

# Haake leads track and field team at Charlotte 49er Classic

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UNC Asheville junior Simon Haake broke the school record for the second straight week in a row, finishing first in the Charlotte 49er Classic last week-end in the javelin with a throw of 61.22 meters.

"Simon was definitely the champ of the weekend. He stands out on the team for hard work and dedication and for sure deserves finally breaking 60m. Let's hope we see him at regionals in May," senior sprinter Natalie Pearson said.

Haake set a school record last week at the Coastal Carolina Invitational with a javelin toss of 60.98 meters. His most recent record-breaking throw proved good enough to win the event at Charlotte, which included more than 30 of the top javelin throwers in the country.



Simon Haake

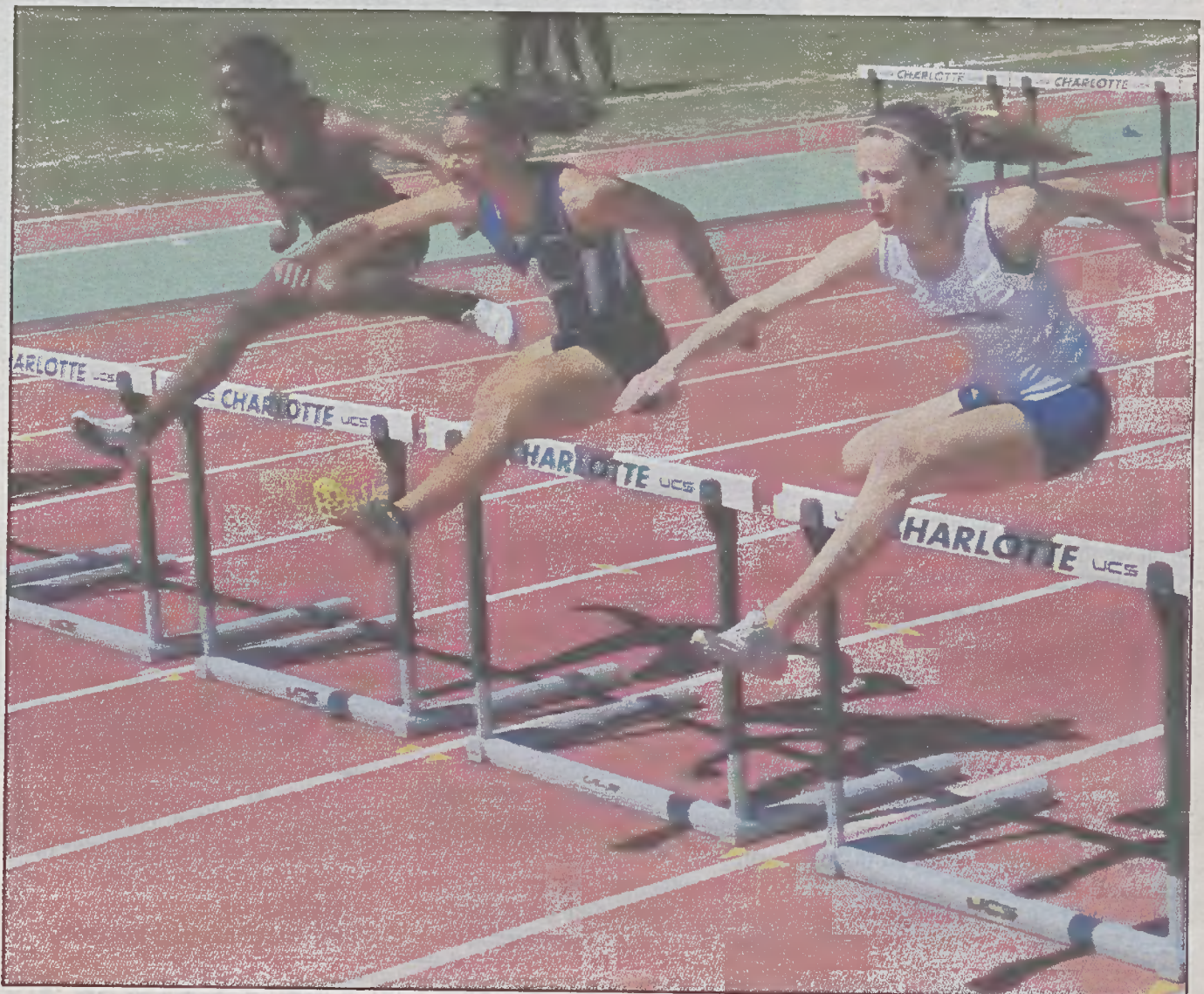
He walked on the track and field team two years ago and with hard work, he broke the school record, earned a scholarship and a chance to be a regional qualifier.

"Overall, I think the meet went exceptionally well. Natalie Pearson ran really strong in the 100 and 200 meter sprints, as she always does," distance runner Emma Bussard said.

In her final season of outdoor track, Pearson continues to have a memorable season, finishing second in the 100-meter with a time of 11.97.

Pearson was named the Big South Conference Choice Hotels Men's and Women's Track & Field Athlete of the Week for her performance at the Coastal Carolina Invitational.

She won the 200-meter dash with a school-record time of 24.01, which is the fastest time in the nation this sea-



Whitney Stafford, center, pushes past her competition during her preliminaries in the women's 100-meter hurdles. Stafford finished fifth in her heat with a time of 16.52. It was .01 behind Jenny Aliteri of Limestone.

Rebekah Pineda - Contributing Photographer

son.

"I feel that this was one of our most successful meets. Not a single person had a terrible race. Everyone competed very well and we had a ton of personal records. Melanie Kulesz ran a personal record in the 5000-meter, which is amazing, as she has never broken 18. I ran a PR in the 1500-meter with a time of 4:56, which is only four seconds off of Melanie's time from last week," freshman Alyska Kalmeijer said.

Kulesz and Katie Olert placed 17th and 18th in the 800-meter dash with times of 2:22.43 and 2:22.73.

Kylie Smith placed 10th in the 3000-meter with a time of 11:27. The women's 4x400m relay placed eighth, defeating N.C. State by less than a second, with a time of 4:03.47.

Ashlei Clodfelter placed sixth in the javelin throw with a throw of 36.12 meters.

Senior Corrie Trotter took fifth in

the high jump with a leap of 1.55 meters and Emily Pineda placed fifth in the discus with a throw of 34.92 meters.

"There was a wide range of competition at the 49er Invitational, including two other Big South schools (Winthrop, Gardner-Webb). The toughest competition came from large schools N.C. State, Clemson and UNC Char-