

UW skiers gear for regionals

By the Star-Tribune staff

LARAMIE — The University of Wyoming Nordic and Alpine ski teams compete at regional tournaments this weekend in Colorado.

Don't be surprised if UW conquers the competition at both events.

Led by several in-state skiers, the UW Nordic teams are undefeated and nationally ranked heading into the USCSA Regionals on Saturday and Sunday at Snow Mountain Ranch near Winter Park, Colo.

The top-ranked Cowgirls are led by Jennifer Kinner, Brooke Umphlett and Janelle Lore, all of Casper, and Greta Black, Ava Bell and Bekah Smith, all of Lander. Each of the six skiers has already qualified for the USCSA Nationals next month in Tahoe, Calif.

Erika Edgely, from Lake Placid, N.Y.,

also has qualified for nationals.

The second-ranked Cowboys have qualified four for nationals: Lander's Riley Hopeman and Jordie Weller, Casper's Jeff Bean and Laramie's Clayton Barrows.

The Alpine teams, meanwhile, compete Saturday and Sunday at the Western Regional Championships in Steamboat Springs, Colo.

In the nine-team Rocky Mountain Conference, the Cowboys are ranked second and the Cowgirls third.

The men's team includes five skiers from the Cowboy State: Laramie's Thor Hallingbye and Aaron Deuell, Big Piney's Nick Houfek, Jackson's Sam Lubing and Casper's Justin Spurrier.

The women's team includes three in-state skiers: Wilson's Laura Linn, Laramie's Dana Steidtmann and River-ton's Rebecca Sjostrom.