

The Next Storm Prodigy

I'd like to believe I am the one, the next bowling prodigy just waiting to be unleashed. 42 years young, have never been coached and average 218 on the house shot. I did read a book that helped me a little but other than that it has just been learning on my own and bowling for fun over the years. For a lot of people the word prodigy invokes an image of a child who excels at a craft. This is not always the case though.

Like many bowlers I started with a conventional ball. I was 17 when I first introduced to the game and I joined a fun league for teens that year. I did OK in that league but knew I wanted to step up *my game*.

My father always said if I wanted to get my average up I'd need to go to a finger tip grip like the pros. When I graduated high school my parents bought me a new ball that I had drilled finger tip.

Opportunity to get in a ton of practice time came that summer when the lanes offered free open bowling when you joined a league. I bowled 333 free games that summer and that's when it all started to click.

Now I was on my way. Bowling just felt natural for me. Being a game of touch, feel and instinct, it was very addicting. Every year since then I have only bowled in one league each year with limited time to practice but my average has improved almost every year. A few years ago I bowled my first 300 game and last year I bowled my high series of 789.

Is bowling the most important thing for in my life? Of course not. Family has always come first and I have many responsibilities.

The way I think about it is, if I can perform well and have the chance to do it once a week in my fun league that is good enough.

Time is always in short supply. So, I've never even considered finding coach for some pointers. Given the proper instruction, even if it is a one time deal, I believe I can take it to the next level. This is why I have decided to enter this contest.

As I write this essay I realize I will never go pro. Even if I possessed the abilities I cannot dedicate my life to the sport. Bowling will always be just for fun for me. Tearing up the local lanes provides plenty of satisfaction for me.

A chance to spend some time with the Storm team would be incredible. I'm sure the experience would help my game.

Storm has proven itself to be a great company. That is why I make them my first choice when looking for a new ball. I believe Storm products have helped my game throughout the years.

Prodigy has several meanings. I believe the one that applies to me is the following: "Rare and extraordinary happening, thought to presage good." If you back and read the first word of each paragraph in this essay you will get my message.