals set and scoring up a few pins in week two. Family Ties was sitting at 9-1 to start the round and were looking to avoid a round one repeat.

In the "A" match, **Family Ties** (Bobby Campagnale) were looking to stay hot taking on **Forest Lanes** (Jon Diso) who were coming off a clean sweep of J.A.T. last week. Family Ties took the bookend games, dropping the second game by 76, but holding on for totals and the 4-1 win. Daniel Hong paced Family Ties with a 669 set while sub Ramiro Garcia led Forest Lanes with a 597 series.

The "B" match featured **Pro Approach Oak Tree** (Leonard Ruiz Jr.) who woke up after a slow start to the season matched up with **Taco Bell** (Kaven Massey) who took advantage of a great matchup in week two. This match was all Pro Approach Oak Tree as they ran to a 5-0 sweep over Taco Bell. Ramon Torres went huge for Pro Approach Oak Tree with a 726 series while Kaven Massey led Taco Bell with a 617 set.

US Foods (Gabriel Martinez) was battling **Pro Approach Cal Bowl** (Austin Wasielewski) after the Cal Bowl bunch swept their way up to 6th place. US Foods dropped the first and third games by a couple marks each, but took the middle game big for a 3-2 result over Pro Approach Cal Bowl. Gabriel Martinez led US Foods with a solid 647 effort while Scott Silva struck his way to 599 to pace Pro Approach Cal Bowl.

Threadworks (Eric Snow) was looking to bounce back after a rough week two against **Don Julio Tequila** (Gabe Garza) who also had a tough week two on the lanes. Threadworks started strong with an 891 game, but

it was all Don Julio Tequila from there as they struck to a 4-1 win Paul Varela was big for Threadworks with a 664 set while Jason Carrillo paced Don Julio with a 630 series.

Pro Approach Del Rio (Augie Labrado Jr.) was paired with first-round winner **Love Laundry** (Ramsey Basurto) in the 9th vs. 10th matchup. This match was all Love Laundry as they swept to a 5-0 win over Del Rio. Ramsey Basurto led Love Laundry with a 624 series while Augie Labrado Jr. paced Pro Approach Del Rio with a 597 series.

Bowlium (Billy Myers Jr.) took on **Junior Amateur Tour** (Kevin Valmonte) in a battle of two veteran teams starting the round uncharacteristically slow. Bowlium came out big putting up 818-858 en route to a 4-1 win over short-handed Junior Amateur Tour. Billy Myers Jr. was huge for Bowlium striking to a big 707 set while Michael Marmolejo sniped his way to 671 for J.A.T.

Weaverbird (Eric Williams Jr.), **DV8** (Matthew Zweig), **Del Rio Lanes** (Michael Barnett) and **Touchstone Homes** (Christian Eichelkraut) rounded out Monday's action. DV8 struck to a big 5-0 sweep over Weaverbird with three bowlers cracking six including Brian Osborne's 659 set to lead the trio. Chris Eguilos put up 567 to lead Weaverbird. Del Rio Lanes took a 3-2 decision over Touchstone Homes led by Michael Barnett's 580 series, while Touchstone was paced by Christian Eichelkraut's 584 set.

Financial Advisors Pot went to Matt Zweig (269) for \$160 with 2nd to Billy Myers Jr. (268) for \$70. Sidepots went to Paul Varela (268) and Matt Zweig (269) for \$56 each with Daniel Hong (243) and Chris Eguilos (256) for \$28. SuperPot went to Bobby Campagnale (243) for \$168 with 2nd to Gabe Martinez (237) for \$84.

TOP 10 ROUND 2 WEEK 3

Family Ties 13	Don Julio Tequila . . . 9
Pro Approach Oak Tree . 13	Bowlium. 8.5
Love Laundry \$ 10	Taco Bell 8
Forest Lanes 9	Pro Approach Cal Bowl . 8
US Foods 9	DV8 7.5

TOP 10 THIS WEEK

726 Ramon Torres	659 Bryan Osborne
707 Billy Myers Jr.	647 Gabriel Martinez
671 Michael Marmolejo	647 Matt Zweig
669 Daniel Hong	630 Jason Carrillo
664 Paul Varela	624 Ramsey Basurto

SUPER SWEEPER POT

Sponsored by Dean Sanderson of Transamerica Financial Advisors Inc.
1st Matt Zweig 269 \$160 • 2nd Billy Myers Jr. 268 \$70



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Fax: 951.389.3755

Come out on Monday at 7:30 and watch Southern California's Richest League take the lanes at Del Rio as they continue on the 29' short/light pattern next week!



7502 Florence Ave., Downey CA 90240 • (562) 927-3351

Saturday WEEKLY **NO TAP** Tournament

Check in 11:00am • Bowl at 12:00pm • \$30 Entry Fee

Optional Pots & PLENTY of \$5 Brackets

Handicap is 90% of 230 • Call to Reserve a Spot (562)927-3351 At Del Rio Lanes: 7502 Florence Ave. Downey, CA. 90240