

Hurd may miss NCAAs

If Oregon's men's track and field team is to make a run at an NCAA team championship this week, it will need points from its qualifying athletes in every event.

That may not be possible anymore. Hurdler LaMar Hurd, an entry in the 110-meter highs Thursday afternoon, has indicated that he may not be able to run.

Hurd ran an NCAA and Olympic Trials qualifying 13.81 in the hurdles a month ago against Fresno State, but his fortunes have gone down the tube since. At the Oregon Pepsi Relays May 5, Hurd had to drop out of his hurdles race when he felt a twinge in his leg.

The twinge turned out to be a pulled hamstring muscle which has severely damaged Hurd's chances for NCAA competition.

"He hasn't run a step since it happened," admits Oregon assistant John Gillespie, who coaches jumps, sprints and hurdles.

But Hurd has not officially scratched from the hurdles. The Ducks have until late today to make a decision on him, and Gillespie says he'll wait as long as possible before giving the yes or no vote.

"It's up in the air," says Gillespie. "We'll just wait as long as we can."

If Hurd is a no-show come NCAA time, the Ducks will be docked a few predicted points. *Track and Field News* had doped Hurd for a 10th-place finish in the highs, which would have given Oregon three points.



LaMar Hurd

Mears wins Indy; crash mars race

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Rick Mears ran away from the fastest field in auto racing history Sunday to win his second Indianapolis 500, a race marked by record speeds and one terrifying crash.

The 32-year-old Mears, the 1979 winner who finished second and third the past two years, was left without a challenge after defending champion Tom Sneva's car suffered a broken U-joint with 32 laps left in the \$2.5 million race.

Mears, part of the elite Roger Penske racing team, broke the race record set by Mark Donohue in 1972. In front of a crowd of 400,000, he averaged 163.621 mph and covered the 500 miles in 3 hours, 3 minutes, 21 seconds. Donohue, who died in a crash during a Formula One event in 1975, averaged 162.962.

"Tom Sneva was the toughest," Mears said in Victory Lane. "If he hadn't had a

problem, it could have been a helluva battle at the end."

The unofficial finish behind Mears had Guerrero second and Mears' teammate Al Unser Sr., third. The order of finish was delayed because the scoring computer malfunctioned and it had to be done manually.

Pat Bedard, a journalist-turned-driver, was cruising along, slowed by an engine problem, when he suddenly spun off the track on lap 58 and slammed into the inside retaining wall. His Buick-powered March exploded into a ball of flame and flying debris.

Bedard was flung helplessly around in the cockpit as his black car flipped several times across the infield grass and landed upside down. Track safety workers had to turn the car over before working for more than five minutes to pry the unconscious Bedard from the wreckage.

Auto races draw some unique fans

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — What brings approximately 400,000 people to the Indianapolis 500 each year?

It's the race, of course, but there are other reasons, too — people-watching, meeting friends, an opportunity to make money, even the chance to be noticed.

"I want to get stopped by as many people as possible," said Mark Lee of Edinburgh, Ind., from behind a Ronald Reagan mask. "Some friends of mine have a contest every year and dress up strange, and the one who scores the most points by getting noticed the most wins the money we put up. Say, is this going to be in the

paper?"

Lee said there was one drawback to wearing the mask. "It sure is hot in here," he said, taking the false face off for a moment. "But I know I'm winning this contest big, so that's all that matters."

Jim Schultz of Madison, Wis., said he was in Indianapolis "to watch the race and make money." Schultz bought and sold tickets at the closest freeway entrance to the Indianapolis Motor Speedway from Friday morning until Sunday before the race.

"I hustle tickets for a living and teach physical education on the side," he said.

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