

Bowling

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE



Highlights

Fairleigh Dickinson wins second bowling crown: Fairleigh Dickinson senior Erica Perez knocked over the last three pins standing in a long, tense match and quickly became the centerpiece of a jubilant celebration Saturday night. For the second time in two days, the Knights had beaten Nebraska, the defending champion, this time to win the NCAA Women's Bowling Championship.

Fairleigh Dickinson, a university of 6,000 students in Teaneck, N.J., about 45 miles north of the Brunswick Zone Carolier Lanes, the championship site, won its first championship since 2006 by taking the last two games of a nerve-racking, best-of-seven series that lasted more than 2 1/2 hours. The Knights (87-38) had won the sixth game to force a deciding game.

It was fitting that Perez capped a 208-174 victory in the seventh game. She is from Carteret, N.J., not much more than 10 miles from Brunswick Zone Carolier Lanes. She was a senior in high school the last time the Knights won the national title, beating Alabama A&M, and she was determined to win another before she left FDU.

"It was a perfect ending to a dream come true," Perez said after only the second seven-game match in the seven-year history of the tournament.

The Cornhuskers stumbled only a little in the seventh game, finishing with two open frames - one by the senior Cassandra Leuthold, Nebraska's most accomplished bowler. Fairleigh Dickinson did not have an open frame and rolled to victory behind six strikes, two apiece from junior Tracy Ganjoin and sophomore Joely Carrillo.

"Surprisingly, there wasn't too much pressure," Carrillo said.

Fairleigh Dickinson pushed Nebraska into the loser's bracket April 19 by surprising the Cornhuskers in a second-round match, four games to two. While Fairleigh Dickinson rolled into the championship match by defeating archrival New Jersey City for the second time, Nebraska had to avoid elimination by beating Vanderbilt, then Arkansas State twice.

The second meeting with Arkansas State was early April 10. Nebraska won the first two games - the second by just eight pins - before Arkansas State won the third game. The Cornhuskers then won two of the next three games, the sixth by 185-165, to earn a spot in the championship match for the fourth time in the last seven years. They had won the first three title matches.

"We've had a little bit of experience before," Leuthold said.

Brunswick Zone Carolier Lanes, a colossal 82-lane facility anchoring a sprawling strip shopping center next to U.S. Highway 1, was reconfigured for the championship match. Long sets of bleachers, each of 10 rows, were set in an L shape near lanes 7 and 8. The lanes were bathed in TV lights, and fans found seats well before the final match began.

The crowd did not need much prompting from an ESPN engineer to make lots of noise before the first match. Every bowler on each team stood in a pack at the back of each alley. Nebraska coach Bill Straub, in a short-sleeve shirt and tie, sat in a chair next to the Cornhuskers. Fairleigh Dickinson coach Mike LoPresti, in a gray suit, stood with his team.

The Baker system, in which a team's five bowlers rotate through frames, was used to determine the champion. The crowd was decidedly pro-Fairleigh Dickinson, an enormous boost to the Knights, though Straub said it would not have been a factor if Nebraska had won. Straub said, "There's no team that plays closer to its potential than Mike LoPresti's team."

The first game in the best-of-seven series was even until Nebraska left the seventh and eighth frames open. Meanwhile, Fairleigh Dickinson rolled two strikes. The Knights went on to win the game comfortably, 209-167. Fairleigh Dickinson lost the first game against Nebraska the day before, 221-167, prompting LoPresti to tell his bowlers to use different balls to adapt to the lanes.

Nebraska won the next two games in the final match, then won the fifth game, 222-201, after Fairleigh Dickinson tied the series. Kristina Mickelson, a sophomore who entered the match in the second game, rolled two strikes, as did Valerie Calberry, a Canadian. Nebraska was poised to win another title, but Fairleigh Dickinson would counter, saving its best for last.

"What a privilege everyone had here tonight," LoPresti said. "This was, in my opinion, the best NCAA match ever."

History

Team Results

Year	Champion	Coach	Games	Runner-Up	Games	Host or Site	Championship Attendance
2004	Nebraska	Bill Straub	4	Central Mo.	2	Houston	439
2005	Nebraska	Bill Straub	4	Central Mo.	2	Orlando, Fla.	556
2006	Fairleigh Dickinson	Mike LoPresti	4	Alabama A&M	1	Houston	442
2007	Vanderbilt	John Williamson	4	Md.-East. Shore	3	Apopka, Fla.	781
2008	Md.-East. Shore	Sharon Brummell	4	Arkansas St.	2	Omaha, Neb.	467
2009	Nebraska	Bill Straub	4	Central Mo.	1	Detroit	1,236
2010	Fairleigh Dickinson	Mike LoPresti	4	Nebraska	3	New Jersey City	1,286

TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

Nebraska 3, Fairleigh Dickinson 2, Md.-East. Shore, Vanderbilt, 1 each.

Individual Records**300 GAMES**

Jennifer Viens, New Jersey City vs. Winston-Salem, 2004
Tina Peak, Central Mo. vs. New Jersey City, 2004
Tina Peak, Central Mo. vs. Md.-East. Shore, 2005

BEST AVERAGE FOR TOURNAMENT

251.75—Amanda Burgoyne, Nebraska, 2005

MOST OUTSTANDING

2004 Shannon Pluhowsky, Nebraska
2005 Amanda Burgoyne, Nebraska
2006 Lisa Friscioni, Fairleigh Dickinson
2007 Josie Earnest, Vanderbilt
2008 Jessica Worsley, Md.-East. Shore
2009 Cassandra Leuthold, Nebraska
2010 Danielle McEwan, Fairleigh Dickinson

All-Tournament Teams**2004**

*Shannon Pluhowsky, Nebraska
Katie Atkins, Sacred Heart
Eryn Cully, New Jersey City
Lisa Friscioni, Fairleigh Dickinson
Amber Gazverde, Central Mo.

2005

*Amanda Burgoyne, Nebraska
Lindsay Baker, Nebraska
Sarah Circle, Bethune-Cookman
Elysia Current, Fairleigh Dickinson
Tina Peak, Central Mo.

2006

*Lisa Friscioni, Fairleigh Dickinson
Shanice Graham, Alabama A&M
Adrienne Miller, Nebraska
Whitney Smith, Alabama A&M
Vicki Spratford, New Jersey City
Kristina Szalay, Fairleigh Dickinson

2007

*Josie Earnest, Vanderbilt
Kristi Kerr, Fairleigh Dickinson
Kaitlin Reynolds, Vanderbilt
Marion Singleton, Md.-East. Shore
Jessica Worsley, Md.-East. Shore

2008

*Jessica Worsley, Md.-East. Shore
Maggie Adams, Arkansas St.
Brittany Garcia, Vanderbilt
Maria Rodriguez, Md.-East. Shore
Vicki Spratford, New Jersey City

2009

*Cassandra Leuthold, Nebraska
Valerie Calberry, Nebraska
Theresa Christopher, Central Mo.
Jazmyne Heffelfinger, Delaware St.
Sara Litteral, Fairleigh Dickinson
Erica Perez, Fairleigh Dickinson

2010

*Danielle McEwan, Fairleigh Dickinson
Cassandra Leuthold, Nebraska
Jenn Marmo, New Jersey City
Erica Perez, Fairleigh Dickinson
Samantha Santoro, Arkansas St.

* *Most Outstanding Player*

Won-Lost Records In Tournament Play**Team (Years Participated)**

	Yrs.	Won	Lost	Pct.	1st	2nd
Alabama A&M (2006).....	1	3	2	.600	0	1
Arkansas St. (2008-09-10).....	3	6	6	.500	0	1
Bethune-Cookman (2005-06).....	2	2	4	.333	0	0
Central Mo. (2004-05-06-07-08-09-10).....	7	14	14	.500	0	3
Delaware St. (2009-10).....	2	2	4	.333	0	0
Fairleigh Dickinson (2004-05-06-07-09-10).....	6	16	8	.667	2	0
Fayetteville St. (2005).....	1	0	2	.000	0	0
Md.-East. Shore (2004-05-06-07-08-09-10).....	7	8	12	.400	1	1
Minn. St. Mankato (2007-08).....	2	1	4	.200	0	0
Nebraska (2004-05-06-07-08-09-10).....	7	22	10	.688	3	1
New Jersey City (2004-05-06-07-08-09-10).....	7	11	14	.440	0	0
Sacred Heart (2004-05-07-08).....	4	3	8	.273	0	0
Southern U. (2004).....	1	1	2	.333	0	0
Vanderbilt (2006-07-08-09-10).....	5	10	8	.556	1	0
Winston-Salem (2004).....	1	0	2	.000	0	0

All-Time Team Results

2004: Round 1: Central Mo. def. Winston-Salem, 4-1; Fairleigh Dickinson def. Southern U., 4-3; Sacred Heart def. New Jersey City, 4-0; Nebraska def. Md.-East. Shore, 4-1. **Round 2:** Winners' Bracket—Central Mo. def. Fairleigh Dickinson, 4-3; Nebraska def. Sacred Heart, 4-2; Losers' Bracket—Southern U. def. Winston-Salem, 4-0 (Winston-Salem eliminated); New Jersey City def. Md.-East. Shore, 4-0 (Md.-East. Shore eliminated). **Round 3:** Winners' Bracket—Central Mo. def. Nebraska, 4-3; Losers' Bracket—New Jersey City def. Sacred Heart, 4-1 (Sacred Heart eliminated); Fairleigh Dickinson def. Southern U., 4-1 (Southern U. eliminated). **Round 4:** New Jersey City def. Fairleigh Dickinson, 4-1 (Fairleigh Dickinson eliminated). **Round 5:** Nebraska def. New Jersey City, 4-3 (New Jersey City eliminated). **Round 6:** Nebraska def. Central Mo., 4-2. **Round 7:** Nebraska def. Central Mo., 4-2.

2005: Round 1: Nebraska def. Fayetteville St., 4-0; Sacred Heart def. Bethune-Cookman, 4-1; New Jersey City def. Central Mo., 4-3; Fairleigh Dickinson def. Md.-East. Shore, 4-1. **Round 2:** Winners' Bracket—Nebraska def. Sacred Heart, 4-1; Fairleigh Dickinson def. New Jersey City, 4-0; Losers' Bracket—Bethune-Cookman def. Fayetteville St., 4-0 (Fayetteville St. eliminated); Central Mo. def. Md.-East. Shore, 4-2 (Md.-East. Shore eliminated). **Round 3:** Winners' Bracket—Nebraska def. Fairleigh Dickinson, 4-3-1; Losers' Bracket—Bethune-Cookman def. New Jersey City, 4-3 (New Jersey City eliminated); Central Mo. def. Sacred Heart, 4-1 (Sacred Heart eliminated). **Round 4:** Central Mo. def. Bethune-Cookman, 4-3 (Bethune-Cookman eliminated). **Round 5:** Central Mo. def. Fairleigh Dickinson, 4-0 (Fairleigh Dickinson eliminated). **Round 6:** Nebraska def. Central Mo., 4-2.

2006: Round 1: Nebraska def. New Jersey City, 4-1; Alabama A&M def. Md.-East. Shore, 4-1; Vanderbilt def. Central Mo., 4-2; Fairleigh Dickinson def. Bethune-Cookman, 4-2. **Round 2:** Winners' Bracket—Alabama A&M def. Nebraska, 4-3; Fairleigh Dickinson def. Vanderbilt, 4-3; Losers' Bracket—New Jersey City def. Md.-East. Shore, 4-2 (Md.-East. Shore eliminated); Central Mo. def. Bethune-Cookman, 4-2 (Bethune-Cookman eliminated). **Round 3:** Winners' Bracket—Fairleigh Dickinson def. Alabama A&M, 4-3; Losers' Bracket—New Jersey City def. Vanderbilt, 4-0 (Vanderbilt eliminated); Nebraska def. Central Mo., 4-2 (Central Mo. eliminated). **Round 4:** Nebraska def. New Jersey City, 4-2 (New Jersey City eliminated). **Round 5:** Alabama A&M def. Nebraska, 4-2 (Nebraska eliminated). **Round 6:** Fairleigh Dickinson def. Alabama A&M, 4-1.

2007: Round 1: Fairleigh Dickinson def. Minn. St. Mankato, 4-1; Md.-East. Shore def. Central Mo., 4-2; Vanderbilt def. Sacred Heart, 4-2; Nebraska def. New Jersey City, 4-2. **Round 2:** Winners' Bracket—Md.-East. Shore def. Fairleigh Dickinson, 4-3; Vanderbilt def. Nebraska, 4-2; Losers' Bracket—Central Mo. def. Minn. St. Mankato, 4-0-1 (Minn. St. Mankato eliminated); Sacred Heart def. New Jersey City, 4-3 (New Jersey City eliminated). **Round 3:** Losers' Bracket—Nebraska def. Central Mo., 4-3 (Central Mo. eliminated); Fairleigh Dickinson def. Sacred Heart, 4-1 (Sacred Heart eliminated). **Round 4:** Md.-East. Shore def. Nebraska, 4-2 (Nebraska eliminated); Vanderbilt def. Fairleigh Dickinson, 4-1 (Fairleigh Dickinson eliminated). **Championship:** Vanderbilt def. Md.-East. Shore, 4-3.

2008: Round 1: Central Mo. def. Nebraska, 4-1; Md.-East. Shore def. Vanderbilt, 4-0; Arkansas St. def. Sacred Heart, 4-0; New Jersey City def. Minn. St. Mankato, 4-1. **Round 2:** Winners' Bracket—New Jersey City def. Central Mo., 4-2-1; Md.-East. Shore def. Arkansas St., 4-3-1; Losers' Bracket—Minn. St. Mankato def. Nebraska, 4-0 (Nebraska eliminated); Vanderbilt def. Sacred Heart, 4-3 (Sacred Heart eliminated). **Round 3:** Losers' Bracket—Arkansas St. def. Minn. St. Mankato, 4-1 (Minn. St. Mankato eliminated); Vanderbilt def. Central Mo., 4-2 (Central Mo. eliminated). **Round 4:** Arkansas St. def. New Jersey City, 4-2; Vanderbilt def. Md.-East. Shore, 4-2. **Round 5:** Arkansas St. def. New Jersey City, 4-3 (New Jersey City eliminated); Md.-East. Shore def. Vanderbilt, 4-3 (Vanderbilt eliminated). **Championship:** Md.-East. Shore def. Arkansas St., 4-2.

2009: Round 1: Nebraska def. Arkansas St., 4-3; Fairleigh Dickinson def. Vanderbilt, 4-2-1; Central Mo. def. Md.-East. Shore, 4-0; Delaware St. def. New Jersey City, 4-3. **Round 2:** Winners' Bracket—Fairleigh Dickinson def. Nebraska, 4-1; Delaware St. def. Central Mo., 4-1; Losers' Bracket—Vanderbilt def. Arkansas St., 4-3 (Arkansas St. eliminated); New Jersey City def. Md.-East. Shore, 4-1-1, (Md.-East. Shore eliminated). **Round 3:** Losers' Bracket—Central Mo. def. Vanderbilt, 4-0 (Vanderbilt eliminated); Nebraska def. New Jersey City, 4-3 (New Jersey City eliminated). **Round 4:** Central Mo. def. Fairleigh Dickinson, 4-2; Nebraska def. Delaware St., 4-2. **Round 5:** Central Mo. def. Fairleigh Dickinson, 4-3 (Fairleigh Dickinson eliminated); Nebraska def. Delaware St., 4-2 (Delaware St. eliminated). **Championship:** Nebraska def. Central Mo. 4-1.

2010: Round 1: Nebraska def. Central Mo., 4-1; Fairleigh Dickinson def. New Jersey City, 4-2; Md.-East. Shore def. Vanderbilt, 4-3; Arkansas St. def. Delaware St., 4-0. **Round 2:** Winners' Bracket—Fairleigh Dickinson def. Nebraska, 4-2; Arkansas St. def. Md.-East. Shore 4-2; Losers' Bracket—New Jersey City def. Central Mo., 4-0-1 (Central Mo. eliminated); Vanderbilt def. Delaware St., 4-2 (Delaware St. eliminated). **Round 3:** Losers' Bracket—New Jersey City def. Md.-East. Shore, 4-1 (Md.-East. Shore eliminated); Nebraska def. Vanderbilt, 4-1 (Vanderbilt eliminated). **Round 4:** Nebraska def. Arkansas St., 4-2. **Round 5:** Fairleigh Dickinson def. New Jersey City, 4-2 (New Jersey City eliminated); Nebraska def. Arkansas St., 4-2 (Arkansas St. eliminated). **Championship:** Fairleigh Dickinson def. Nebraska, 4-3.