

## 1974 TSSAA BOYS STATE CROSS COUNTRY MEET

Percy Warner Park - Steeplechase Course

Nashville, TN

November 3, 1974

# Slaughter Impressive In Record Performance

By TOM SQUIRES

Antioch's Jon Slaughter may go down as the state's all-time cross country king.

The Bear senior may be the only runner ever to participate in four TSSAA state meets, much less win three of them.

**JON'S THIRD** straight title came Saturday at Percy Warner Park when he broke his own state record with a time of 14:45, 10 seconds better than his 1973 winning effort.

"I believe Slaughter's accomplishments in cross country will go unmatched for a long time to come," said East High coach Junior Ward, the state meet director who actually was Jon's first coach more than six years ago.

"I know Jon has probably done more running than any kid his age. At least I can't imagine anyone running more than he has. I'd like to have a nickel for every mile he has run. But, it has paid off for him," said Ward.

**MURFREESBORO** Oakland's Dale Short was runnerup to Slaughter and became only the second runner ever to break 15 minutes on the three-mile steeplechase course. The junior ran a 14:59.

Slaughter's teammate Gary Perry finished third, but his time of 15:11 was eight seconds behind his

time of a year ago when he placed second to Slaughter.

Clarksville Northwest upset McGavock for the team title when the Raiders' top runner—Gary Hamlington—was forced to stop during the race when he developed cramps. He wound up finishing behind all six McGavock teammates.

**NORTHWEST HAD 84**

points and McGavock 91. Dupont made it a clean sweep for Middle Tennessee by finishing third with 98. It was the eighth time in 15 meets that a Clarksville team has won.

Dupont's Scott Jamison was the only other Midstater in the top 10 finishers, grabbing 10th with a time of 15:28.