Gordien Near Discus Mark With 186-2

BY CHARLES CURTIS

Fortune Gordien, who set the world's record in the discus four years ago in Finland, proved last night he's still a handy performer in the classic platter event first staged by the ancient Greeks.

Gordien pitcoiled for a 186ft. 2¼in. throw to highlight the Southern Pacific AAU championships at Compton College.

This is the greatest discus throw in American history being surpassed only by Gordiens 186ft. 11in. world's mark. It easily cracked Gordien's meet mark and also set a new SPAAU record. Fortune, of the LAAC, is now a movie bit player.

Iness Does 180ft.

The event also marked a strong comeback by the injured Tronjan and 1948 Olympic Games champ, Sim Iness, who had two tosses past 180ft. and a best 180ft. 4¼in.

The department of discus experts announced this was the first meet in history where two men bettered 180 feet.

The best previous discus throw in America was Iness' 185ft. 5¾in. at Palo Alto earlier this year.

Two other meet records fell during the program which concludes the local cinder season.

Ernie Shelton, SC's ever-improving sophomore high jumper, flipped over 6ft. 8¼in., bettering by half an inch the meet record of Johnny Wilson, the Trojan leaper, set when he was in Los Nazis.

Shelton didn't miss a height until he tried 6ft. 9½in.

Garcia Sets Mark

Art Garcia, the ex-Trojan, lowered his meet record in the 5000 meters with a 15:17.9 clocking after he and UCLA's Larry Carter had raced together for the entire 12½ laps. They both sprinted the last 220 with Art holding a three-yard edge at the finish.

The meet feature, the 880, found UCLA's Jack Sage outstepping Whittier's Russ Bonhams in the finish by three yards in 1:54.2, somewhat slower than expected.

Southern California's NCAA hopes, already at a high level, zoomed with Iness' comeback and with fine quarter-milling of Jim Lea and Verle Sorgen. Lea was clocked in 47.4 around two turns and Sorgen in 47.8.

A Trojan freshman, Fernando Ledesma, stepped the fastest mile in SC yearling history, a 4:16.8 clocking, in taking second to Wally Wilson, who won at 4:15.8.

Davis Scratched

SC's Jack Davis didn't show for the hurdles.

He's to run in the PAA meet at Stockton tonight. UCLA's Rod Richard scratched from the 100 finals but won the 220 easily and Lea passed the 220 after taking one of the heats.

Ronnie Morris, the Burroughs High boy, competing unattached, vaulted 13ft. 11¼ in. to win that event at the highest level ever reached by a prep vaulter. But it will not be submitted as breaking his own national prep mark of 13ft. 11¾in. since it was not made in a high school meet.

PRELIMINARIES

100: First heat—1, Richard (UCLA); 2, Pasquel (LAAC); 3, Newquist (Oxy Frosh). Kiser (Oxy Frosh), 10.1. Second heat—1, Graffis (SC Frosh); 2, Bonner (Cyp); 3, Wade (unatt., Manual Arts); 4, Turner (unatt., San Bernardino). 10.4.

220: First heat—1, Richard (UCLA); 2, Brooks (LAAC); 3, Ostrander (Compton); 4, Kiser (Oxy Frosh). 22.1. Second heat—1, Lea (SC); 2, Wade (unatt., Manual Arts); 3, Newquist (Oxy Frosh); 4, O'Rourke (LAAC). 22.6.

MILE

10,000 METERS—1, Waltmire (Whittier); 2, Cross (Culver City AC); 3, Rogers (unatt.). 33:18.6.

JAVELIN—1, Seymour (LAAC), 202ft. 5½in.; 2, Lambert (Whittier), 197ft. 9½in.; 3, Norton (Oxy), 189ft. 1in.

MILE—1, Wilson (LAAC), 4:15.5; 2, Ledesma (SC Frosh), 4:16.8; 3, Fiddler (Cyp), 4:16.9; 4, Schweikart (unatt., Whittier High), 4:21.4.

SHOT PUT—1, Gordien (UCLA), 50ft. 5½in.; 2, Martin (unatt., Van Nuys High), 49ft. 2in.; 3, Kaplan (San Bernardino), 46ft. 11¼in.

100—1, Graffis (SC), 10; 2, Presher (Compton); 3, Shelton (SC), 6ft. 8¼in. (New meet record; old mark of 6ft. 8in., established by Johnny Wilson, Trojan leaper, 1944); 2, Jeter (LAAC), 6ft. 8in.; 3, Ostrander (LAAC), 23. 2.

BROAD JUMP—1, Andrews (LAAC), 23ft. 1¼in.; 2, Wade (unatt., Manual Arts), 22ft. 10¼in.; 3, Tyler (Caltech), 21ft. 7½in.

440—1, Lea (SC), 47.4; 2, Sorgen (SC), 47.8; 3, O'Rourke (LAAC), 49.2.

HIGH HURDLES—1, Gordien (UCLA), 14.6; 2, McMillen (Whittier), 15.2; 3, Rosenthal (UCLA), 15.6.

MILE RELAY—1, Gordien (Oxy Frosh), 3:24.6. (New meet record; old mark of 3:25.4, set by Compton Junior College, 1944); 2, Whittier, 3:25.1; 3, Santa Ana (LAAC), 3:44.6.

880—1, Sage (UCLA), 1:54.2; 2, Bonham (Whittier), 1:54.5; 3, Casper (Mt. San Antonio), 1:55.

220—1, Richard (UCLA), 22; 2, Brooks (LAAC), 22.4; 3, Newquist (Oxy Frosh), 22.8. (Lea scratched from finals.)

LOW HURDLES—1, Johnson (Pasperdine), 23.6; 2, Clarke (SC Frosh), 3; Wright (SC), 4.

DISCUS THROW—1, McLurkin (Compton), 44ft. 11¾in.; 2, Presher (Cyp), 44ft. 2¼in.; 3, Levack (SC Frosh), 42ft. 9in.

POLE VAULT—1, Morris (Burroughs High), 13ft. 11¼in.; 2, Tie among Avalos (Valley), Richard (SC Frosh), Irwan (LAAC), Eilers (UCLA), Kenly (Arizona State), 12ft.

440-YARD HURDLES — 1, Halderman (LAAC), 55.1; 2, Ball (UCLA Frosh), 55.4; 3, Strain (LAAC), 55.4.