

TIM MYERS' TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP WIN IS N.W.S.T. TITLE #8

Wilsonville Lanes in Wilsonville, Oregon, was the site of the Northwest Senior Tour's season-ending Tour Championship, co-sponsored by Budweiser and Pepsi. Held over the May 18-19 weekend, the year's second major would determine Player of the Year and all-star status for those bowlers in contention, based upon the accumulated points earned in the thirteen tournaments on the 2012-2013 schedule.

Entered in Saturday's 8-game qualifying round were 44 of 51 eligible bowlers, competing for 12 berths to match play as well as checks for positions 13 through 22. The field would face challenging scoring conditions on the 45-foot Kegel "Route 66" pattern.

Washington right-hander Mike Karch led all bowlers through the opening four games, shooting a 904 series on games of 246, 213, 226, and 219. Astoria's Jon Gustafson continued a strong season-long showing, trailing Karch by 6 pins with an 898 total. Stan Lorimor and Dean Hebner continued the right-handed trend with 873 and 872 totals to settle in third and fourth place. Albany's Walt Lundgren established the early cut line at + 41.

St. Helens' Stan Lorimor jumped into the round-five lead, firing a 268 for an 1141 total and a 228 per game average. Portland's Jim Winklepleck posted his own 268 game to climb from ninth to second with an 1113 total and a 222 per game pace. Corvallis right-hander Bill Starnes used a 256 to leap from seventh to third place with 1100 total pins, good for a 220 average.

Mike Karch fell out of the lead, his game of 194 dropping him into a fourth-place tie with Vancouver's Dean Hebner. Washington's Ronnie Noel set the cut line at +58, his five-game average of 211 making him the only left-hander in the top 20.

Jim Winklepleck fired a 278 to take the round-six lead with a 1391 total and a 231 per game average. Stan Lorimor's 226 allowed the Oregon bowler to stay within striking distance, trailing Winklepleck by 25 pins. Vancouver's Bob Porter posted a 247 to jump from seventh and into a third-place tie with Mike Karch with total pinfall of 1332 for a 222 average.

Milwaukie's Tim Myers made the biggest move of the round, rolling a 265 to vault from thirteenth to fifth with a 1317 total. California right-hander Bob Reed, Sr. made his first appearance on the leader board, holding onto the final qualifying spot with a 1251 total. Ronnie Noel remained the only left-hander in the top twelve, moving up to eleventh with a 209 average on total pinfall of 1255.

With two games remaining, 70 pins separated 20 bowlers positioned above and below the cut line. However, round seven ended with 10 of the top twelve bowlers posting

games of 225 and above, making their qualifying positions a bit more secure. Jim Winklepleck and Stan Lorimor held onto first and second place. Winklepleck's 1617 total and 231 average placed him 17 pins ahead of Lorimor's 228 per game pace. Bob Porter, Tim Myers, and Mike Karch rounded out the top five with total pinfall of 1589, 1576, and 1557.

Oregon right-handers Terry Johnson and Johnny More moved into qualifying position for the first time in the tournament. Johnson climbed from fifteenth to tenth with a 1493 total. More advanced from thirteenth to eleventh with pinfall of 1491. Washington's Danny Combs posted the high game of the tournament, a 279, to rocket from twenty-fourth into a twelfth-place tie with Jon Gustafson at 1474. Ronnie Noel was still the only southpaw in contention, sitting just 2 pins behind at a 1472 total.

The final round ended with Jim Winklepleck earning the honor of qualifying leader, shooting a 247 for an 1864 total and a per game average of 233. Washington's Bob Porter moved up one spot to second with a total of 1810 and a 226 average. Tigard right-hander Mike Nogle posted a clutch 267 to jump all the way from eighth to third with a 224 average on total pinfall of 1796. Stan Lorimor struggled to a 193 game, dropping to fourth with a 1793 total and a 224 average overall. Tim Myers held on to his fifth-place position with pinfall of 1790.

Washington right-handers claimed the next three berths to match play. Mike Karch and Dean Hebner each fell one spot to sixth and seventh place with totals of 1772 and 1742. Danny Combs completed his late charge up the leader board, firing a 249 to move into eighth with a 1723 total and a 215 per game average. Oregon right-handers Terry Johnson and Bill Starnes tied for ninth at + 104.

Despite a final game of 171, Olympia's Dwayne Webb hung onto eleventh with a 1702 total. Super-senior Jon Gustafson earned the twelfth and final qualifying berth to match play with a total pinfall of 1680, an average of 210 per game. Six Oregon and four Washington bowlers collected checks for finishing in thirteenth through twenty-second place. Ronnie Noel was the sole left-hander to cash, placing sixteenth with a 1653 total. Olympia's Mitch Vernon was last to cash with a per game average of 203 on total pinfall of 1629.

Sunday's match-play finals began in a position-round format, with the bowlers' seeding determined by Saturday's qualifying scores. The finalists would bowl twelve games, facing each opponent in their first eleven matches. Game twelve would be another position round, with the final matches determined by the bowlers' placement on the leader board at that time.

Jim Winklepleck, the N.W.S.T. Player of the Year in 2011, took a 54 pin lead into match play as the field prepared to face a grueling seven hours of competition. By the time the day was over, there would be seven lead changes involving four different bowlers.

Winklepleck stayed atop the leader board through the first three rounds. The Portland right-hander built a commanding 129 pin lead after a round-two victory over Dean Hebner, 268-190. Next followed a disastrous 214-148 loss to Bill Starnes that reduced his lead to just 23 pins. Milwaukie's Tim Myers moved into second with three consecutive victories over Mike Karch, Stan Lorimor, and Jon Gustafson.

Tigard right-hander Mike Nogle and Lorimor used their 2 win, 1 loss records to return to where they started the day--in third and fourth place. Beginning the day with a three-game win streak, Bill Starnes jumped from tenth to fifth place in the standings.

As the finals reached the halfway point, three different bowlers had experienced the tournament lead. Tim Myers claimed the fourth-round lead, defeating Washington's Danny Combs, 225-204. Mike Nogle then took over first place, posting a hard-fought 269-249 victory over Mike Karch in round five. Myers dropped to second place despite a 205-179 win over Jim Winklepleck, trailing Nogle by only 18 pins.

N.W.S.T. Hall of Famer Bill Starnes took possession of the sixth-round lead, having won his opening six matches with a 223 per game average. Mike Nogle fell back to second as a result of a 208-185 loss to Combs. Vancouver's Bob Porter recovered from a slow start, riding a three game winning streak into third place. Tim Myers 202-164 loss to Sherwood's Terry Johnson moved the all-star right-hander down to fourth. St. Helens' Stan Lorimor remained in fifth, only 56 pins from the top spot.

Bob Porter moved into first place in round seven by overwhelming Bill Starnes, 258-152. Mike Nogle held onto second by edging Olympia's Dewayne Webb, 212-203, trailing Porter by only 8 pins. Tim Myers and Stan Lorimor each improved a position, to third and fourth place, despite their low-scoring wins. Myers defeated Dean Hebner, 197-176, while Lorimor outdistanced Jon Gustafson, 202-167. In spite of losing the tournament lead, Bill Starnes remained in the top five, 87 pins behind the leader.

The next round was noteworthy for key head-to-head matches between bowlers at the top of the leader board. As fate would have it, Bob Porter and Mike Nogle squared off in the most crucial contest. With Nogle working on a five-bagger through the ninth frame, he could only add 15 pins in the tenth, converting the 3-6-10, then leaving a 5-count washout to finish with a score of 237.

With a strike showing in his half of the ninth, Porter looked to close out the match with a strike on his first ball in the final frame. A ringing 4-pin ended his hopes for the win, but a strike following his spare conversion would leave the bowlers tied. But Porter left his own 3-6-10, giving Mike Nogle a three pin victory and the tournament lead. Porter fell back to second, facing a 25 pin deficit.

In another important contest, third-place Tim Myers dueled fifth-place Bill Starnes. Again, the drama of a pressure-packed tenth frame played out. Myers posted a double with his first ball in the tenth to force Starnes to double to secure the win. However, a defiant 10-pin ended the Corvallis right-hander's chance at victory, with Myers taking a

224-207 win. Myers kept his third-place position, while Starnes, despite the loss, improved to fourth.

In other matches effecting the top tier of the leader board, Mike Karch defeated Stan Lorimor, 212-179, dropping the St. Helens right-hander to fifth place. Danny Combs and Jim Winklepleck exchanged places in the standings. Combs sat in sixth and Winklepleck in seventh, a result of the Washington bowler's 249-200 victory over the Oregon right-hander.

By the end of game ten, Bob Porter had retaken the lead with a 269-165 drubbing of Dewayne Webb, then extended it with a 235-181 defeat of Dean Hebner. Tim Myers recorded his eighth and ninth match-play wins over Mike Nogle, 236-205, and Webb, 248-165. As a result, Porter now held a 62 pin lead over the second-place Myers. Stan Lorimor moved into third place with back-to-back victories, highlighted by his round-nine win over Terry Johnson, 258-196.

However, with Lorimor 131 pins behind the leader, the tournament was at risk of becoming a two-man showdown for the title. Bill Starnes handed Mike Nogle his second consecutive loss in game ten, grinding out a 194-186 victory. Nogle fell to fourth as a result, but still held a 94 pin lead over the fifth-place Starnes. Washington's Mike Karch tied Jim Winklepleck at 226, then outdistanced Jon Gustafson, 237-184, to climb into sixth place. Karch's late charge up the leader board left him only 21 pins outside the top five.

With the match-play schedule predetermined, destiny seemed to intervene once again. Bob Porter and Tim Myers would face off in game eleven with the tournament title up for grabs. Myers started with a strike and kept the barrage coming through the eighth frame. His ninth shot blew a 5-pin across the pin deck, but the 7-pin refused to fall. Two more strikes in the tenth gave the Milwaukie right-hander a score of 278, the high game of the day to that point.

Porter, meanwhile, stayed clean through the ninth frame, but the only momentum he could generate was a three-bagger in frames 4-6. A blown 10-pin in the tenth left the current Senior Masters champion with a game of 204. What had been a 62 pin lead was now a 42 pin deficit, with Porter heading to a rematch with Myers in the decisive final game of the tournament.

Stan Lorimor stretched his third-place lead over Mike Nogle to 31 pins, despite a 238-215 loss to Danny Combs. Nogle left a 4-pin on his first ball in the tenth to suffer a difficult defeat at the hands of Dean Hebner, 203-201. Mike Karch continued to inch his way up the leader board, using a five-bagger in frames 2-6 to collect a 248-227 victory over Terry Johnson. The fifth-place Karch was now within striking distance of fourth, trailing Nogle by 38 pins.

Jim Winklepleck recovered some of his qualifying magic with a 247-214 win over Jon Gustafson, leaving him trailing the sixth-place Combs by just 14 pins. Bill Starnes, the

tournament leader after round six, struggled through his fourth loss in the last five matches, a 223-202 defeat at the hands of Washington's Dewayne Webb. Yet in spite of his eighth-place position, Starnes sat only 55 pins out of a top-five finish.

The title match was void of any drama as Tim Myers built an early lead with a four-bagger in frames 2-5. Bob Porter, on the other hand, went without strikes in frames 2-7, compounding his problems with open frames in the fourth and sixth. Myers stayed clean the rest of the way, a double in frames 9-10 sealing the 235-166 victory, with Myers claiming the Tour Championship by a comfortable 141 pin margin. Bob Porter remained in second place.

Stan Lorimor easily captured third place, his match highlighted by a rare but crucial third-frame conversion of the 4-6-7-10 split. Lorimor wrapped a pair of doubles around his spare, adding a late-game turkey to notch a 232-211 win over Mike Nogle. With the loss, Nogle dropped back to a fifth-place finish. Mike Karch, in tenth place after round one, completed his steady, day-long comeback to finish in fourth place. Karch used a trio of turkeys to edge fellow Washington right-hander Danny Combs, 247-224. Combs dropped to eighth place with the loss.

Bill Starnes and Jim Winklepleck, two former champions of this event, matched each other strike-for-strike through the first five frames of their contest. Winklepleck's blown 10-pin in the eighth frame opened the door for Starnes, and the N.W.S.T. veteran took full advantage. Starnes closed out the match with a four-bagger to claim a 265-247 victory, while Winklepleck held onto his seventh-place position.

In remaining contests, Vancouver right-hander Dean Hebner secured a ninth-place finish with a 200-184 win over Terry Johnson. The loss moved the Sherwood right-hander down to eleventh place. Oregon's Jon Gustafson overwhelmed Washington's Dewayne Webb, starting his match with the first eight strikes en route to a 268-209 victory. With the win, Gustafson improved one spot to finish in tenth place. Webb stayed in his twelfth-place position.

Tim Myers and Bob Porter were the average leaders over the twelve games of match play, both setting a 220 per game pace. Rounding out the top five in scoring were Stan Lorimor at 216, Mike Karch at 215, and Bill Starnes with a 214 average. Myers dominated in head-to-head matches, posting a remarkable 11 win, 1 loss record. Bill Starnes the only super senior-plus player to make the finals, was next in line with a solid 8 win, 4 loss total.

Tim Myers victory was noteworthy on a number of levels. With his eighth N.W.S.T. win, the Milwaukie right-hander tied Washington's Jerry Ledbetter for tenth on the career title list. The Tour Championship win was Myers second, joining Olympia's Dick Taylor ('94/'01) and Bonney Lake's Tom Anderson ('11/'12) as the only two-time champions of this major. Myers also became a member of another exclusive club, joining Oregon stalwarts Walt Lundgren ('02/'02), Bill Starnes ('03/'05), and Jim Winklepleck ('10/'08) as the only N.W.S.T. bowlers with both Senior Masters and Tour Championship crowns.

As the final event of the season, the Tour Championship was the bowlers' last chance to impact the all-star points list. As a result, Edgewood, Washington's, Mike Karch claimed the top honor as the N.W.S.T. Player of the Year. Joining Karch on the all-star team was Vancouver rookie Bob Porter, the runnerup to Karch in points. Oregon right-handers Tim Myers and Trent Zabelle finished in third and fourth place, earning all-star status for the second consecutive year. Astoria, Oregon's, Jon Gustafson secured the final all-star spot, as well as meriting the honor of top super senior on the tour. Philomath's Bill McNelly, another super senior, finished sixth overall.

The Northwest Senior Tour would like to thank proprietor J.P.Muller, manager Danny Ruby, Mike Reed, and the entire staff of Wilsonville Lanes for their weekend of hard work and hospitality. A sincere thank you to Budweiser and Pepsi for their sponsorship of the Tour Championship. To Bi-Mart, Hammer Bowling, and Widmer Brothers Brewing, a heartfelt thank you for your season-long sponsorship of N.W.S.T. events. And a final tip-of-the-hat to all of the bowling centers who graciously hosted events throughout the 2012-2013 season and to all the bowlers who participated in them.



2013 QUALIFYING

TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP

POS	TOTAL	+/-	NAME	LANE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1	1864	264	Winklepleck, Jim	08e	198	214	217	216	268	278	226	247	
2	1810	210	Porter, Bob	10d	203	190	202	255	235	247	257	221	
3	1796	196	Nogle, Mike	03a	219	223	196	194	227	223	247	267	
4	1793	193	Lorimor, Stan	08c	221	200	228	224	268	225	234	193	
5	1790	190	Myers, Tim	05a	205	214	217	210	206	265	259	214	
6	1772	172	Karch, Mike	15b	246	213	226	219	191	237	225	215	
7	1742	142	Hebner, Dean	08d	258	222	189	203	223	208	246	193	
8	1723	123	Combs, Danny	20c	211	216	175	203	174	216	279	249	
9	1704	104	Johnson, Terry	10c	189	206	188	207	233	213	257	211	
10	1704	104	Starnes, Bill	09a	170	225	254	195	256	210	198	196	
11	1702	102	Webb, Dwayne	14c	181	182	275	205	236	200	252	171	
12	1680	80	Gustafson, Jon	06c	204	251	236	207	196	197	183	206	MATCH
13	1678	78	Knapp, Jeff	17a	214	226	180	249	198	168	231	212	
14	1671	71	Zabelle, Trent	11a	163	179	143	213	277	205	212	279	
15	1665	65	More, Johnny	06d	193	184	226	188	214	237	249	174	
16	1653	53	Noel, Ronnie	18d	233	205	191	203	226	197	217	181	
17	1643	43	Lundgren, Walt	09b	199	172	215	255	235	162	191	214	
18	1641	41	McNelly, Bill	05b	195	195	158	182	215	228	258	210	
19	1638	38	Pierce, Tim	04e	202	196	158	181	225	215	216	245	
20	1632	32	Polinsky, Mike	07b	170	181	186	243	224	205	181	242	
21	1632	32	Schlegel, Ernie	17b	171	206	209	211	227	210	184	214	
22	1629	29	Vernon, Mitch	18c	179	203	193	204	222	229	197	202	CASH
23	1621	21	Reed, Bob	21b	186	185	199	258	186	237	186	184	
24	1596	4	Spelman, Jay	14d	189	142	210	202	215	221	200	217	
25	1595	5	Michaliszyn, Steve	16c	194	212	193	190	193	238	163	212	
26	1577	23	Nowlin, Doug	06e	182	174	185	158	171	258	191	258	
27	1569	31	Day, Dennis	16d	184	257	182	177	203	220	188	158	
28	1567	33	Borgaro, Joey	04d	201	211	267	172	170	188	168	190	
29	1566	34	Kiss, Steve	19a	216	247	156	177	134	245	192	199	
30	1565	35	Barber, Mike	20d	200	153	178	247	209	211	156	211	
31	1550	50	Sanders, Bill	13b	179	171	181	238	180	224	199	178	
32	1546	54	Eskew, Lori	19b	204	183	147	237	169	194	237	175	
33	1529	71	Fantini, John	15a	178	176	197	155	205	190	190	238	
34	1509	91	Bills, James	22c	201	175	158	222	180	168	165	240	
35	1499	101	Humphrys, Tom	22d	200	267	162	202	164	140	176	188	
36	1492	108	Powell, Dennis	12e	221	167	157	172	200	177	186	212	
37	1472	128	Dietz, Frank	07a	135	164	175	205	244	222	148	179	
38	1467	133	Anderson, Tom	11b	173	162	210	177	206	157	183	199	
39	1458	142	Cochran, Randy	03b	172	205	183	192	159	157	211	179	
40	1441	159	Sturdevant, Bob	04c	176	140	180	166	162	169	247	201	
41	1432	168	Grenon, Larry	13a	201	157	189	179	206	193	161	146	
42	1391	209	Ford, Steve	21a	161	179	199	162	167	210	170	143	
43	1372	228	Burrows, Doug	12d	189	167	208	162	154	181	136	175	
44	875	725	Ballou, Dale	12c	153	210	157	177	178	0	0	0	



2012 TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP 2013

WILSONVILLE LANES

Wilsonville, OR

FINAL RESULTS

	NAME	HOMETOWN	QUALIFYING	FINALS	BONUS	RECORD	TOTAL	PRIZE
1	Tim Myers	Milwaukie, OR	1790	2651	330	11-1-0	4771	\$1,000
2	Bob Porter	Vancouver, WA	1810	2640	180	6-6-0	4630	\$800
3	Stan Lorimor	St Helens, OR	1793	2603	210	7-5-0	4606	\$700
4	Mike Karch	Edgewood, WA	1772	2585	195	6-5-1	4552	\$600
5	Mike Nogle	Tigard, OR	1796	2548	180	6-6-0	4524	\$550
6	Bill Starnes	Corvallis, OR	1704	2571	240	8-4-0	4515	\$500
7	Jim Winklepleck	Portland, OR	1864	2486	135	4-7-1	4485	\$475
8	Danny Combs	Bonney Lake, WA	1723	2544	210	7-5-0	4477	\$450
9	Dean Hebner	Vancouver, WA	1742	2394	150	5-7-0	4286	\$425
10	Jon Gustafson	Astoria, OR	1680	2376	150	5-7-0	4206	\$400
11	Terry Johnson	Sherwood, OR	1704	2339	90	3-9-0	4133	\$375
12	Dwayne Webb	Olympia, WA	1702	2323	90	3-9-0	4115	\$350

Other Cashers

13	Jeff Knapp	Bellevue, WA	1678					\$300
14	Trent Zabelle	Portland, OR	1671					\$290
15	Johnny More	Clackamas, OR	1665					\$280
16	Ronnie Noel	Graham, WA	1653					\$270
17	Walt Lundgren	Albany, OR	1643					\$260
18	Bill McNelly	Philomath, OR	1641					\$250
19	Tim Pierce	Portland, OR	1638					\$240
T20	Mike Polinsky	Oregon City, OR	1632					\$230
T20	Ernie Schlegel	Vancouver, WA	1632					\$220
22	Mitch Vernon	Olympia, WA	1629					\$210



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