

1970 State Meet...

Cleveland Glenville AA Titlist

Fegley Third In Low Hurdles; Smith Doesn't Place In 880

By MARK CARLSON
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COLUMBUS — It wasn't the way a Hollywood script writer would have finished it.

After all, if it was for the movies, Woodmore's Dave Fegley would have come from nowhere to win the high and low hurdles.

Fremont Ross' Earl Smith would have captured the gold medal in the 880-yard run.

But, Virginia, this wasn't for the movies.

It was the Ohio Class AA track and field championships at Gahanna Lincoln high school Saturday.

Fegley, who stunned the Mansfield Regional slightly more than one week ago, placed third in the 180-yard low hurdles. He didn't qualify for the 120-yard high hurdle finals.

Smith, running the 880 for only the seventh time in his career, didn't place, finishing eighth in a 16-team field.

Neither of their coaches were displeased, however.

"We're just thankful Dave got this far," Woodmore coach Jim Smith said. "When you consider the type of competition, third place is nothing to kick about."

Ross high coach Ron Brandt had much of the same to say about Smith, who first ran the 880 against Sandusky Perkins in a dual meet last month for a "change of pace."

"Earl did his best," Brandt said. "That's all we could ask for. It would have been nice for him to place but he still has another year. He's already talking about his chances for next year and how he's going to get in shape for the 880."

Fegley was two-tenths of a second off the winning pace of the winner in the low hurdles. Tom Kight,

Worthington, won the event with a :19.4. Second place finisher was Alex DiMarzio, Canton McKinley, who turned in a :19.5.

In the preliminary heat, Fegley was clocked in :19.7. But, it was a last second lunge at the finish line which gave him his berth in the finals. Three other competitors were also clocked in :19.7.

The Wildcat senior turned in a :14.5 in the high hurdle preliminaries. It was good for only a fourth place finish in his heat. Fegley had won the Mansfield Regional with a :14.2.

The only other competitor to enter the state meet with a comparable time was Frank Wilkins of Mansfield Malabar, who placed second to Fegley with a similar :14.2 at the regional. Wilkins didn't make the high hurdle finals either.

Cleveland Glenville's Fred Lane was the high hurdles winner. He was clocked in :14.1.

Smith, who entered the meet with the 10th best time among the 16 competitors, was in 13th place at the end of the first quarter. With approximately 320 yards to go he put on a kick which carried him past five competitors into eighth place.

"For a while I thought he was going to manage to finish in the top six and place," Brandt said. "But Earl said he tightened up a little on the final turn."

Even so, Smith lowered the Ross 880 record for the fifth time. The Little Giant records will show he ran the event in 1:57.1.

"They only clock the first six finishers," Brandt said. "But we (the Ross coaches) had three clocks on him. One stop watch had Earl finishing in 1:56.9, another had 1:57.1 and the third 1:57.3. We decided to average the three times."

"We know the 1:57.1 is pretty close to accurate,"

Brandt continued, "the sixth place finisher was clocked in 1:56.1 and Earl was only a few steps behind."

A Cleveland school won the AA crown for the sixth straight year. Cleveland Glenville needed a second place finish in the mile relay, however, to edge Dayton Dunbar, 37-35.

For Glenville it was the fifth state title in the last six years. Cleveland John F. Kennedy, the 1965 champ, finished in a three-way tie for fourth Saturday.

Frank Lane won the 120-yard high hurdles and Louis DeFreeze took the 880 to help put Glenville over the top.

Earl Richardson scored more than half of the Dunbar points. He accumulated 22 with a first in the 440, second in the 220 and fourth in the 100-yard dash.

Two records were set in the AA meet. Mansfield Malabar's Jeff Linta set a meet and Ohio high school record, clearing the pole vault at 15-4 1/2, 2 1/2 inches better than the 1968 record set by Elyria's Jerry Klyop.

Niles McKinley senior Les Nagy lowered the two-mile standard. He was clocked in 9:04.1. The previous mark was 9:16.8, set last year by Dave Chesebrough of Cleveland Heights.

Willie Price, East Cleveland Shaw, tied the high jump record of 6-7 set last year by Tony Wilson, Franklin Heights.

At Upper Arlington high school, Cortland Lakeview grabbed the Class A title.

Lakeview's five-man team accumulated 28 points to nip Montpelier (26). Lakeview had first in the shot put and mile run and got its two-point winning margin with a fifth place finish in the mile relay.



PREPARING FOR START — Ross' Earl Smith (third from left) eyes the starter prior to the beginning of the 880-yard run at the Ohio high school AA track meet Saturday. Smith finished eighth in the 16-man field. Pictured in the photo (left to right): Rick Schnittker, Perrysburg; Steve Gilmore, Canton

Lehman; Smith, Ross; Lewis DeFreeze, Cleveland Glenville; Jon Schrock, Bay Village; Carl Hostetler, Wooster, and Ken Udovic, Cleveland St. Joseph (News-Messenger Photo)