FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Eight is Great for the Shocker Women's Team

Wichita, Kan. - The Shocker women stood above the rest as they held the Helmer Cup and their number one fingers in the air this evening at Northrock Lanes. The women defeated McKendree College two games to none to claim their eighth national championship.

The atmosphere buzzed as the camera, crews, light fixtures and fans were all around the Shockers as they made their run toward the title. However, the women seemed completely unfazed by the many distractions looming around them.

In between shots the women would laugh, joke and dance with smiles on their faces but immediately after go up and make crucial shots.

In game one both teams slugged it out in a low scoring match. Capitalizing on a McKendree split the Shockers were able to pull out a win 138-128.

In the second match the Shockers completely outplayed McKendree as Felicia Wong and Emily Maier doubled in the third and fourth frame and again in the eighth and ninth to close out the match and claim the title.

Jubilant players hugged each other as cheering erupted from the packed stands. The women stood with the championship trophy and hats as cameras flashes went off from all directions.

The Shockers went from winning their first tournament of the year at Northrock Lanes in the Midstates Tournament in October to winning the last and most important the USBC Intercollegiate Team Championships at Northrock in April.

This year's title is the first since 2005 and the eighth overall, which is the most in all of college bowling history. This title also adds to the amazing legacy of Wichita State Bowling as it is the 15th in school history (eight women's titles and seven men's).
If the day couldn't have gotten any better, Emily Maier was awarded with her third individual award of the week, as she was named to the All-Tournament Team. Earlier in the week at the Night of Champions, Maier was named a First Team All-American and a Player of the Year Runner-up.

Entering the tournament as the top ranked team in the nation, the Shockers bowled like the best team the entire week. The women entered matchplay as the number two seed after qualifying. In matchplay the Shockers won all three first round matches and lost only one match in the semi-finals before earning a spot in the Championship with a win immediately following the loss.

The women have now put a perfect close to a near perfect season as they won eight of eleven tournaments and finished no worse than third in the other three.

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*The Rhatigan Student Center has been the major financial and administrative supporter of the Wichita State University bowling program since 1959*