

2025 ASSA Intercollegiate Club Rifle National Championships were held over March 21st and 22nd.

The NDSU and UND Rifle Clubs once again pooled their resources to travel to the American Smallbore Shooting Association Intercollegiate Rifle Club National Championships held at the X Count range in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The Championships consist of a Smallbore Rifle Championship and an Air Rifle Championship, and the Overall Championship based on the aggregate individual scores for teams and individuals in the two events.

Casia Steinhaus of Devils Lake, ND was the single competitor representing UND. Jacob Vaagen of Devils Lake, ND, Garrett Langerud and Michelle Weigel of Bismarck, ND, and Clay Sell of South Dakota made up the NDSU team.

Without teammates, Casia could only compete for the individual awards, but she did that very well. Firing on the first relay of the smallbore rifle match, she was able to shoot a 187-7 in kneeling, 196-9 prone and an outstanding 189-3 standing for a total of 570-20. Her closest competitor beat her by 3 points in kneeling and 2 points in prone but fell back by a full 8 points against her standing score. You could say that Casia came from behind to win, but she really set the winning score up for everyone to attempt over the rest of the day.

Casia is the 2025 Individual Smallbore Rifle Intercollegiate Club National Champion, repeating, as she won in 2024 as well.

Jacob held his own and earned 20th place in smallbore rifle. The NDSU team earned 4th place of the eight teams competing.

On Saturday, Casia and the NDSU team fired in the second relay. The air rifle match consists of 60 consecutive shots fired from the standing position. Casia took off with a 97-5 in her first 10 shots and finished with a 98-5 in her last 10 shots for a total of 584-34 to again set a very high bar for the rest of the relays to attempt.

The Air Rifle Championship was a very hard fought match for both the individuals and teams. As it turned out, Casia's 584-34 was a single point behind the Air Rifle Champion's 585-39. Casia is the Individual Air Rifle Intercollegiate Club Silver medalist. The teams are made up of the top 4 individual athletes representing each college club. The top team score was 2294-105 followed by the second place team's 2293-105. Obviously, every shot counted, and the final shot counted heavily in this match.

Garrett Langerud led the NDSU team taking 13th place individually followed by Michele in 18th and Jacob in 27th. NDSU again earned 4th place in the team competition.

By winning the Individual Smallbore Championship and placing 2nd in the Air Rifle National Championships, Casia repeats as the Overall Intercollegiate Club National Champion. She was named to the first All Star team again as well. It is certainly notable when anyone from North Dakota wins a national championship, but to win two in consecutive years is unheard of. This is an absolutely outstanding accomplishment for a 19-year-old competing as the single representative of UND and Devils Lake, ND.

The complete results are available: <https://www.americansmallbore.com/intercollegiate-2025.html> and: <https://www.orionresults.com/bishopdwenger>

Casia and Jacob have been members of our Lake Region Shooting Sports Association and Ramsey County 4H Shooting Sports throughout their shooting careers.

Rick Jorgenson