

Book reveals bowling history

In this column two weeks ago I asked if anyone knew how and where bowling originated. Thank you, Jim Lutkenhoff, for finding the answer in the context of the book, "Brunswick - Story of an American Company." I read the book and found it to be quite interesting, especially the chapter regarding the history of bowling. A version of the game is thought to have been played in ancient Egypt as early as 3200 B.C.



10-pin alley
Al Harrison

children as they can enjoy this learning experience.

• In the Woodland Parks & Recreation League, Jamie Steel, a 9-year-old student at St. Edith, beat his 86 average with a 169 game. Heather Steie, a 13-year-old at Frost Junior High, scored a 192, 100 over average. Brent Robertson rolled a 181, 109 over average, and 6-year-old Cory Marshall had a 173 game.

• Oak Lanes in Westland was the site of a 648 series by Paula Cyril of the Wednesday Morning Glories. Her games were 256-193-199. In the Sunday morning Classic, Rusty Reed bowled a 237 game, Dan Kunnert, 234, and Chuck Szura a 725 series. The Monday Night Aces League saw John Plaza with a 214 and Arley Downer scored 214. The Friday night Men's League featured Fred Wroblewski with a 269 game and 619, while Jim Griffin shot a 253 game. In the Friday Ladies, Rilla Anderson led with a 223 and Yvonne Allen put together a "hat trick" with three straight 205 games. In the Sunday Mixers, Tom Myers rolled a 224, and in the Saturday Youth Majors, Sherry Weiss registered a 225 game.

• Redford Lanes on Grand River is the site of a West Side Lutheran League where Marie Rialta put together 233-234-294 for a 748 series, the second-highest series ever shot in the league's 40-year history. The record is held by

Jim Koepke Sr. of Livonia, who recorded a 754 in the 1974-75 season. Other scores last week: Craig Tillman, 234/626; Ron Brennan, 523; Don Johnson, 611; Clark Stone, 609; Kevin Chambers, 609; Dick Meissner, 608; Ken Ingram, 247/604; Larry Davis, 603; and Will Grukke, 348/600.

• The ABC National Tournament is currently being held in Wichita, Kan., and RIF Mechanical of Livonia has taken over fourth place. The team is comprised of Gary Nagle, Garrett Nagle, D.J. Archer, Greg Cohen and Hal Swales. Their scores were 1,027, 1,091, respectively, for a 3,275 team total. Speaking of Merril Bova, a 300 game was the highlight last week, as Mike Tinkham of the "Lost Weekend" League put together 12 strikes and a 752 series. His teammate, Chuck Hootin, almost matched the feat with a 297 game and 723 series. Steve Herman shot 226-237-256 for a 719 total, Jim Moss, 257/695, and Tim Cullis, a 602 series. In the Men's Senior House, Pat Frazier and John Watkins each had a 721 series, Greg Cohen, 702; Doug Nikkila, 697; Jim Jenson, 721. In the Ladies Classic, Sue Marrella led the way with a 257 game and 745 series. The "Golden Eagles" saw Richard Dismore with a 214 game and Alan Davis a 648 series. The Saw More Men's League had Larry Haag with a 722 series on games of 242, 246 and 234.

• At Mayflower Lanes in Redford Township, the Wednesday Night Ours were led by Cathy Smith, who rolled a 221 game and 523 series. Mary Ellen O'Leary improved her 125 average with a 205 game.

• Dawn DeVitis of Livonia took first place in the Midwest Women Bowlers March Tournament at Bowl One Lanes in Troy. She had games of 276 and 226 for a 693 series. This was Dawn's first Midwest Women Bowlers' title. Before conquering the Midwest tournament, her greatest bowling achievement was finishing ninth at the YABA Coca Cola Nationals in Seattle, Wash.

Myers (686), Dave Myers (692) and John Panno (573). Other senior house scores: Tim Bennett, 700; Dave Wisniewski, 692; Bob Adamczyk, 648; Steve Macka, 653; Jeff Morris, 654; John Romney, 658; Dick Shupe, 654; Ralph Zadworny, 658; Ford Lyle, 661; Moonlighters League - Craig Demeo, 285/730. All-state Ladies - Nancy Plummerell, 614; Ford Lyle, 661; Moonlighters League - Brad Wolter, 278/740; Joe Gumbis, 684. Parks and Recreation - Zak Fowler, 221. Ford pants - Bill Weed, 682 and Don Mitrin, 675. Bators Bar - Marv Gidde, 705; Jacep Newton, 278/686; Jim Gagliardo, 258/653; Dale Hicks, 646; Paul Polachy, 646; Mark Thompson, 641. Merri Mates League saw George Little with a 269/671. Sandy Handley rolled a 218/252 in the Ladies Wednesday afternoon "Spare makers" League. In the Friday Youth League, John Division, Andy Barthel rolled a 183, and Dana Grzeszewski bowled a 151 game.

• Plymouth Bowl was the scene of a 300 game by James T. Moser of the Streamliners League. James is a 185 bowler and his series was 748.

• Super Bowl on Ford Road in Canton will be open all day on Easter Sunday for "open bowling." This is a great chance to get in some extra practice.

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Troy swimmer takes state title

By Dan O'Meara
staff writer

Spring came early for Troy High School swimmer Dave Whinter. He nurtured the dream of being a state champion throughout the long winter season, and Saturday, March 11, it bloomed. Whinter devoted himself to that goal and was prepared when the time came, winning the 100-yard backstroke title in the Class A meet at McCafree Natatorium in East Lansing.

"I was looking toward this race through all the practices," Whinter said. "When I didn't feel good and the alarm went off at 4:30 to go to morning practice, I had to think about this day to get me through."

Whinter was the lone individual winner from the Eccentric area. The honor of best team performance went to Bloomfield Hills Andover, which moved up one place from a year ago to finish fourth in the 48-team field.

Birmingham Seaholm finished 11th, Birmingham Brother Rice 12th and Rochester Adams 16th. Troy tied with Kalamazoo Central for 17th.

"It doesn't matter how we finish if the kids swim well," Andover coach Mike Lane said. "We swam great."

"Everybody who brought to this meet scored and went his best time. I could go through and name all of them. They were super."

Whinter not only edged area contender Kevin Byrne of Adams in the backstroke final but unseated defending champion David DeWitt of Holland.

He won the race with what he said was a "slow" time of 53.47. Whinter had qualified at 52.66. Byrne went 53.65 in the final, third-place DeWitt 53.78.

"I was just tired today," said Whinter, who finished eighth in the butterfly, too. "I was trying to swim too fast and lost my rhythm and slowed down."

"Everybody must have been tired today. DeWitt won it last year and went faster (52.83)."

Byrne, a senior who was 10th in the IM, had lost twice to Whinter earlier in the season and had a poor start Saturday. But he recovered and nearly pulled out a victory.

"He beat me pretty bad both times, but today I was shaved, tapered and really psyched up," Byrne said.

"I was kinda out of it after the first 50, but I had a lot left. I saw his feet after the third turn and went after him. I just fell a little short."

By most standards, Andover senior Furio Rossi had an excellent state meet performance, taking a pair of fourth places and helping the Barons to runner-up honors in the freestyle relay, but it was a bitter-sweet day for him.

Rossi went 1:43.86 in the 200 freestyle and 4:42.40 in the 500 freestyle, but Lansing Eastern's Alec Mull won both events. The competition included Plymouth Salem's Ron Oris in the 200 and Novis Jon Cohen in the 500.

"I went slower than I did last year (in the 500)," Rossi said. The results were "a lot less than I expected." He was third with a 4:38.29 a year ago.

"I was just unlucky today. I wanted to win this year. We'll see (what happens) in college. I've enjoyed high school swimming. I've had good placements; I'm satisfied."



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