Boston Evening Globe — Greater Boston Home

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BOSTON DAILY GLOBE—THURS., OCT. 29, 1959
VOL. CLXXVI No. 121 — 48 PAGES—FIVE CENTS

FAIR
Warmer Tonight
Cloudy Friday
(Full report on Page 24.)

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Ten Pin Bowling Debuts in Boston

AMF Pinspotter Fully Automatic Unit

Bowling . . . Facts and Fancies

"STRIKE!"

That word is music to the ears of some 20 million Americans who take their exercise—and, maintain some psychologists, vent their aggressions—by knocking down 10 maple pins with a 16-pound ball.

No doubt about it—bowling is America's most popular participant sport. And with good reason. The necessary equipment is inexpensive, the game can be played in any kind of weather and it's a sport in which everyone — youngsters and oldsters alike—can take part.

Men have long recognized the virtues of bowling, for—archery excepted—bowling is our oldest known outdoor game. Some years ago, Sir Flinders Petrie, emeritus professor of Egyptology at the University of London, discovered implements for playing a game decidedly similar to our modern tenpins—in an Egyptian child's tomb established as dating from 5200 B. C.!

BOWLING BORN IN THIRD CENTURY

It was the custom of European canons to have parishioners, in turn, place pins at one end of the cloister. This represented the "Heide," meaning heathen. The parishioner then was given a ball and asked to throw it at the "Heide." If a hit was scored, it indicated the thrower was leading a clean and pure life and was capable of [illegible] the heathen. If he missed, it meant that a more faithful attendance at services would help his aim.

At the end of the "test," a dinner was given and successful "Keglers" were toasted. Those who had failed were encouraged to try later.

PLAYED ONLY BY UPPERCLASS

As time went on, larger balls were substituted for the small ones originally used. The game was extended beyond churches and monasteries, but was played only by the upper class of laymen. Uniformly shaped pins and definite rules eliminated the haphazard element, although the number of pins varied widely. In 13—, only 3 pins were used in parts of Germany; in other sections, the number was as high as 17, which was the rule in Silesia for many generations.

By the Middle Ages, bowling was firmly established as a popular game and the more exuberant spirits expressed their delight with life by taking a festive whack at the pins. Bowling matches were often part of a wedding celebration (baptisms, too) and it was a lucky bride indeed who could dissuade her man from temporarily deserting her for a game of "bowls" after the ceremony.

BOWLING OUTLAWED

So popular did the game become that King Edward III, fearful lest bowling displace archery in the hearts of Englishmen—thus weakening the British military spirit—issued a proclamation in 1366 against this "dishonorable, useless and unprofitable" game. A little later, acting on a royal "suggestion" Parliament outlawed bowling.

The Renaissance witnessed a change in attitude. Aiding the game's popularity then was Martin Luther, the German theologian and Reformation leader. Believing it was a beneficial, moral game, Luther became an enthusiastic bowler and even built an alley for his own youngsters. Experience convinced him that ninepins made an ideal game and this finally was settled upon as the standard for the game in Germany.

HELPED SMASH SPANISH EMPIRE

Perhaps the most dramatic role ever played by any sport was played by bowling, for an historic game of "bowls" helped smash the Spanish Empire.

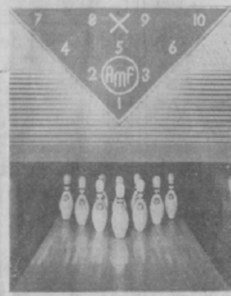
It happened this way.

Sir Francis Drake, a Captain of the English fleet, was an ardent bowler. Even when informed that the supposedly invincible Spanish Armada was approaching the English Channel, he refused to stop a match game in which he was engaged . . . or to become unduly alarmed.

"There is time enough" he is supposed to have said, "both to win the game and beat the Spaniards."

Drake's supposed recklessness while the Spanish fleet sailed past him up the English Channel is a famous historical episode. In reality, it was part of Drake's overall strategy to hold off so that the Spanish would become jammed in the narrowest part of the Channel. The ignominious naval defeat to which Spain was subjected by the English in 1588 is considered by many historians to mark the beginning of the end of the Spanish Empire.

CAROL CHRISTENSEN POSES PRETTILY with American Machine & Foundry Company's Automatic Pinspotter. The machine has revolutionized the bowling industry.



(1) BOWLER'S EYE VIEW of the pit end of lanes equipped with AMF Automatic Pinspotters. Only part of the equipment ever seen by the bowler are the sweeper bar in its task of clearing deadwood from the lane, and the spotting table. Shielding the machine from the bowler's view is the Pinvisor screen inset with AMF's exclusive "Magic Triangle" Pindicator Signaling Unit.

To Be Used at Ten Pin Bowling Center On Morrissey Blvd.

The AMF Automatic Pinspotter being inaugurated in the Hub at The First Boston Ten Pin Bowling Center on Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester, is a fully automatic unit for setting tenpins, returning the ball and accomplishing with greater efficiency all pit services previously done by hand.

It is approved by the American Bowling Congress.

The AMF Automatic Pinspotter is five feet two inches in height. It can be installed on regulation lanes with no alterations required.

Employing electro-mechanical principles throughout (mechanical system controlled by electrical circuits), the Pinspotter is set into motion when a ball hits the pit cushion on which a switch is installed.

Should a strike occur, the sweeper bar drops at once to the alley bed. The table descends, finds no pins, reascends briefly while the sweep clears the lane of deadwood, whereupon the table spots a new set of pins. The deadwood has been cleared by the sweep into the pit onto the machine's "Magic Carpet"—an endless belt in the pit carrying the pins beneath the pit cushion into a wheel-like conveyor known as the "Pinwheel."

"MAGIC CARPET" OPERATION

The Pinwheel conveyor lifts the pins to the top of the machine [illegible] been removed to the corner of the pit by the "Magic Carpet" and carried up to the ball return track by an automatic continuous belt-type lift where it speeds back to the bowler by gravity alone.

At the top of the Pinwheel conveyor, the pins are released and oriented, base first, upon an endless-belt telescoping distributor which indexes the pins into the cups of the spotting table as they are required, whether the table is in normal or respotting position.

When the first ball fails to knock down all the pins, the sweeper bar first descends to the alley bed and waits for the table to lower and lift the standing pins clear of the lane. Then the sweep clears deadwood into the pit and the table replaces standing pins to the exact locations from which they were taken, ready for the second ball. Pins offspotted by the first ball are replaced precisely in their offspot positions, comprising one of the AMF Automatic Pinspotter's most amazing features, and complying with one of the American Bowling Congress' most exacting rules.

NO PUSH BUTTONS NEEDED

No push buttons are required in the operation of the Pinspotter with one exception—when a spare is made in the tenth frame. To obtain a new setup for a new game, a button is pushed at the foul line whereupon the lane is cleared and ten pins are spotted on the alley bed.

All [illegible] AMF Automatic Pinspotter activity goes on at a game speed varying from seven and a half to nine games per hour depending, of course, on the speed of the bowler.

The AMF Automatic Pinspotter was selected by the American Bowling Congress for use in its 64th annual tournament at Fort Worth in 1957. Installation of the AMF machines at the tournament marked the first time that automatic equipment was used for the event.

BOWLING'S "BY-PRODUCTS" are built in; sort of a "Bowl-now, feel-better-later" plan.

Bowling . . . Around the World . . .

Somewhere in North Scotland, a highlander, dressed in traditional kilts and "tam" grasps a round "stone" by an attached handle—sends it gliding down the ice. Two teammates, running alongside, help guide it toward a "tee"—a circular marker—ardently, brushing minute obstructions from its path with violent sweeps of their brooms. A point!

In Cleveland, a man takes a 16 pound ball from a rack . . . steps to a "toe" line . . . hurls it spinning down a polished lane. With a loud crash, ten hardwood pins are scattered. A strike!

What have these two men in common?

They're both Bowling!

Whether you play on a varnished lane . . . a well-mowed lawn . . . a smooth ice rink . . . with two, three or no-fingered balls — even "stones" — it's a great sport.

Rapidly becoming the most popular participant sport in the world, bowling boasts an estimated 25 million enthusiasts from Helsinki to Hoboken.

But bowling — in one form or another — has been around for more than five thousand years. Primitive man tossed stones at pointed rocks in fields to sharpen his eye—first, for battle; later, for recreation.

Egyptians first "bowled" a round stone through two "uprights" at ten wooden "pins;" called the game, "skittles." The Dutch perfected "ninepins" and borrowed the Egyptian name for it. The Scots call their variation "curling."

During medieval times, lords and ladies amused themselves with "bowles"—lawn bowling. Earlier, missionaries attempted to convert pagan Germany by "kegeling" the "heide"—clubbing the heathen! Wooden "kegels" (or clubs) representing pagan ways were knocked over.

When Peter Stuyvesant ruled New Amsterdam, settlers cleared a section of Battery Park . . . fashioned a "green for nine pins." Present-day New Yorkers know the spot as "Bowling Green."

In Vermont and Eastern Canada, severe winters helped popularize the Scottish version—"curling." Four-man teams gather to propel a 42 pound "stone" across the frozen surface of a lake . . . closest to a "tee" or marker. In warmer weather, the game moves inside—to ice rinks.

English industrial centers like Lancashire, Yorkshire and North Wales highlight the "Crown Green Game of Bowls"—Lawn bowling. Hundreds of professional players compete, twice a year, in tournaments.

STRIKES and SPARES . . .

George Franklin had a bad day. The boss snapped at him; he lost a big client.

Did he yell at his wife? Or kick the cat?

No.

George ate, changed to casual clothes, and went bowling. Somehow, he felt better. With each resounding crash of ball against pins, his tensions were relieved; aggressions stored up earlier went scooting down the lane with his bowling ball.

Psychologists feel that George did the right thing; that bowling is ideal for releasing stored-up hostilities. And George consciously uses bowling as a sort of therapy—he had bad days before, and found that bowling "helped."

What's more, he wakes up the next morning bright and ready for another day; yesterday's gloom is just a memory. No wear and tear on the wife—or the cat—either.

Well, what about bowling as a "therapy"? Everyone knows that proper athletic activity helps a person physically, but bowling's unique added values are virtually unknown.

Bowling is an outlet—just like criticism, or strong actions for that matter.

In fact, one ardent businessman who scores high every week imagines he sees his competitors fall as the pins tumble. He walks away from the lanes feeling exceptionally spry and invigorated.

But there's no need to go to such extremes. Bowling's "by-products" are built-in; sort of a "bowl-now, feel-better-later" plan.

For another thing, this increasingly-popular sport makes you more "socially-adjusted." A University of Michigan study illustrated that.

There, a group of "motivated" and "non-motivated" bowling class students were observed over a period of time. Those who took to the sport were found to be better adjusted socially. And the better bowlers have a popularity edge, too!

The sport has other blessings, besides. Utica State Hospital officials suggest it as therapy for their patients; find that it not only provides good physical exercise, but that it is valuable mental therapy.

CAROL CHRISTENSEN, THE AMF BOWLING GIRL, is shown picking up her bowling ball from the new AMF "Magic Circle" ball return. The return balls file into the free-turning circular tray from the Underlane Ball Track. This tray may be gently turned by a bowler on a "Lazy Susan" principle until his ball is within reach. The AMF hand dryer is conveniently located in the center of the turn table.

AMF Story One Of Advancement

AMF was founded in 1900 as a manufacturer of automatic machinery for the tobacco industry. It is still the largest maker of tobacco-processing equipment in the world. But it has expanded into a number of other areas, and its facilities today include 39 plants and 16 research and development laboratories in the United States, Canada, Brazil, the United Kingdom and Italy. Its headquarters are in the AMF Building, 261 Madison Avenue, New York.

AMF operates mainly in four spheres of interest: "leisure time" products, specialized industrial machinery, equipment for defense, and atomic energy.

In the first, it is the world's largest manufacturer of bowling equipment including the AMF Automatic Pinspotter, the Underlane Ball Return (whereby the ball returns to the bowler under the floor surface), and a full line of related bowling products; Roadmaster, Shelby bicycles and Junior tricycles, sidewalk bikes, other juvenile wheel goods, Voit athletic balls and skin-diving equipment; the DeWalt Powershop, a radial-arm saw used widely by home craftsmen.

In the second area, it serves the tobacco industry with cigarette-making and packaging machines, the cigar machine and tobacco stemming equipment; the baking industry with high-speed bread slicers and wrappers, large volume mixing equipment, a pretzel-tying machine, automatic roll machines; the apparel industry with stitching machinery.

The company has long devoted much of its research and manufacturing effort to defense projects. It is a major manufacturer of radar antennae, both shipborne and for land installations like the DEW line. It is prominent in the field of guided missile launching systems including the underground launching equipment of the Air Force ICBM Titan.

The largest producer of nuclear research reactors, AMF has either completed or has under construction 16 atomic research reactors in the United States, Canada, and nine countries around the world. It also makes remote-control handling equipment for use in nuclear laboratory "hot" cells, and reactor fuel elements.

The company's product line also includes Beaird LP (liquefied petroleum) equipment, Leland Electric fractional horsepower motors and aircraft generators and inverters, Lowerator dispensers for the food service industry, Potter & Brumfield relays and Thompson-Bremer industrial fasteners.

Here Are Rules of Bowling Etiquette

The rules of etiquette are nothing more than common courtesy and common sense. [illegible]

When two persons are up on adjoining lanes, and the pins are set up on both lanes, the bowler on the right shoots first.

When a bowler is getting set to shoot, don't cross in front of him to get your ball or disturb him in any way.

[illegible]

It's natural to use "body English" while your ball is rolling down the lane—but confine your gyrations to your own lane. Do not cross onto the approach next to you.

Don't bring food or drink to the bowlers' benches. One drop of liquid on a bowler's [illegible]

Keep your temper. A poor loser can spoil the fun for everyone.

Don't give other bowlers advice unless you are asked for it. And don't spend time teaching a newcomer to bowl on a busy night, when people are waiting for an open lane.

[illegible]

Ten Pin Bowling Sport Takes Root in Boston

New 24-Lane Center Opening in Dorchester

Automatic 10 pin bowling makes its official bow in Boston Friday at the First Boston 16 Pin Bowling Center, 818 Morrissey blvd., Dorchester, next to Phillips Candy House.

★ ★ ★

This new bowling center will be one of the most modern in the United States.

Its 24 bowling lanes will be equipped with American Machine & Foundry's new "streamline decor" line of bowling equipment, and will include a snack bar and locker and rest rooms.

A result of two years' study and development by A.M.F. engineers working in cooperation with the world-famous industrial designer, Henry Dreyfuss, this modern equipment was first seen at the 1959 American Bowling Congress Tournament in St. Louis.

* * *

An all new "Magic Triangle" signaling unit and a turn-table "Magic Circle" ball return are featured in the new A.M.F. line. New styling has also been brought to the A.M.F. scoring table unit, score projector, scorer's chair, spectator seats, bowler's settees, bowling locker, the company's "Magic Action" automatic ball cleaner and polisher, and the ball storage rack.

The new A.M.F. "Magic Triangle" pindicator signaling unit is of three dimensional design. The signaling unit is mounted against a lighted background panel, with the light increasing the three dimensional effect. First and second balls are now indicated by small lighted triangles at the upper right and left respectively and the strike signal appears at the top center of the unit.

Allowing the bowler greater freedom of movement on the lanes, the "Magic Circle" ball return is a free-turning circular section mounted to the rear of the return unit. Return balls file into the unit from the Underlane Ball Track where they are offered in turn to each individual bowler on the turn table employing a "Lazy Susan" principle.

The circular tray may be gently swung around by a bowler until his ball is within reach. The A.M.F. hand dryer is located in the center of the turn table.

To complete the integrated unit, A.M.F.'s scoring table is mounted on the end of the ball return, thereby providing the bowler with the maximum in open area and the scorekeeper with a clear view of the pins plus ample leg room.

Since bowlers spend an important part of their time relaxing between frames, comfortable seating is a major requirement.

The new scorer's chair designed as a swivel unit, is made of molded fiberglas and features a seatback which matches and supports the natural curve of the spine. The bowler's settee, also of Fiberglas, gives the bowlers a flexible seating arrangement, a series of individual seat units forming a continuous, arc-shaped bench.

"Streamlane Decor" also includes A.M.F.'s "Magic Action" ball cleaner and polisher with its retractable Plexiglas cover.

The A.M.F. ball storage racks fit neatly behind the seating units with a modern, low silhouette. They provide storage area for 16 balls.

The new A.M.F. bowling lockers' front plastic panel boldly displays the locker number and provides space for the bowler to insert his name for more personal identification as well.

* * *

Basic colors of the new equipment are "streamlane blue" and pearl gray, plus black trim at toe-level points. The new A.M.F. equipment, while setting new trends in style and color, remains functional and practical. It has fast attained the same great popularity as the many other innovations A.M.F. has brought to the bowling industry.

* * *

A.M.F. introduced the Automatic Pinspotter in 1952, a machine that has completely revolutionized bowling. It has been installed on more than 42,000 bowling lanes.

In 1955 A.M.F. brought out the original Underlane Ball Return, a major equipment innovation that won immediate customer acceptance. Use of the unit is now wide-spread throughout the industry.

OWNERS OF FIRST BOSTON TENPIN, INC.—Left to right, Philip Strazzula, Matthew Strazzula and Joseph Sammartino. Says Matthew Strazzula, president, "We are very excited and happy to be the first to bring ten pin bowling to the Boston area. Judging from the tremendous interest already shown in our installation, ten pin bowling has a great future in Boston."

Champions On Hand

Two top bowling experts will be present to welcome Hub bowling enthusiasts to the new First Boston Ten Pin Bowling Center on Morrissey blvd., Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 30-Nov. 1.

Pat McBride, who set an all-time Woman's International Bowling Congress Tournament all-events record, and Frank Clause, recognized as one of the sport's best bowling instructors, will appear in person during the three-day period to greet and assist visitors.

The 25-year-old Pat McBride rolled a fabulous 1927 score in the Congress Tournament, averaging over 214 for the nine games to break the 25-year record. She is a member of the famous Steelcase Majors team from Grand Rapids, Mich., which captured the 1959 B.P.A.A. National Team Championship. She uses the conventional four-step delivery and employs a semi-rolled ball with a small, sharp-breaking controlled hook.

Clause has a lifetime bowling average of 207. He has won the Pennsylvania All-Events title, Chester (Pa.) All-Events title, Anthracite Tournament, Bartels Tournament and Canny Trucking Tournament.

A spot bowler, Clause employs a four-step approach and delivers a semi-spinner ball.

Ten Pins Sport Of 22,000,000

Ten pin bowling today ranks as the country's most popular participant sport with more than 22 million adherents, though the sport is new to most of the New England area.

The opening of First Boston Ten Pin Bowling Center in Dorchester will be followed by Ten Pin Bowling Centers in Natick on Rte. 9, Malden and Lynn.

Its tremendous popularity in other sections of the United States is expected to be duplicated in this area as new centers are opened.

First Boston Tenpin brings to Boston a new and exciting concept in bowling!

Congratulations to Matt Strazzula of First Boston Tenpin for being the first to bring Tenpin bowling to Boston. AMF is certain that Bostonians will love big pin bowling fully as much as millions of Americans all over the country already do.

First Boston Tenpin features exclusive Streamlane Decor by AMF. Here's bowling at its handsome, striking best! Created and developed by AMF engineers in cooperation with renowned designer Henry Dreyfuss. AMF Streamline Decor offers the latest expression of beauty and utility; blended perfectly to provide you with the best in bowling.

First Boston Tenpin is the first "Magic Triangle" bowling center in Boston. First with the famous AMF Automatic Pinspotters with exclusive all-new "Magic Triangle" Signaling Units which help you to bowl a smooth, uninterrupted game . . . make for easier scoring . . . assure you a better game.

Visit First Boston Tenpin . . . you'll find it the place to get together . . . great fun for the whole family. For bowling at its best, bowl where you see the "Magic Triangle"—there's more fun for everyone!

BOWL WHERE YOU SEE THE "MAGIC AMF TRIANGLE"

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NOW, all the members of your family can enjoy nation-wide championship ten pin bowling—

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