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UW Track and Field Concludes at NCAA Regionals

Senior Kate Burton will be the only trackster to compete at Nationals.

Laramie, Wyo. (May 31, 2008) -- In the final day of the NCAA Regional meet held in Lincoln, Neb., the University of Wyoming track and field team sent Alan John and John Alderson to the field as both were just shy of qualifying for the NCAA Championships.

In the hammer throw, freshman Alan John had a huge personal best of nearly 10 feet with his toss of 199' 1". John made the finals and finished in eighth place, his throw was also good for ninth best all-time in Wyoming history.

"Today's performance really shows what kind of athlete he is, he stepped in there and competed with the big boys," said assistant coach Paul Barrett. "It is also a testament to what kind of future he has here, as he is only a freshman."

John Alderson competed in the triple jump where he leapt 48' 3/4", good for 18th place. John was coming off his third place finish at the Mountain West Conference Championships.

"John has been suffering from a sore ankle for some time now and really had a gutsy performance today," said head coach Don Yentes. "This weekend was really a good experience for these kids and hopefully will benefit us next year and in the future."

Out of the eight competitors that qualified for the NCAA Regional meet, Kate Burton is the lone Cowboy or Cowgirl to move on to the national meet, June 11th through the 14th, held in Des Moines, Iowa. Kate will compete in the hammer throw where she will have the opportunity to bring Wyoming home their fourth national championship, the last coming from Shauna Smith in the 400-meter hurdles in 2005.

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