

## 1973 STATE DECATHLON

East High School - Nashville, TN

June 6-7, 1973

### FINAL RESULTS

# Clinton's Fritts Takes Decathlon

Clinton's Russell Fritts won the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association's state decathlon yesterday at East High school by scoring a record 8,448 points.

**THE MOST** points scored in the decathlon prior to Fritts' performance yesterday had been 8,437, tallied by Steve Freeman of Memphis White Haven in 1971.

**Bill Briggs** of Harding Academy finished second be-

hind Fritts with 8,204 points, while Tullahoma's Johnny Warren made a strong second-day surge to finish third with 8,089.

Fritts, who had finished first in the 100 dash, long jump and high jump in Wednesday's opening round, took one more first place yesterday, in the triple jump. He was third in the 440 dash, third in the discus, fifth in the shot put, high hurdles, pole vault, and eighth in the mile run.

**TWO STATE** records were set yesterday, in addition to Fritts' total points. Fritts set a new triple jump record with a distance of 44 feet, four inches. Kerry Holt of Hillsboro, who finished fifth in the decathlon, won the pole vault with a record vault of 13 feet.

Fritts said he had one of his best performances ever in yesterday's win. "I bettered what I had done in the regional decathlon in the pole vault, discus, hurdles and mile," he said. "I was only 89 points ahead of Briggs going into the mile run, and I knew I had to really bear down there if I was going to win."

**Individual standings:** Russell Fritts (Clinton) 8,448; Bill Briggs (Harding Acad.) 8,204; Johnny Warren (Tullahoma) 8,089; Buster Hancock

(Germantown) 7,997; Kerry Holt (Hillsboro) 7,492; John Holder (East) 7,462; Donnie Chandler (Overton) 7,370; Robert Wibking (Clarksville) 7,168; Bill Judy (Daniel Boone) 7,107; Allen Vincent (Ridgeway) 6,758; Danny Nichols (Lynnview) 6,764; Robert Williams (Manassas) 6,559; Freddy Farmer (Knox Fullon) 6,476; Eddie Scruss (Knox Central) 6,307; Mark Goode (Harding Academy) 5,851.

#### YESTERDAY'S EVENTS

High hurdles—Holder 15-2; Briggs 15-3; Farmer 16-0; Chandler 16-8; Fritts 16-3; Hancock 16-3.  
Triple jump—Fritts 44-4; Holder 43-1; Nichols 41-7; Briggs 40-2; Hancock 40-0.  
Discus—Hancock 138-10; Briggs 117-10; Fritts 116-11; Warren 114-10; Holt 108-9.  
Pole Vault—Holt 13-0; Warren 11-7; Briggs 11-7; Chandler 11-7; Fritts 9-8.  
Mile run—Warren 4:45.3; Holt 4:56.2; Judy 4:58.5; Wibking 5:06.8; Hancock 5:09.0.

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### FIRST DAY RESULTS

# Clinton's Fritts Tops TSSAA Decathlon

By LARRY WOODY

Highly-favored Russell Fritts of Clinton surged into the lead of the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association's state decathlon yesterday at East High School.

**FRITTS**, A senior, tallied 4,489 points in the first day of the two-day decathlon. Closest competitor was Harding Academy's Bill Briggs, with 4,141 points. East's John Holder stands third, with 4,068 points.

Fritts stormed into the leadership by winning three of the five events yesterday, and finishing third and fifth in the other two.

He won the 100 dash with a time of 10.2, won the long jump with a leap of 21 feet, nine inches, and won the high jump with a leap of 5 feet, 10 inches. He was third in the 440 dash with a 52.1 and fifth in the shot put with a throw of 40 feet, 8½ inches.

**THE SHOT** put was won by

Buster Hancock of Germantown with a throw of 48 feet, 11¾ inches. Bill Judy of Daniel Boone won the 440 dash with a time of 52.0.

Fritts was only one of six players that scored over 4,000 points in the opening day.

"That's really unusual," said East track coach and decathlon director Junior Ward. "I don't think we have had ten boys score over 4,000 points in the first five events in the last 10 years."

Ward said that Fritts was apparently in the driver's seat as the decathlon concludes with the high hurdles, triple jump, discus, pole vault and mile run today.

"**THE WAY** he looked in the opening round, I really don't think anybody will be able to catch him," he said. "The boy from Germantown (Hancock) looked awfully good today, though, and so did some of the others that score in the 4,000's. Somebody might

manage to catch up with a super effort."

Today's events get underway at 9:30 this morning.

Yesterday's results:

#### STANDINGS

Russell Fritts (Clinton) 4,489; Bill Briggs (Harding Acad.) 4,141; John Holder (East) 4,068; Bill Judy (Daniel Boone) 4,036; Danny Nichols (Lynnview) 4,015; Buster Hancock (Germantown) 4,000; Johnny Warren (Tullahoma) 3,887; Robert Wibking (Clarksville) 3,800; Kerry Holt (Hillsboro) 3,564; Allen Benson (Ridgeway) 3,534; Freddy Farmer (Knox Fulton) 3,468; Donnie Chandler (Overton) 3,432; Mark Goode (Harding Acad.) 3,282; Eddie Scurags (Knox Central) 3,162; Robert Williams (Manassas) 3,110.

#### EVENTS

100 dash—Fritts 10:2; Judy 10:4; Briggs 10:6; Nichols 10:6; Holder 10:8. Long jump—Fritts 21-9; Holder 20-9½; Nichols 20-6; Farmer 19-9¼; Williams 19-8½.

Shot put—Hancock 48-11¾; Wibking 42-7½; Nichols 42-7; Briggs 41-9¼; Fritts 40-8½.

High jump—Fritts 5-10; Judy 5-10; Holder 5-10; Briggs 5-9; Wibking 5-9. 440 dash—Judy 52:0; Holt 52:1; Fritts 52:1; Warren 52:2; Vincent 53:2.