NEHEMIAH SETS WORLD RECORD IN HIGH HURDLES

From Times Wire Services

SAN JOSE—University of Maryland sophomore Renaldo Nehemiah burst out of the blocks ahead of an excellent field and sped to a world record 13.16 to win the 110-meter high hurdles at the Bruce Jenner track and field meet Saturday.

Nehemiah, 20, cracked the record of 13.21 seconds set in 1977 by Alejandro Casanas of Cuba. The performance by the indoor record holder also shattered his personal best outdoors of 13.23 run last year. The American record of 13.22 by UCLA's Greg Foster also fell to Nehemiah.

The record came in Nehemiah's first outdoor performance of the season and left behind such world class hurdlers as Dedy Cooper of San Jose.

and Charles Foster of the Philadelphia Pioneers. was second in 13.43, his best performance ever, while Foster was third in 13.70.

"It was in the air." Nehemiah said of his world mark. "I ruess a lot of people want to see me break a world record but it's not as easy as everyone thinks it is. I just wanted to

start my season off on a good note The 13.16 clocking came by automatic timing while he was timed at 12.9 by hand-operated stopwatches. The wind at the San Jose City College track was 3.68 m.p.h.,

well under the allowable maximum of 4.47 allowed for a world record Nehemiah, who broke a variety of indoor records during

the winter, said he felt that a time under 13.10 was on the way and that even a sub-13 mark is possible "in two or three months. "I don't know when 13 will fall but I think someone can do it," he said. "I think I could have run faster today if someone had been next to me. You can only run so fast by yourself. I said during the winter it would be an insult if I

didn't break the world record after the indoor season I had. "I've been running relays but I didn't get on the hurdles until last Thursday. I just tried to block everything out and

start over again. The record was greeted by loud cheers from the crowd of several thousand who watched the meet under bright

sunshine at the stadium where Jenner trained for the 1976 Olympics. Nehemiah's performance overshadowed 10 other meet records including Bob Roggy's javelin throw of 289 feet 7

inches and Knut Hieltnes' discus throw of 217-3 Roggy's throw was the eighth-best ever by an American, less than 11 feet from the American record of 300 feet

by Mark Murro. Hieltnes, a Norwegian, came within 16 feet of the pending world record by Wolfgang Schmidt of East Germany. The Philadelphia Pioneers turned in an outstanding 400-

meter relay victory. Bill Wells, Herman Frazier, Bill Col-lins and Steve Riddick beat USC with a time of 38.9, another meet record.

One athlete who did not break a meet record was Kenyan Henry Rono, who waited until the last lap to turn on his speed and won the 3,000-meter steeplechase in 8:40.6, more than 35 seconds slower than his pending world rec-