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Croatt finishes sixth in 100 M dash at NCAA Championships

Summary: University of Minnesota, Morris track and field athlete Megan Croatt is ranked sixth in the country. Croatt, a junior from Ortonville, qualified for the 100- and 200-meter dashes and earned All-American honors in the 100 last week during the 2009 NCAA Division III National Track and Field Championships.

(May 26, 2009)-University of Minnesota, Morris track and field athlete Megan Croatt is ranked sixth in the country. Croatt, a junior from Ortonville, qualified for the 100- and 200-meter dashes and was the 6th fastest 100 meter dash sprinter in the Nation in All-American fashion at the 2009 NCAA Division III National Track and Field Championships last week held at Marietta (Ohio) University in Marietta.

Entering the meet, Croatt was ranked 17th in the 100-meter and 11th in the 200. "On paper Megan appeared to be an underdog," said Morris track coach Jeremy Karger-Gatzow, "but she has been rarely challenged in races, so anything could happen."

The meet started poorly for Croatt at Thursday's preliminary race for the 200. Croatt was running well, but just meters before the finish, she fell and failed to make finals. Disappointed and nervous, it was a battle of the mind to race the 100-meter prelims the next day. Croatt finished third in her heat with a time of 12.30, only three hundredths of a second off her personal best.

Her performance secured the last spot for finals on Saturday.

Now used to the excitement of the national meet, Croatt was more relaxed for the 100-meter dash finals. At the start of the race, the other runners were out of the blocks quickly. Maintaining her composure, Croatt ran relaxed and again finished with a time of 12.30 to finish in sixth place.

"I'm really excited I could represent the University of Minnesota, Morris," reflected Megan, "and I hope more of my teammates will compete with me there next year."

Sixth in the nation, second from left

[Larger image](#)

[Championship Web site](#)

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