

# The Candlepin Professional

The Pro Series

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## Mike Morgan Wins His First Pro Series Title at Canal Lanes

In the final event of the season, Mike Morgan defeated Dave Hodge in the final match of the Ultimate Ladder to win his first Pro Series title. This tournament differs from the rest, in that the qualifying round consists of only three strings, and the top 25 qualify for the ladder rounds. The top 25 are placed into 5 different ladders, based on their qualifying score, with the winners of each ladder moving on to the Ultimate Ladder.

In the qualifying round, Mike finished 9<sup>th</sup> overall with a three string score of 399. That score was good to make Mike a #2 seed in the ladder rounds.

Mike jumped out to an early lead against Hawk Halas, who had just defeated Ed Woodside the string before, but Hawk came storming back with a flurry of marks at the end of the string to force Mike to finish with a spare in the last two boxes and edge out Halas 146-141. Mike moved on to face Rich Bober in the final match of Ladder #5, and again jumped out to an early lead. He went on to win that match easily, 133-119, and his winning score made him a #3 seed in the Ultimate Ladder.

After defeating Scott Lapierre in the first match of the Ultimate Ladder, Lynne Thomsen moved on to face Mike in the second Ultimate Ladder match. Lynne began the match with a spare and a strike, placing the pressure on Mike to come out and get a mark to avoid being down 10 pins and a fill. After running the middle, and leaving the spread eagle, Mike sat down with a strike in the second box. Lynne continued to bowl well, but it was Mike who turned around his deficit with a triple strike in boxes 2-3-4, and again pulled out to an early lead. After sitting down with an open box in the 8<sup>th</sup> frame, and a score of 127, Lynne again put the pressure on Mike in the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. She finished with a couple of marks and a 149 string, forcing Mike to again throw at least one spare or strike with a good fill. Mike would come through once again, this time finishing with a double strike and a score of 176, finishing what was probably the most exciting match of the tournament.

In the final two matches, Mike would defeat Skip Easterbrooks and Dave Hodge, and did so with relative ease. He was in complete control of both matches, and staying true to form jumped out to early leads with spares in the front half of each string. This tournament win capped off an incredible year for Morgan and catapulted him into the 4<sup>th</sup> overall spot, earning him a bye into the second round of the playoffs.

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### Special points of interest:

- Rich Bober led all qualifiers with 430.
- Nate Nealey had the high string of the tournament with a 173.

## Qualifying Results: Ultimate Ladder

<u>Pos</u>	<u>Bowler</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>Total</u>
1	Rich Bober	115	171	144	430
2	Jeff Surette	145	150	134	429
3	Nate Nealey	106	144	173	423
4	Lynne Thomsen	168	133	121	422
5	Dave Hodge	156	121	141	418
6	Dave Dupuis	131	133	154	418
7	Peter Flynn	122	154	138	414
8	Mark Strangio	157	118	126	401
9	Mike Morgan	163	122	114	399
10	Craig Holbrook	152	120	124	396
11	Andrew Maderios	105	142	145	392
12	Jim Ayotte	131	117	143	391
13	Hawk Halas	141	122	127	390
14	Eric Pelletier	136	116	138	390
15	Richie Myrick	120	148	121	389
16	Scott Lapierre	121	147	120	388
17	Shawn Baker	107	154	124	385
18	Mark Gregory	125	127	131	383
19	Mark Smith	101	137	144	382
20	Dave Barber	123	126	133	382
21	Ed Woodside	112	126	142	380
22	Korey Packard	120	125	135	380
23	Skip Easterbrooks	114	134	130	378
24	Mike Legendre	132	131	115	378
25	Chris Boisvert	116	125	136	377

Top 25 qualify for the knockout round.  
Qualifiers are placed into 5 separate  
ladders, and the winners move on to the  
Ultimate Ladder.

## Chris Sargent Ties World Record with an Incredible 245 String

On a Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> at Metro Bowl in Peabody, MA, Chris Sargent accomplished a feat that has only happened one other time in the 132 year history of Candlepin Bowling. Ralph Semb set the Candlepin World Record back in 1984, when he entered a Western New England Pro Tour event and rolled 7 strikes in a row on his way to a 245 string. Up until a week ago today he was the sole holder of that record.

Chris rolled this string in the Friday night Pro League, with only two weeks to go, and his team battling for 1<sup>st</sup> place with Central Park trailing by only 5 points. Chris began the match with strings of 130 and 135, and with his team trailing by over 51 pins in total, and having split the first two strings, he bowled the best candlepin string ever recorded.

Chris started the third string with a spare, and then proceeded to bowl 6 consecutive strikes before converting a seven drop (pins 3-5-10). With two boxes to go, Chris was sitting on 197 with a fill! This is an amazing score in itself, never mind having two full boxes and a fill. His next ball was another strike, giving him 217 in the 9<sup>th</sup> frame with two bonus balls. Sargent then dropped 9, leaving the lone 7 pin, which he then converted and filled with 8 to tie the world record.

Coincidentally, on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>, Sargent bowled his 13<sup>th</sup> 200 string and his 13<sup>th</sup> 500 series. This is his most notable 200 string of course, but not his most notable 500 series. He is the record holder for the first 3 of 5 strings bowled with and incredible 530.

With this addition to his already impressive resume, Sargent has also won 4 Easter Classic Tournaments (4 in 5 years), the Men's World Team Tournament Championships in Bangor, ME this past November, State Tournaments, Friday Night Pro League Championships, and numerous Pro Tour victories.

	20
30	50
30	80
30	110
30	140
27	167
20	187
20	207
X	227
8	245

## Final Point Standings

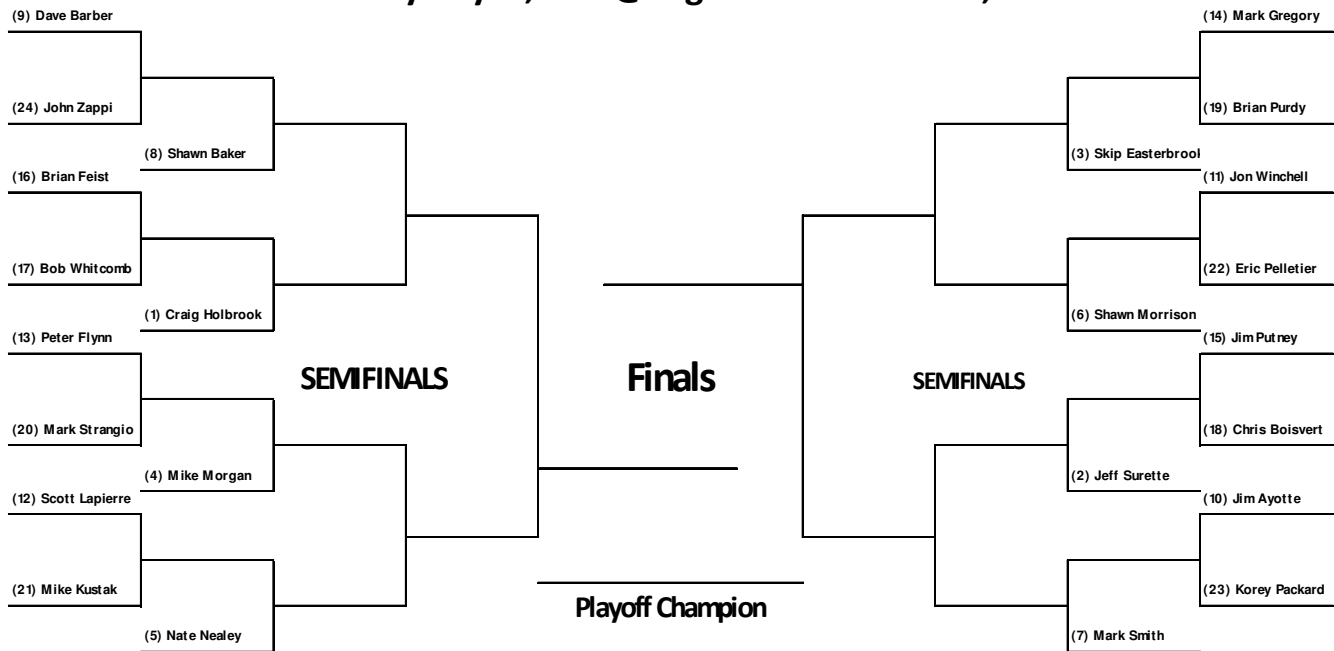
Pos.	Bowler	Points Behind
1	Craig Holbrook	-
2	Jeff Surette	540.5
3	Skip Easterbrooks	705.5
4	Mike Morgan	803.5
5	Nate Nealey	832.5
6	Shawn Morrison	870.5
7	Mark Smith	945.5
8	Shawn Baker	1024.2
9	Dave Barber	1035.5
10	Jim Ayotte	1199.5
11	Jon Winchell	1207.5
12	Scott Lapierre	1228.5
13	Peter Flynn	1234.5
14	Mark Gregory	1240
15	Jim Putney	1339.2
16	Brian Feist	1342.5
17	Bob Whitcomb	1375
18	Chris Boisvert	1384
19	Brian Purdy	1435
20	Mark Strangio	1470
21	Mike Kustak	1476.3
22	Eric Pelletier	1492.5
23	Korey Packard	1498.7
24	John Zappi	1535.8

The points shown are not actual points. They are the amount of points behind the leader in the standings for Bowler of the Year.

Full standings and tournament results can be found at [www.candlepinproseries.com](http://www.candlepinproseries.com).

# The Playoffs

Saturday May 21, 2011 @ Pilgrim Lanes - Haverhill, MA



## A Look Ahead: The Playoffs

This Saturday May 21, 2011, the final Pro Series event of the 2010-2011 season will be held at Pilgrim Lanes in Haverhill, MA. The event is the playoffs, where the top 24 bowlers in point standings after 8 tournaments will compete to become the Pro Series Champion. To qualify for the playoffs, bowlers must first become members of the Pro Series. At each event, members earn points, and the top 24 are invited to Pilgrim Lanes this Saturday. The first round should include some exciting matches that include a rematch of the finals from the first Singles Knockout of the season with Scott Lapierre and Mike Kustak. Lapierre got the best of Kustak in their first meeting by a mere 4 pins, 126-122.

Spectators are welcome to Pilgrim Lanes in Haverhill, MA this Saturday to witness some of the best bowlers in the New England Area. The Playoffs will begin around 1 PM. For directions to Pilgrim Lanes, please visit [www.candlepinproseries.com](http://www.candlepinproseries.com).

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## The Pro Series Newsletter

If you would like to subscribe to this newsletter, please e-mail Dave Barber at [LuckyStrikeDave@yahoo.com](mailto:LuckyStrikeDave@yahoo.com). If you would like a hard copy mailed to you, please call Dave at 781-592-9100.

The purpose of this newsletter is to publish the scores of each tournament in The Pro Series; however, we are always looking for something newsworthy to write about. So if there is a record broken, a tournament won, or even a good three string total bowled, please send it to us at the above e-mail.