

Tuesday March 7, 2023

Spare Change

By Johnny Campos

Father/daughter team of Gary and Morgan Robinson wins AYBT adult/youth event again

This year's Adult/Youth Tournament on the Amateur Youth Bowlers Tour turned out to be a repeat victory for the father/daughter team of Gary and Morgan Robinson.

The winning duo needed to win a scoresheet tiebreaker just to qualify for the match play portion of the event, which was held at Strike N Spare II in Lockport.

The Robinsons easily won the tiebreaker, which was highest game between the two teams involved during qualifying. In Game 2, Morgan Robinson rolled a 228 and her father a 244. With their handicap they totaled 524. Nate and Kevin Goodyear had a high game of 461 and failed to advance.

Gary Robinson bowled with Morgan in the event instead of with either of his twin sons, Matt, and Michael, for a very good reason.

"I bowled with Morgan because she and I won the last AYBT Youth/Adult doubles on September 11, 2021," Gary said. "My boys had something else going on and could not bowl that one."

Gary Robinson specifically remembered the date of the win two years ago because Morgan wore a 9/11 commemorative jersey on the way to winning the title that day.

Matt ended up bowling with Bob Baker this year, While Michael teamed up with Tony DeVita.

Matt Robinson and Baker qualified just ahead of Gary and Morgan in fifth place – by one pin – but finished fourth. They lost to the eventual team that finished second. But there were a few changes to this year's format.

"They changed the finals format because qualifying was so long," Gary explained. "It was supposed to be best-of-five Baker games each match. They changed it to singles Bakers, and best two-of-three for the championship. I think Matt and Bob would have recovered in their first match if it had stayed best-of-five."

Gary and Morgan survived the first match, which was on a different part of the house than they had bowled in qualifying.

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“Our first match was our lowest score,” Gary said. “It was in the 160s. But the other team struggled even more than we did, and we were spotting them 26 pins.”

After that, the Robinsons ran the table, going 4-0 in their matches. They cruised to the win, bowling the title match on the pair where they had bowled a good game at the end of qualifying. Morgan, a freshman at Morton High School, earned \$400 in scholarship money, a champions jersey from Bolwif and a new Hammer Black Widow 2.0 Hybrid bowling ball.

Her father also won a new ball – and bragging rights with his daughter in the AYBT Adult/Youth Tournament again.

City Mixed Doubles

In the Peoria River City USBC Mixed Doubles Tournament at Landmark Lanes, the big winners were Terri Baker and Randy Rhodes in the handicap division and Chad Barnes and Hailey Jepson in the scratch portion of the event.

Baker had scratch games of 201, 256 and 190 for a 647 set, while Rhodes added 162, 207 and 253 for a 622. Their 285 pins of handicap gave them a winning total of 1,554.

They finished 71 pins ahead of Maggie Audi and Dan Rogers, who were second with 1,483. Kelsey Kowalski and Bruno Rentauskas were third with 1,475, Wendy Haste and Josh Barnwell fourth at 1,464 and Ann and Ray Ogden fifth with 1,462.

Jepson led the winning scratch duo with a scratch series of 720 on games of 222, 233 and 265. Barnes was just two pins behind with a 738 on games of 214, 279 and 225 for a winning total of 1,438.

Josh Barnwell and Libby Uthoff posted a 1,394 total for second place, 11 pins better than the third-place duo of Kayla Johnson and Brian Davis (1,383).

Jennifer Mauerman and Tony Schnack were fourth with 1,377, while Jade Frost and Andre Campos tied for fifth with Kayla Johnson and Mike McBride at 1,366.



Morgan and Gary Robinson