

2002 Regional...

State meet eludes two Ross athletes

News-Messenger reports

AMHERST — It was a day of near-misses for the Fremont Ross boys and girls track-and-field teams Thursday at the Division I regional meet.

Long jumper Bo Hudson and discus thrower Chris Kayser each finished fifth, one place out of a trip to state, and two relay teams missed qualifying for Saturday's finals by one place.

Ross freshman Adam Wilhelm, senior Adrienne Robertson and the girls 400-meter relay team qualified for the finals and will return Saturday.

Hudson jumped 21 feet, 6 inches, two inches short of fourth place. Teammate Bo Martin placed eighth at 19-2.

Kayser tossed the discus 149-0, coming up just short of his first state berth.

Wilhelm recorded the fourth-best time (49.9 seconds) in the 400 dash and must maintain that position Saturday to earn a trip to state.

"He definitely showed major signs of fatigue after running the 4-by-100 relay," Ross head coach Cathy Es-

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posito said. "He waited until the last few meters to really turn it on. It'll be interesting to see what he can do Saturday when he's fresh."

The top four individuals and relay teams in each event advance to the state meet on June 7 and 8 at Dayton's Welcome Stadium.

The boys 400 relay team of Eric Edwards, Wilhelm, Torrey Lewis and Tyrus Hamilton finished ninth, one place out of advancing to the finals, in a time of 43.9 seconds.

The girls 400 team of Keia Irons, Tia Simms, Robertson and Delanea Johnson finished eighth and reaped the final qualifying spot with a time of 49.92 seconds.

Robertson ran a time of 13.07 seconds to qualify eighth in the 100 dash.

"She ran nice," Esposito said. "She was in total shock."

The girls 800 relay team of Rachel Ruiz, Irons, Johnson and Simms finished ninth in 1:47.66. Ruiz placed 10th in the 300 hurdles in 49.6 seconds.

Also on Saturday, Hudson will compete in the high jump, and distance runner Stacy Hall will compete in the 1,600 and 3,200 runs.

Field events begin at 11:30 a.m., and track finals start at 12:30 p.m. Saturday.



WILHELM