

1960 STATE BOYS' TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIP

Tennessee Preparatory School - Nashville, TN

May 21, 1960

By JIMMY DAVY

A STUNNING upset in the pole vault by Battle Ground academy's Larry Brown yesterday gave Nashville and Middle Tennessee a near sweep of field event championships in the TSSAA State track meet at TPS' Roosevelt field.

Brown cleared the bar at 11 feet, 6 inches—his best vault of the year—and beat David Barto of Knoxville Fulton, who was considered a shoo-in for the pole vault title. Barto finished in a second place tie with John Gross of Ketron, clearing 11 feet.

The Nashville Interscholastic league swept three other field events and Nashville East, the defending state champion, took a morning lead in team points with 10.

Two East thinclads won titles. Junior Ward won the broad jump with a beautiful leap of 21 feet, 7½ inches and David Satterfield took the shot put in another state meet surprise with a toss of 51 feet, 10½ inches.

JIMMY COLLINS of Goodlettsville fell short of the state record in the discus but his heave of 151 feet, 7 inches was more than nine feet better than his closest competitor, Fred Marshall of Memphis Messick.

The only event yesterday morning not dominated by Middle Tennessee was the high jump. Earl Gillespie of Memphis White Station and Larry Silvers of Knoxville South tied for first place at 5 feet, 10 inches.

Silvers was clearing the bar easily at 5-10. But in attempting to scissor over at six feet, the East-state jumper came down on the bags lining the pits and suffered a severely sprained ankle.

Ward, THE NASHVILLE TENNESSEAN'S NIL trackman of the year, came through with a brilliant clutch performance in the broad jump. With only one jump left he

was in third place, behind Oak Ridge's Larry Mason, last year's State winner, and Jimmy Peek of Memphis South Side.

HE CAME barreling down the runway and leaped 21 feet, 7½ inches for a NIL record, beating both his closest competitors. Mason had a jump left but it didn't approach the second place jump of 20-11 he already had recorded.

Satterfield's win over Dupont's Jim Burroughs and Memphis Catholic's Whit Canale came as pleasant surprise in East's defense drive. His win, coupled with Ward's victory in the broad jump and Barto's upset in the pole vault, gave East a 10-2½ advantage over Fulton, the meet co-favorite.

However, Fulton's strength is in the running events while East has only two runners in the 440 and three relay teams left to run last night in the running event finals.

The summary:

Pole vault—Larry Brown (BGA), David Barto (Knox Fulton) and John Gross (Ketron) tie for second; Hal Herd (BGA) and Robbie Blaythe (CBHS) tie for fourth. Height—11 feet, 6 inches.

High jump—Earl Gillespie (Memphis White Station) and Larry Silvers (Knox South) tie for first; Larry Mason (Oak Ridge), Don Mantooth (Oak Ridge). Height—5 feet, 10 inches.

Broad jump—Junior Ward (East), Larry Mason (Oak Ridge), Jimmy Peek (Memphis South Side), Fred Fuqua (Cumberland). Distance—21 feet, 7½ inches.

Shot put—David Satterfield (East), Jim Burroughs (Dupont) and Whit Canale (Memphis Catholic) tie for second; Justin Canale (Memphis Catholic). Distance—51 feet, 10½ inches.

Discus—Jim Collins (Goodlettsville), Fred Marshall (Memphis Messick), Randall Robinson (TPS), Howard Hay (Oak Ridge). Distance—151 feet, 7 inches.

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"THIS is my greatest bunch of kids and believe me I've had some good ones."

With that East Coach Vic Varallo explained the second consecutive TSSAA State track championship for the Eagles and bid farewell to two of the Nashville interscholastic league's finest trackmen, Junior Ward and Joe Spann.

Ward, Eagle senior THE NASHVILLE TENNESSEAN tabbed the NIL's outstanding track man of the year, scored 12½ of East's winning total of 33 points Saturday night at TPS.

IN WINNING the broad jump and quarter-mile state titles, Ward broke two NIL records he already held. His broad jump of 21-7¼ was almost three inches better than the record Regional jump this year and his time in the 440 was 50.7, considerably better than the record 51.0.

Spann, blonde little senior, probably is the unsung hero of East's second State crown. He ran in the shadow of Ward all season despite being an integral part of East's relay teams.

"A lot of credit is due Joe," Varallo said. "He probably could have won some of the individual races but we needed him in the relays and it paid off in two relay wins and a state championship."

Ward, Spann, John Dahlgren and others won't be back next year but the Eagles will be strong again. Big James Gaddis, who fought off swift Tom Curley of Ryan twice in two weeks in the anchor leg of the 880-yard relay, returns as does Mike Myers, Charles Farrell and Bobby and Charles Dahlgren, the latter an 8th grader who could

become one of the state's finest distance runners.

EAST'S TEAM victory and nine first places in 16 events for Nashville thinclads is a wonderful example of the tremendous strides local schools have made in track.

Just two years ago Middle Tennessee and Nashville had never won a TSSAA State Championship. Now maybe the coveted title is in this area for a long stay.

No one was happier Saturday night than Cohn Coach George Morton. His Black Knights scored 11 points and wound up in a sixth place tie with only hurdler Bobby Baker and a two-mile relay team competing.

"Until last year we had never scored a point in state competition and we only got one last spring," he said.

Baker won the high hurdles and finished second in the lows while

the two-milers were runnersup.

Coach Bryant McDaniel and his Clarksville thinclads finished just 2½ points behind highly-regarded Knox Fulton. Little Lynn Vick ran well to win the low hurdles and only a failure by Blakey Bradley to pick up his points in the high jump kept the Wildcats from moving up.

THIS AND THAT—Tom Curley, Ryan junior, was unbeaten in 100-yard dash this year and his win in the state further emphasizes how good a football back he'll be next fall . . . Robert Moore of Goodlettsville did a good job in the state, finishing fourth in the 100 and third in the 220-yard dash . . . Litton's Jack Ray wound up third in the 880-yard run but gave a fine effort in the face of a state record time of 1:58.8 for Ripley's Benjie Beaird.