

Black is king of 200 meters

Larry Black is king of the 200-meter world.

And he has to prove it today when the 200-meter dash opens its first two rounds at 12:35 and 5:15 p.m.

Black has the fastest time in the world this year. His 20-flat is two-tenths of a second faster than anyone else in the world. Marshall Dill has run a 20.1 to rank as the second fastest in the field, but it was run last year.

Larry Burton, Ivory Crockett and Steve Williams have all been clocked in 20.2 (all converted from 220-yard times).

Those five are in a class by themselves, especially Black. The speedster from North Carolina Central sped to his 20-flat clocking in the 200-meters somewhere in Montana when he should have been in Eugene. He smoked to the world's fastest time twice at the NAIA championships in Billings, Mont. because his team pulled from the NCAA meet.

The little school, which had a chance for the NCAA title bypassed the meet when two of Black's teammates were ruled too

old to be foreigners (or something like that) by the NCAA rules committee.

So in the interest of team spirit, Black took his record to Montana, with the rest of his teammates.

Black, by the way, captured the NAIA championship. He also won the NCAA title in 1971 and won the college division title in 1971-72. Black ranks fifth on the world list for 200-meters, and is rated co-favorite to take a Gold Medal in Munich with Jamaica's Don Quarrie.

Marshall Dill was the surprise of the 100-meter dash last weekend as he made it all the way to the finals, winning two qualifying heats and placing second in the semi-finals. Dill, who also plays football for Michigan State, fell to sixth place in the 100-meter final and missed a spot on the Olympic team.

Dill's specialty is the 200-meters, though. And Dill, a sophomore at MSU, nationally recognized sprinter in high school two years ago as a national record holder of the 220-yard dash, is rated an

outside chance of taking a medal in Munich.

Steve Williams, University of Texas-El Paso (UTEP) freshman, is coming off a leg injury suffered in the Western Athletic Conference collegiate track meet. Williams attempted to come back in time for the NCAA's here in June, but had to pull up lame in his first qualifying race of the meet.

Williams took plenty of time to rest and now feels ready to go again. "I feel just fine. I've gotten a lot of rest and have been working out full speed for awhile now."

That is already a step ahead of his return to competition in the NCAA's when he hadn't worked full speed since the injury. Now he says, "I'll be ready to go. I've been doing easy 20.7's so I should be able to lower that here."

Burton and Crockett also missed attempts to reach Munich via the 100-meter dash, but both are expected to fare better in the 200-meters. Nevertheless, it looks like someone in the tough 200-meter lineup is destined to go home a double-loser.

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