



Perry and Nelson to Compete at USA's Outdoor Championships

by Melissa Soderberg, BYU Athletic Communications



Senior All-American Kyle Perry and junior All-American Richard Nelson will compete at the 2009 USA Track and Field Outdoor Championships in the 3,000-meter steeplechase in Eugene, Ore. Thursday.

BYU Photo/Mark Philbrick

PROVO, Utah (June 24, 2009) – Senior and junior All-Americans, Kyle Perry and Richard Nelson, will compete at the 2009 USA Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Eugene, Ore. beginning Thursday.

Both Cougars earned their tickets to the meet after placing in the top ten of the 3,000-meter steeplechase at the NCAA National Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Fayetteville, Ark. two weeks ago.

The top three finalists in each event will advance to the 2009 IAAF World Championships in Berlin, Germany.

Perry landed the first-place NCAA national champion title with a personal best time of 8:29.24. He enters the competition ranked sixth of 23 entries and will be running for New Balance.

"I'm very excited for a shot at representing the USA in Berlin," said Perry. "I like my chances. I'll be running for New Balance, and it's great to have that opportunity as well."

Nelson joins him after placing 10th at NCAA nationals with a time of 8:50.08, earning his first All-America honor. Going into the race, Nelson is seeded 16th with a time of 8:41.85.

Competing alongside Perry and Nelson in the steeplechase is former BYU athlete and Olympian, Josh McAdams. McAdams is seeded fourth with a time of 8:21.99.

The championships will kick off Thursday with the junior men's decathlon beginning at 9 a.m. PT. The first round of the men's steeplechase is scheduled for 7:25 p.m. PT.

Cougars Competing at USA's

Name	Event	Schedule/Results
Kyle Perry	3,000m steeplechase	Heat 1: Thurs. at 7:25 pm
Josh McAdams	3,000m steeplechase	Heat 1: Thurs. at 7:25 pm
Richard Nelson	3,000m steeplechase	Heat 2: Thurs. at 7:25 pm

Cougar Outdoor National Champions

Name	Event	Year
Kyle Perry	3000-meter steeplechase	2009
Niklas Arrhenius	Discus	2007
Josh McAdams	3000-meter steeplechase	2006
Rodrigo Mendes	Triple Jump	2005
Robison Pratt	Pole Vault	2005
Leonard Myles-Mills	100m	1999, 1998
Frank Fredericks	100m, 200m	1991
Ed Eyestone	5,000m, 10,000m	1985
Ed Eyestone	10,000m	1984
Tito Steiner	Decathlon	1981, 1977
Keith Gardenkrans	Discus	1980
Raimo Pihl	Decathlon	1975, 1973
Runald Backman	Decathlon	1974
Paul Cummings	Mile	1974
Zdravko Pecar	Discus	1974
Ralph Mann	440mH	1971, 1970, 1969
Mike Louisiana	Discus	1971
Perti Pousi	Triple Jump	1969
Perti Pousi	Long Jump	1968
Bob Richards	3000-meter steeplechase	1966
Bob Tobler	440 yards	1964