

By TOM SAXE

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SAN DIEGO — It's easy to see where Tom Ries has been. He leaves a prominent trail — of broken records.

Palomar College's sophomore track co-captain, who already held or shared 10 school records and one National JC mark, added a pair of Pacific Southwest Conference standards to his collection Saturday at Balboa Stadium.

Ries won the 42-inch 120 high hurdles in 14.5, tying Ron Jesse's meet mark, then came back to win the 440 intermediate hurdles with another meet record of 54.5 in the PSC finals.

To top off the afternoon, he ran a blazing 48.7 leg in the mile relay to help the second-place Comets to a new school record of 3:19.2.

Palomar nailed down 13 spots for the Southern California Junior College prelims May 14 at East Los Angeles JC. There was no team scoring.

Comets Len Thompson and Mike Quirk helped make the hurdles primarily a Palomar show. Thompson placed second to Ries in the 120 highs, running 14.8, and Quirk also clocked 54.5 to get a share of the meet record and take second in the intermediates.

Palomar's David Wasden ran 14.9 for fourth in the highs.

Mesa's James King, who has the nation's fastest JC time in the event, apparently won the intermediates but was disqualified for dragging his trailing leg around two hurdles.

Comet Pancho Enriquez won the highly-publicized 880 finals by a tenth of a second over San Diego Mesa's Clark Dimond in 1:53.7, breaking the conference mark by nearly a second.

Orvin Romo of San Diego City College, who set the old meet record of 1:54.5 last year, was third in 1:54.8.

Palomar's Ron Figueroa, the 1968 SDCIF champion, took fourth in 1:55.2.

Quirk cleared a lifetime best of 13-9 to take third in the pole vault. He missed after having the bar moved to 14 feet.

Lee McComb, a season's best of 9:41.6 for fourth in the two-mile, led the list of other Palomar qualifiers for Southern Cal. Don Tucker was second in the 16-pound shot put at 49-1½ and third in the discus at 132-4, and Dan Zukaitis bagged fourth in the 220 in 22.8.

The top five finishers in each event qualified.

The 3:19.2 by the mile relay team broke the Palomar record of 3:22.8 run by the same foursome against Grossmont and Saddleback colleges April 18 at Grossmont.

Figueroa led off with a 50.4 leg. Larrie Hall ran 50.6 on the second leg and Enriquez anchored in 49.5. Ries' 48.7 was the fastest time ever run by a Comet.

Mesa won the event in a new meet record of 3:16.8.

Ries' high hurdle time also equaled his own school record set in the meet with Grossmont and Saddleback. Jesse, who originally set the meet record, is now the No. 1 hurdler for Kansas University.

Grossmont's Bruce Ruff pulled a muscle on the anchor leg of the 440 relay and was unable to run in the 440-yard dash, where he has a best of 47.8. Mesa's Al Fennel won that one in 49.4.