

## **Patrick Mitchell**

### **Youth Star of Tomorrow**



Patrick is a recent graduate of Williamsport High School and is the son of James and Robin Mitchell and brother to Megan Mitchell of Williamsport Maryland. Patrick started his bowling duckpins when he was only 8 years old, and then eventually was encouraged to bowl ten pin at Southside Bowl in Hagerstown in 2004. He also joined the youth league at Dual Lanes in Hagerstown. Through the years his coaches, Phil Fox at Southside and Cliff Anderson at Dual Lanes have guided him to learn the game and how to adjust to situations and lane conditions. Along with his bowling, Patrick played baseball through little league and football from the 3rd grade up through high school. Though all other sports, bowling has been the one mainstay and thing that he is a true student of the game.

Patrick was always eager to bowl every tournament he could get into. Whether it be an adult/youth tournament at his local houses, the state championships or anything he could get entered in. He has also qualified during Pepsi Challenge most every year, bowls the 600 club and also in 2010 was the Hagerstown area Top 10 qualifier and then went on to capture the State top 10 Championship in Salisbury, Maryland. He is a member of Junior Gold and did qualify for the championships.

Through all his success, one thing Patrick has never done is forget where he started and is continually helping the younger bowlers in league play. He also is the junior assistant for the youth league at Southside where he prepares the day's league sheets and any other duty the coach needs him to do. His enthusiasm and quiet leadership has geared other youth bowlers to try to be there best and follow in his footsteps.

Patrick is still learning more and more about reading the conditions from his coaches as well as participating in a sport shot league during the summer. He has also bowled in a few PBA Pro-Am events and gained valuable information from the professionals that day. He spent almost an hour with Johnny Patraglia which was worth the price of getting him there.

Through his bowling career, he has taken his average from the 160's when he started to the 200's on a regular basis. On synthetic surface he has maintained a 215-217 average the last 3 years. On a natural wood surface with varying condition changes, he has managed to maintain between 204-208 for the last 3 years. Bowling on these much different lanes has made him a well-rounded bowler.

Since he has graduated high school, he is going to attend Hagerstown Junior College to get his pre-requisites out of the way, and is looking to attend a division 1 school with a bowling program. He has already visited at Wichita State and is highly considering trying to get on their team. His prospective is to get a degree in business or the medical field and has dreams of one day joining the professional ranks to compete at the ultimate level.

