Four regional performances highlight Blue Raider track at Last Chance Meet

Middle Tennessee will send athletes to the NCAA Mideast Regional in Louisville in two weeks

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ATLANTA - The Middle Tennessee track and field teams completed their regular-season by securing four NCAA Regional efforts Friday and Saturday at the Georgia Tech Invitational, a Last Chance Meet in Atlanta.

The Blue Raider women earned three of the regional performances, including one in the field events. Brittany Cox placed second in the shot put with a toss of 49-5.75 (15.08m), falling just short of winning the event by two inches (.05m) to Florida State's Kamorean Hayes.

The other two NCAA Regional qualifiers came on the track with Zamzam Sangau leading the way. She turned in a time of 2:07.38 to finish ninth in the 800 meters. The 4x400m relay team, consisting of TraMayne Gillyard, Sarah Nambawa, Nyeisha Wright and Kiara Henry, also qualified after tallying a second-place result of 3:40.73, just four seconds off the pace set by winner Miami (Fla.).

Other women's highlights of the event in the top 10 of the respective events included a fifth-place time by the 4x100m relay (46.58), sixth-place mark by Jackie Serem in the 5000m (18:09.15), Cox garnering a sixth-place mark in the hammer (176-10/53.91m) and Nambawa registering a seventh-place distance in the long jump (19-4.75/5.91m).

On the men's side, Roscoe Payne was the only MT athlete to earn an NCAA Regional performance with his showing in the 110m hurdles. Payne clocked in at 14.07 during the preliminary round before

advancing to the finals. In the finals, he posted an eighth-place time of 14.65.

Festus Chemaoi nearly made it two Blue Raider men, but missed a regional time by .06 in the 800m. He recorded a time of 1:50.46 to collect a 14th-place result.

Other top-10 showings included a runner-up time by William Songock in the 5000m (14:34.66), a fifth-place leap by Carl Morgan in the long jump (23-11.5/7.30m), Morgan again in the 200m (21.49) with a 10th-place time and Greg Franklin finishing 10th in the 100m (10.61).

The Middle Tennessee athletes who earned regional qualifying times or marks this weekend or had already achieved the efforts throughout the campaign advance to the NCAA Mideast Regional May 29-30 at Cardinal Park in Louisville, Ky.

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