Hurdlers Pace
Track Team Win
At Triangle Meet

By MIKE CARTER
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Randy Matson, the biggest contender on the field, set the only records in the wind-hammered meet, but it was Stroup, the smallest contender, who excited the 9000 spectators most.

Stroup and Texas' conference champions Sunderland were never more than one yard apart for the first 2/4 miles. Then coming out of the second curve and with about 310 yards to go, Stroup unleashed a tremendous burst of speed and literally leaped Sunderland behind in a cloud of dust.

Cheering Crowd

The crowd came to their feet and applauded Stroup as he finished his race, his torrid pace never slackening. He ran his last lap in 30 seconds, beating Sunderland by 900 yards. As he crossed the finish line he was immediately surrounded by his amazed teammates.

Matson set meet records of 65 feet, 5 inches in the shot put and 170 feet, 7 inches in the discus. The Olympic silver medalist's put mark was 2'4 inches short of the national collegiate mark held by Dallas Long.

The most surprised participants of the meet were the high hurdlers. They expected all hurdlers to be 10 yards apart as they had always been. Their thoughts when they found themselves running through the sixth hurdle about three yards too soon can be imagined.

Min-Set Hurdles

The hurdle setters had set the sixth row of high hurdles where the tenth row of intermediate hurdles belongs. As a result six hurdlers finished with bruises on their legs and Rice's Cary Collins fell after he hit the sixth hurdle.

NCAA champ Bob May won the high hurdles event, and Jim Wilkensoin and Veril Brown finished second and third.

There were several unexpected victories as the Owls finished 14 points ahead of second place A&M. In the first running event of the afternoon, the 440 yard relay, the Aggies upset Rice. Both teams were clocked at 41.4 seconds, but the Aggies were first to cross the finish line.

Sunderland Upset

In the next race, Rice's Gene Timberlake pulled an upset of his own. Running the last lap of his mile in 29 seconds, he defeated Sunderland by five yards. And of course, there was Stroup's upset with his amazing 3-mile victory.

The 20 miles per hour wind played havoc with the times in the running events. The 100-yard dash, the 220, and the high hurdles were run against the wind, and some slow times resulted.

Jim Ellington won the open quarter with a very respectable 48.6 clocking, and Doug Aldmon finished second in 49.0. John Moss supplied Rice with still another first place as he finished strong in the 880, winning with a time of 1:54.1. Timberlake placed third behind Moss.

Rice's other winners were War-very fine 47.7 lap. Ellington anchored in an easy 48.8 since he had a 20 yard lead.

The Owls will travel to Laredo this weekend to challenge their cross-town rivals at University of Houston, who are reigning champs at the Border Olympics.