Trojans Nab Meet Team Title

BY JOHN DE LA VEGA
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FRESNO, May 17. — For the third time this season Phil Mel Patton of S.C. just missed equaling the world 100-yard dash record when he ran the century in 9.5s. before a highly expectant throng of 13,200 fans at Ratcliffe Stadium who witnessed the 31st annual West Coast relays.

But the fanatics weren't denied their accustomed share of record breaking.

With only the pole vault and discus to be barred from the Trojans led in team scoring in the open intercollegiate division with 51⅓ points, which assured them of victory over second-place U.C.L.A. at 30⅔.

Los Angeles City College held 32 points with the pole vault and high jump to come to Compton and Modesto's 23.

Steele Goes 25ft. 10⅝in.

Willie Steele, San Diego State, a small, rubbery Negro lad, leaped 25ft. 10⅝in. in the broad jump, which is the sixth longest hop in the history of track and field. A consistent 25ft. jumper this season, Steele is now within a foot of Jesse Owens' mighty world record of 26ft. 8¼in. which many experts maintain is the most elusive in the books.

Another mark almost rivaling Steele's was the shot-put heave of 54ft. 9⅜in. by Wilbur (Moose) Thompson of the Los Angeles Athletic Club. That is the best mark in the country since the war started.

Both Steele's and Thompson's efforts, of course, established new West Coast Relays records.

Mel Wins by Two

Patton once again missed equaling the world century mark by the narrowest possible margin as he defeated Don Anderson of California and Don Smalley of San Jose by a good 2 yards. He was off to a good start and held a yard advantage at the 60-yard mark. By the 85-yard line he had increased it to two yards but didn't quite have that extra zip to reach his goal. Anderson nipped Smalley for the place spot.

Lanky Craig Dixon of U.C.L.A. was another near-record misser as he annexed the open high hurdles in 14.3s.; just 1/10th of a second off the meet standard. At the tape he had a one-yard bulge on Al Lawler of Stanford.

Mercedes Collect

Los Angeles Athletic Club took the four-man 880-and four-man mile events, while the Olympic Club was an easy victor in the two-mile relay.

The Trojans starred the evening by winning the distance medley in 10m. 35.2s. Carmen Bova made up a 25-yard deficit on the 1320-yard leg and then Roland Sink won it by 100 yards.