

Article created: 07/27/2006 09:09:02 AM PDT

Swimmers test the best in Far West

Eight compete in Concord

By Democrat sports staff

Mallory McGowan of the Woodland Swim Team won the high point trophy in the 13-14 age group in the recent Junior Olympics championships in Davis.

McGowan will lead a large contingent of teammates to this week's Far Western Long Course Championships in Concord.

She won three events and missed a junior national qualifying time by a half second. Coach Bret Williams attributed warm water to McGowan missing the nationals.

Matt Whittle also won three JO events, in the 50 butterfly and 50 and 100 breaststroke. He will swim this week and also in the Western Zones in Fresno on Aug. 8-12.

Woodland's 10-unders won JO titles in the medley and freestyle relays.

Whittle, Ryan Payne, Zack Anderson and Logan McElligott swam both relays.

Other swimmers competing in Concord will be Ariel Stephens, Marisa Hildebrand, Cameron Peyton and Jonathan and AnnClaire MacArt.

"For the younger kids, the Far Westerns is like an all-star meet," Williams said.