

DAVIDSON AND JACKSON CAPTURE O.B.A.-N.W.S.T. DOUBLES

The Northwest Senior Tour joined forces with the Oregon Bowlers Association to host the second annual Regular/Senior Tour Doubles Championship on Sunday, November 11, at Hollywood Bowl in Portland, Oregon. The starting field totaled 102 bowlers, 60 from the O.B.A. and 42 N.W.S.T. competitors.

After six games of qualifying, the top 16 from each organization were paired according to their seeding. These doubles teams then competed in five games of match play to determine the tournament champion. A total of 50 bonus points were up for grabs in each contest, 10 points for defeating your individual opponent and 30 for winning the team game.

Bob Davidson led all N.W.S.T. bowlers with a 1440 total for a 240 per game average. Dennis Powell was the only other senior player to break the 1400 barrier, averaging 234 with a 1404 total pinfall.

The 11 bowlers breaking through the 1300 ceiling were led by Steve Kiss, claiming the third seed with a 1389 total and 231 per game average. Others joining this group were Jeff Knapp, Mike Kelly, Frank Dietz, Jr., Mike Polinsky, James Bills, Hugh Miller, Tim Myers, Trent Zabelle, Lori Eskew, and Steve Michaliszyn. Along with Bob Reed and Samantha Kessler, Doug Nowlin earned the final qualifying spot with a 1261 total for an average of 210 per game.

High qualifier for the O.B.A. contingent was Dan Jackson, leading the entire field with a 1495 total for a 249 per game average. Joe Lipan earned the second seed with a 1484 pinfall for a 247 average per game.

Eryk Jensen led five other bowlers into the 1400 club, qualifying third with a 1454 total, a 242 per game average. Jensen was joined by fourth seed Jason Lower, followed by Jordan Yoke, Travis Malakowsky, and Scott How. The remaining nine O.B.A. finalists knocked down 1300+ in total pins, led by Craig Tuholski's 1384, followed by Nathan Davis, Tyler Porter, Blaine Weninger, Tracy Teeters, Mike Danielson, John McGinnis, and Jay Melton. Ron Martinson earned the sixteenth and final seed with a 1334 pinfall, a 222 per game average.

Carrying a 47 pin lead into the first game of the match play finals, Bob Davidson and Dan Jackson remained in first place, defeating Doug Nowlin and Ron Martinson, 473-414, earning all 50 bonus pins. The team of Jeff Knapp and Jason Lower jumped into second place on the strength of Knapp's opening nine-bagger and 279 game, overwhelming Steve Michaliszyn and Mike Danielson, 514-425.

Mike Kelly and Jordan Yoke moved from fifth to third, outdistancing Lori Eskew and Tracy Teeters, 489-406. The left-handed tandem of Dennis Powell and Joe Lipan fell

from second to fourth, despite their 400-358 victory over Samantha Kessler and Jay Melton.

In other first-round matches, Steve Kiss and Eryk Jensen secured fifth place on the leader board with a 417-398 win over Bob Reed and John McGinnis. Hugh Miller and Nathan Davis climbed into sixth place with a clean sweep of bonus pins, defeating James Bills and Craig Tuholski, 468-435.

Trent Zabelle and Blaine Weninger shut out Frank Dietz, Jr. and Travis Malakowsky, 429-329. Tim Myers and Tyler Porter defeated Mike Polinsky and Scott How, 449-413.

Entering round two, Bob Davidson and Dan Jackson held a 61 pin lead over Knapp and Lower. In a match that came down to the last ball in the tenth frame, Davidson and Jackson edged the right-handed duo to hold on to their first-place position. Knapp and Lower dropped to third.

Dennis Powell and Joe Lipan regained second place, prevailing over Mike Kelly and Jordan Yoke in the highest scoring match of round two, 513-472, sweeping all bonus pins in the process. Kelly and Yoke fell to fourth with the loss.

Hugh Miller and Nathan Davis defeated Steve Kiss and Eryk Jensen, 419-389. Despite the win, Miller and Jensen remained in sixth place, earning a rematch with Kiss and Jensen in the next round.

Mike Polinsky's nine-bagger in frames 3-11 gained him high game honors for the round, shooting 279 to secure for himself and partner Scott How a 482-370 win over James Bills and Craig Tuholski. The victory moved them into seventh place.

Second-round matches concluded with Trent Zabelle and Blaine Weninger defeating Tim Myers, 453-411. Bob Reed and John McGinnis moved from fourteenth to tenth on the strength of their 489-384 trouncing of Lori Eskew and Tracy Teeters.

Frank Dietz, Jr. and Travis Malakowsky ground out a 406-390 victory over Steve Michaliszyn and Mike Danielson. Super senior Doug Nowlin ended his game with a string of nine strikes to lead himself and partner Ron Martinson to a 464-429 win over Samantha Kessler and Jay Melton.

Entering the third round trailing by 48 pins, Dennis Powell and Joe Lipan proceeded to strike on 11 of their first 12 shots. But the leaders steadily clawed their way back into the match, until Bob Davidson left a stubborn 7-pin in the eleventh frame to prevent a game-winning four-bagger. Powell and Lipan hung on for a 469-461 victory, setting up a rematch in round four.

In another closely contested match, third-seeded Jeff Knapp and Jason Lower snuck by Mike Kelly and Jordan Yoke, 412-408, insuring another contest between these two teams in round four. Hugh Miller and Nathan Davis both shot games in the 250's to

down Steve Kiss and Eryk Jensen, 509-426. Their victory also guaranteed a rematch with the opponent they just faced.

Blaine Weninger's tenth frame double allowed he and partner Trent Zabelle to snatch a 419-414 victory from Polinsky and How. These two teams would also face each other in the next round, making the matches among the top 8 seeds all "do over" showdowns.

In other contests, Tim Myers' 268 game secured for himself and partner Tyler Porter a 425-340 win over Bob Reed and John McGinnis. Doug Nowlin and Ron Martinson outscored Frank Dietz, Jr. and Travis Malakowsky, 441-398.

Steve Michaliszyn and Mike Danielson climbed two spots into eleventh place with a 458-416 victory over James Bills and Craig Tuholski. Tracy Teeters shot the high individual game of the round, his 269 helping himself and Lori Eskew cruise to a 503-410 win over Samantha Kessler and Jay Melton.

Entering round four, the top three teams had finally gained some separation from the rest of the field. Bob Davidson and Dan Jackson remained in first place, but Powell and Lipan had closed the gap to just 10 pins. Jeff Knapp and Jason Lower were in third, within striking distance if the top two seeds faltered.

Davidson led the way for his team, posting a six-bagger in frames 2-7 en route to a game of 257 and a victory for himself and Dan Jackson over Powell and Lipan, 458-420. Their lead increased to 78 pins with the win.

Jeff Knapp and Jason Lower clung to third place, nipping Mike Kelly and Jordan Yoke, 457-448. With the win, Knapp and Lower held out hopes of winning the title, though they trailed the leaders by 113 pins. Kelly and Yoke stayed in fourth place despite the loss.

Steve Kiss and Eryk Jensen defeated Hugh Miller and Nathan Davis, 427-396. In spite of the loss, Miller and Davis remained in fifth, setting up another confrontation with Kiss and Jensen--their third match in a row.

Scott How gained a measure of redemption in he and partner Mike Polinsky's rematch with Zabelle and Weninger. How's clutch tenth frame turkey secured a narrow 421-417 victory, setting up a final round rubber match between these two teams.

Tim Myers and Tyler Porter prevailed over Lori Eskew and Tracy Teeters in a low-scoring contest, 385-365. Steve Michaliszyn and Mike Danielson moved up another two spots to tenth place, recording the high team game of round four in a 471-410 win over Doug Nowlin and Ron Martinson.

Other matches saw John McGinnis fire a solid 245 game as he and partner Bob Reed breezed to a 436-368 sweep of James Bills and Craig Tuholski. Frank Dietz, Jr. and Travis Malakowsky posted a workmanlike 442-381 victory over Samantha Kessler and Jay Melton.

Final round drama failed to materialize as leaders Bob Davidson and Dan Jackson overpowered Dennis Powell and Joe Lipan, 496-401. Davidson sandwiched an 8-count spare between an opening six-bagger and a closing string of five strikes to shoot 278, leading his team to the tournament championship. The win was the third N.W.S.T. title in four starts for Davidson.

Jeff Knapp and Jason Lower took advantage of the Powell-Lipan loss. Led by Lower's 233, the duo swept Mike Kelly and Jordan Yoke, 447-429, to finish in second place. Powell and Lipan finished in third while Kelly and Yoke remained in fourth.

The next three matches involved teams tightly bunched in the standings. Steve Kiss and Eryk Jensen climbed into fifth place by defeating Hugh Miller and Nathan Davis, 427-365. Miller and Davis fell to seventh with the loss.

Trent Zabelle and Blaine Weninger outlasted Mike Polinsky and Scott How in their rivalry, 447-425. Zabelle and Weninger moved up to sixth with the win, dropping Polinsky and How to ninth.

Steve Michaliszyn and Mike Danielson completed their late surge up the leader board, with Danielson's tenth frame punch out sealing a 443-437 win over Tim Myers and Tyler Porter. Michaliszyn and Danielson improved to an eighth place finish, with Myers and Porter dropping back to tenth.

In remaining matches, Bob Reed and John McGinnis bested Doug Nowlin and Ron Martinson, 407-398, to claim eleventh place. Nowlin and Martinson fell one spot to twelfth.

The final positions in the standings remained unchanged. Frank Dietz, Jr. and Travis Malakowsky downed Lori Eskew and Tracy Teeters, 419-384, to secure thirteenth place. Eskew and Teeters stayed in fourteenth.

Samantha Kessler and Jay Melton narrowly defeated James Bills and Craig Tuholski in a low-scoring contest, 355-351. Despite the loss, Bills and Tuholski finished fifteenth, followed by Kessler and Melton in sixteenth.

The Northwest Senior Tour would like to thank Kathy Tribbey and the Oregon Bowling Association for their management of the event. A thank you, as well, to Reser's Fine Foods for their sponsorship of the tournament. Many thanks to proprietor Mark Frank and the entire staff of Hollywood Bowl for their hard work and hospitality as tournament host.

Our next event is the N.W.S.T. Open Doubles Championship, scheduled for Sunday, November 25, at AMF 20th Century Lanes in Portland, Oregon. Each team must have at least one N.W.S.T. member or a bowler that meets the N.W.S.T. membership criteria. The other teammate can be any other adult U.S.B.C. member, age 18 or above.