

Hazeltine, Styers fall short at prelims

Written by Mike Kelly
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Juniors Rebecca Hazeltine and Malcom Styers of the Appalachian State University track and field teams competed at the East Regional preliminaries Thursday at North Carolina A&T University in Greensboro, NC.

Unfortunately, the results were not favorable. Styers, the Southern Conference champion in the shot put, the discus and the hammer throw, qualified for two events---the shot put and the hammer throw.

He competed in the hammer throw, and failed to advance. Styers, who was seeded 40th in the field, fouled on all three of his attempts on Thursday morning, did not place, and did not advance to the championship round.

Hazeltine, who was seeded 30th and competed in the women's high jump, struggled as well. She was coming off her season-best effort of 5-9.25 at the North Carolina A&T Twilight Meet on May 16, but finished in a four-way tie for 29th in the prelims with a jump of five feet, six inches (1.69 m).

Styers competes in the shot put today at 3 pm. He is seeded 45th with a regional qualifying mark of 55-8.50; sophomore Darius Purcell competes in the men's high jump at 5 pm. He's seeded 40th with a regional-qualifying jump of 6-11.75; and senior Danielle Thorpe competes in the women's triple jump Saturday at 4 pm. She is seeded 9th, thanks to her best jump of the year (43-2.25). Thorpe is also looking for her third consecutive trip to nationals.

The NCAA National Track & Field Outdoor Championships will be held in Eugene, OR June 9-12. The top 12 finishers in each event advance to nationals.