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**(Neb.)-Former Chadron State coach chosen for Pan-American games**



By: Andrew Lacy Posted at: 08/21/2013 10:48 AM

Former Chadron State assistant track coach April Smith will be traveling to South America this week as the head women's throws coach in the Pan American Junior Championships in Columbia.

The Pan Am Junior Championships consist of track & field events between qualifying from North and South America and will showcase many of the top junior athletes in the world.

Smith was selected from among the best track & field coaches in the country to represent the United States.

Smith served as a graduate assistant for Chadron State in 2001, when she coached All-American Mandy Kubo in the shot put. This fall will be her 12th season as the men's and women's throws coach at Appalachian State University where she has guided more than 50 conference champions and was awarded the NCAA Women's Assistant Coach of the Year Award in 2006.

As an athlete, Smith was a three-time NAIA National Champion and nine-time all-American at Doane College.