

The Candlepin Professional

The Pro Series

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Jeff Surette Takes Home Record Third Pro Series Victory

In its first year, the Pro Series exceeded expectations, drawing over 80 members, and over 130 total bowlers. There has been some incredible bowling over the first seven tournaments, and the eighth would not disappoint. Leading after two shifts was Halifax, MA native Bob Whitcomb with a score of 1418. At the halfway point of the final shift, Jeff Surette had a respectable 627. Needing to throw 791 for his last 5 strings to tie Whitcomb, Jeff started with 183. He then continued to throw 156, 165, 135 and 159 for an unbelievable 798.

What makes this victory even more impressive is Jeff needed (and knew he needed) a 152 string in the last game to tie Bob Whitcomb. Remarkably, he threw 159 to finish with 1425 and beat Bob by a mere 7 pins. Not only did Jeff win this final event, he secured his position as Bowler of the Year with 2,603.5 points, 428.5 points ahead of Craig Holbrook. To give an idea of the season Jeff has had, he finished 2,159 points ahead of 24th place (the final playoff spot).

This final tournament at Lakeside Lanes is the third event

of the season that Surette has won. He defeated Steve Renaud Sr. at Union Street Lanes to win the Ultimate Ladder; and he defeated Jim Putney, Dave Hodge and Devin Laramie at Lucky Strike to win the Skins Game. Between the Pro Tour and the Pro Series, Jeff now has a total of 10 tournament victories, six behind Craig Holbrook, and 7 behind Tom Olszta.

Special Thanks to Lakeside Lanes and Leda Lanes

The Pro Series would like to thank Tim Lipke and the staff at Lakeside Lanes in Manchester, NH, for hosting the 10-Stringer Event.

The Committee would also like to thank Ray

Simoneau and the staff at Leda Lanes for hosting the Team Tournament.

Both Lakeside Lanes and Leda Lanes host birthday parties, group events and open bowling.

To contact Lakeside

Lanes for any of their services call 1-603-627-7722. To contact Leda Lanes, call 1-603-889-4884.

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Special points of interest:

- Jeff Surette becomes Pro Series Bowler of the Year.
- John Zappi bowls the high single of the 10-String Tournament with 185.

W.C.B.C Farewell Tournament

Since its creation in 1972, the Pro Tour has seen over 1000 bowlers compete from Rhode Island, Maine, Vermont, Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. There was a time when the Pro Tour saw more than 200 men and over 100 women members, and winning a Pro Tour was a big accomplishment, defeating so many bowlers in one tournament. Over the past few years, however, the number of bowlers who came to join the Pro Tour declined, leaving no other choice but to host one more event and let it come to an end.

Over the years, many people have dedicated their time and effort into running the Tour. One name that will always stick out is Dottie Lawruk. She served as Tournament Director for the past 15 years. She has also earned the President's Award from the Hall of Fame in 2007 for her contribution to the sport of Candlepin Bowling.

Two more names that come to mind are Tony Czernicki and Paul Wambach. Tony was the President from 1976 until 1998, when he was replaced by Paul Wambach. For the past 11 years, Paul has served as the President of the Pro Tour. Both Paul and Tony have been great ambassadors to the game of bowling.

The farewell tournament saw 56 men and 27 women compete to be the final Pro Tour champion. All bowlers, past and present, were invited back to bowl in the final Pro Tour. Some of the older "legends" that came out to bowl were Charlie Jutras, Jack Ray, Jim Powers, Al Joy, Jim Barber, Tim Lipke, and Ed Czernicki.

The winners were Celeste Buckmore for the women, and Dave Barber for the men. Celeste bowled 665 for five strings, with a 169 second string. She followed up her monster string with 130, 136 and 112, and never relinquished the lead. Finishing second was Joanne Ruzzano with 615, 50 pins behind the leader. Celeste dominated the women's division at Pilgrim that day.

Dave bowled 711, with a high of 157 and a low of 122. Dave bowled a 148 with a double in the 8th and 9th boxes to pass Shawn and Peter Flynn, the leader after the first shift. For both Celeste and Dave, this was their first Pro Tour win. Shawn Baker, who finished second, had the high single of the day with an incredible 194 middle string.

Women

Pos.	Name	1	2	3	4	5	Total
1	Celeste Buckmore	118	169	130	136	112	665
2	Joanne Ruzzano	112	103	122	125	153	615
3	Melissa Caissie	122	111	131	116	130	610
4	Kristy Moore	111	112	119	151	116	609
5	Maria Mazzarella	114	118	122	121	127	602
6	Mary Evans	129	112	109	131	109	590
7	Judy Bowden	129	99	128	118	111	585
8	Glennis McKinley	113	125	122	124	93	577
9	Cyndi Cawley	107	120	116	126	101	570
10	Lynne Thomsen	115	132	112	104	105	568

Men

Pos.	Name	1	2	3	4	5	Total
1	Dave Barber	152	122	157	132	148	711
2	Shawn Baker	143	135	194	126	99	697
3	Peter Flynn	141	152	134	120	148	695
4	Mark Gregory	129	126	114	167	136	672
5	Mike McGann	177	150	96	134	109	666
6	Jeff Surette	164	129	119	135	115	662
7	Shawn McKinley	111	140	154	107	148	660
8	Peter Pereira	108	113	157	148	132	658
9	Det Klein	122	135	167	101	131	656
10	Bob Buxton	146	130	134	132	109	651

Jeff Surette Wins Easter Classic

For the second time in two weeks, Jeff Surette emerges at the top winning the very difficult Easter Classic Tournament. Every year, for the past 22 years, Leda Lanes in Nashua, NH hosts a 20-string tournament on Easter Sunday. The tournament begins at 11 A.M. and runs for an average of 12 hours. After 10 strings, bowlers break for about an hour for dinner provided by Leda Lanes.

Past winners have included current Pro Series members Craig Holbrook, John Zappi, Bob Whitcomb and Shawn Baker. This year, the Easter Classic Tournament was won by the Pro Series Bowler of the Year, Jeff Surette. Amazingly enough, Jeff started the day in 59th place, bowling a 99 first string. He more than made up for his sub-par performance with a 133, 160, and 179 for an outstanding 472 for his next three. After five strings he was in the lead, and after 10 strings he was only trailing by 25 pins to Maine's Nate Nealy. Jeff's next 10 strings are what separated him from the rest of the pack. Strings 11, 12 and 13 were 167, 168, and 157, respectively, for a 3-string total of 492. Nate, the leader after 10, bowled 671 in strings 11-15, and lost 85 pins to Jeff who bowled 756.

1	JEFF SURETTE	2729
2	NATE NEALEY	2707
3	CRAIG HOLBROOK	2581
4	DAVE BARBER	2570
4	MARK RICCI	2570
6	SHAWN MORRISON	2553
7	MIKE MORGAN	2547
7	MIKE POULIN	2547
9	CHRIS HOLLETT	2518
10	MARK GREGORY	2510
11	SHAWN MCKINLEY	2499
12	DOUG CORMIER	2498
13	BRIAN MAYER	2494
14	DAVID HODGE	2484
15	MATT CORMIER	2454
16	DON RICHMOND	2451
17	MATT SOUCY	2449
18	MARC CARRIER	2446
19	MARK SMITH	2442
20	CHRIS NIVEN	2437

Teams Tournament a Big Success

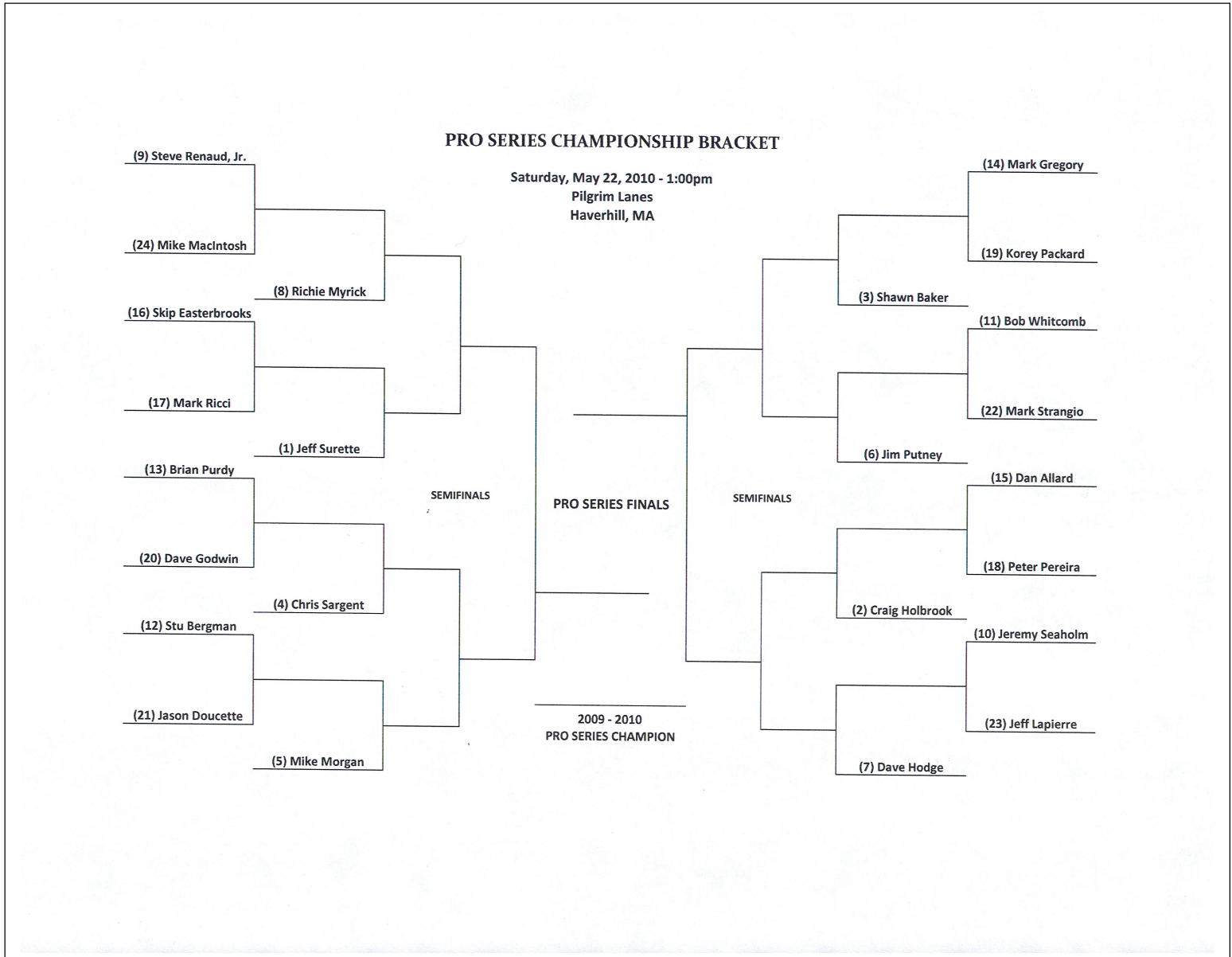
The last event before the playoffs was held at Leda Lanes and was the Teams Tournament. Several weeks ago, the top 12 bowlers in the point standings became captains, and drafted 5 man teams. The teams were divided into two divisions of 6, and each team bowled every other team in their division. The top three teams at the end of five strings moved on to the playoffs, with the top seed earning a bye into the second round.

In the left division, the team captained by Mike Morgan earned the bye, and Dave Hodge's team earned the bye in the right division. In the first round, Bob Whitcomb's team defeated Jim Putney's team 590 to 513; Stu Bergman's team defeated Jeff Surette's team 541 to 527. In the semi-finals, Mike Morgan's team defeated Bob Whitcomb's team 627 to 533; Stu Bergman's team defeated Dave Hodge's team 572 to 565.

The finals consisted of a two-string match between Mark Gregory, Chuck Desroisiers, Walt Bowden, Shawn McKinley and Mike Morgan vs. Sam Dagostino, Joe Cascio, Joe Rocheleau, John Zappi and Stu Bergman. Morgan's team, who won 1183 to 1068, and was highlighted by a triple strike thrown in the 3rd, 4th, and 5th boxes by Chuck Desroisiers, dominated the match. Chuck lead the team in the playoffs throwing a 162 in the semi-finals, and then opened up with a triple strike, 145 string to put his team ahead by 94 pins.

A Look Ahead: The Playoffs at Pilgrim Lanes in Haverhill, MA

Our final event of the season is the playoffs to be held on May 22, 2010 at Pilgrim Lanes. The top 24 bowlers in the point standings have earned a spot in the playoffs, and the top 8 have earned a bye into the second round. The first round consists of seeds 9 through 24 paired up and bowling a two-string match, with the winner moving on. The winners are paired up with the top 8, and again bowl a two-string match with the winner moving on. All matches are predetermined based on seeds.



The Pro Series Newsletter

If you would like to subscribe to this newsletter, please e-mail Dave Barber at 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.