

Why do I think I'm the next bowling prodigy? It's because the definition fits me like a well tailored suit. A prodigy is defined as "a person, especially a child or young person, having extraordinary talent or ability". I'm still considered a young person, a mere 18 years old, and what I have accomplished in bowling in only four years can only be described as extraordinary.

In November of 2006 I picked up a bowling ball for the first time during tryouts for my high schools bowling team in Michigan, they were hard pressed for members so I thought I might give it a shot. By the end of the season I worked my way onto the starting lineup and bowled in the regional championships. After regional's my father got transferred and we packed up and moved to Kansas City. That summer I worked tirelessly on my game bowling every day at the local center with coupons I found on the back of pizza boxes and in local newspapers. In the fall of that year I entered my first tournament and had low expectations just wanting to get experience to grow off of. To my surprise I bowled the weekend of my life and won the entire tournament setting up a platform which I would leap off of to achieve wins and become a dominant force in the Kansas City and Midwest bowling scene. Some of the highlights of my bowling resume include multiple Heart of America Championships, a Gateway Championship, city championships, anchoring my high school to a state championship, being named to the Missouri state all-star team two years in a row, and being published in Bowlers Journal and US Youth Bowler as one of the nation's top high school prospects.

In the fall of 2009 my father passed away from a heart attack, I had lost my father, coach, and mentor. He used to stay up with me past midnight watching tape of some of the best bowlers in the world helping me to become the best that I could be.

After his passing bowling became more than a game, it became a way to continue my fathers and mine work, rise to the top and achieve my potential.

At the start of the year I rededicated myself to the game, meeting with my new coaches at Missouri State University to create a plan for my continued growth in the sport. I hope to become the best possible influence on my team and help them to the best of my ability.

Being a prodigy might be a goal for many but to me it is just a stepping stone to something bigger, becoming a legend. Prodigy's get a local news segment and articles in newspapers, but legends are the fabric of which lifetime movies are made. they get their own espn segments and are on the cover of sports illustrated. Legends have the ability to inspire others throughout the world and captivate audiences with only their presence.

There have been many changes in my life but bowling has always been there and will continue to be for a long time to come.