

# Packer, mile relay team earn berths for NCAA track/field championships

by Tim Haag

Javelin thrower Mike Packer and SDSU's mile relay team qualified for the NCAA championships in June during a weekend of top performances by the track team at the West Coast Relays.

Packer, a junior, took third in the intercollegiate-open division (the division with tougher competition) with a school record throw of 241 feet, 7 inches. The former school record was 238-8, set by Mike Bushey in 1968.

He had already broken the school record once in the preliminaries, said assistant coach Steve Dice. Then, on his second throw in the finals, the transfer from Mesa, Ariz. cut loose and found himself with an upcoming trip to the University of Pennsylvania for the June 3-5 national championships.

The team of Jose Madruaga, Harold Williams, Donnie Miller and Quentin Wheeler placed fourth in the intercollegiate-open mile relay behind the Maccabi Track Club, USC and the Pacific Coast Club. Their time, 3:09.2, is second best in Aztec history.

This was the third event in which Wheeler has met NCAA standards, the others being the 400 meter intermediate hurdles and the 400 meter relay.

Wheeler's third place performance in his specialty, the intermediates, reinforced his reputation as one of the top collegiate hurdlers around as he clocked a 50.5. The sophomore's training mates, former Aztecs James King and Wes Williams, took the first two places, just .2 and .3 seconds faster than Wheeler.

Another SDSU record was set by hammer thrower Joe Briski (the fourth time this season by the Dearborn Heights, Mich. native). His throw of 171-10 broke his previous record by over five feet.

Though pleased with the improvement, Briski as usual, felt his mark was long overdue

and should have been farther, especially since he had fouled on even farther throws the last two weeks.

The only Aztec winner was Williams, who took the college division 100 meter dash. He recorded a time of 10.56.

Significantly, Williams defeated three of Long Beach State's sprinters who had helped beat SDSU for a first in the college 400-meter relay. His win can only add to the losers' incentive for the up-

coming PCAA finals.

Sophomore Tom Bush neared his lifetime best in the triple jump with a second place leap (in the college division) of 49-1 while Jean Beaudry (college-shot put) and Donnie Miller (open 400-meter) garnered fifth place medals.

The distance medley team of Madruaga, Odie Huffman, Allen Hazard and Rick Lord recorded a second place time of 9:50.7, also the second best in Aztec history.