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Spare Change

By Johnny Campos

Doubles partners both come up with perfect games on final day of Whiskeytown Tournament

Misty Tunyuck and Andre Campos turned out to be perfect doubles partners on the final day of the inaugural Whiskeytown Tournament at Landmark Lanes.

Both of them rolled 300 games on Sunday on the same pair of lanes – but in different events.

Tunyuck bowled her first career trey in the middle of a 717 series – her highest set ever – in the double’s competition.

Two games later, in singles, Campos rolled his 12th career trey to open a 709 set.

Tunyuck had bowled in the team event earlier in the day and did not do well. She opened doubles with a 202 before starting stringing strikes.

Her big break came on her 10th ball, which she pulled left. The result was a crossover “Brooklyn” strike to keep the string going.

“I think that loosened me up,” Tunyuck said. “After that, the 11th ball was perfect. On the 12th ball, my knee was shaking, and I was all off balance. All I did was take a deep breath and pray. I said, ‘It’s now or never, Misty! This is it.’ ”

She threw her Roto Grip Rubicon UC2 pearl ball down the lane and carried a light mixer for a strike.

After the final ball, Tunyuck spun around on the approach, fell to her knees, covered her face with her hands, and was overcome with emotion after finally reaching one of her bowling goals.

“I’ve been bowling since I was 8 – a long time,” said Tunyuck, now 41.

She added a 215 last game for her 717 career-best series. Campos added a 665 set, and they totaled 1,454 with handicap, good enough for fifth place in the handicap division.

Campos started singles with his 12th career trey on lanes 27-28 – a pair that he was very familiar with.

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"I might have bowled one on this pair before," he said. "I usually do pretty well in the area between 27-28 and 31-32.

"It's been a couple of years since my last one. I've had a lot of chances, but just didn't finish."

He was using a Hammer Black Widow 2.0 ball, which he used to roll an 811 series two years ago in a double's tournament at Landmark.

It was the second time Campos and Tunyuck bowled doubles together in the tournament.

"We bowled again because our first series wasn't where the two of us knew we could be together," Tunyuck said. "So, we wanted to give it one more shot.

"When Andre started striking in singles, I knew his 300 was coming. Next time we'll have to bowl it together in doubles!"

Campos said he wasn't surprised to see Tunyuck bowl her first trey.

"It was great to see her do it," he said. "I knew she could, but it probably put more pressure on me!"

Tunyuck said she has been working on improving her game more in the past few years to become a better bowler.



Andre Campos and Misty Tunyuck

"In the last two to three years, I've been bowling my best and I've been my most consistent," she said. "I've stepped it up and I've bowled more. I got better bowling equipment, stayed on top of things and I surround myself with amazing people, which I think has a lot to do with it.

"You surround yourself with better bowlers and you're going to get better."

One of those people is Hailey Jepson, who rolled an 817 series on Sunday morning in the doubles event with Jade Frost. She had games of 237, 290 and 290.

"After I shot 300, I wanted to text Hailey, but I knew she was at work," Tunyuck said. "But she left work and showed up here to see me in person and give me a hug!"

After the videos of the two 300 games were posted on social media, the response was overwhelming, from hundreds of well-wishers, with notes of congratulations –

especially for Tunyuck.

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“Bowling your first 300 doesn’t happen every day,” she said. “I’m a very supportive person and am all about friendship, family, and love. All I’ve ever done is show my friendship and love to this bowling community.

“And now they’re all showing it back.”