

# UNK track fares well at RMAC

GOLDEN, Colo. — The University of Nebraska at Kearney women finished second while the men were third at the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference Indoor Track and Field Championships held Friday and Saturday in Golden.

Heavily favored Adams State swept the team titles, scoring 189 points in the men's division and 187.5 points in the women's division. It was the ninth-straight title for the women and the men's sixth in the last seven years.

The Loper women scored 134.5 points, with the men scoring 116 points. The Loper women had a 54-point advantage over third-place New Mexico Highlands, while the men were five points behind runner-up Chadron State.

Friday, senior throwers Rich Mourer and Tracie Chanady won the weight throws. Joining them atop the awards stand Saturday were shot putter Samantha Murphy (shot put), sprinter Alex Paul (400) and heptathlete Bryson Mahlberg.

Runner-up finishers included shot putters Dane Tobey and Kiley Peterson, high jumper Kristi Bauer and both 4x400 relay teams.

After the meet, Tobey was the named the RMAC's nominee for Male Regional Athlete of the

Year. The four-time All-American could have potentially thrown well over 60 feet in the shot put, but several of his throws struck a basketball hoop that folded up in the ceiling. Throwing with an altered trajectory, his best toss was 58-4 1/2. Chadron State's Cody Hunt won with a throw of 58-6.

In his first RMAC meet, Mahlberg scored 4,587 points to edge UCCS' Brian Hopkins (4,542) for the heptathlon gold medal. The Elwood native won at 60 meters while being third in four other events. He becomes UNK's first-ever RMAC heptathlon champion.

Paul ran a 49.36 time to claim the 400 title and was fourth in the 200 (23.08).

Murphy had a career best and arena best throw of 48-10 3/4 to win the women's shot put. The toss is the third best in school history. Peterson came in second (45-7 1/4) with Brittany Weinandt third.

Bauer (5-5) and fellow freshman Ariel Krolikowski (5-3) went 2-3 in the high jump with Erica Pirog third at 400 meters (59.99).

Also for the Lopers, Marty Molina was third in the triple jump (47-2 1/2) and Allen Osborn was third in the 60 hurdles (8.45).