Zul strolls into last eight

ZULMAZRAN Zukilfi kept his hopes of a rare hat-trick of wins of the Canon Malaysian Bowling International Open title alive when he finished second to qualify for today's quarter-finals at the Sunway Mega Lanes yesterday.

Compatriot Adrian Ang stole the thunder yesterday to finish top with an eight-game total of 1,873 pinfalls, Zulmazran downed 1,861.

Youngster Yusuf Abdul Raof made it a good day for Malaysia when he finished fourth with a 1,759 haul.

The other qualifiers were Finland's double-handed bowler, Osku Palermaa who finished third (1,822), Thailand's Yannaphon L (1,757), Singapore Basil Low (1,699) and UAE's Hussain Suwaidi (1,686) and Shaker Al Hassan (1,682).

"I am not over-confident or boasting, but it is just that I am determined to make it happen for me and win the title for the third time," said Zulmazran, who will be meeting seventh placed Hussain today.

In the Women's Open, Malaysia's Zandra Aziela Ibrahim Hakimi (fourth, 1,660), Hee Kar Yen (sixth, 1,651) and Siti Safiyah Amirah (eighth, 1,630) made the quarter-finals.

Reigning champion Carolyn Ballard of the USA, failed to make the cut after finishing 15th.

Malaysians who missed the cut were Sharon Koh and Shalin Zulkilfi who finished tenth and eleventh respectively.

American Kelly Kulick scored 1,812 to lead the quarter-finalists.

Others who qualified were Taiwan's H. L. Chien (second, 1,777), Singapore's Jasmine Yeong-Nathan (third, 1,660), Philippines' Lisa del Rosario (1,656) and Indonesia's Tanya Roumimper.



(From left) Hee Kar Yen, Zandra Aziela and Siti Safiyah Amirah made the guarter-finals vesterday.