

1980 STATE DECATHLON
McGavock High School - Nashville, TN
May 27-28, 1980
FINAL RESULTS

Church Wins In Decathlon

Overton's James Church is the new TSSAA State Decathlon champion.

The senior Bobcat made it official yesterday at McGavock with an impressive second-day total of 3,890 for a cumulative 8,365 points, 565 ahead of runner-up Doug Derryberry of MBA, who was in third place going into yesterday's competition.

Church, a 5-10, 165-pounder, was the first day leader in the 10-event meet with 4,475, good enough for a 405-point lead.

Sevier County's Charles Coleman was a distant third with 7,090. Whites Creek's James Bates was fourth with 7,055.

Rita Story of Greeneville and Regina Troupe of Oak Ridge finished a surprising 1-2 in the pentathlon. Story had 4,010 points, 560 more than she amassed in winning the East Tennessee regional meet last weekend.

Middle Tennessee's top two finishers were Lynn Casidy of Murfreesboro Oakland and

Katherine Miller of Whites Creek. They finished in a three-way tie for third with Ruth Ann Forsythe of Memphis Skyview Baptist with 3,685.

Cassidy, favored in the state meet, managed only 4-feet, 6 inches in the high jump, costing her 360 from her region total. Those points would have given the Lady Patriot senior the state title.

Final Decathlon Finish

1—James Church (Overton) 8,365; 2—Doug Derryberry (MBA) 7,800; 3—Charles Coleman (Sevier Co.) 7,090; 4—James Bates (Whites Creek) 7,055; 5—Tommy Rittenhouse (Oak Ridge) 7,015; 6—Glen Boyd (Mem. Mitchell) 6,910; 7—Steve Osborn (Mem. Prep) 6,780; 8—Johnny Burgess (Oak Ridge) 6,535; 9—Ronnie Kinser (Sullivan Cen.) 6,400; 10—Eddie Pirtle (Overton) 6,340; 11—Calvin Davis (Mem. Central) 6,115.

Final Pentathlon Finish

1—Rita Story (Greeneville) 4,010; 2—Regina Troupe (Oak Ridge) 3,730; 3—Lynn Casidy (Mur. Oakland), Katherine Miller (Whites Creek), Ruth Ann Forsythe (Mem. Skyview Baptist Aca.) 3,685; 6—Jan Watkins (Knox. Bearden) 3,665; 7—Dana King (Bellevue) 3,610; 8—Sandra Beason (Collierville) 3,858; 9—Lynne Ridenhour (Knox. Bearden) 3,433; 10—Angie Leonard (Sullivan Cen.) 3,290; 11—Donna Davis (Overton) 3,140; 12—Lisa Coleman (McGavock) 2,990; 13—Tammy Jamison (Millington) 2,695.

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FIRST DAY RESULTS

Church Leading State Decathlon

James Church of Overton owns a 405-point lead as the TSSAA State Decathlon enters the final day at McGavock High this morning at 9:30.

Church, the Middle Tennessee region champion, rolled up 4,475 first-day points. Glen Boyd of Memphis Mitchell is second at 4,070. Montgomery Bell Academy's Doug Derryberry is third with 3,910.

Also scheduled for today is the State Pentathlon which finds Lynn Cassity of Murfreesboro Oakland and Katherine Miller of Whites Creek as favorites.

"James finished the first day about 60 points ahead of his first-day total in the region," said Overton track coach Randall Tidwell. "His lead isn't commanding, but it is a good lead and will give him a definite edge going into the final day."

Church's highest point total yesterday came in the long jump. The senior leaped 21 feet, four inches for 980 points under the new scoring system. His low point production of the day was the shotput where his 43-4½ toss earned only 810 points.

Other marks yesterday by the 5-10, 165-pound Church were 10.3 in the 100 dash, 6-0 in the high jump and 53.4 in the 440.

Two decathletes reached or exceeded the optimum 1,000 point mark in events yesterday. Derryberry attained 1,000 with a 6-2 high jump while Johnny Burgess of Oak Ridge hurled the shot 50-3½ for 1,090 points.

Defending state champion Steve Rose, saddled with injuries, was one of three no-shows yesterday. Rose finished second in the East Tennessee regional over the weekend.

Events left today are the 120 hurdles, triple jump, discus, pole vault and mile run. Pentathletes face the 100 dash, long jump, shot, high jump and 440.

Decathlon Leaders

James Church (Overton) 4,475; Glenn Boyd (Mem. Mitchell) 4,070; Doug Derryberry (MBA) 3,910; Charles Coleman (Sevier Co.) 3,840; Johnny Burgess (Oak Ridge) 3,540; James Bates (Whites Creek) 3,475; Steve Osborn (Mem. Prep) 3,405; Jamie McAllister (NCS) 3,295; Ronnie Kinsler (Sullivan Cen.) 3,260; Tommy Rittenhouse (OR) 3,150; Eddie Firtle (Overton) 3,145; Calvin Davis (Mem. Central) 3,110.