

Why am I the next Prodigy?

Ever since I was four I've had the desire and vision to become one of the elite bowlers. I have worked hard, prayed for guidance, and always felt that I had the skills and the ability to have what it takes. I feel that I have used my time wisely, especially when I practice. I have sought guidance and attained additional knowledge through my leagues and, high school coaches, and I always asked questions about what I didn't understand.

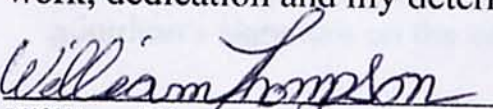
Our family has never been financially well off, we have lived from paycheck to paycheck. Over the past year my family has experienced a financial down fall. My dad lost his job and now the unemployment has run out. My mother works over time to help pay bills and just to put food on the table. Due to this financial strain, I have not been able to take my game to the next level, or up grade my equipment but I have sought to overcome. I have even gone the route of, 'hand-me downs'. I have done odd jobs to help pay for my equipment I do have, and the cost of my bowling. I feel that I have the knowledge, coaching and the opportunity to improve my but due to my family's situation, it has been put at a halt on participating at a higher level.

Over the past two years I have participated in various tournaments, high school events and youth programs. During these events I have bowled on a variety of conditions. My goals were not always met, but I did not give up. My notable accomplishments range from averaging 210 on my high school team, 3rd place All events in a tournament, 2nd place at tinely park invite with a six game series of 1319 and place at other invites, to placing third in our local youth court at the prep and junior level.

I recently started coaching this summer in a youth program at a local establishment; this has helped me in so many ways. Not only am I able to share my passion and knowledge of the game, it also helped me with my mental aspect of the game. I really enjoy sharing, coaching, and giving back to the kids. I have found that I really love to work with kids and that's why I decided that I would like to go into teaching special education. I have observed the many ups and downs that I went through as a kid. I recall those days, and I share them on how I felt and how I dealt with them. It brings me joy, and the smiles on their faces are priceless.

I have been lucky to have knowledgeable people and other resources available to me. It has helped me to get to where I am today. I feel that the financial restraints have hampered me from reaching the next level and achieving my dream to bowl in the PBA as a storm bowler. I feel that with the proper equipment and additional advanced coaching, I could be the next Storm Prodigy. I have always watched my PBA idol Pete Weber, and imagined myself being on that grand stage one day. I know through hard work, dedication and my determination I can be and will be the next prodigy.

Thank you


William Thompson

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