

Four Milers Run Under Four Minutes; Jones Beats McTear

African distance star Wilson Waigwa of the University of El Paso led three other runners under the four-minute barrier in the mile run and Reggie Jones knocked off prep phen Houston McTear to charge up a crowd of more than 8,000 in the running events of the California Relays yesterday.

Waigwa put on a valiant last lap show to take over the lead and burned his way to the top for a great 3:55.5 time, one of the best in the world this year.

Fast Mile

The El Paso runner's mark was the second best mile time ever at the Cal Relays, narrowly missing the 3:54.9 standard established by the great Peter Snell of New Zealand back in 1963. Hot in pursuit of Waigwa was his sub-four jaunt were Carlos Martinez of Mexico who clocked a personal best 3:58.4. Oregon University's Scott Daggert who had a 3:58.8 and Matt Centowitz who came in with a 3:59.2. Dave Babiracki of the

San Fernando Valley Track Club was just over 4:00.2.

Jones ruined the 18-year-old McTear's West Coast debut when he recovered from a slow start and zoomed past the Florida High School sprinter in a winning time of 9.3 in the 100-yard dash.

McTear, who attends Baker High in Florida, was the top attraction of the meet after tying the world record with a 9.9 second clocking recently in the 100.

Jones of Tennessee gave the near sellout crowd a big thrill when he turned on a burst of speed to shoot past McTear in the tense invitational 100-yard dash event.

McTear got off to a great start and led through the first 50 yards, but Jones rocketed from behind with a blazing finish to win by a comfortable margin. The poised McTear, who stands only 5-feet, 9-inches tall and weighs 155 pounds was right behind in 9.4, but couldn't pick up speed to stay with Jones.

Quarre Close

A fast closing third was Quarrie was a close third when another 9.4 clocking. San Jose State's Ron Whitaker took fourth with a 9.5 ahead of Steve Williams, who had beaten McTear a last week in Jamaica, failed to show for his featured confrontation with the prep flash.

The college and open 100-yard dash event was overshadowed by McTear's West Coast debut, but UC Berkeley sprinters Wes Walker and Howard Strickland turned it into a "Golden Bear Show" with a 1-2 finish. Both of the Cal speedsters are also Berkeley grid stars.

Walker, who also had a 9.5 in his heat opener, and Strickland were both timed in 9.5 in the final race. Third place Norbert Payton of the Bay Area Striders was also stopped in 9.5, with teammate Vince Bredell and Vince Brown of Cal State, Northridge following in that order in 9.6.

Pacific Eight champion duo Clem Jackson and James Owens monopolized the 120-yard high hurdles chase, both

catching the timers in a wind-aided 13.6 for a 1.2 finish at that order. Finishing just a tenth of a second off the meet record of 13.3 held by Hayes Jones and Tommy Lee White, the Bruin hurdlers were just ahead of two USC greas, Mike Johnson and Ogie Williams. Johnson turned in a 13.7 and Williams a 13.8.

Utah State's Mark Enyart kicked out a strong final 220 effort to come from behind in a win the 880-yard run in 1:49.1.

His strong finish enabled him to pass Oklahoma's Randy Veikamp who clocked a 1:49.7 for second place. Bunched behind the leaders in order were UC Berkeley's James Robinson with a time of 1:49.8, James Baxter in 1:49.9 and University of Texas at El Paso half mile flash Joe Gichinger in 1:50.3.

All of the times were far off the Relays record of 1:47.5 set back in 1967 by Texas Southern's George Hunt.

UCLA's Benny Brown picked up the Bruins' second running event by waltzing home with a fast kick at the finish to nip Washington's Billy Hicks. Passing Hicks on the home stretch, Brown came home in 46.2 to win the 400-yard dash.

Record Run

World record holder Jim Bolden outclassed the field in the 440-yard hurdles race with a smooth run to win the event in a meet record time of 49.8, tumbling his own Relays standard. Bolding has a pending world mark of 48.7 that bettered Ralph Mann's 1970 world standard last year, but is still waiting for approval. He possessed the Cal Relays standard of 49.9 which he set last year.

Teammate Bob Casseleman of the Pacific Coast Club was far

back in second with a 51.0 time.

Bolding showed that he is the country's top hope in the grueling quarter mile hurdles event, but said he was highly impressed by the young speedster.

He added that he was "It didn't surprise me," Jones said of McTear's world record tying 9.9 earlier this month. "I expect more dudes to be doing the same thing in the very near future, because everyone's trying to make something out of themselves. Everyone wants a record."

He even thought that Tennessee would be the team to beat in the NCAA nationals. "I was disappointed with my lane assignment in the 220," he said of his second place time in the 400-yard race.

The African distance runner clocked a personal best in winning the mile, his previous best being a 3:57.

Speaking with a British accent, Waigwa said he prefers to run in the lead. "I like to run in the lead from the start," the El Paso recruit stated. "I prefer not to have to kick at the end, but I had good position in the pack and just made my move."

Needed Rest

The mild mannered Waigwa admitted that he almost did slip in the Relays mile, noting that he was hoping to get some rest for the upcoming NCAA finals at Brigham Young University.

"Things were boring in El Paso though," he remarked of the Texas border town which has become a hotbed of talented foreign athletes, "so I agreed to come to Modesto."

Don Quarrie came back in the 220-yard dash to blow around the turn with a 20.3 winning effort, just a tenth of a second off the meet standard he already had set last year. He nipped 100 victor Reggie Jones who was right on his heels in a fast time of 20.4.

James Gilkes of USC was third in 20.5. Jones was pleased with his

win in the 100 over McTear,

but said he was highly impressed by the young speedster.

He added that he was "It didn't surprise me," Jones said of McTear's world record tying 9.9 earlier this month. "I expect more dudes to be doing the same thing in the very near future, because everyone's trying to make something out of themselves. Everyone wants a record."

He even thought that Tennessee would be the team to beat in the NCAA nationals. "I was disappointed with my lane assignment in the 220," he said of his second place time in the 400-yard race.

Poor Position

Saddled with the outside lane, he said he couldn't see his competition and was straining to stay out in front. Quarrie passed him near the finish and leaned at the tape to pick up another Cal Relays 220 victory, one of many in his career.

In a separate 220 race, former USC great Willie Deckard of the Cal International Track Club clocked a 21.0 to win over Mark Lutz of the Pacific Coast Club who had a 21.1.

Steve Prefontaine breezed home an easy winner in a speed-

cial two mile run event, touring the eight laps in 8:36 to pick up the first place by almost 16 seconds. His winning mark was 8:36.4.

With lively commentary through the whole race from energetic announcer Sam Skinner of Oakland, Prefontaine overcame an early deficit on the third lap and coasted the rest of the way.

Early Lead

Len Hilton of the Pacific Coast Club had taken a big early lead, but when Prefontaine passed him, it was all over but the finish and Skinner's boisterous expressions of the former Oregon runner's time which was far off the meet and world records.

Hilton faded to fifth place with a time of 9:01.2 while Pacific Coast Club teammate came home a distant second with an 8:52.

African runner John Ngeno, Washington State's great cross country and distance star, cranked out a 13:54.8 winning effort in the 5,000 meters race to beat Mexican runners Rudolfo Gomez who was second in 13:56.8 and Luis Haro who posted a 14:13.2.

Reggie Jones Beats McTear

BY HARLEY TINKHAM

Times Staff Writer

MODESTO—Houston McTear forgot his shoes and Steve Williams forgot to come, so Reggie Jones stepped up Saturday night to win the 100-yard dash over a faltering McTear in the 34th California Relays.

Jones, the NCAA champion from Tennessee, was clocked in 9.3, three-tenths behind the world record of 9.0 which McTear equaled two weeks ago in the Florida high school championships.

McTear, who led most of the way, was clocked in 9.4 as he just held off Jamaica's Don Quarrie for second.

Meet director Tom Moore could not explain the absence of Williams, who defeated McTear last week in the Martin Luther King Games at Kingston, Jamaica.

"I talked to him earlier in the week and he assured me he would be here." Moore said.

and gave way to the long-striding Jones, who was pulling away at the finish. Jones stands 6-3 to McTear's 5-7, and it was like a big hound running down the rabbit.

"I just lost," said McTear, 18-year-old junior at Baker High in Florida. He was unsmiling and obviously disgruntled.

"Later, under questioning, he said "I couldn't get any traction from my cleats. The spikes were too long."

You'd think it would be other way around—that the spikes were too short—but that's what the man said.

Asked what he planned to do against Williams and Jones in the National AAU championships, McTear said, "Bring my own shoes."

The Modesto track, a sandy-clay surface, once was rated one of the fastest in the world but apparently it has lost some of its bounce. The times weren't slow but no longer do you have the feeling that world records are seriously in danger.

One who found the track to his liking was Wilson Waigwa of Kenya, who ran a lifetime best of 3:55.6 in winning the mile. Following the pace of NCAA champion Paul Cummings, Waigwa tore off a 55.9 final lap to win in a runaway. Cummings, of Brigham Young, faded badly and wound up seventh in 4:02.9.

Other top marks included 7-5 by Dwight Stones in the high jump, 219-3 by Finland's Pentti Kahma in the discus, 27-2¼ by Arnie Robinson in the long jump, and 20.3 by Quarrie in the 220.

USC came from far back to win the 440 relay in a meet record 39.3 and got a big lift in the pole vault when sophomore Russ Rogers upset the field with a lifetime best of 17-7½.

Kahma defeated world record-holder John Powell, who finished second at 216-11. Kahma, 31, 6-2 and 243, broke his Finnish record of 218-3 set last year when he was rated No. 1 in the world.

Now just how good is Houston McTear?

Well, you obviously can't call him the world's fastest human but you could call him the man to beat.

"All he needs is experience," said UCLA's Benny Brown, winner of the 440. "When he gets it, he's going to be dynamite. He'll be No. 1 next year."

Track Notes

Stones took three tries at a world record 7-7 but didn't come close. His winning height was the best outdoor mark in the world this year . . . Rogers, who had a previous best of 17-1½, said he wasn't thrilled by his 17-7½. "I won't be satisfied until I'm No. 1," he said. He didn't come close to 18-2 but got part of his body over on one vault and said, "I was using a new pole for the first time. As soon as I learn to handle it, I should improve."

In the 440 relay, USC was fifth after two legs but Ken Randle, as he's done all year, quickly got the Trojans even, then handed off perfectly to James Gilkes who had a one-yard lead as the anchor-men took off. Gilkes easily put away Arizona State's Herman Frier but gave up a little ground to Tennessee's Jones who got up for second . . . Jones, who has been taking his lumps in the 100 this year, said, "I've been running too tight. I've been worrying too much about my start. Tonight, I just told myself to stay relaxed."

MEN

440 RELAY (Race 1)—1. Bay Area Striders (Payton, Felton, Ligon, Bredell), 40.1; 2. Cal St. Northridge, 45.3; 3. Long Beach St., 49.7.

440 RELAY (Race 2)—1. USC OR. Williams, Simmons, Randle, Gilkes, 39.3 (meet record, old mark, 39.4, Texas El Paso, 1978); 2. Tennessee, 39.4; 3. Arizona St., 39.5; 4. BH Striders (M. Jackson, H. Jackson, Quarrie, L. Brown), 39.4. Others included: 4. UCLA (Owens, Brown, Wilson, Wilmoth), 39.7.

MILE—1. Waigwa (Texas El Paso), 3:55.6; 2. Martinez (Mexico), 3:58.4; 3. Daggatt (Oregon), 3:58.4; 4. Centrowitt (unaff.), 3:59.2.

440H—1. Bolding (PCC), 49.3 (meet record, old mark 49.9, Bolding, 1974); 2. Castleman (PCC), 51.0; 3. Cromwell (Kansas), 51.3; 4. Ewing (BH Striders), 51.5.

880 RELAY—1. Arizona St. (Wells, Williams, McCullough, Prater), 1:23.4; 2. Kansas, 1:23.4; 3. California, 1:23.5; 4. DC Striders, 1:23.5.

SHOT PUT—1. Feuerbach (PCC), 63-4¼; 2. Deleatwicz (Canada), 64-7½; 3. Reichert (unaff.), 61-10½; 4. Page (UCLA), 60-1; 5. Bednichuk (USC), 59-4½.

LONG JUMP—1. Robinson (Mickey's Missiles), 27-3¼; 2. Soy (Kansas), 26-11¼; 3. Hamilton (Kansas), 26-4½; 4. Whittier (Calif. Int'l), 26-2½.

100 (Race 1)—1. Walker (California), 9.5 (7.1 m.p.h. wind); 2. Strickland (Cal), 9.5; 3. Payton (BA Striders), 9.5; 4. Bredell (BA Striders), 9.6.

100 (Race 2)—1. Jones (Tennessee), 9.3; 2. McTear (unaff.), 9.4; 3. Quarrie (BH Striders), 9.4; 4. Whittaker (San Jose St.), 9.5.

440—1. Brown (UCLA), 45.3; 2. Hicks (Washington), 46.4; 3. Sharts (L.S. St.), 46.5; 4. Gee (Australia), 47.3.

880—1. Eryeaert (Utah St.), 1:49.1; 2. Veitkamp (Oklahoma), 1:49.7; 3. Robinson (Calif.), 1:49.8; 4. Baxter (unaff.), 1:49.9.

1200H—1. Jackson (UCLA), 1:34

31.3; 4. Soanes (Australia), 31.3.

200 (Race 2)—1. Guarrie (BH Striders), 29.3; 2. Jones (Tennessee), 29.4; 3. Gilkes (USC), 29.3; 4. Randle (USC), 29.7.

TWO MILE—1. Prefontaine (Oregon TC), 8:36.4; 2. Halberstadt (PCC), 8:59.0; 3. Garcia (U.S. Army), 8:52.4; 4. Holme (Finland), 8:54.5.

500 METERS—1. J. Ngene (Washington St.), 1:24.8; 2. Gomez (Mexico), 1:26.8; 3. Haro (Mexico), 1:41.2; 4. Wallace (Texas El Paso), 1:47.4.

MILE RELAY—1. Kansas (Cromwell, Lewis, Benson, Smith), 3:57.2; 2. DC Striders, 3:11.1; 3. Fresno St., 3:13.3; no fourth.

TRIPLE JUMP—1. Livers (San Jose St.), 54-1¼; 2. Terry (West Valley TC), 54-0; 3. Grimes (Texas El Paso), 53-9½; 4. Reader (Calif. Int'l), 53-9¼. Others included: 4 Taylor (UCLA), 53-3½.

POLE VAULT—1. Rogers (USC), 17-7½ (meet record, old mark, 17-6¼, Steve Smith, PCC, 1973); 2. Moores (UCLA), 17-7½; 3. Welds (BA Striders), 17-1; 4. Tully (UCLA), 17-1.

TWO-MILE WALK—1. Laird (unaff.), 14:46.8; 2. Glicker (West Valley TC), 14:51.4; 3. Kern (unaff.), 14:51.4; 4. Ranney (Golden Gate TC), 15:14.8.

HAMMER—1. Frenn (unaff.), 220-6; 2. Farmer (Texas El Paso), 217-5; 3. Hart (NYAC), 216-11; 4. Brewer (U.S. Navy), 207-3.

WOMEN

100—1. Bert (Lakewood Int'l), 16.7; 2. Rice (Central Washington), 19.7; 3. Cobbs (East Bay TC), 18.7. Other included: 3. Butler (UCLA), 18.8.

JAVELIN—1. Schmidt (Los Angeles TC), 200-7; 2. Calvert (Lakewood Int'l), 181-1; 3. Dahlgren (Canada), 173-4; 4. Sotnicki (Missouri Lions), 165-10.

440—1. Sytyla (East Bay TC),