

SPORTS NEWS



Binghamton University • Office of Sports Information

West Gym • P.O. Box 6000 • Binghamton, N.Y. 13902-6000

Phone: 607-777-6800 • Fax: 607-777-4597

Web: <http://athletics.binghamton.edu>

Golf

For Immediate Release: April 7, 2003 • Contact: John Hartrick

Bearcats bolster NCAA resume at Yale Open

Binghamton displayed its team depth at the Yale Spring Open Saturday and Sunday, playing through brutal winter-esque weather to a runner-up finish among 22 teams. Most importantly, BU beat tournament host Yale and region-rival Central Connecticut, strengthening its chances for an NCAA tournament selection.

Even without a typical stellar performance from top man **Adam Fuchs (Plainview, N.Y./JFK-Plainview)**, Binghamton shot 308-313=621 to finish in second, behind only UConn (612). The Bearcats edged Yale (623) and handily defeated Central Connecticut (641) — two of BU's closest rivals in District I.

"Not having two of our guns and still finishing there was really special," head coach John Affleck said, referring to the struggles of Fuchs and junior **Keith Hendrickson (Syosset, N.Y.)**, who shot 79-84.

Kunz posts another top-10 finish

Junior **Joe Kunz (Webster, N.Y./Monroe CC)** helped pick up the slack with a strong performance. Kunz, who earned medalist honors in back-to-back tournaments in the fall, shot 74-78 to place in a two-way tie for third place among 114 golfers — just two strokes off the lead.

"What a show Joe put on," Affleck said. "He had three birdies on the first day, and Yale is not a birdie course."

For Kunz, the top-10 finish was his sixth in 10 tournaments this year.

Crawford lifts team with strong performance

Freshman **Kevin Crawford (Lockport, N.Y.)** was inserted into the lineup at the fifth spot, and took advantage with rounds of 77-78 to tie for 10th place in the field. Crawford, who had only previously played with BU's second team, made both his scores count, providing the team with a big lift.

"It's something to be carried along by our number four and five men," Affleck said. "That shows the depth of this team. To have the freshmen step up on their first trip to Yale, with all that pressure, is rewarding. Kevin is one tough competitor, and **Brad Moulton (Orangeville, Ontario)** was nothing short of outstanding."

Moulton shot 78-76 to finish in a three-way tie for seventh place.

Bearcats stack up favorably against region foes

With the strong showing at Yale, BU improved its standing in the New England District, which will send its top three teams to the NCAA East Regional on May 15-17. In the latest Golfweek/Sagarin Rankings (March 30), BU was third in the district, behind only Rhode Island and Yale. Against the teams ranked #4-6 (Central Connecticut, Army, Hartford), BU is a combined 5-1-1 this year.

Up Next: New England Championship in Rhode Island

The Bearcats should again see the best teams in the district at the pivotal two-day New England Championship, hosted by Rhode Island Saturday and Sunday. Binghamton placed sixth in the field last year.

2003 Spring Schedule/Results

MARCH

14 Fri.	@ Stetson	W 13.5-7.5
31 Mon.	@ George Wash. Invit. at Swan Pt. CC, Md.	T-9th of 20

APRIL

5 Sat.-	@ Yale Invitational	2nd of 22
6 Sun.	at Yale GC	
12 Sat.-	@ New England Champ.	10 a.m.
13 Sun.	at Tripp GC (R.I.)	
25 Fri.-	@ Rhode Island Invit.	10 a.m.
26 Sat.	at Newport National CC	
28 Mon.-	AMERICA EAST CHAMP.	10 a.m.
29 Tue.	at En-Joie GC	

Top Stroke Averages

Name	Tot	Low	Avg.
Adam Fuchs	1417	-3	74.6
Joe Kunz	1438	-1	75.7
Keith Hendrickson	1292	even	76.0
Brad Moulton	1451	+1	76.4
Eric Vinal	1232	+1	77.0
Kevin Crawford	389	even	77.8