

# Duo leads Coronado bowlers

BOWL from Page 1B

## Cougars get boost from pair of experienced kegglers

the duo will team-up to keep the Cougars on pace for another title.

"Our goal is to go undefeated for the entire season. We want to be back-to-back state champions," Madrid said.

Urban said their confidence is often misunderstood.

"People think we're cocky,

but we are not. We are just pumped to compete," Urban said.

"Plus, I still need to get my first state title, so I can't let us lose."

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### Madrid, Urban pacing Cougars girls team with averages higher than 200

By ALLAN HALLIS

While most agree Coronado is one of the best girls bowling teams in the state, the real argument strikes when debating who is the best bowler on the team.

Undefeated so far this season, the Cougars are being led by juniors Alyssa Madrid and April Urban. Both girls average more than 200, while racking up awards at the high school level and beyond.

"This is the strongest girls team we've ever had," Coronado coach Bob McKee said. "These two girls are at the top of their games."

Madrid led the Cougars to a state title last year as a sophomore, and was named Sunrise Region MVP for her efforts. A left-handed roller, her average this year is at 205 per game.

She began bowling at 8 years old and started competing in the sport at the age of 12. She travels to compete in youth bowling tournaments across the southwest and has four tournament titles on her crowded trophy case.

"Some tournaments you are bowling against guys in college because you are ranked by score," Madrid said. "That makes you a better bowler because you have to get better just to compete."

Her father, Steven Madrid, is a former professional bowler and travels with his daughter to most of her tournaments.

Urban moved with her family to Southern Nevada six months ago from Laguna Hills, Calif., in part due to the vibrant youth bowling scene. She averages 213 per game and has won sev-

eral advanced division trophies across the country.

Four years ago she competed in her first-ever major tournament right here in Las Vegas on Christmas Eve at Texas Station. She placed ninth and still remembers Christmas dinner at the buffet.

"I told my parents I wanted to move to Las Vegas to bowl here," Urban said. "At first they said, 'What?' Next thing I knew we were moving out here."

The duo has been friends since meeting at tournaments last year. They compete against each other on the weekends, but during the week are partners for the same school goal. Urban feels there is a lot less pressure during the high school matches.

"It's a lot less pressure than a tournament because you have a whole team out there scoring, it's not just the individual. It's nicer when it's the team first," Urban said.

Madrid said she also takes the team concept to heart, but admits the duo is always competing internally.

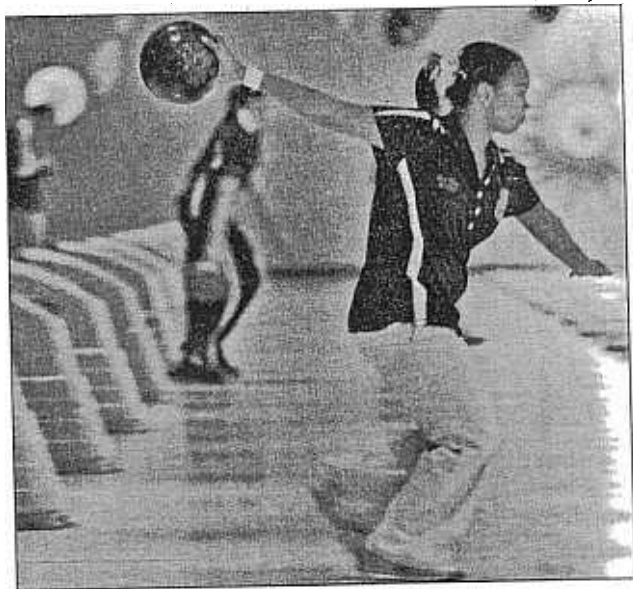
"We always try to help motivate each other," Madrid said. "We help each other, but still compete really hard against each other."

Urban agrees, and feels the competition usually overpowers the both of them.

"I doesn't matter how good of a friend you are, you want to win," Urban said.

While they will go head-to-head in two major youth tournaments this month,

See BOWL on Page 6B



JEREMY LYVERSE/NEWS STAFF PHOTO

Coronado's April Urban bowls against Vo-Tech. Urban, along with teammate Alyssa Madrid, boasts an average of more than 200.



JEREMY LYVERSE/NEWS STAFF PHOTO

Alyssa Madrid gets a high-five after bowling three strikes in the 10th frame for Coronado during a match against Vo-Tech.