

NCAUSBCA Youth 29th Annual 600 Club Tournament of Champions

MARCH 16, 2019 • BOWL AMERICA DRANESVILLE

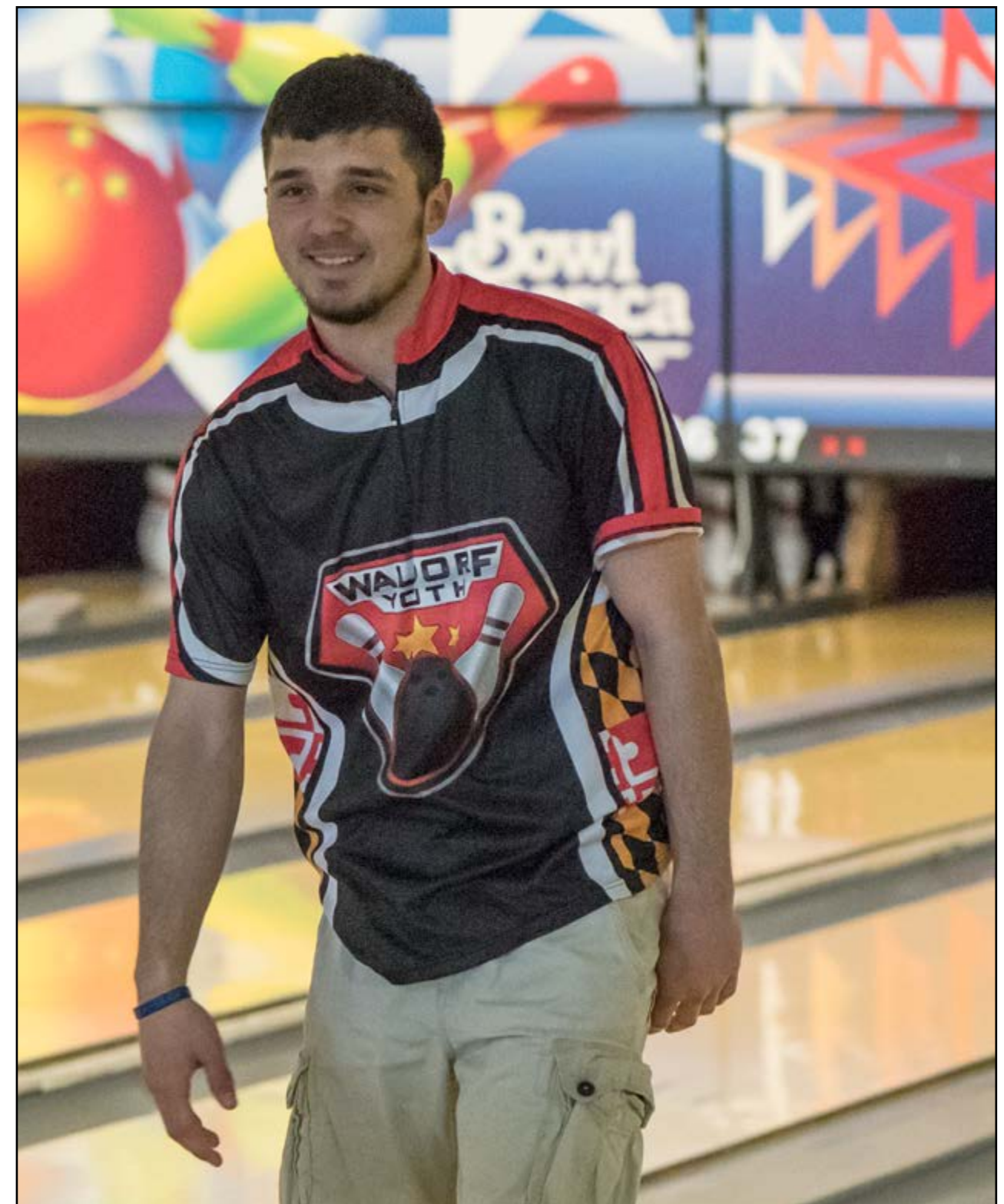


In the opening step-ladder matches, fourth seed Chance McLane (above) lost to third seed Aliya Adams 233-165 in the “Under 180” average division, while in the “180 and Above” division, a late charge by fourth seed Jonathan Coradin (right) fell four pins short, as he lost to third seed Corey O’Neill, 226-222.





After defeating McLane, Aliya Adams (above), who was the leader in the Under 180 division after the six-game qualifier, lost to second seed Jordyn Moore (right), 192-180. He will face top seed Andru Blaney in the championship match.



After his victory over Coradin, Corey O'Neill (above) dropped a 204-172 contest to second seed Ja'Sean "Jay" Billings in the 180 and Above semifinal.



In the "Under 180" final match, Andru Blaney rolled 10 strikes—including the final eight—to defeat Jordyn Moore 267-179 and win his first Tournament of Champions title.



Garrett Meadows, who averaged 243.2 during the six-game qualifier, was the top seed in the "180 and Above" division for the stepladder finals. He will face Jay Billings in the title match.





As Jay Billings stepped onto the approach for his eighth frame in the title match, he desperately needed a second consecutive strike: Garrett Meadows had just taken the lead with strikes in the sixth and seventh frames, and his going “off the sheet” appeared extremely likely.

Billings just *had* to have this strike to have any real chance of winning, or so it seemed. But it wasn’t to be: A solid 8-pin stared back at him.



Billings stared back at the 8-pin for several seconds before turning away (above). Asked afterwards what he was thinking while he remained at the foul line, Billings said, “I remembered I was a member of the association board, a youth director, and a representative of youth bowling, and I knew what was in my head at that moment could not come out of my mouth!”

Right then, however, it looked bad—*really* bad—for Billings. Moments later, it would look even worse, as Meadows strikes in *his* eighth frame. But then came the ninth frame.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
9	/	9	/	9	/	X	9	/	X	X	X
19	38	58	78	98							

MEADOWS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
9	/	9	/	X	X	7	/	9	/	X	9	/
19	39	66	86	105	125	145						

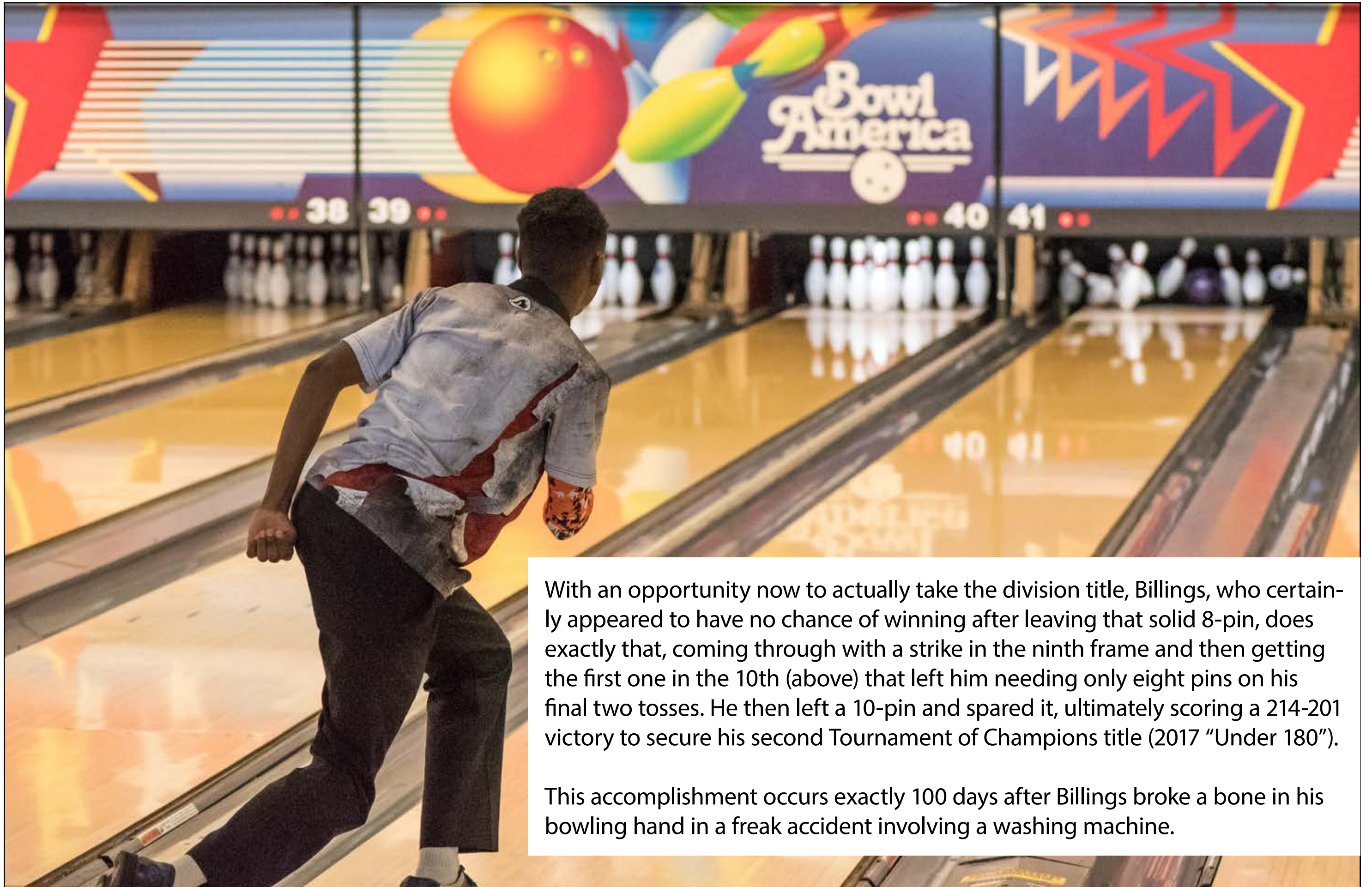
BILLINGS

Entering the ninth frame on a triple (above), and with an opportunity to essentially lock up the match and the title, disaster strikes Meadows, as his toss goes too long and leaves the dreaded 2-8-10 split.

He gets one pin on his second ball and ends the ninth with a score of 181.

Meadows is not dead, but the frame suddenly gives Billings life.





With an opportunity now to actually take the division title, Billings, who certainly appeared to have no chance of winning after leaving that solid 8-pin, does exactly that, coming through with a strike in the ninth frame and then getting the first one in the 10th (above) that left him needing only eight pins on his final two tosses. He then left a 10-pin and spared it, ultimately scoring a 214-201 victory to secure his second Tournament of Champions title (2017 "Under 180").

This accomplishment occurs exactly 100 days after Billings broke a bone in his bowling hand in a freak accident involving a washing machine.

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JAY BILLINGS
"180 and Above"

ANDRU BLANEY
"Under 180"

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