



An artist's conception of Martin Luther bowling, from the archives of the American Bowling Congress.

## Third-Century Monks Got the Ball Rolling

Milwaukee — You may be at anywhere from three to 17 pins, depending on where they were—until along came a bowler with a mind for reform: Martin Luther.

"Martin Luther was an enthusiastic bowler," the ABC history states. "Experiments convinced him that ninepins made an ideal game and this finally was settled upon as the standard for the game in Germany." In fact, the archives of the American Bowling Congress in Milwaukee contain an artist's conception of Luther bowling at nine pins while his wife and several children look on.

A German biographer of Luther wrote: "For other recreation Luther found little time on account of his multiplicity of duties; to the young people in his family and household he gladly allowed recreation and even built a bowling alley for them and occasionally visited them while they were bowling and now and then threw the first ball and enjoyed their laughter when the ball went astray, but reminded those who laughed that in ordinary life many a person thinks he can excel others and will strike down all nine pins and then misses them all."

Beginning with the Middle Ages, bowling became very popular and held an important place at all the village dances, at baptisms and country celebrations," according to the bowling history. However, the sport became too popular. In 14th Century England, King Edward III worried that the game was taking too much attention away from archery, and it's said that Sir Francis Drake refused to interrupt a bowling match he was in just because the Spanish Armada had sailed into English waters.

But soon betting was to become involved and it was not long before the sport was labeled by some as a "sinful gambling game," and in one of the more amusing passages in the "History of Bowling," a weak-willed 1658 Puritan confessed:

"This game of bowles has bewitched me, I fear. For I played it today and for funds. Yes, I was fortunate, for the bet was 10 pounds. Woe unto me! My fellow Puritans will be shocked if they hear of this, but the more reason for my confession. I like the game, my own ability to win, and the fine folks I met on the greens. May this confession do my soul good."

That 17th Century churchgoer could hardly have imagined that 300 years later millions of churchgoers would be playing "this game of bowles"—and for funds. Bowling has become an important fund-raising activity, with many parish organizations sponsoring leagues in which the bowlers pay the normal bowling fee, a little extra for the prize pot, and finally a donation for the special fund.

In the Diocese of Rockville Centre, N.Y., 4450 men and women bowlers—paying an extra five cents a game—raised \$12,000 a year to finance three CYO day-camp swimming pools.

In Woodland Hills, Calif., a housewife organized a league for the St. Mel's Church building fund and quickly raised \$5,200. Also, bowling is a major CYO youth activity, and in some parishes Saturday morning C.C.D. classes are highly popular—thanks to an after-class pin league.

It seems those 3rd Century monks came up with a perfect game.

—(Catholic Press Features)

Like many of today's beginners, many of those first bowlers couldn't knock down a pin to save their souls—except that back in those days the phrase meant exactly what it says.

"It was the custom of the canons to have parishioners, in turn, place their pins at one end of the cloister," the bowling history explains. "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 that the thrower was leading a clean and pure life and was capable of slaying the heathen; if he missed, it meant that a more faithful attendance at services would help his aim."

After a century or so, the monks themselves decided to participate, "and then, and only then, did 'kegeling' cease to be a religious gesture and become a sport," the ABC history reveals. The number of pins in these first bowling contests—10 pounds. Woe unto me! My fellow Puritans will be shocked if they hear of this, but the more reason for my confession. I like the game, my own ability to win, and the fine folks I met on the greens. May this con-

## Tom Cahill to Honor Aquinas' Father Carter

Twenty years ago this fall Captain Tom Cahill, a veteran of the Pacific War Theatre and a native of Fayetteville (near Syracuse), had a promising football coaching career ahead of him. That was the year he arrived at Manlius Military Academy as assistant coach. Two seasons later he took over the No. 1 duties and guided his team to a 7-1 record.

In 1950 Cahill set his sights on a game with Aquinas, then nationally known as a high school football power. A phone call to Father Cyril Carter, Aquinas athletic director, and the game was arranged for Thanksgiving Day. Both clubs, enjoying one of their best seasons in history, entered the game undefeated. A crowd of over 20,000 watched at Aquinas Memorial Stadium as Coach Mickey Connolly's Little Irish triumphed 27-7.

Today Tom Cahill is head football coach of Army with a highly respectable 8-2 record to his credit. But he still remembers the year Aquinas spoiled his perfect record at Manlius. According to Al Schmitz, general chairman, tickets are available at the school or by calling Bud Bamann (546-8282) or John Foley (244-2313).



Planning tribute for Father Cyril Carter, C.S.B., on the occasion of his silver jubilee on the staff of Aquinas Institute are: (seated) Al Schmitz, Ron Mack, Jerry Flynn; (standing) Mike Spang, Joe Connorton, Bud Bamann and John Foley. Event is planned for June 11 at Vince's 50 Acres.

## McQuaid Trackmen Top Bishop Kearney, 72-64

McQuaid Jesuit's track team edged Bishop Kearney's aggregate by a 72-64 score last Friday afternoon on the Bishop Kearney cinders.

The victory was not secured by the Knight's until the next-to-last race when the mile medley team of Bob Fehrenbach, Mark Welt, Bob DiPaola, and Mike Facchini brought home the baton three seconds ahead of the Kings' company. McQuaid's clocking in the relay (3:54.3) is the best to be recorded in the Rochester area this season.

The meet, the first between two Catholic school varsities this year, saw both teams turn in sterling performances.

For the winners, senior Bernie Ashley won both the 100 and 200 yard dashes, in times of 10.4 and 23.2 seconds respectively. McQuaid's Dave Meyer traveled over the 180 yard hurdles in 21.5 seconds, while sophomore Bob Lawrence captured the half mile race in a time of 2:07.8 seconds. Mark Boylan turned in a 53.9 clocking in the quarter mile, the best time for a parochial high school student in the 440.

A pair of Jesuit fieldmen secured vital points for the winners with strong performances.

## Stella Maris Registrations

Camp Stella Maris, the Diocesan Summer Camp on Conesus Lake for grammar school boys and girls, is still accepting registrations. The boys' season runs from June 25 to August 5. Boys may register for one or two week periods.

The girls' encampment has openings from August 6 to August 19.

Information may be obtained from the Camp Secretary, 50 Chestnut St., Rochester — Telephone 454-2030.

**DEADLINE FOR NEWS MONDAY NOON FRIDAY DELIVERY**

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## Pen Pals, Pupils Meet

The third grade pupils of Holy Apostles School played host to their newly acquired friends from Clara Barton School No. 2, at a party in the school auditorium on Monday, April 24. The "pen pals" have been carrying on correspondence over the past two months.

The party afforded each of them the opportunity to meet the pupils—they already know only through drawings, letters and photographs.

The project was initiated by the two teachers, college classmates, Miss Marianne Villa and Miss Patricia Best.

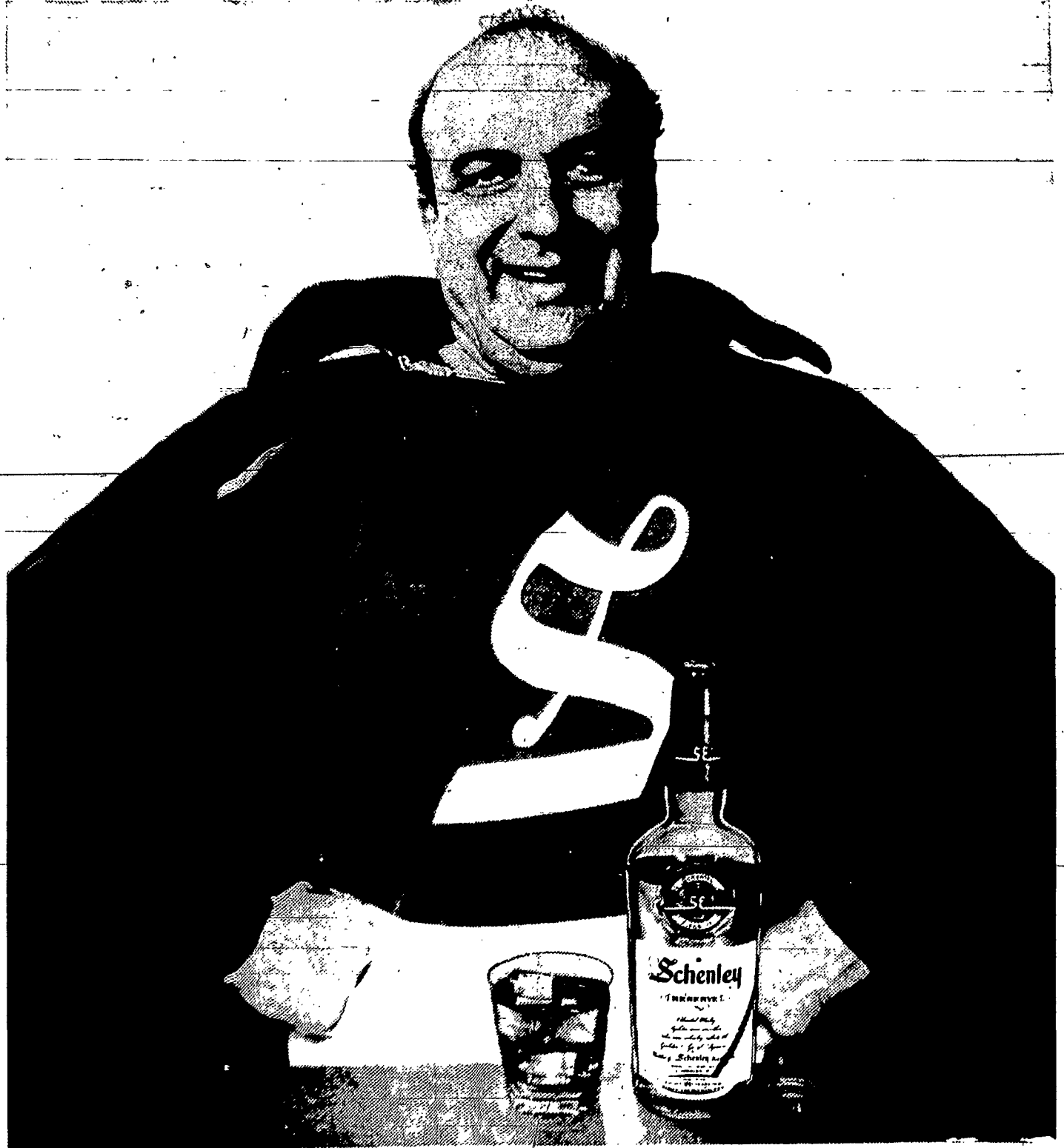
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## Mr. Barman: We think you're super!

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