SPORTS Hyatt gets 'monkey off her back'

By Jake Berg Emerald Sports Editor

Paula Berry made last season's Last Chance Open memorable when she threw more than 200 feet in the javelin, the second-best toss in Oregon school history.

Thursday night at this year's George Varoff/Last Chance Open, Kim Hyatt made her best throw this season, a 177-7 toss. The senior's final throw as a collegian at Hayward was an NCAA automatic qualifier, assuring Hyatt of a spot at the national meet beginning next week in Austin, Texas.

Hyatt, who was previously high enough on the provisional list where she would have likely made the trip to Texas anyway, said the throw felt good, but she feels her technique could still use some work.

"It's a big monkey off my back," she said. "It's kind of a confidence-builder."

Hyatt had qualified automatically in all three of her previous seasons, so not getting an automatic her senior season would have been discouraging, she said.

"It would have played on my mind a little bit," Hyatt said.

The meet was set up for athletes who, like Hyatt, were





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