

Andre Lewis finishes 10th at state high jump



All photo credits: Danielle DeFalco

By Kevin Gordon

DAYTON — Andre Lewis already is looking forward to next season and a return to the state high school track and field championships.

The Eastwood High School junior competed at state the first time Friday afternoon, clearing 6-2 and finishing 10th in the high jump during the Division II meet at Welcome Stadium. After clearing 6-2, Lewis attempted a personal record of 6-4 where he missed all three of his attempts.

“I was happy with the way the day went,” Lewis said. “It’s like a preview of next year. I’m excited to come back here next year and do the same thing again. There’s big things to come.”

Lewis cleared the opening height of 6-0 and 6-2 on his first attempt.

“I was trying to be consistent and get my jumps in,” Lewis said. “I wish I would have cleared 6-4, and everyone wants to jump higher.”

Lewis cleared his PR of 6-3 during the district and regional meets the last two weeks to qualify for state. He finished second in the Oak Harbor district and fifth in the Lexington regional to earn an at-large berth to state.

The top four finishers in each event at the regional earned automatic state berths. The at-large berths went to the next two best times/heights/distances in each event, across all four regions.

Lewis was seeded in a three-way tie for 13th at state, based on regional heights. A total of 18 jumpers competed at state.

“He needs to believe he belongs here,” Eastwood Head Coach Brian Sabo said. “Not that he didn’t, but some people have doubt at the state meet and wonder if they belong here. Right away, he nailed 6-0 and 6-2 on his first attempt. I hope he says he belongs here.”

“Luckily, he’s a junior, and he can realize, number one, I belong, and, number two, if I change a couple of things, I can go from a 6-3 jumper to a 6-6 jumper,” Sabo added. “It can happen pretty easily. I also hope he enjoyed his experience, and I think he did. I appreciate he didn’t regret how he thought and that he came in and cleared some bars. He could have no heighted because he was super nervous.”

Bellevue senior Wyatt Sumser won the event with a height of 6-9, while Bellville Clear Fork freshman Davis Hoeflich was second at 6-8.

Canton South senior Julius Kimbrough was third, and Field sophomore Trevor Dixon finished fourth. Both cleared 6-6, but Kimbrough was third on fewer misses. Glenville senior Rayne Williams was fifth at 6-5. The sixth- through ninth-place finishers all cleared 6-4.



“The competition was great,” Lewis said. Lewis also received academic all-state recognition at the state meet. He has a 3.66 grade-point average on a 4.0 scale. He was a four-event regional qualifier this season, also advancing in the 300 hurdles, and the 4x100 and 4x400 relays.

STATE MEET RESULTS

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