

Track team spotty in early show

by Mike Mayer
Sports Editor

The Aztec track team came out on the losing end of a double dual meet last week, but its showing was impressive, though a little inconsistent.

UC Irvine and Cal State Los Angeles outpointed SDSU in a meet held in perfect weather at Irvine's track stadium Saturday.

But for the Aztecs, the meet was full of lifetime bests, NCAA championship qualifying marks and continued improvement.

The team results reflected an early-season inconsistency that should slip away with practice and competition. In some events, the Aztecs' big reliables came through with the points they were predicted to get, but in some others, the big men fell while some of the second and third-bests performed well.

In the hammer throw, SDSU record holder Joe Briski (186-3) threw only 146-5. Gary Costello, on the other hand, bettered his lifetime best by about ten feet with a 159-4 throw for second place.

Long jumper Ned Armour ventured into the 110-meter high hurdles and ran an excellent 14.2, while the Aztecs' junior standout Tony Hicks finished back in the field.

Hicks returned later though, to win the 400-meter intermediate hurdles over a tough field that included CSLA's Sam Turner, who has a best of 49.9. Hicks won the race in 52.9.

The Aztecs failed to score points in either the 400-meter run or the distance events (1,500, 5,000).

But injuries were another big factor. Distance-man Brian Hunsaker missed the meet with stomach problems and he would have run in one or both of the distance events.

Freshman sprinter David Russell is still bothered with muscle pulls and missed the Irvine affair. He would have run one or both of the sprints and the anchor on the spring relay team. SDSU lost the spring relay when the final pass between Michael Patrick, who had just given SDSU the lead, and Vernon Mayweather was slow, giving LaMonte King of Irvine a chance to squeeze by. Mayweather is not a natural sprinter and had rarely run in the short relay.

"If Dave Russell had been there," said teammate Brian Donohue, "nobody would have beaten you. Not to take away from Mayweather, but the relay is a tough thing to get down and he was not one of our regular quarter-mile relay men."

Armour is just coming off of an injury, but he still managed to qualify for the NCAA championships with a 25-0 jump in just his second outing of the year.

Also missing the meet was Aztec hurdler Rhan Sheffield, the defending PCAA intermediate hurdles champ and Byrne Elliot, a junior middle-distance runner.

Other bright spots for SDSU included — James Perry's lifetime best of 23-9/4 for third place in the long jump; Marty Krulee improving his 100-meter best to 10.4; Lonny Low high jumping 6-8 to take second; Greg Garrett, with a lifetime triple jump best of 48-5/4.

But the highlight of the meet was the confrontation between

UCI's Steve Scott and SDSU's Donohue. Donohue is a world-class 800-meter runner with a best of 1:47.5 (The American collegiate record is 1:44.3 set by Dave Wottle of Bowling Green).

Scott, had already established himself as one of America's best milers, and his 3:53.9 clocking last month was the sixth fastest time in American history.

Then at the Irvine meet, he was placed in the 800-meter field against Donohue and sat out the closest metric equivalent to the mile, the 1,500-meter run.

"It was no surprise to me," Donohue said. "I had been work-

ing and thinking toward this for three weeks. Steve and I have run against each other three times previously at this distance going back to high school and he has beaten me by one-tenth, two-tenths and three-tenths of a second."

So after a slower-than-average first lap, the two moved away from the field and rounded the last turn with Scott a scant five feet ahead. But his kick held off Donohue, for a win in 1:49.7. Donohue was five-tenths of a second back this time, in 1:50.2. But he was very happy with the race.

"Anytime you run close to Steve, you've got to be happy," said Donohue. "He is tough mentally and exceptionally consistent. He looks very well fine-tuned, having run since January on the indoor and international circuit.

"I think that if we were both race-tuned, I could out-kick him seven out of ten times at this distance."

But the Aztecs are in the early stages of what promises to be a strange season. The delay in progress on track renovation has ruled out any home meets for the Aztecs this year. So they will travel, compete in open meets and enter relays.

The next is this Saturday when most of the squad will compete in the San Diego Relays at Southwestern College in Chula Vista. The meet is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. and the last event is slated for 2:30 p.m.

100-meter dash — 1. King (UCI) 10.3 2. Turner (CSLA) 10.4 3. Krulee (SDSU) 10.4

200-meter dash — 1. King (UCI) 20.7 2. Hart (CSLA) 21.0 3. Miller (CSLA) 21.0 4. Newell (SDSU) 21.2 5. Krulee (SDSU) 21.4

400-meter dash — 1. Magee (UCI) 48.8 Other results 5. Mayweather (SDSU) 50.7

800-meter run — 1. Scott (UCI) 1:49.7 2. Donohue (SDSU) 1:50.2

1,500-meter run — 1. Serna (UCI) 3:51.5 2. Greer (UCI) 3:52.9 3. Konogh (UCI) 3:53.1

5,000-meter run — 1. Ahlmeyer (UCI) 14:14.0 2. Daniels (UCI) 14:15

3,000-meter steeplechase — 1. O'Reagan (SDSU) 9:43.3 2. Worden (CSLA) 9:46.5 3. Lawson (SDSU) 10:36.3

110-meter high hurdles — 1. Turner (CSLA) 13.8 2. Hart (CSLA) 13.8 4. Armour (SDSU) 14.2

440-meter intermediate hurdles — 1. Hicks (SDSU) 52.9 2. Estebon (CSLA) 53.5

400-meter relay — 1. UC Irvine 41.0 2. SDSU (Krulee, Newell, Patrick, Mayweather) 41.6 Note: CS Los Angeles dropped baton

Mile Relay — 1. CSLA 3:12.6 2. UCI 3:14.5 3. SDSU

Long Jump — King (UCI) 25-2 2. Armour (SDSU) 25-0 3. Perry (SDSU) 23-9/4

Triple Jump — 1. Reed (UCI) 49-0 2. Garrett (SDSU) 48-5/4

High Jump — 1. Bell (UCI) 6-10 2. Low (SDSU) 6-8

Pole Vault — 1. Eskola (CSLA) 16-6 2. Robinson (CSLA) 16-0

Shot Put — 1. Wilcox (CSLA) 49-2 2/4 Others 4. Costello (SDSU) 44-2 1/4

Discus Throw — 1. Sheppard (UCI) 168-7

Javelin Throw — 1. Ellenberg (UCI) 222-3 3. Barbales (UCI) 222-1

Hammer Throw — Schrader (UCI) 177-9 2. Costello (SDSU) 159-4 3. O'Toole (UCI) 146-10 4. Briski (SDSU) 146-5

Final Scores — CSLA 87 SDSU 76
UCI 113 SDSU 41