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Croatt '11 and Keller '13 qualify for NCAA Championship Meet

Summary: Croatt will compete in the 200-meter, and Keller will compete in the 1500-meter.

(May 24, 2011)-Megan Croatt '11, Bellingham, and Linda Keller '13, Hawick, have qualified for the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Outdoor Track & Field Championship Meet.

Croatt will be striving for her second All-America finish when she takes the blocks in the 200-meter. In 2009, she became an All-American with a top-eight finish, before being sidelined last season with an injury.

She enters the 26-entrant field 19th with a mark of 25.09, while the top-eight after the finals earn All-America status. She hit the mark when she won the 200-meter on May 13, 2011, at the University of Wisconsin, LaCrosse Eagle Open, just a week after winning the Upper Midwest Athletic Conference (UMAC) title in the same event.

Also the 2011 UMAC 100-meter champion and Co-Track Athlete of the Meet, Croatt will be taking the track in the 200 at the NCAA meet.

Keller takes aim at her first NCAA Track & Field Championships, having already been to two NCAA Cross-Country Championship meets. She claimed her first cross-country All-America certificate in fall 2011 and will strive for a similar honor in the NCAA 1500-meter.

A two-time UMAC champion in the event, Keller enters the championships ranked 21st out of 22 with a 4:37.12, her career best. Also a school record, Keller used every bit of the season to hit the NCAA provisional mark, doing so just last week, at the University of Wisconsin, LaCrosse Qualifier on May 19, 2011. There she scorched the field by four seconds, breaking her own record in the process.

Croatt and Keller are two of just three UMAC athletes to qualify for the 2011 NCAA Championship meet. They will be joined by St. Scholastica's Rachel Miller who qualified in the triple jump.

The championships kick off on May 26 and run through May 28, 2011, hosted on the campus of Ohio Wesleyan.

Photo above: Keller

Photo below: Croatt

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