

warm, very humid, dead calm
track; firm- fast

OLYMPIC DEVELOPMENT MEET
Houston, Texas, August 24

- 100m, Hines(Hous Striders) 10.3; 2. Pender(US Army) 10.3; 3. Smith(SC Striders) 10.3; 4. Glosson(Trinity) 10.4; 5. Clayton(SCVYV) 10.4; 6. Jim Dennis(Nebraska) nt.(Hines and Dennis-two false starts each)
- 200m, Hines 20.4; 2. Smith 20.5; 3. Carlos(SCVYV) 21.0; 4. Miller(US Army) 21.1. (Carlos probably 20.8 to 20.9 due to distance spread-timing wrong)
- 400m, James(Villanova) 45.3; 2. Matthews(JC Smith) 45.5; 3. Taylor(Ohio U) 45.8; 4. Kemp(US Army) 46.2; 5. Francis(Ark AM&N) 46.4.
- 800m, T.Farrell(US Army) 1:47.7; 2. J.Perry(PCC) 1:48.0; 3. Hunt(Hou Strider) 1:48.7; 4. Johnson(Pr View) 1:48.9; 5. Arrington(Wisconsin) 1:49.1; 6. D.Perry(US Army) 1:49.3; 7. Kutchinski(Michigan) 1:50.3; 8. Davis(US Army) 1:52.6 (Johnson & Arrington- 55.0 at 400m)
- 110mHH, Coleman(SC Striders) 13.6; 2. ³Davenport(Hou Striders) 13.7; 3. White(SC Striders) 13.7; 4. Hall(Villanova) 13.7; 5. Carty(Odessa JC) 13.9; 6. Livers(Athens AC) 14.0; 7. Flowers(Tenn) 14.4.
- 400mIH, Vanderstock(USC) 49.9; 2. Gittens(Wash St) 51.0; 3. Rogers(Grand St. Boys) 51.2; 4. Lee(Balt OC) 51.3; 5. McCrary(Calif) 51.4; 6. Bell(American) 55.9(fell at 10th hurdle).
- 400mRly, Team #1 39.6(Pender, Clayton, Carlos, Hines); Team #2 40.6(Mays, Coleman, Miller, Glosson).
- 1600mRly, Team #1 3:05.2(Kemp 45.5; Taylor 45.3; Matthews 47.5; James 46.9); 2. Team #2 3:08.2(Hunt 46.8; Farrell 47.9; Rogers 47.3; Lee 46.2) (#2 splits by Dixon Farmer)(coach Higgins had 47.5, 47.5, 47.3, 45.9 for #2- suspect Farmer's to be correct).
- HJ, Caruthers(PCC) 7'0"; 2T, Hartfield(Hou Striders) & Downing(Miami, Oh) 6'10"; 4. Bowers(Ann Arbor TC) 6'10"; 5T, Hoyt(US Marines) & Curry(Baylor) 6'8"; 7. Burrell(SC Striders) 6'8".
- PV, Pennell(SC Striders) 17'4"; 2. Seagren(BSC) 17'0"; 3. Chase(SCVYV) 16'0"; 4T, Railsback(SC Striders) & Bennett(Okla Christ) 15'6". Vaughn did not vault due to sore back.
- LJ, Beamon(Hou Striders) 25'1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "(24'11", 24'7 $\frac{1}{4}$ ", 24'8", 24'8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", 25'0"; 25'1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "); 2. Boston(SC Striders) 24'8 $\frac{1}{2}$ "; 3. Hopkins(unat) 23'11"; 4. Miller(Hou Strid) 23'5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "; 5. Mays(Grand St Boys) 23'3 $\frac{1}{4}$ ".
- SP, Woods(PCC) 67'3 $\frac{3}{4}$ "(64'5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", 67'3 $\frac{3}{4}$ ", p, p, p, p); 2. Matson(Hou Strid) 65'5"(60'8 $\frac{1}{4}$ ", 62'6", 64'7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", f, 64'11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", 65'5"); 3. Patera(PTC) 64'7"(61'7 $\frac{3}{4}$ ", 62'7 $\frac{1}{4}$ "; 62'4 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", 62'6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", f, 64'7") 4. Sylvester(unat) 61'10 $\frac{3}{4}$ "(61'10 $\frac{3}{4}$ ", f, 58'11 $\frac{3}{4}$ ", 61'6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", 59'11", 68'8 $\frac{1}{2}$ "); 5. Orrell(Hou Strid) 57'9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ".
- DT, Sylvester(unat) 205'1"(200'10", 201'10", f, 205'1", f, 202'9"); 2. Carlsen(SC Striders) 200'0"(189'5", f, f, 195'2", 200'0", 199'0"); 3. Oerter(NYAC) 196'4"(193'6", 195'1", 195'3", 196'4", 195'5", f).
- JT, Covelli(PCC) 256'6"(flat, 256'6", all rest flat); 2. Murro(Mesa JC) 254'2"(244'11", 221'2", 254'2", 195'11", 218'5"); 3. McNabb(Hou Strid) 239'7"; 4. Polizzi- no mark(may not have thrown officially).

OLYMPIC DEVELOPMENT: Pennell 17'4", Woods 67'³/₄"

by Jack Shepard Aug 24 '68

Houston, Tex, August 24--An upset and a thrilling comeback spiced this Olympic Development meet where outstanding ~~hanks~~ were commonplace. George Woods, the 300 poound ex-Southern Illinois giant supri~~s~~ed Randy Matson in his own backyard, so to speak, by raising his best a foot to 67'³/₄". Matson, not ~~press~~ exploding as usual, bould mangge only 65'5" on his last put. Woods, who has gained 22 pounds since the Olympic Trials began with a 64'5¹/₂" before unleashing his great throw. He then passed his other throws as Matson could reach only 64'11¹/₂" before his final throw. Ken Patera looked godd with a 64'7" for third, also on his final effort.

In a heart-warming comeback, ex-world record holder John Pennell turned in his best mark since 1966 by topping the field with a 17'4" effort. Bob Seagren took second at 17'0" while another 17 footer, Bob Vaughn did not vault due to a sore back. Pennell passed at 15'6", missed once at 16'0" and then cleared 16'6", 17'0" and 17'4" on first vaults. He then had the bar raised to new record height of 17'8¹/₂". He passed under the bar on the first attempt, hit it on the way up the second time and was over but took the bar off with his hip on the third try. Add another name to our Olympic vault picture, Welcome back, John.

Jimmy Hines, star of the meet sponsoring Houston Striders was named the meets top athlete and Pennell took home the field award. Hines won a slow 100 meters in 10.3 over fast starting Mel Pender and Ronnie Ray Smith, but Pender should have been the winner. With Charlie Greene missing from the lineup Nebraska's Jim Dennis was inserted. He false started once to upset the runners, then Hines jumped, Dennis again to be out and then Hines again. Both men left the starting line, but the protests from the crowd, coaches and Strider manager, Dave Rickey, caused the men to be re-inserted in what had just become an exhibition race. Hines other wine ~~was~~ no fluke though. He easily won the 200 meters in 20.4 after easing up near the finish. Ronnie Ray Smith ~~was~~ closed for a 20.5 ~~win~~ and John Carlos, suffering a minor injury, strided an easy 21.0 which was more likely a 20.8 or 20.9.

The 400 and 800 races were close packeed affairs. In the longer race Felix Johnson from Prairie View, a usually fast first lapper, tried a new strategy and passed the 400 meter post in 55.0 along with Ray Arrington and a tight pack behind them. Down the backstretch Johnson and Arrington held off George Hunt in a box ~~Tom Farrell~~ ^{Ray Arrington}. Around the final turn Hunt had to back off and go around, losing valuable seconds, but Tom Farrell found a small opening and burst through to take the lead down the final straight as Johnson and Arrington faded. Farrell came home the clear winner in 1:47.7, his best of the year, but closing rapidly out of the pack was Marine John Perry at 1:48.0. In the shorter 400 the lineup was formidable and Lee Evans, Ron Freeman II, and Wayne Collett were absent. ~~The~~ first 150 meters found Larry James, Vinne Matthews, Emmett Taylor, and Jim Kemp all even, but down the back straightaway Taylor made a move to gain a slight advantage. They remained that way around the final turn until James slowly eased ahead and Matthews also slowly moved up next to him. There they remained as if locked together down the stright. At the finish the gaps had opened slightly and James won in a fine 45.3 with 45.5 and 45.8 for Matthews and Taylor.

In the intermediate hurldes, Geoff Vanderstock made a bid for the world record, but the lack of competition didn't help and he finished with a fine 49.9 well ahead of early leader Boyd Gittens 51.0. In the short hurdles two injured veterans, Willie Davenport and Richmond Flowers continued along the comeback trail. Davenport's bid was successful while Flowers showed his lack of conditioning. Off well at the start Davenport was running just back of Tom White and Leon Coleman and was gaining inches over every hur

hurdle. His moves looked like he was going to pull ahead and win, but going over ~~one of the~~ ^{3rd} ~~final~~ barriers his left ~~arm~~ hand got in front of Erv Halls spikes and Willie faltered to third in 13.7 same as runner up White, while Coleman won in 13.6. Davenport required 10 stitches to close the wound. Not so fortunate was Flowers who didn't seem to have the snap over the hurdles and finished seventh in 14.4

In the relays the crack team of Mel Pender, Kirk Clayton, John Carlos, and Jim Hines made excellent passes to win over a pickup team in 39.6 as Hines visably eased off and strided the last 70 meters. The same thing happened in the 1600 meter relay. After swift legs of 45.5 and 45.3 by Jim Kemp and Emmett Taylor the team was on a world record pace, but Vince Matthews and Larry Hames just coasted and the time was 3:05.2. This race would appear to be the most certain American World record in the upcoming Games.

Jay Sylvester, with no aiding wind punched out a good series of 200 foot throws and won with a 205'1" from a ring which was a painted surface and therefore somewhat slippery and onto a field which optically looked like one was throwing about one foot uphill. Gary Carlsen hit an even 200 feet for second and Al Oerter, very consistent, but disappointed took third with 196'4". Frank Covelli, throwing over the crown of a high center football field had all but one of his throws called flat but still won at 256'6". One of his flat ones was estimated at 268 feet. Mark Murro, who hasn't thrown since the Trials took second at 254'2".

A new ~~pre-Olympic~~ world record was set in the ~~sky~~ typical pre-Olympic sky diving event. Two of the three jumpers landed within the Olympic circles on the field, far out-distancing the old record of 1 for 5 set at the LA semi-trials. *Unfortunately the pigeon-droppings and balloon rising events were not held.*