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STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE, Thursday, April 9, 1981

'Lighter' Lightfoot leads L.I. Open

By JOE LOVERDE
Advance Staff Writer

GARDEN CITY, L.I. — After nearly four years as a regular on the Professional Bowlers Association's national tour, Randy Lightfoot went home halfway through 1980 weighing a chunky 180 pounds and feeling "burned out."

"I'd been on the tour since I was 18," he said, "and I wasn't bowling that well, so I had to get away."

He started jogging, eventually upping his mileage to three miles a day, and did a lot of bowling, too. And when Lightfoot joined the tour at the start of this year, he was fresh, 20 pounds lighter, and ready to revert to the form that made him the 11th-leading money winner in 1980.

But it hasn't worked out that way. "Until yesterday, 1981 hadn't been too good for the 25-year-old. He led one round in the Show-bowl (Las Vegas Invitational), the second tournament of the year, only to finish 39th. And he's only cashed twice since."

But Lightfoot, after averaging 247 for six games last night, started today's third round as the leader in the \$100,000 Long Island Open here at Garden City Bowl.

Lightfoot jumped from 25th after the first round to the lead behind games of 286, 277, 246, 228, 229 and 224. He's 21 pins ahead of Washington, N.J.'s Gil Sliker, who's second with 2,787.

and 36 in front of defending champ Earl Anthony of Dublin, Calif., who's third with 2,772. And he was looking past his final six games of qualifying this morning and thinking about tonight, when the field will be cut to 24 for three rounds of match play leading up to Saturday's nationally televised finals.

The tournament doesn't start until after the cut, he said.

Staten Island's Johnny Petraglia, who's had his problems this year, too, has a good chance to be bowling tonight. The left-hander from Eltingville was 22nd after last night, jumping 16 places from his spot after the first round.

Petraglia had a 279 in his sixth game which moved him into contention, then shot 214, 188, 219, 189, 236 and 226 in the night round.

Former Islander Mark Roth, tied for 18th after six, dropped to 40th with 2,547.

Both bowled in the early stage and neither saw Lightfoot's performance last night. But those who did got quite a show.

"I got into some bad habits," Lightfoot said, "and I was fighting myself last night. When I got into some bad habits," Lightfoot said, "and I was fighting myself last night. When I got into some bad habits," Lightfoot said, "and I was fighting myself last night."

"I think I found something there," he said. Lightfoot found the shot here to his liking, as well. "I like 'em (the lanes) looking," he said.

"I looked around and everyone else was playing inside, around the fourth arrow. I played even deeper, around the fifth arrow."

The 5-10 right-hander won his first tournament at age 20 in 1979, when he collected \$43,040. He hasn't been quite the same since, having collected \$9,890 when he went home last year and started working out.

"I don't have much time for jogging out here," he said, "but I'm anxious to get home so I can start again. I think your legs are the most important part of this game and I think I bowl a lot better at this weight."

He'd like to prove that this week.

The top 24:
1. Randy Lightfoot, St. Charles, Mo. 2867
2. Gil Sliker, Washington, N.J. 2772
3. Earl Anthony, Dublin, Calif. 2772
4. Frank Elmering, Mesa, Ariz. 2754
5. Al Tatum, San Francisco 2754
6. Art Trask, Fresno, Calif. 2736
7. John Peterson, Los Angeles 2687
8. Dave Frame, Boston, Pa., Cont. 2687
9. Joe Berardi, Brooklyn, N.Y. 2687
10. Steve Morris, Kingston, Tenn. 2687
11. Steve Morris, Kingston, Tenn. 2687
12. Wayne Webb, Tucson, Ariz. 2672
13. Tom Lusk, Chicago 2672
14. Bill Singer, Chicago 2647
15. Bill Singer, Chicago 2647
16. Steve Morris, Kingston, Tenn. 2647
17. Steve Morris, Kingston, Tenn. 2647
18. Steve Morris, Kingston, Tenn. 2647
19. Steve Morris, Kingston, Tenn. 2647
20. Steve Morris, Kingston, Tenn. 2647
21. Steve Morris, Kingston, Tenn. 2647
22. Steve Morris, Kingston, Tenn. 2647
23. Steve Morris, Kingston, Tenn. 2647
24. Steve Morris, Kingston, Tenn. 2647

Joe Gentile rips 300 at Country

"You've been flirting with that 300 and you're going to get it," Vin Trusculli told his friend Joe Gentile. And Gentile figured he should know. After all, Trusculli bowled a perfect game of his own just five months ago.

So last night, in his opener in the 925 Magestic Towing Men's League at Country Lanes, Gentile made his friend a prophet.

"Sure enough it came," the 50-year-old Gentile said after rolling his first 300 in 20 years of trying. But it didn't come easy.

"My 12th ball hit the pins a little light," Gentile said. "It was in the pocket, but it wasn't solid and the 10 in stood shaking. But finally it went down."

And when the pin went down, Gentile did, too.

He fell to the floor, pounding his hands on the alley and saying "I don't believe it, I don't believe it!"

And while Gentile was pounding the floor, his 22-year-old daughter Jo-Anne, who was bowling a few lanes away in the China Tropic Women's League before all the excitement started, stood by with tears in her eyes.

"She's been waiting for this," Gentile said. "She took a handful of dimes and ran to call all the relatives." Among those she called, no doubt, were the other bowlers in the Gentile family — 15-year-old Joe Jr., who sports a fine 182 average, and Ann, who bowls in the Friday Night Mixed League at Country with her husband.

A Grant City resident and an asphalt foreman for the Staten Island Paving Company, Gentile bowls twice a week. He averages 210 in the 925 Men's League, where he now owns the high game in addition to a tie with Joe Albanese for high series, and boasts a 196 average in the Friday Night Mixed League.

Until last night, Gentile's highest games were his 276 last year and one 290 this year, bowled in the 925 league on the same night he hit a 907 series to tie with Albanese.

Last night, he followed his perfect game with games of 254 and 266 for a 732 series.

In the opener, there were no questionable shots except for a high hit in the seventh frame and the 12th ball.

"I'm very relaxed when I bowl," Gentile said. "I felt confident by the ninth frame and I just got a little shake when I was about to throw the last ball. But I stayed with it."

By then, a crowd had gathered to see the first perfect Island game of 1981.

While Gentile was displaying his temper magic, K.C. Volpi also turned in an impressive performance in the Majestic Towing League.

Volpi rose to the occasion and ripped a 718 pinfall backed by scores of 225, 269 and 224.

Bob Malangone scored a fine 260-226-700.

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Beth Butler Renee DeRillo Helen Dillon Peggy Garbarino Doris Schaeffer Carol Stefanski

Garbarino wins a record 5th SIWBA title

By JOE LOVERDE

Peggy Garbarino has won "just about everything there is to win locally in women's bowling, and a few things, nationally, too. But after winning a record fifth Staten Island Women's Bowling Association tournament all-events championship, does Peggy have anything left to do?"

"I can think of a few things," she said. "I'd like to have the high series, high average and high game for women on Staten Island and win all-events."

It was an uninspired Garbarino who ran away with the SIWBA tourney's coveted all-events crown this year, shooting 605 in doubles, 589 in singles and 582 in team play for a 1,796 total, an average of better than 188 for the nine games.

"When Lil Mazzariello told me Sunday that all I needed was 470 to win, I still wasn't confident," Garbarino said. "It's only a 160 average but I didn't feel as sharp as I would've liked."

But her sister, Mary Maguire, badly wanted their Pizzu Tivoli team to win the team title, which it did. And Peggy said Mary helped pump her up.

"That, plus I owed this to Pat Puccio," Garbarino said. "Two years ago, Pat bowled on our team and bowled real well but I bowled bad. She never won anything in this tournament before this."

Besides those three, Claudia Niosi and Fran Pedreira made up the Pizzu Tivoli squad that totaled 1,399. But they won't be the only ones.

Island girls eye state bowling title

May Day can't come soon enough for five Staten Island girls and their coach.

The five members of the Solberg Memorial Junior Bowling League, which bowls at Victory Lanes on Monday afternoons, will be traveling that day to Latham, N.Y., to compete May 1 in the New York State Junior Bowling Association state championships to be held at the Clinton Park Lanes there.

Team captain Lydia Bellach, Ann Carlson, Mary Vargas, Merv Valentin and Karl Challen won the Sectional Eliminations Tournament in White Plains last month with a winning series total of 2,285.

The victory gave the girls the chance to represent New York City in competition with nine other teams from throughout the state in next month's finals.

carting home awards at the SIWBA's annual Honor Champs dinner-dance.

Carol Stefanski had better bring a wheelbarrow with her. The 18-year-old second-year bowler had the top series net (628) and gross (805) and won singles net and gross with those scores. She also won nine-game gross for those in the 130-144 average range with series of 522, 473 and 628 for a 2,144 total.

Stefanski was also a member of the Frank's Pro Shop team, which took team gross honors with a 3,180 total. Along with Stefanski was Fran Ciriello, Evelyn Stefanski

(Carol's mom), Pat Micara (Carol's sister) and Cheryl Schaeffer.

Helen Dillon and Doris Schaeffer teamed to win their fourth double net title with a 1,140 total, while Beth Ann Butler and Renee DeRillo took doubles gross with 1,094.

Kathy Hunt had a 243 game that won her high game gross (290) and most pins over entering average (89).

Peggy Segarra won high game net with her 244.

In the other nine-game gross categories, Del Rio took 160-and-over with 507, 327, 396 for a 1,918 total.

Terri Forster, Peggy Garbarino's other sister, took the 145-159 division with 518, 452, 525 for a 1,495.

Garbarino won her first all-events title back in 1964 and hasn't lost anything from her game since. She averaged 195 last year, her highest ever and is averaging 191 and 190 in two leagues this season.

But she complained of not being motivated to do well in the SIWBA tourney this year. "I felt raggy," she said.

You can't tell by her scores.

She recalled the moment came in warm-up. "I didn't pay much attention to it, I played singles and lost in three sets, and then went out and played doubles. The next day I couldn't raise my arm."

Her shoulder went out during a tournament just before the 1979 Wimbledon.

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