

Yarbrough Clocks in NCAA Mark in 55m Hurdles

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. -

Junior Linnie Yarbrough won the 55m hurdles in a meet filled with personal bests for Middle Tennessee at the Middle Tennessee Open Saturday. Yarbrough clocked in an NCAA provisional qualifying time of 7.30 in the qualifying heat of the 55m hurdles. He won the race with a time of 7.36. "Linnie's time will probably get him into the NCAA Championships," said Head Coach Dean Hayes. "He ran a couple of really great races." James Thomas shattered the school record for the second week in the weight throw. After tossing a record-breaking mark of 52-5 at the Hoosier Relays, Thomas tossed a personal best 52-7 at home to place second.

Freshman Alex Pruitt continued to look strong in the high jump as he leapt 6-9 to win the event. Pruitt entered

the meet coming off a record-breaking jump of 7-1.50 the previous week at the Hoosier Relays. "Alex stayed tough in the high jump," Hayes said. "He was consistent and that is always important." Middle Tennessee got a one-two-three finish in the 55m hurdles. Junior Candice Robertson won the race with a time of 8.11, which was a personal best for the junior from Memphis, Tennessee. Jessica Anderson placed second in the event with a time of 8.38 and Latoya Brown was third with a personal best 8.54. "Candice ran well with a personal best 8.11," Hayes said. "She is really coming around." VanTonio Fraley continued to look strong in the sprints, winning the 55m. He matched his personal best time of 6.37. Fraley also placed third in the 200m, with a time of 22.03. Freshman Antranette Stringer clocked in a strong performance in the 400m winning the event with a personal best 57.28. After sitting out last week, senior KeKe Deckard also logged in a personal best in the long jump with an event-winning leap of 19-2.25. She also won the triple jump with a mark of 40-4. "Antranette had



a solid performance in the 400m," Hayes said. "I was really impressed with KeKe getting over 19 feet in the long jump today." In the shot put, Laetitia Florimand tossed a personal best 45-7 in the shot put for the top spot. Lady Raider Meaghan Byrd took third heaving a 40-11. Laseason Bell took third in the weight throw with a 50-3 and Byrd was third with a 50-11. Middle Tennessee hosts its final home meet of the season next Saturday with the Middle Tennessee Valentine Invitational. It is the final tune-up before the Sun Belt Championships on February 27-28 in Jonesboro, Arkansas.

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