Gonzalez wins Masters while sitting on the bench

A pocket 7-10 split on his final ball in the title match kept John Murphy of Chesapeake Beach, Md., out of a roll-off with hometown favorite Alex Gonzalez, who arose from the bench as champion of the Nation's Capital Masters Scratch Tournament held April 17 at Crofton Bowling Centre. The final score was 217-215. Gonzalez took home \$700 and the championship plaque, while Murphy settled for \$375.

In earlier stepladder matches, Gary "The Guru" Parsons of Suitland defeated David Kneas of Annapolis 223-170 before falling to Stuart Ramsey of Ashburn, Va., 235-165. Murphy then topped Ramsey 246-215.

Ramsey earned \$200, Parsons \$150, and Kneas \$100.

Before the stepladder finals, the top five finishers of each of the two qualifying squads competed in one game of match play, with 30 bonus pins to the winner of each match:

Kneas (1,168 five-game qualifying total) lost to Parsons (1,106) 247-195. Gonzalez (1,162) lost to John Gaines (1,086) of Baltimore 242-239; Murphy (1,157) defeated Lee Brosius (1,086) of Odenton 209-159; Stuart Ramsey (1,131) of Herndon defeated Jim Lewis (1,108) of Waldorf 224-217; and David Reed (1,125) lost to Brian DeMatte (1,106) of Columbia 226-194.

DeMatte earned \$95; Gaines, \$90; Lewis, \$85; Reed, \$80; and Brosius, \$75.

Other cashers included No. 11, Tony Walton, D.C. (1,087 for five games), \$70; 12, John Sudduth, Fredericksburg (1,078), \$65; 13, Magic Gray, Morningside (1,076), \$60; 14, Mark Ambrose, Centreville (1,071), \$55; 15, Gary Mills, Crofton (1,070), \$50; 16, Frank Gallo Jr., Lanham (1,067), \$48; 17, Garry Breeden, Manassas (1,065), \$46; 18, Jim Yurko, Crofton (1,063), \$44; 19, John Makay, Herndon (1,060), \$42; and 20, Bill Kaelin, Herndon (1,058), \$40.

High senior out-of-the-money: Matt Leonard, Reston (1,042), \$30. High female out-of-the-money: Dawn Schwallenberg, Lusby, Md. (980), \$30.