

NEWS



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KALAMAZOO COLLEGE ARCHERS QUALIFY FOR NATIONAL TOURNEY

Mary Kay Hodler  
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The Kalamazoo College archery team has qualified for the National Archery Association (NAA) College Division National Championships to be held at Miami University (Ohio) from May 15 to 17. At least four members will make the trip, including Judy Johnson (K'80, Bloomfield Hills), Merry Lu Jordan (K'82, Plainwell), Ann Long (K'80, Rochester, MI) and Sue Shirey (K'80, Milan).

The "K" archers racked up an impressive string of victories in their flight to the nationals. They captured the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) crown with a 5-1 league dual meet record. The K-College squad also won the MIAA league tournament overwhelmingly with four out of the top seven tournament shooters. Jordan was the tournament's leading shooter and set a new tournament record for the highest single round. Number two tournament shooter Johnson won the Joe Dunn Award for sportsmanship and marksmanship.

The Kalamazoo Hornets also took first and second place in the NAA state championships, fielding two three-member teams. The first team of Johnson, Jordan and Shirey set a new meet record. The second team of Laura Hartley (K'81, Duluth, MN), Peggy Hollinger (K'83, Virginia Beach, VA), and Amy Popoff (K'83, Lansing) also conquered all other competing Michigan colleges and universities, including the big-name, multi-thousand-student sports powerhouses. In the men's division, K-College's Rick Helson (K'80, Ferndale) placed third in the individual competition.

Coach Ted Brooks is optimistic about the archers' chances at the nationals, hoping to land among the top 5 or 6. He feels that his high-caliber team could lose only to squads with more years of experience. This tournament will be the "K" archers

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first shot at the nationals, and none of the team members handled a bow competitively until coming to Kalamazoo.

Coach Brooks says the team shattered and set records almost every time they faced a target this season. He attributes this phenomenal success to the large number of seniors on the squad, the good backup provided by returning letter winners, and spectacular new shooters. Brooks feels that archery is a sport that takes tremendous mental concentration, which is not an unusual task for dedicated "K" students who must take a rigorous course of study at the College. He comments, "The K-College students work hard at their archery and really put themselves into it."

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