

Tuesday October 22, 2024

## Spare Change

By Johnny Campos

# Two solid single-pin leaves prevent Stone-cold attempt at a perfect series at Linn Lanes; Johnson rolls 34 strikes in career-high set at Potters

In a league where honor scores are expected and sometimes go unnoticed, Andy Stone got some well-deserved attention on Monday night at Linn Lanes in Canton.

He struck on all but two of his shots and ended the night by tying the house record with an 868 series – high so far this season in the Bill Mastronardi Masters League.

Stone struck on his first nine shots of the night on lanes 17-18 before leaving a solid 7-pin in the 10<sup>th</sup> frame on a high-flush delivery.

The right-hander spared the single pin and threw a strike on his fill ball for a 279 game. It was the first of 23 straight strikes for Stone, who rolled a 300 in Game 2.

He had the front 10 strikes in Game 3 before a solid 10-pin ended his run. He spared again for a 289 game and his highest career series.

“I had an 857 a few years ago at the state tournament,” Stone said. “But that was the closest I’ve ever felt to where 900 seemed possible. That was pretty unbelievable!”

“The 10-pin was a pinch in, but that one could have carried as well. That felt really good tonight.”

Stone was using a new Storm Phaze AI ball, which helped his Linn Lanes team roll a season-high 3,015 team series in the league.

One of his teammates, Irvin Johnson III, also rolled an 800, finishing with an 808 series on games of 262, 279 and 267.

But three weeks ago, Johnson also flirted with a 900 series at Potter’s Alley in Morton.

He rolled games of 279, 279 and 300 for an 858 set.

“I had the front 8 the first game, then I left a ring 10,” said Johnson, who also was throwing a Storm Phaze AI ball. “Then I had the front 7 in Game 2 and then stoned a 9. The 9 actually tipped over and then another pin tapped it a little bit and stood it back up. And then I didn’t miss the rest of the night.”

He closed out the series with 16 straight strikes.

“That was my highest series to date,” he said. “That was the night you thought 900 was possible.”

Johnson actually had more strikes than Stone. He had 34 strikes on 36 shots at Potter’s, while Stone had 32 strikes on his 34 shots at Linn.

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## More high scores

Last Thursday night, Marty Calvin and his son Kohlton almost reached some rare air at Potter's Alley.

In Game 2, the older Calvin rolled his 62<sup>nd</sup> career 300 game, and then his son opened Game 3 with 10 straight strikes, trying to match his father's effort.

There have been a few father/son duos who have rolled perfect games on the same night, but probably not too often. The USBC does not list that category in its on-line oddities records.

Kohlton left a 4-pin on his 11<sup>th</sup> ball and finished with a 289 game for a career-best 771 series.

"Kohlton had a 300 when he was 15, but this is the third time this year he's had the front 10," Marty said. "And it's been the 4-pin every time on his 11<sup>th</sup> ball.

"That's his nemesis when he gets it in tight. If he would just leave it out wide, he's got a chance every time because of his power. He leaves a lot of solid stuff, because he throws it so hard. He'll get there."

Kohlton, who is bowling for the first time in a few years, knew if he had struck out that it would be special.

"I knew what I had to do, and I messed it up," said the 22-year-old. "I wasn't nervous. I was more excited because I was trying to shoot one the same night he had one."

Kohlton, who uses a two-handed delivery, had not bowled in a league since he was a junior bowler because he works the night shift.

"The only reason I'm bowling now is because my girlfriend and I just had our son (Kohen)," he said. "And I got three months off work."

On the same night, Kyle Mauerman rolled an 816 set on games of 237, 300 and 279.

He started the night using the Dark Code ball, then switched to the IQ Ruby and strung together 21 straight strikes. Mauerman was going for back-to-back treys in his final two games but left a solid 10-pin on the first shot in the 10<sup>th</sup> frame of the last game.

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Andy Stone ties house record at Linn Lanes



Irvin Johnson III rolls 34 strikes in 858 set at Potter's Alley

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