

Scott's special mile run

He is the first to break
4 minutes at Cow Palace

By Keith Peters
Times Tribune staff

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DALY CITY — For Steve Scott, running a sub-four-minute mile is as natural as getting up in the morning.

As America's No. 1 miler, he has traveled the world in search of competition and records — and found both.

Although he can't recall how many indoor sub-four-minute miles he has run, he does remember his first — in 1977, when he took third.

Scott also will treasure the 3:59.6 he ran at the Cow Palace Friday night at the second Runner's World Indoor Classic.

The race won't necessarily rank among his greatest because there have been so many — like last year's 3:53.0, the third-fastest indoor mile in history.

No, Scott will remember Friday's time for one reason — and one reason only. It was the first ever sub-four-minute mile indoors at the Cow Palace.

"If I can't be known for breaking world records and getting gold medals," Scott said, "at least I can be known for breaking the four-minute mile barrier in San Francisco."

As soon as he crossed the finish line and the time was announced, Scott became a magnet for photographers and autograph seekers. It was attention befitting a world record — or at least an Olympic gold medal-winning effort.

Scott received more attention for his history-making 3:59.6 mile than England's world record-holder Sebastian Coe — the first man to run the mile under 3:50. Coe was present at the meet to fire the starting pistol for the Golden Mile, but a post-Olympic back injury has hindered his training and forced him to be a spectator Friday night, albeit a celebrity spectator.

He also was swamped by autograph seekers. The night, however, belonged to Steve Scott.

The adulation was simply overwhelming; Scott said it was the

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most he ever has received for a victory.

His 3:53 last year in Los Angeles and the 3:54.1 in San Diego in 1979 generated mere ripples compared to the wave of attention Friday night.

"It's a fantastic feeling," Scott said later as he slipped on his warm-ups, sipped a beer and traded small talk with Coe.

"A lot of good runners have run here before," Scott said. "I was really nervous coming into the meet. I didn't know if I could do it."

Scott, despite coming off a recent personal record and world-class time of 28:30 in the 10,000-meter Anaheim River Run, actually had Sunday's five-mile road race in Los Altos at the top of his list of priorities for this weekend.

That was until he heard of the runners being lined up for the indoor mile.

To virtually guarantee a sub-four-minute mile, the field was loaded with Americans Don Paige and Steve Lacey, Britain's Dave Moorcraft and Ireland's Ray Flynn.

Scott went out early, dropped back and then moved past Flynn into first place at the gun lap and held off Moorcraft for the victory. Moorcraft was second in 4:01.3, followed by Flynn at 4:01.6 and Paige at 4:04.7.

Scott said Flynn's pace in the final laps gave him the push he needed. "Without that I wouldn't have run under four minutes," he said.

The previous best mile at the Cow Palace was 4:00.2 by Filbert

Bayi of Tanzania in 1978.

The mile, as expected, proved to be the highlight of the first meet of the indoor season, which saw a world-record attempt by Norway's Grete Waitz in the women's 3,000 meters fall short.

Waitz, who won last year in San Francisco with a world-record time of 8:50.8, led by as much as 40 meters en route to a surprisingly slow 9:05.6 triumph.

"I thought before this race I could run faster than last year," Waitz said. "It should have been my day. I just don't know what happened. I just died. . . I can't explain it."

Neither could her husband, Jack. "Today, she experienced something new," he said. "She had a bad race."

Bad for her, maybe, but still fast enough to rank as the No. 7 performance of all time for 3,000 meters.

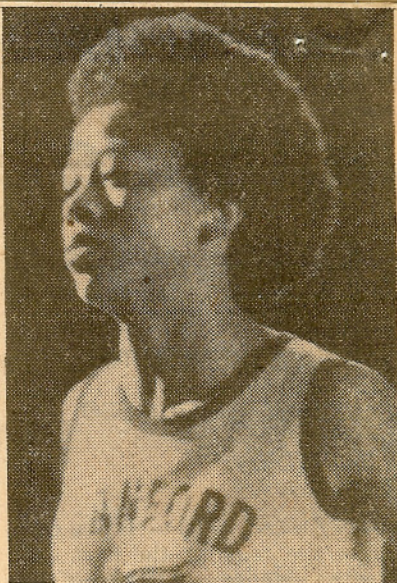
Elsewhere in the meet, Rod Dixon of New Zealand outkicked Kenya's Wilson Waigwa in the last two laps to capture the men's 3,000 meters in 8:01.4.

"As the laps churned on, I felt better and better," said Dixon, who displayed no signs of fatigue despite flying from New Zealand to New York and back to San Francisco this week. On New Year's Eve, he won a five-mile midnight run in New York City.

Denean Howard of Kennedy High in Granada Hills, third in the Olympic Trials' 400 meters, set a track record in the women's 400 in 56.1, 1.3 seconds faster than the old mark.

In the men's 50-meter dash, Emmit King of Alabama won in 5.74, becoming the fifth-fastest performer of all time and the No. 2 American at that distance.

In the 50-meter high hurdles, for-



Robin Campbell

mer Sequoia High and Foothill College star Malcolm Dixon successfully defended his title with a 6.74 victory. The 1980 JC state champion, Dixon now runs for the Stanford Track Club, which turned in a number of good performances Friday along with the university team.

U.S. Olympic team member Robin Campbell of the Stanford club defended her 800-meter crown, Stanford sophomore Kim Schnurpfeil defeated freshman teammate Ellen Lyons in the junior women's mile and Stanford's men's and women's mile relay teams were both second.

Palo Alto's Bill Green, a USC sophomore competing unattached, lost again to Bert Cameron in the 500 meters. Cameron also defeated Green in last year's NCAA 400-meter finals and Jenner Classic, while Green holds a victory over the Jamaican citizen and Texas-El Paso student at the 1980 UTEP Classic.

1978. 2, Tracy Caulkins, 2:07.24. 3, Ines Geissler, East Germany, 2:11.65. 4, Nancy Hogshead, Jacksonville, Fla., 2:12.88. 5, Macie Phillips, Nashville, 2:13.21. 6, Sara Linke, Walnut Creek, Calif., 2:13.28. 7, Kevyn Stafford, Canada, 2:13.42. 8, Judy Haughton, Germantown, Pa., 2:17.48.

Men's 200-meter butterfly — 1, Craig Beardsley, Harrington Park, N.J., 1:57.19, world best, previous best 1:58.23 set by Greg Jagenburg of the United States in 1978. 2, Thomas Legdstroem, Sweden, 1:58.47. 3, Sergei Fesenko, U.S.S.R., 1:59.20. 4, Paolo Ravello, Italy, 2:00.69. 5, Rick Carey, Mt. Kisco, N.Y., 2:02.24. 6, Rick Morley, Auburn University, 2:02.59. 7, John Hoffman, Madison, Wis., 2:05.67. 8, Steve Smith, Auburn University, 2:06.03.

Women's 400 freestyle relay — 1, United States, Tracy Caulkins, Susie Thayer, Mary T. Meagher, Cynthia Woodhead, 3:44.44. 2, East Germany, 3:45.67. 3, Sweden, 3:51.48. 4, Nashville Aquatic Club, 3:52.56. 5, Ft. Lauderdale Aquatic Club, 3:52.71. 6, Florida Aquatic Club, 3:53.70. 7, U.S. B-Team, 3:55.11. 8, Auburn University 3:55.93.

Men's 400 meter freestyle relay — 1, Arkansas University, Martin Smith, Jerry Spencer, Randy Ensminger, Jay Merritt, 3:22.33. 2, U.S.A., 3:22.35. 3, Florida University, 3:22.81. 4, Auburn University, 3:26.04. 5, U.S.S.R., 3:27.79. 6, Florida University B-Team, 3:28.53. 7, Ft. Lauderdale, 3:28.59. 8, U.S. B-Team, 3:28.83.

Track

RUNNER'S WORLD CLASSIC

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Summary of results in Friday night's open event finals at the Runner's World Indoor Track Classic at the Cow Palace:

Men's 50 meters— 1, Emmitt King, Alabama, 5.74. 2, Ray Threatt, Arizona, 5.86. 3, Fred Harvey, Cal Poly SLO, 5.88. 4, Guy Abrahams, Panama, 5.90.

Women's 50— 1, Lisa Hopkins, Inglewood Panthers, 6.47. 2, Gwen Loud, LA Mercurettes, 6.54. 3, Pam Donald, Stanford, 6.66. 4, Sharon Ware, Berkeley HS, 6.67.

Women's 50 Hurdles— 1, Sherifa Saunders, unattached, 7.55. 2, Dianne Johnson, Stanford, 7.56. 3, Judy Young, unat., 8.00. 4, Robyn Johnson, unat., 8.01.

Men's 50 Hurdles— 1, Malcolm Dixon, Stanford TC, 6.74. 2, Ashland Whitfield, unat., 6.79. 3, Don Ward, Oregon, 7.04. 4, Toni Amerson, unat., 7.09.

Men's 3000— 1, Rod Dixon, New Zealand, 8:01.4. 2, Wilson Waigwa, Kenya, 8:02.8. 3, Mike Stack, unat., 8:04.5. 4, Tony Colton, Great Britain, 8:07.5.

Long jump— 1, Mike Marlowe, Golden Bear TC, 25.2. 2, Essodina Atachade, Togo, 23.9³/₄. 3, Paul Bates, California, 23.9¹/₂. 4, Greg Turner, unat., 23.2.

Men's 500— 1, Bert Cameron, Jamaica, 1:05.6. 2, Bill Green, unat., 1:06.0. 3, Urs Kamwear, unat., 1:06.6. 4, Lloyd Guss, California, 1:06.7.

Women's 400— 1, Denean Howard, Kennedy HS, 56.1. 2, Lorna Forde, Adam TC, 56.2. 3, Sherri Howard, Muhammad Ali TC, 56.4. 4, Paulette Clagon, LA Merc., 59.7.

Men's 1,000— 1, David Korir, unat., 2:25.4. 2, Vernon Salletz, Cal Poly SLO, 2:26.4. 3, Mark Enyeari, Pacific Coast Club, 2:29.4. 4, Malcolm Cleary, Santa Monica TC, 2:29.4.

Women's Mile Relay— 1, LA Mercurettes, 3:53.8. 2, Stanford, 3:59.6. 3, Cal Poly SLO, 4:05.2.

Women's 800— 1, Robin Campbell, Stanford TC, 2:07.8. 2, LeAnn Warren, unat., 2:08.8. 3, Debbie Campbell, Unat., 2:09.8. 4, Brenda Peterson, LA Merc., 2:12.9.

Men's Mile Relay— 1, Cal Poly SLO, 3:23.6. 2, Stanford, 3:25.2. 3, San Jose St., 3:25.5. 4, East Bay TC, 3:29.3.

Women's 3,000— 1, Grete Waitz, Norway, 9:05.6. 2, Joan Hansen, unat., 9:11.0. 3, Debbie Scott, Canada, 9:14.9. 4, Francie Larrieu, unat., 9:26.7.

High Jump— 1, Leo Williams, Navy, 7.3. 2, James Frazier, Arizona St., 7.3. 3, Dwight Stones, Pac. Coast, 7.1. 4, Joel Wyrick, San Jose St., 7.1.

Men's Mile— 1, Steve Scott, Sub-4 TC, 3:59.6. 2, David Moorcraft, Great Britain, 4:01.3. 3, Ray Flynn, Ireland, 4:01.6. 4, Don Paige, unat., 4:04.7.

Masters' Mile— 1, Tom Cathcart, West Valley TC, 4:36.8. 2, Eino, Senior TC, 4:40.2. 3, Dick Schupach, unat., 4:41.6. 4, Tim Rostege, West Valley TC, 4:47.9.

Junior Women's Mile— 1, Kim Schnurpfeil, Stanford, 4:53.3. 2, Ellen Lyons, Stanford, 5:08.8. 3, Liz Strangio, Cal Poly, 5:11.9. 4, Lisa Sellon, unat., 5:12.8.

Junior Men's Mile— 1, Andy DiConti, Cal Poly, 4:15.6. 2, Steve Smith, Arizona State, 4:15.9. 3, Jim Smith, Stanford, 4:17.7. 4, John Marden, Mission San Jose High, 4:19.4.

Over 60 50 Meters— 1, John Sathi, 7.4. 2, Sam Hoover, 7.8. 3, Herb Rodebaugh, 8.2. 4, A. J. Puglizevich, 8.6.

Girls Under 9 Relay— 1, Herbert Hoover TC, 1:36.7. 2, Santa Clara Valley Striders, 1:51.3. Only teams entered.

Boys Under 9 Relay— 1, Diablo Valley TC, 1:32.7. Only team entered.

Corporate Cup Team Mile— 1, PG&E 9:21.1. 2, Standard Oil 9:26.1. 3, General Electric 9:34.2.

Corporate Cup Women's Relay— 1, Lawrence Labs, 5:14.8. 2, TRW, 5:16.2. 3, General Electric 5:20.7. 4, PG&E 5:27.5.

Corporate Cup Pyramid Relay— 1, PG&E, 4:38.4. 2, Hewlett-Packard, 4:40.0. 3, TRW, 4:48.9. 4, General Electric, 4:56.4.

Corporate Cup Team 3000— 1, Lawrence Livermore Lab, 9:08.3. 2, PG&E, 9:09.2. 3, General Electric, 9:18.5. 4, Standard Oil, 9:28.1.