

San Diego, Calif., Feb. 22 (by Stan Sales) -

The final event of the evening, the 2 mile run, sent a highly elated crowd of 9265 home ^{from the San Diego Invitational} on a happy note. For the second straight year this meet produced the fastest indoor 2 miles of all-time. George Young continued his fantastic winning streak *of 16 straight* with a record equalling 8:27.2. A look at the field prior to race time indicated that George should certainly win, but practically no one expected a fast race. There didn't appear to be a pace setter and Young could simply sit back and blast the last quarter for an easy win. George Young took this occasion to show that he can run record races, a la Ron Clarke. From the gun he went hard, into the lead and pushed it all the way to a solid even paced race. His splits were 63.5, 2:07.0, 3:09.9, 4:13.9, 5:17.3, 6:21.3, 7:25.2, 8:27.2. In the final analysis, he ~~fell just one tenth of a second short of breaking Kerry Pearce's record set last year on the same track. The final time 8:27.1 must of course be recorded as 8:27.2 under the rules.~~ *clocked the same time as* *ran here* *to establish the record* He broke Jim Beatty's 5 year old American record of 8:30.8 by over 3 seconds. Doug Wiebe ran the race of his life to finish second in 8:37.8.

Another win streak that was kept intact was that of Willie

Davenport who demolished the field with an excellent 6.9 race. *That streak*

stands at 11 for 1969.

Gary Powers was close until he hit the fourth hurdle hard and nearly fell.

~~The~~ ^{mill} NAIA Champion Jim Crawford of Harding College beat a good *four lap* ~~mile~~ field. Dave Patrick set the early pace and hit the quarter in 59.0. Bob Day took over just before the half mile and passed *the post* in 2:01.2. Patrick lost contact at this point, and Day and Crawford

hit in 3:02.5:

ran right together to the 1320, ~~The time was 3:02.5 and at this point Patrick was a good 50 yards back of the leaders.~~

Crawford easily pulled away from Day, and it looked as though he might break four minutes, but he had ^{little} nothing left for the last 80 yards ^{for his 4:01.2 win}

~~In the meantime, Dave Patrick found he had too much left, and he fairly flew the final 220, and was closing fast.~~
60 yards back at the 1320, caught Day and was closing fast for his 4:02.3 clocking.

The 1000 produced a big upset. Kenth Andersson, ~~the~~ Swedish senior at ^{local} Cal Western, followed Tom Von Ruden's pace and ran away from him on the last lap to a 2:08.1 victory. ^{and personal record} One of the better 600 yard runs of this year proved that Jim Kemp is back in shape. Kemp led Ron Whitney all the way for a good 1:10.3, Whitney had a season's best of 1:10.5, and Paddy McCrary finished fast to get third in 1:10.6.

George woods handed Randy Matson one of his rare defeats, 64'11" to 63'4 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Randy led all the way until George ^{won} had his winning put on his last try. Randy ~~had a last chance to pull the win out of the fire but had nothing to offer, falling below 60'.~~
was up last but couldn't reach 60-feet.

The first ever San Diego High School Indoor Championships, ~~were~~ held in conjunction with the open events, ~~and~~ produced a lot of excitement and one great mark. Milton Mitchell of Lincoln High School produced the fastest 500 ever by a high school ^{student} ~~man~~ when he ran 57.8. The old record was 59.0 by Jere Van Dyk. This slender junior ~~looks like a great prospect and it will be interesting to see what he will do outdoors where he wants to concentrate on the 440 outdo~~

~~San Diego~~