

1974 STATE DECATHLON

East High School - Nashville, TN

June 5-6, 1974

FINAL RESULTS

Hancock Best In Decathlon

By TOM SQUIRES

Memphis White Station's Buster Hancock launched a strong campaign for Tennessee's Athlete of the Year yesterday.

A STANDOUT on the Spartan basketball team who has signed a baseball grant with Memphis State, the 5-11 senior has now added the 1974 TSSAA State Decathlon championship to his list of accomplishments.

Hancock finished the two-day meet yesterday at East High with a record total of

8,931 points, almost 500 more than the state mark set last year by Clinton's Russell Fritts.

The smaller Hancock, who finished second in the West-state Regional last week, wound up 409 points ahead of Bishop Byrne's Curtis Weathers, who won the West Tennessee title with more than 9,200 points just six days ago.

"I GUESS I won it in the pole vault," said the bespectacled Hancock. "That's (10-4) about as high as I can go. I really thought Curtis would

go ahead of me in that event, but he had some bad luck."

Weathers, a muscular 6-3, 190-pound football star, cleared only 10-6 in the pole vault after his pole snapped on the final try at 11-7, a height he cleared in the regional.

Weathers, headed to Ole Miss on a grid scholarship, gathered 8,522 points, which was also better than Russell's total of 8,448 last year.

MIDSTATE Regional champ Jack Chandler of Overton finished strong in yesterday's events, getting third with a 4:54.5 mile and 1,000-point efforts in both the high hurdles and pole vault. He wound up with 8,413 points.

Jack's 15.0 clocking in the hurdles topped the field and he cleared the maximum 11-7 in the pole vault along with fourth-place finisher Sam Veals of Knox Doyle (7,142). Chandler's mile run was worth 950 points.

Hancock and Weathers ran 15.4 and 15.5 respectively in the hurdles and both picked up 1,000 points in the discus. Hancock threw 142-6 and Weathers 139-2.

WEATHERS and Hancock were also 1-2 in the triple jump, Weathers leaping 43-2¾ and Hancock 41-6. Hancock was second to Chandler in the mile at 4:59.5 while Weathers toured four laps in 5:31.2.

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS FOR TOP THREE: HIGH HURDLES — Chandler 15.0 (1,000), Hancock 15.4 (940), Weathers 15.5 (925); DISCUS — Hancock 142-6 (1,000), Weathers 139-2 (1,000), Chandler 106-4 (652); TRIPLE JUMP — Weathers 43-2¾ (958), Hancock 41-6 (886), Chandler 40-4 (826); POLE VAULT — Chandler 11-7 (1,000), Weathers 10-6 (792), Hancock 10-4 (760); MILE RUN — Chandler 4:54.5 (950), Hancock 4:59.5 (900), Weathers 5:31.2 (580).

TEN EVENT TOTALS: Hancock, White Station 8,931; Weathers, Bishop Byrne 8,522; Chandler, Overton 8,413; Sam Veals, Knox Doyle 7,142; Victor Hair, Knox Bearden 6,778; John Watts, Mem. Overton 6,765; Mark Goode, Mem. Harding 6,556; Lew McBea, Hendersonville 6,533; Tim Maloha, Jackson Central-Merry 6,066; Kevin Worley, Overton 5,941; Bill Judy, Daniel Boone 5,554; Henry Hammond, Knox Austin-East 5,318; Scratches — Eddie Preston, Hillwood; John Thetford, Lipscomb; Richard Sumrell, Chatt. Notre Dame.

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FIRST DAY RESULTS

Hancock, Weathers Lead in Decathlon

Memphians Buster Hancock and Curtis Weathers may force the TSSAA to alter its decathlon point guide before the day is over.

HANCOCK, OF White Station and Weathers, of Bishop Byrne, both soared over the 4,000-point mark yesterday after the first five events of the 1974 State Decathlon at East High.

One of the smaller competitors in the 13-man field Hancock proved to be best at the strong man's game where he picked up a maximum 1,000 points with a 48-9 effort in the shot put.

The Spartan senior, who is headed to Memphis State on a baseball scholarship, was also the top performer in the 100-yard dash with a 10.3 clocking, worth 875 points.

HE WOUND up with 4,445 points, getting more than 800 in the long jump (19-10), high jump (5-7) and 440 run (52.4).

Weathers, the favorite entering the meet after winning the Memphis regional with more than 9,200 points, rolled up 4,267 yesterday.

The all-state footballer, who has signed with Ole Miss, got 825 in the 100 (10.5), 822 in the long jump (19-3½), 910 in the shot (43-9), 20 in the high jump (5-8), and 70 in the quarter (52.8).

OVERTON'S Jack Chandler, who set the Midstate Regional record of 8,632 last week, is still in contention but well back in third place with 3,985 points.

The Bobcat junior fell short of last week's performances in four of the five events, im-

proving only in the shot where he picked up 814 points with a 41-10 throw.

Victor Hair of Knoxville Bearden is fourth with 3,775 after long jumping 20-5½ for 918 points and clearing 5-10 in the high jump for 1,000 more.

HILLWOOD'S Eddie Preston is fifth with 3,671, one notch in front of Eaststate Regional champ Sam Veals of Knox Doyle. Veals was the only other participant to get a maximum total in any event, clearing 5-10 in the high jump.

Today's final five events — the 120-yard high hurdles, discus, triple jump, pole vault, and mile run—get underway at 9:30 a.m. at the Eagle track.

This year's champ is almost certain to break the point record of 8,448, set last year by Clinton's Russell Fritts.

THERE were two scratches yesterday and both came from regional runnerup finishers. Notre Dame's Richard Sumrell broke his foot during last week's competition and Lipscomb's Derrell Sumrell was scratched.

1. Buster Hancock, White Station 4,445; 2. Curtis Weathers, Bishop Byrne 4,267; 3. Jack Chandler, Overton 3,985; 4. Victor Hair, Knox Bearden 3,775; 5. Eddie Preston, Hillwood 3,671; 6. Sam Veals, Knox Doyle 3,592; 7. Lew McRee, Hendersonville 3,540; 8. Mark Gonda, Mem. Harding 3,297; 9. John Watts, Mem. Overton 3,153; 10. Henry Hammond, Knox Austin-East 2,974; 11. Bill Rudy, Daniel Boone 2,918; 12. Kevin Worley, Overton 2,254; 13. Tim Metcher, Jackson Central-Merry 2,690; 14. Derrell Sumrell, Notre Dame; 15. John Thetford, Lincoln. **TOP INDIVIDUAL RECORDS MADE:** 100. Buster Hancock, White Station 10.3 (875 points); Long Jump—Victor Hair, Bearden 20-5½ (918); Shot — Buster Hancock, White Station 48-9 (1,000); High Jump—Sam Veals, Doyle