National Tenpins Coaches Association

Leaders of NCAA Women's Bowling

For Immediate Release March 2, 2010

HAWKS FLYING HIGH IN FEBRUARY NTCA NATIONAL POLL

HOWELL, NJ – In one of the closest national polls ever conducted by the National Tenpins Coaches Association, the **University of Maryland Eastern Shore** has been ranked as the No. 1 team in the nation. **UMES** edged last month's top ranked team, **Vanderbilt University**, by a mere six points (566 to 560). Both prominent programs received eight first place votes.

Since the last NTCA poll, **UMES** of Princess Anne, MD has been soaring. The **Hawks** (93-26) won tournament titles at the 19-team Bowie State Invitational in Laurel, MD and the 28-team Kutztown Invitational in Reading, PA, finished third at the 26-team Morgan State Invitational in Perry Hall, MD, and closed the month with a second-place finish at the 12-team Holiday Collegiate Classic in Bessemer, AL.

Vanderbilt of Nashville, TN slipped to No. 2 after a ninth place finish at the Kutztown Invitational and a fourth place finish at the Holiday Collegiate Classic. The **Commodores** (46-20) hope to return to form at the 12-team ECAC Championship in Howell, NJ.

Climbing a spot to third place was **Fairleigh Dickinson University** of Teaneck, NJ. **FDU** (60-25) garnished three first place votes after second place finishes in Reading, PA and Perry Hall, MD. The **Knights**, who ended the NEC regular season in fifth place, will play host this weekend in Howell, NJ.

The **University of Nebraska** of Lincoln, NE jumped four spots to fourth place, receiving two first place votes. The defending national champions had an outstanding February. The **Huskers** (61-25) entered three events during that span and they won them all. Tournament titles at the 8-team Fontbonne Classic in Shrewsbury, MO, the Morgan State Invitational, and the Holiday Collegiate Classic, give **Nebraska** four tournament wins this season.

Ranked in fifth place was **Delaware State University** of Dover, DE. The Hornets (81-24) had an up and down month, which included a seventh place finish at the Kutztown Invitational, an eighth place finish at the Morgan State Invitational, and third place finishes at the Mid-Winter Classic in Little Rock, AR and the Capital Classic in Dover, DE.

Dropping one spot to sixth and seventh, respectively, were the **University of Central Missouri** (64-31) of Warrensburg, MO and **Arkansas State University** (48-21) of Jonesboro, AR. Moving up a spot to eighth was **New Jersey City University** (60-26) of Jersey City, NJ. Sinking a couple of places to ninth was **Adelphi University** (72-38) of Garden City, NY. Climbing up to No. 10 was first-year program **Valparaiso University** (60-39) of Valparaiso, IN.

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2009-10 NTCA MARCH NATIONAL POLL

Rank	Institution, City, State	Season Record W - L	1st Place Votes	Adjusted Point Standings	Previously Ranked
1.	Univ. of Maryland Eastern Shore, Princess Anne, MD	93 - 26	8	566	2
2.	Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN	46 - 20	8	560	1
3.	Fairleigh Dickinson University, Teaneck, NJ	60 - 25	3	519	4
4.	University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE	61 - 25	2	432	8
5.	Delaware State University, Dover, DE	81 - 24		415	3
6.	University of Central Missouri, Warrensburg, MO	64 - 31		393	5
7.	Arkansas State University, Jonesboro, AR	61 - 32		391	6
8.	New Jersey City University, Jersey City, NJ	60 - 26		359	9
9.	Adelphi University, Garden City, NY	72 - 38		272	7
10.	Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, IN	60 - 39		248	11
11.	St. Francis College, Brooklyn Heights, NY	55 - 32		209	10
12.	Kutztown University, Kutztown, PA	51 - 40		173	12
13.	Sacred Heart University, Fairfield, CT	44 - 32		147	17
14.	Minnesota State University, Mankato, MN	39 - 34		123	13
15.	Alabama A&M University, Huntsville, AL	47 - 20		112	16
16.	University of Wisconsin, Whitewater, WI	42 - 32		106	T14
17.	Louisiana Tech, Ruston, LA	38 - 22		75	T14
18.	Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, FL	61 - 34		62	
19.	Norfolk State University, Norfolk, VA	60 - 45		22	19
20.	Morgan State University, Baltimore, MD	52 - 48		18	20

Also receiving points:

St. Peter's College, Jersey City, NJ; Fayetteville State University, Fayetteville, NC; Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, IL, Southern University, Baton Rouge, LA.

Point system:

NTCA voters rank the top 20 teams on their ballot. Each position has a designated point value, ranging from 32 points for first place and one point for twentieth place. Teams are ranked using the adjusted total point standings, after the highest and lowest votes are dropped. The specific point values follow:

1st place = 32 points, 2nd = 29, 3rd = 27, 4th = 25, 5th = 23, 6th = 21, 7th = 19, 8th = 17, 9th = 15, 10th = 13, 11th = 11, 12th = 9, 13th = 8, 14th = 7, 15th = 6, 16th = 5, 17th = 4, 18th = 3, 19th = 2, 20th = 1.