

Arlington Dental Bowling Team

Week 17 Newsletter

I never did like heem.....

The Headline

The headline comes from *Scarface*. Did anyone know that's Art's favorite movie? Anyway, I thought it was appropriate to go with that line for two reasons. First, we gave Art his Christmas gift, the Scarface Doll that gives one-liners from the movie. And because the team we bowled had a guy that for those of us who know who he is, we never really liked.

As far as Art goes, he was very touched. He must have hugged me five times thanking me for it. I told him the reason he was the only one on the team that got a Christmas gift was because he was the most well behaved bowler, so Santa thought he should have a special gift! Needless to say he really loved it! He actually started repeating lines before we could even get the thing out of the box! Too funny! He said, "You guys make this old guy feel young!" Well, I'm glad Pops! We love ya!

As far as the guy on the other team we don't like, it's the loser who used to have the HOT girlfriend. Obviously they are not together anymore, good for her. Although having her around would have made putting up with him much easier. I'm not sure if anyone heard, but at some point during the last game he said to me, "Come on, can you guys bowl a little faster?"

Obviously, he heard the story about our bowling slow problems and felt like being funny. He actually said it directly at me. I just completely ignored him. Then I just glared at him and he tried to make light of it saying, "I was just kidding". I said, "I don't pay attention to that shit anymore. It's old and I really don't give a shit!" Asshole! That's why....."I never really like him!

Moving on to our night of bowling, I am hoping we are slowly but surely digging our way out of the rut we have been in. After losses of 7-0 and 5-2 the past two weeks, we managed to take four points. At least we came out on the right side of the score this time. Although, if we don't take seven a few times before this part of the season is over, we could kiss it good-bye.

I checked the standings and we actually lost ground to the first place team. We are now 11 points out of first. Here are the standings:

Trojans	30
SAFX	28
Pin Chasers	26
Done in the Third	26
Unique Carpet	22
L&O	22
Maxim Mrtg.	22
Lucky Strikes	22
Arlington Dental	19
WTFC	19
Jokers Wild	19
Legion	14
Glueckert Team 11	13
Mixed Nuts	12

As you can see, with only three more weeks until position week on the 25th, we have a very long road ahead of us and a lot of work to do! Next week we bowl Jokers Wild on lanes 5 & 6. This is a good opportunity to make up some ground, and put some distance between us and a team we are tied with.

So, "Shut Up and Bowl!"

The Business of Bowling

Chris was the model of consistency. Once again, he did his job. Game one was a little under average, three pins to be exact, at 160. Game two he rolled 3 pins over average with a 166. And in game three he jumped to 19 pins over average with a 182. For sure he is killing his theory of the last game being his worst! What this means to me is, you are no longer getting tired in the third game and you are making good adjustments. Keep it up! Oh yeah, and you need to work on your Art imitation with waving the thumb over your shoulder. And I guess you can't say, "Whaddya think...you're playin' with kids?" when you are the kid! More on that in the *Fun Stuff* section.

Our team owner Mark had a rough go of it in the first two games. I really don't think it was his intention to bowl two consecutive 149's. But it's pretty funny that he matched a score like that. He did manage to bounce back in game three with a 176. I think it was Art's disgusted look on his face for the first two hours of the night that convinced him he needed to turn it up a notch. More on that later as well.

Our patriarch started off the night with a nice 9 pin over average 184. I think we distracted him in game two because that's when we gave him his Scarface gift. Needless to say, his mind was not on bowling. It doesn't matter what he bowled. His reaction to the gift was worth much more!! He did manage to come back in game three with a solid 173.

I'm not quite sure how to describe my night, other than very strange and very frustrating. I warmed up real well and found a line immediately. But, once game one started I couldn't get my feet under me and I could not get the ball to release properly. By the time I figured it out, it was way too late, with an abysmal 33 pin under average 161. Game two was quite memorable in the fact that I started the game on the ground! For those not with us, I threw my first ball and wound up over the foul line on the ground! The real frustrating thing is, I got a strike... but of course it didn't count. I picked up the spare and then got a strike in the second frame, which means that lovely move cost me a 200 game. At first I had NO idea what happened. I have a sliding cover on my shoe to avoid those things. Ahhhhhh....but where was it? After finally looking down at my feet, that was after wiping off the oil on my hands (so yes there is actually oil on the lane) I realized I did not have the sliding cover on! I took it off to go buy beers and never put it back on. I guess the excitement of giving Art his gift distracted me too. I was asked how embarrassed I was. And I still say I wasn't embarrassed at all. I was more pissed at myself for forgetting to put the cover back on my shoe. As Chris pointed out, I could have very easily wound up like the guy who broke his leg. So, I am very thankful for that. Anyway, I finished that game at average with a 194. In game three I almost pulled my own specialty with a 198. I actually had a shot at a 199 if I would have picked up two of the pins on the split I threw. But I purposely threw it left. I just can't stand 199's anymore.

Lee started off a bit slow too with 183 his first game. But he came storming back the next two games with a 36 pin over average 245 and a 15 pin over average 224. Has he started to make his move on the average leaders yet? I guess we'll soon find out!

In game one we bowled an awful 837 scratch! With our 136 pin handicap, that came to a lovely 973! OUCH! Our opponents shot a 985 scratch. With their 139 pin handicap they shot an 1124. That came to a 139 pin ass whoopin. Man, when we lose we really lose don't we!? Yikes! We need to get out of that habit. When you take two games you should get total pins too. But when you lose by that much it's kind of difficult to make up that much ground.

In game two we picked it up a bit with an 898 scratch, totaling a 1034 with handicap. The other guys rolled an 889 scratch and 1028 total. That gave us a 6 pin win. If it wasn't for their anchor man getting split in the tenth, we would have lost that one too.

In game three we finally turned it up a few notches rolling a 983 scratch, giving us a 1089 total. Those guys rolled a 909 scratch and 1048 total, giving us a 41 pin win. We were actually up by over 100 pins going into the last two frames, and had a serious shot at catching them in total pins. But, we made a few mistakes and they rolled their asses off in the tenth, holding us off

All totaled, we bowled 50 pins under our average, but managed to take four points. Our opponents rolled 50 pins over their average and took only three. What does that mean? It's all about timing as each game is different. They shot their load in the first game and that was that. If they would have spread it out, they could have taken five or even seven. The message here is consistency, that's in individual games and as a team. That's what wins in a league like that.

The FUN Stuff

The Punch Line

It's very rare that I can completely remember and repeat one of Art's jokes. Plus, I would be stealing his thunder if I did that here. Well, sometimes it's necessary. But here are a few punch lines from Art.

Art: It's just another fucking wall!

Art: Tree and out

Kingpin

There is a guy in the league; I forget which team he's on. I actually think it's Andy Tomita's team, who has an unreal comb over trying to hide his baldness.

Lee: Look at that guy.

Pete: Which guy?

Lee: The one with the hair and the wicked comb-over!

Pete: Holy Shit! That's King Pin himself!!

Don't play with it

We were trying desperately to get Art's Scarface doll to work.

Mark: Don't play with it here in front of everyone

Lee: That's not what Bill would say.

Pete: He'd probably say, I'll play with it in front of everyone if I want to!

Your son

As you know, Mark struggled a bit in the first two games. After he finally got it together and got a nice strike, Art gave him a look.

Mark: Oh, so I'm your son again?

Art: Now you're my son.

Mark: He looked at me like I had walked for the very first time.

Imitation

Chris was trying very hard to imitate Art with the thumb wave over his shoulder.

Art: What's that line? Flattery and imitation or something?

Pete: Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.

Art: Yeah, that's it.

Chris: You taught me well.
Art: Whatever I taught you forget it!

"Bill's Line of the week"

Chris's new girlfriend came to visit. I am so bad with names sometimes, so I am going to apologize right off the bat if I get this wrong. I think her name is Andrea. Anyway, Art got into several lengthy and in depth conversations with her. It was quite impressive.

Pete: Look at him man!

Mark: My Dad Got Game!

And that's Bill's Line of the week!

More game

This was at least a half hour after Mark's line. Art was still chatting it up with Andrea.

Pete: Is Chris jealous because Art is hitting on his girlfriend?

Mark: It's really Game On!

Pete: Oh yeah. This could be interesting?

Mark: He'll get really pissed if he doesn't close the deal on this one!

Pete: I really think Chris is jealous. He's steaming over there.

Mark: I know. That's what I said

Lineups:

January 4th: Mark, Lee, Pete, Chris, Bill

January 11th: Lee, Pete, Art, Chris, Bill

January 18th: Lee, Pete, Art, Chris, Bill

January 25th: TBD