

Dominick Savage

Dear Mr. Kevin Ellis,

As time has passed me by and I've realized my future is quickly approaching, I've been required to sit down and develop a life plan, that plan for my life is to bowl. I was born into a family of bowlers with my mother being a 3 time city champion and my father being a 2 time regional champion so as most would expect I would like to follow the family suit. In my weaning years I was the only child on the lanes with no bumpers, and that is where the *storm* began brewing the Prodigy.

Starting youth league at a rather young age had its pros and cons but my parents pushed me to shine although my light was rather small! I started bowling State wide tournaments at the age of 5 which led to various titles across the state of Texas. As I grew older I began to take it upon myself to search for competitive tournaments in order for me to improve my game. Along my journey to becoming the next Marshall Holman, I realized that in order to take my game to the next level I would have to seek out coaches that have experienced bowling in its entirety. The first true coaches that helped me to improve my game tremendously were Donna Conners and Carol Norman. With their coaching I went from being a 160 average bowler to a 180 average bowler in no-time, before I knew it I had the highest average for a child the age of 11. Along with the full support of my mom I began to reach goals that some would call impossible. Breaking unreachable records is the calling of a true Prodigy!

After I closely examined my goals, and slowly began knocking them down one by one the small light that I held with care as a child began to brighten before my eyes. Shortly after becoming a 200 average bowler at the age of 12 I started to shine, winning the Texas Pepsi-Cola championship, Luci-Bonneau Pro-Am, Houston City Tournament, as well as becoming a Texas State Team champion all in the same season. After that all-star year I saw that High School was near and that I might want to re-evaluate my goals in order to be recognized by College Coaches. This is when I decided that being active in the bowling community would be an asset to the growth of my overall bowling experience. I then set the goal to one day become the Chuck Hall Star of Tomorrow, and I joined the Greater Houston Youth Leaders Association. I then saw that sportsmanship was the tool to that would complement my arsenal. Over the span of those next few years I became President of the Greater Houston Youth Leaders Association, a director on the Greater Houston USBC board, as well as a Youth Director on the Texas State USBC board. Seeing both aspects of bowling, competition and logistics, has reassured me that being a prodigy takes more than just an impeccable physical game, but a love and desire for the betterment of the sport as well.

As I dug deeper into the roots of the sport of bowling I became conscious of the fact that there is so much more for me to experience before I've reached my full potential as the next Prodigy of the sport. I then went back to the research lab to find the different aspects of my game that were holding me back. As I worked harder and harder my time and efforts began to be recognized. Going into my first year of High school I was nominated for the Top 100 HS Prospects list, then I shortly after advanced to the Texas Masters Finals (the top 8 male bowlers in the state). From that point on I knew it was time to

set new goals for my bowling career, as a Freshman in High School I believed that after finishing my Junior year I would of placed in the top 40 at Teen Masters and Top half at Junior gold as well as had shot a 300 and 750, that goal was exceeded even before going into my Junior Year of High School. Exceeding goals is the sign of a true Prodigy!

Now that I have seen the course of my path progressing and the trail only becoming longer and more difficult I feel it is the time for the Prodigy within me to be released. After close conferences with various PBA players as well as Junior Team USA members I've become cognizant of the true gesture of a Prodigy. As I have overlooked my goals and plans for the years to come, such as becoming a member of Junior Team USA before I graduate and placing in top 30 at Junior Gold, I've discovered that the little light in which I possessed with such honor as a child has gone along the same journey as I have, and as I reach out to grasp it I now know and understand the true capacity of a Prodigy, which is why I whole heartedly believe I am the next Bowling Prodigy!

Sincerely,

Dominick Savage

"The beacon of light that shines above all others"

