

By TOM SAXE
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ALTA LOMA — They say that Jay Larkin has the potential to be a great one — next year. But the smooth-striding Palomar College freshman may be just too impatient to wait.

Larkin ran 1:53.4, the fastest junior college time in Southern California this year and the second best in the state, to win the 880 in the Mission Conference track finals at Chaffey College Stadium Friday.

Larkin came by the first quarter in 55.0, trailing San Bernardino Valley's Rich Alejandro and Grossmont's Armando Valencia. He took over the lead at the beginning of the backstretch on the second lap and held off an unsuccessful closing surge by Alejandro.

Alejandro was timed in 1:53.7 in placing second and Chaffey's Steve Basay finished third in 1:55.4. Valencia, apparently sapped by a 4:28.6 mile in the 84-degree heat, clocked 1:56.4 for fourth place.

Larkin's time bettered the

previous season's Southern California best of 1:53.7 run by Scott Chisham of Pasadena City College. The fastest time in the state is 1:52.9 by Clay Lowrey of Sacramento's American River College.

Larkin is now sixth on the 1970 national JC list. Paul Jacques of Pensacola Junior College leads with a 1:50.9 run in the Florida state meet two weeks ago.

"This was a fine performance for Larkin considering he had a limited off-season background and he didn't run during the 1969 track season," Comet distance coach Mike Curran said. "We knew he had the potential for next year, but 1:53.4 this season is really encouraging."

The Palomar record, set last year by Pancho Enriquez, is 1:52.9, a mark Larkin conceivably could threaten a year ahead of Curran's timetable. Jim Adkins, with a 1:53.2 in 1967, is second on the all-time Palomar list.

Larkin was the only Comet winner Friday, even though Don Buss equaled the Palomar pole vault mark of 14-6 in placing

second to Citrus' Bill Chew.

Chew also cleared 14-6, winning the event on fewer misses. Both had three good tries at 15-0.

Other Comets placing among the top four and qualifying for the Southern Cal Prelims were Frank Ausilio (second in the 220 on a turn in 22.2), Larry Smith (fourth in the 440 intermediate hurdles in 55.3), Dave Herbert (third in the high jump at 6-2), Don Tucker (second in the 16-pound shot at 49-7½) and third in the discus at 139-9) and both relay teams.

The 440 quartet of Bill Hash, Dave Largent, Joe Rehm and Ausilio placed a surprise second in 43.8 and the mile relay foursome of Hash, Larrie Hall, Larkin and Ausilio took fourth in 3:26.0.

Smith, whose hurdle time was a personal best by more than a second, was unable to run in the mile relay after suffering what the Chaffey team physician diagnosed as a mild heat stroke.

Grossmont won the meet with 145 points to 127½ for second-place Chaffey.

100—1. Wilridge (Ch) 9.8, 2. Avery (R) 9.9, 3. Diggs (SB) 10.0, 4. Ralph (Ch) 10.1, 5. Ausilio (P) 10.1, 6. Rodgers (SB) 10.2.

220—1. Wilridge (Ch) 21.9, 2. Aldridge (R) 22.0, 3. Ausilio (P) 22.2, 4. Huff (G) 22.5, 5. Diggs (SB) 22.6, 6. Carr (C) 22.6.

440—1. Huff (G) 49.2, 2. Daclias (Ch) 50.1, 3. Lemos (Ch) 50.1, 4. McNabb (S) 50.2, 5. Boatman (Ch) 50.6, 6. Pound (SB) 51.1.

880—1. Larkin (P) 1:53.4, 2. Alejandro (SB) 1:53.7, 3. Basay (Ch) 1:55.4, 4. Valencia (G) 1:56.4, 5. Adams (Ch) 1:57.1, 6. Diaz (S) 1:59.1.

Mile—1. Valencia (G) 4:28.6, 2. Diaz (S) 4:31.5, 3. Diaz (Ch) 4:34.1, 4. Campa (SB) 4:36.0, 5. Rendina (G) 4:36.6, 6. Contreras (SB) 4:36.9.

120 HH—1. Aldridge (R) 14.8, 2. Williams (Ch) 15.2, 3. Holmes (C) 15.2, 4. Gayhart (G) 15.4, 5. Husband (C) & Hearn (Ch), tie, 15.5.

440 IH—1. Provinzano (G) 53.9, 2. Murray (Ch) 54.6, 3. Gayhart (G) 55.3, 4. Smith (P) 55.3, 5. Pound (SB) 56.9, 6. Largent (P) 59.4.

440 Relay—1. Chaffey 43.4, 2. Palomar (Hash, Largent, Rehm, Ausilio) 43.8, 3. San Bernardino 44.0, 4. Citrus 44.0, 5. Grossmont 44.0, 6. Riverside 46.3.

Mile Relay—1. Chaffey 3:19.7, 2. San Bernardino 3:21.0, 3. Grossmont 3:21.7, 4. Palomar (Hash, Hall, Larkin, Ausilio) 3:26.0, 5. Citrus 3:27.2, 6. Southwestern 3:33.7.

HJ—1. Foote (G) 6-6½, 2. Curtis (R) 6-6½, 3. Herbert (P) 6-2, 4. Brogdon (Ch) 6-0, 5. Hulihan (P) 5-10, 6. Lewis (C) 5-10.

LJ—1. Diggs (SB) 23-9½, 2. Holmes

(C) 23-4, 3. Avery (R) 23-1, 4. Woods (G) 22-8, 5. Hearn (Ch) 22-4, 6. Worden (G) 21-10.

SP—1. Cathcart (Ch) 34-9, 2. Tucker (P) 49-7½, 3. Stines (P) 48-8½, 4. Robbins (G) 48-2½, 5. Reynolds (C) 47-2, 6. Merchant (SB) 46-10.

PV—1. Chew (C) 14-6, 2. Buss (P) 14-6, 3. Swayze (G) & Eckler (G), tie, 14-0, 5. Daniels (G) 13-0. No others made opening height of 13-0.

Dis—1. Foley (G) 145-0, 2. Wadlington (G) 144-2½, 3. Tucker (P) 139-0, 4. Miller (SB) 136-5½, 5. Broadfoot (SB) 135-3½, 6. Bjarnson (G) 135-1.

Jav—1. Downey (Ch) 198-5, 2. Stagner (S) 188-11½, 3. Clark (G) 187-9½, 4. Brogdon (Ch) 186-6½, 5. Wadlington (G) 184-8½, 6. Sperry (G) 178-8.

TJ—1. Woods (G) 46-1, 2. Holmes (C) 45-5, 3. Hearn (Ch) 44-4½, 4. Diggs (SB) 43-10½, 5. Lewis (C) 43-9, 6. Williams (SB) 43-1.

TEAM SCORING

Grossmont 145, Chaffey 127½, Palomar 71, San Bernardino Valley 61, Citrus 57½, Riverside 41, Southwestern 22.