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HALL OF FAMER CLINCHES ANOTHER TITLE

Amy Sykes, world record holding duckpin bowler wins her 13th Ladies Pro Tour

Hamden, Connecticut - Who says that thirteen is an unlucky number? Certainly not **Amy Sykes of Pittsfield, MA**. The duckpin bowler just captured another victory in the Women's National Duckpin Association (WNDA) Pro Tour, making it her thirteenth career win and a new WNDA record.

The second event of the 2010 WNDA Pro Tour season took place on June 19-20 at Johnson's Lanes, located in Hamden, CT. The tournament consisted of a qualifying round on Saturday, divisional playoffs on Sunday, and concluded with a head-to-head elimination round. Many of the top women bowlers from across the US and Canada participated in this event. At the conclusion of Saturday's qualifying round, twenty four participants advanced to the divisional playoffs; twenty based on their total score and four based on exceeding their average.

At this particular event, bowlers needed a minimum score of 1061 for their eight game qualifying round, or more than 51 pins over average, in order to advance to Sunday's divisional playoffs. **Janet Sauter of Baltimore, MD** was the top qualifier with a score of 1192. Sykes rolled a score of 1152 for her initial eight games, allowing her to advance to Sunday's matches.

In the divisional play-offs, Sykes and Sauter squared off, but Sykes prevailed. She proceeded to clinch her division in her fifth and final match, allowing her to advance to the elimination round. The participants in this round are seeded on a ladder based on their record from the match-play round; however if two or more bowlers have the same record, the bowlers will be ranked based on their total score from the round. Sykes was seeded second, so she would have to wait to see who she would face.

In the first game of the ladder finals, **Jill Sachs of Baltimore, MD** faced **Melissa Llewellyn of Ontario, Canada**. The game was close and came down to the last ball of the last frame, in which Llewellyn needed eighteen in her last frame to reach tie; nineteen would be a win. After making a spare, she came up short by only adding seven on her final ball.

This allowed Sachs to advance to the next ladder match, which pitted her against a close friend, **Tara Cohen, of Owings Mills, MD**. Sachs repeated her success by defeating Cohen 147- 113. It was now time for Amy Sykes to step up onto the lanes against Sachs. It was well worth the wait for Sykes, who showed the crowd why she had been ranked the number one bowler in the country for several years. By putting up one of the highest games of the weekend, she was able to handle Sachs, 183-122.

Sykes now faced the top-seeded **Krystal Ritchie, of Wallingford, CT**. Ritchie had been bowling well all day, averaging over 145 per game for her divisional matches. In yet another close game, it all came down to the last ball of the tenth frame once again. Amy had completed her game, with a score of 152, leaving Ritchie with an opportunity to win the game with a mark. After her first ball, Ritchie left a difficult shot and was unable to convert the spare, but still finished with an impressive 150 game. The conclusion of this tournament gave Sykes her thirteenth tour victory (the most in WNDA history) and a cash prize of \$1000.

The third stop on the WNDA Pro Tour will take place at Glen Burnie Bowl, in Glen Burnie, MD on July 10-11. Sykes will be making the trip from Massachusetts to see if she can capture another win. There is expected to be a large field of competitors at the event, all intent on winning it themselves.

About the WNDA

Founded in 1982, the Women's National Duckpin Association (WNDA) has been promoting the thrill and challenge of duckpin bowling competition for women. To date, we have held more than 150 events with over \$1 Million in prizes and awards.