

# NU bowlers at it again

The defending national champs take first in Texas

BY SEAN CALLAHAN  
Staff Writer

When you are the defending national champion in any team sport, things seem to come pretty easily the following year. For University of Nebraska-Lincoln Bowling Coach Bill Straub, it looks like this statement applies to his women's team.

The Cornhuskers continued their winning ways from last year by recently finishing the 10-team Texas Invitational in first place. The Huskers blew the tournament field away by beating their next closest opponent, Texas Southern, 16,034-14,752.

In the tournament, NU had four top 10 individual finishes, led by sophomore Diandra Hyman's second place overall finish. Also placing in the top ten were sophomores Amanda O'Harye and Christie Couvillon along with junior Kim Klaus.

Straub said that this year's team, which features eight freshman, needs a little time to get where last year's team was.

"Last year's squad had a ton of experience," Straub said. "Give us a

"I don't think anyone is disappointed how they played last weekend."

CHRISTIE COUVILLON  
NU bowler

couple of months, and let us see if we can get things going in an experiential way."

Straub said after losing four-time All American Jennifer Daugherty that the Huskers are still right about where he wants them to be at this time.

"We have a new mix with some veterans from the last year, and a couple of new players, and it worked out that the first tournament went just fine," Straub said. "There is certainly room for improvement, but we're off to a pretty good start."

Couvillon, who finished seventh in Houston, said she thinks the team is in much better shape than it was last year.

"I don't think anyone is disappointed with how they played last weekend," Couvillon said. "I don't

think we are any weaker without Jennifer."

Couvillon said for the newcomers to the team this year, it has been hard for most to make the adjustment to the college level.

"Those of us who have been in the program already know what the coaches want from us," Couvillon said. "I think it is a big adjustment for the incoming freshmen, so they're unlikely to be playing."

Also in Houston last weekend, the Husker men's bowling team took fourth in the 11-team field. NU was led individually by Adam Cardwell's third place overall finish.

The Nebraska men's and women's bowling teams will next be in action this weekend when they travel to Indianapolis for the Hoosier Classic.

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## Despite MU violation, no eligibility lost

(U-WIRE) COLUMBIA, Mo. — Less than a week after the Missouri Athletic Department filed a report to the NCAA taking the blame for a minor recruiting violation, MU received word that its recruits would remain eligible.

The NCAA ruled that Detroit prep standouts Rickey Paulding and Arthur Johnson, whose eligibility was being questioned after MU illegally flew their parents to campus for a recruiting trip on a chartered flight, will be eligible to play basketball next year.

However, MU is appealing as the NCAA requires the recruits' parents to pay for using the chartered plane rather than paying the price of a commercial flight.

"We're happy that the issue has been resolved, but we intend to appeal," said Mary Ann Austin, MU director of compliance.

"We don't want to have the students' parents punished for our mistake."

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# Even without a kill, day not lost

■ Though he didn't go home with dinner, hunter Reid Kennedy is still able to enjoy the outdoors.

BY DAVID DIEHL  
Staff writer

It is 7:45 on Sunday morning. A swift northerly breeze makes the mid-50s temperature seem just a bit chillier, and Reid Kennedy hasn't seen a bird that he can shoot in almost an hour.

But there's still no place he'd rather be.

"That's one of the things about out here or anywhere else," Kennedy says. "It's all the other stuff."

The other stuff. Like the eagle he sees swoop over the bean field to the south to look for food at the same time every morning. Like the sudden splash of a carp feasting on the few bugs that remain on the pond's surface.

Kennedy, a member of the Lower 40 Duck and Gun Club of Western Iowa, has been out since 6:30 a.m. waiting for sunrise and a flock of geese to fly over at just the right time.

His anticipation is obvious just walking to the duck blind.

"This is going to be a beautiful sunrise. It comes up right over there," he says, pointing off to the east at the silhouette of western Iowa's bluffs, "and hits on the water, and it's just beautiful."

Just minutes before 7 a.m. and 75 yards from the blind, Kennedy's sharp ear catches the hint of some geese just before they become visible to the north.

He drops to a knee and begins working his goose call, persuading them into the lake for a shot at them. The flock of 10 Canadian geese flies low, well within range.

"We're gonna take these."

The geese finally fly overhead, and Kennedy lets his 20-gauge over-under go to work. He fires two shots at the geese, and one goose on the left side of the V-formation gets knocked off course just a little bit. None fall.

The 10 geese fly off to the south — one slightly wounded — and Kennedy watches them, helpless, his dissatisfaction is clear.

"Man, I thought for sure we were going to drop one," he says. "That's the earliest they've been out here."

"Out here" is a small pond about the size of a baseball field smack dab

"First time I ever pulled up, I shot two... mallards. I've been hooked ever since."

REID KENNEDY  
hunter

in the middle of a large field of dried soybeans. The Missouri River lies just more than a mile to the west, and Interstate-29 is visible to the south. Cars and semis can easily be heard whizzing by, and even airplanes break up the scenery, coming in and out of Omaha's Eppley Airfield nearby.

Kennedy is now inside the duck blind waiting for more geese to venture his way. He is still disgusted with himself and his shot.

"Man, that was New Year's dinner."

Kennedy is in his mid-60s and retired. He grew up near Long Island, N.Y., and has been hunting since he was 10.

"First time I ever pulled up, I shot two black mallards. I've been hooked ever since."

Kennedy's experience of more than 50 years of hunting is evident while waiting for more geese to come by. He tells dozens of stories about life: hunting, football — and during each one, he interrupts himself to point out all the wildlife around him. "Oh, look at that snipe." or "Wait, those aren't teal, those are coot."

Duck populations this season are huge. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife department has estimated it at 105 million, and it is apparent. Every few minutes small groups of two or three ducks fly by or land on the lake. Duck season does not start in Iowa until Oct. 16, otherwise Kennedy would have had plenty of shots. In Nebraska, duck season has already begun.

The two-hour hunt ends at five till 9 a.m., with lots of action from the ducks but not much at all from the geese, except for the initial flock — and no kills.

Kennedy, although disappointed in the day, says that it wasn't a total loss.

As he walks back toward his Nissan pickup, he jokingly creates excuses for his performance.

"It was too early, or I was too tired. Can't say that I'm too old, though."

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