Tommie Smith Shows He's for Real

BY SHAVENAU GLICK

MODESTO — The fans came to root for Tommie Smith here Saturday night and the lanky San Jose State junior didn't disappoint them.

Tommie raced twice during the cool and windy silver anniversary of the California Relays and he convinced any doubters among the 8,000 fans that he's for real.

In the 440, after a cautious first furlong that found him trailing NCAA champion Jim Kemp by five yards, Tommie turned on his loping stride and made the race a runaway in 45.7. This equaled his best-ever

time but Smith was disappointed in his showing.

"I was so nervous about the tough competition that I ran the first 220 too slow," he said after the race. "I was too busy watching Kemp and didn't get going until we hit the stretch."

He was even more spectacular in

the 440 relay, however, where his third-place finish for the Spartans overshadowed Southern University's 39.6 world record performance. Smith, who prepped at nearby Lemoore, was 15 yards behind Southern's anchor man, Olympian George Anderson, when he took the baton, but his giant strides picked up at least seven yards in the 110 yards.

Anderson, Harvey Nairn, Webster Johnson and the former Jefferson High (L.A.) star, Grundy Harris, broke the world one-lap record of 39.7 set last year by Stanford. Second was Texas Southern, anchored

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by former California prep sprint champion Jimmy Hines in 39.9, followed by San Jose in 40.3. Before the evening was over, the Southern U. boys from Baton Rouge had

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captured three relays, adding the 880 and mile to their world record 440 performance. The meet's other spotlighted performer, world

pole vault record holder Bob Seagren, proved as disappointing as Smith was pleasing. The 19-year-old Seagren failed to clear 16-2 and was

out of the money. "I don't know what was wrong; I just couldn't get up there," said the Glendale College student who only two weeks ago did

17-51/2 at the Fresno Relavs.

Pennel Wins Perhaps Seagren was thinking too much about the trip to Hawaii he and his roommate, John Pennel, passed up to compete here. Pennel, however, soared over 16-10, to beat

UCLA's Marc Savage for the vault title. Three - time Olympic champion Al Oerter keeps getting better with age. He hurled the discus his all-time best of 207-5 in beating world record holder Ludvik Danek of Czechoslovakia, who was close

and 205-4. Third was another remarkable old timer, Rink Babka, at 201-1. Oklahoma State, which

lost its world two-mile re-

behind at 205-91/2. The consistent Oerter had four throws over 200 with a series of 195-5, 196-412, 207-5, 204-101/2, 202-01/2 Peter Scott of Nebraska in 1:47.5. Two freshman whizzes, Lennox Miller of USC and Harold Busby of UCLA, scored impressive wind-aided sprint wins. Miller took the 100 meters in 10.2 and Busby the 220

lay record to USC this year, gained a measure of

revenge by easily beating

the Trojans, but its time

of 7:23.2 didn't endanger

the Trojans' mark of 7:17.4.

of Texas Southern ran the

fastest 880 in the world

this year when he edged

Sophomore George Hunt

Gusty winds of up to 12 m.p.h. and a biting cold that hit midway in the meet served to hinder most of the other performers.

in 20.7.

440 RELAY-1. Southern (Nainn, Ha ris, W. Johnson, Anderson), 39.6 (wor and meet record, old world mark, 39 Stanford, 1965; old meet mark, 40,0. Or

DISCUS — 1. Oerfer (New York AC), 207-5 (meef record, old mark, 265-3), Ludvik Danek (Zechoslovakia, 1952-1), 2. Danek (Czechoslovakia), 205-9/b; 3. Babka (Pasadena AA), 201-1; 4. Dev Nevada), 196-10/b; 5. Matson (Texas A&M.), 1951.

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er3), 34-59; 3. Contier (Santa Clare HAMMER - 1. Zilvelsky (Humpary), 224-10); 2. Connolly (Culver City AC), 224-13 Burne (Striders), 223-1; 4. Smith (San Jone Stelle), 163-69; 5. Smith (San Jone Stelle), 163-69; 5. Will E-1, Greite (unath, 2-62,2; 2.) Vine (Oregon Frosh), 462,2; 3. Reding-(Canasa) Stelle, 4-62,2; 5. Weisiger (unath), 4-62,5; 4.

TRIPLE JUMP—1. Walker (Str. S-1-1); (17, mu.h. wind); 2, Fergus Jose Sl.), 51-111-; 2, Craig (49te So-4); 4, Robinson (New Mexico), 5. Mile RELAY—1. Southern (W. Son, 47); Gerst, 47, F. Johnson, Lewis, 45-9), 2:10.6; 2, Oklaboma C., 3:12.5; 3, Striders, 2:12.9; 4, dena AA, 3:14.1; 5, 49er Track 2:15.5.