

The Next *Bowling Prodigy*

Aloha, my name is Andrew Yamamoto, a 15 year old currently residing in Honolulu, Hawaii and attending Hawaii Baptist Academy. When I was little, I always thought of bowling as a sport for a person of any age to take up and enjoy it right off the bat. I finally had the opportunity to learn how to bowl and join the bowling team just about a year ago at my school which allowed for new incoming bowlers to join in ninth grade and who never bowled in their life.

I was very excited to learn the sport of bowling and eventually learned to passionately love the sport. I started about June in 2009 and had about an average of 20. Eventually, I started to bowl very well with the help of many of my coaches and in my league I have an average of 156. I am now shooting many 200s and have even had a high game of 265. This is the sport that I believe will carry me to great things. I passionately love the sport and go out to practice every day. I research about bowling every minute I can and even get up (since I live in Hawaii) at 2 or 5 am to watch the classic episodes of the PBA Bowling Telecasts that they show sometimes on Saturday and Sunday mornings. I try to keep myself updated with many of the bowling events that are occurring by subscribing to "Bowling This Month" and I even watch many of the past PBA Telecasts that were shown on ABC with many of the famed stars such as Earl Anthony, Don Carter, Don Johnson, Mark Roth, Marshall Holman, Del Ballard Jr., Andy Varipapa, and many of the all time hall of famers (don't worry, I didn't forget the legendary Dick Weber). I occasionally watch the senior bowler's tour (John Handegard, Teata Semiz, John Hricsina) and sometimes the

women's tour (Carolyn Dorin-Ballard, Diandra Asbaty, Liz Johnson, Michelle Feldman). Even when I miss an old telecast or so, I record it and watch it later. I also am very informative in some of the well known companies such as Storm, Roto Grip, Columbia 300, etc. My favorite bowling stars I would have to say are Walter Ray Williams Jr., for his precise accuracy and his title record, Norm Duke for his casual style, his ability to adapt to any condition possible, and for being able to throw a strike very easily, and Pete Weber for his character and because of his massive strike ball. I admire these players for their constant accurate efficiency and their passion in their eyes for the sport of bowling and for the game. I have met Tony Reyes at a Hickam PBA Pro-Am 2010 and got to see how a real PBA player bowls and I was utterly amazed at the speed, at the striking power. I was in awe. I also met Tyler Jensen, a fellow member of Storm. Even he, who works for Storm, throws an impressive strike ball with such speed and accuracy. In the end, I won first in the Hickam Pro-Am and got presented the award by none other than Tyler Jensen.

Storm has produced many great and useful balls that I use in my arsenal today. One of the balls, the Second Dimension, has gained me utter fame and success in my bowling career. It has awarded me first place in the Hickam Pro-Am, it has awarded me close firsts (second places) in some tournaments that were held in the Pearl Harbor Navel Bowling Center and has earned me a first also in an Aiea Bowl Tournament. This ball, in my opinion, is my "go-to ball" when the lanes are tough and are hard and unpredictable. I have had that ball since November of 2009 and in order to work at my game, I worked with two of my Storm balls (Second Dimension and Virtual Energy) consistently until it has now become my "go-to balls" on situations when occurred and am still using it in many of my league plays and bowling tournaments. I have many aspirations in my bowling career that I hope to accomplish such as getting a 200+ average. It has

been my dream for that because I see many of the PBA players today who think of 200 as an easy accomplishment and bowl 220+. Another one of my aspirations is to be bowler of the year at my school. I want to bowl the best I can and will try the best I can so as to become dubbed "Player of the Year" in my ILH bowling season. I would also like to be able to bowl in a PBA regional and eventually a PBA tournament that would allow that telecast to be broadcasted and I maybe in it. My other aspiration is to become a PBA player and member and be one of the household names such as Pete Weber, Walter Ray Williams Jr., Norm Duke, and many more of the very talented PBA pros.

I believe I have the ability to be the next Bowling Prodigy if I am given the chance. If I am given the chance, I know I won't ruin it. This is the sport that I love and will give it my all.