Lady Shockers Dominate in Opening Rounds of Matchplay

Wichita, Kan. – In collegiate bowling matchplay truly is a different day. Yesterday’s top seeds struggled mightily in the opening rounds of the USBC Intercollegiate Team Championships as nine lower seeds won in the first sixteen matches of the opening round of the tournament on the men’s and women’s side.

The Lady Shockers were able to avoid that trend as they opened up the first two rounds of the tournament undefeated. The Championship is a best four out of seven baker style and double elimination format. The women finished yesterday as the second seed and faced Ohio State in the opening round.

After a close one pin loss in the opening game the Shockers brought momentum in their favor after an amazing finish in the second game. Needing to double in the tenth frame, Emily Maier offered a clutch performance and threw two strikes in the tenth frame to win the game 214-209 and even the set at one game a piece. The momentum carried on as the women dominated the next three matches throwing games of 233, 252 and 189, winning the match four games to one.

As the women saw top ranked teams fall, they stayed focused in their second match against seventh-seeded Purdue. The Boilermakers were hot after their first round sweep but were not able to keep up with the Shocker’s 200 game pace. The Shockers shot 200 or above in all of their four wins (216, 212, 200, and 239), winning the set four games to one.

A battle of Wichita will occur in the Shockers next match as they face up with third-seeded Newman, which is scheduled to begin around 3:30 p.m. In additional news, top seeded Fresno State lost consecutive matches and has been eliminated from the tournament.

The top seeded men were not able to avoid the dreaded underdog this afternoon as they struggled against UC-Davis in the opening match. The Shockers lost the match four games to one and dropped into the contenders bracket with the loss.
Since the tournament is double elimination, the men faced St. John’s in the second round of the day. With a new focus the Shockers returned to yesterday’s form as they dominated the match winning four games to one. (210-157, 187-237, 198-146, 223-176, 214-190)

The men will now square off with William Paterson University in the third round which also scheduled to begin at 3:30 p.m.

While the men have a tougher road ahead of them than the women both teams are still in contention for the title. If the women win this afternoon they will bypass the final two rounds held today and advance to the championship match tomorrow morning. Due to their early loss, the men must win their next three matches tonight to advance to the finals.

For live game updates log on the www.bowl.com and click on the link for live scoring on the front page. Also continue to check the Wichita State Bowling Page at www.wichita.edu/bowling for picture and press release updates.

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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*