

# Foster races past Nehemiah again

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Greg Foster continued his recent domination over Renaldo Nehemiah, winning the 55-meter high hurdles in the Millrose Games on Friday night at Madison Square Garden.

But Foster was nearly caught by Florida State's Arthur Blake, whose 7.10 was second to the winner's 7.07.

Long jumper Jackie Joyner-Kersey and sprinter Gwen Torrence also scored impressive victories.

Foster's victory was his fifth in five meetings over his archrival since Nehemiah returned to track in 1986 after four years in the NFL with the San Francisco 49ers.

Although Nehemiah still holds a commanding 28-10 lead with one dead heat over Foster in a rivalry that began in the late 1970s, there has been no question who has been the No. 1 hurdler the past two years.

Clearly, it is Foster, who was timed in 7.07 seconds.

Nehemiah, still struggling to find the form and technique that carried him to the world outdoor record in the 110-meter hurdles and the world indoor best in the 55-meter hurdles, finished a distant fifth in 7.22, edging 1984 Olympic champion Roger Kingdom, who was last in the same time.

Nehemiah was the first out of the blocks in the six-man race, but Foster caught him quickly, beating him over the first hurdle. He never trailed again.



Blake

"I've gotten used to the fact that I won't always start first," said Foster, who was competing with a slight cold.

Foster said he wasn't worried about Nehemiah's fast start.

"I only worry about myself . . . no one else," he said. "I stay well

within myself and concentrate."

Nehemiah continued to bemoan his poor technique.

"There are still some pieces of the puzzle missing . . . some big gaps," he said. "Basically, my speed and strength are there, but where I'm losing it is over the top of the hurdles. That's where I'm still behind the other runners.

"My technique is all wrong. For me, it's like starting all over. Technically, I'm in the air too much. Then, I lose my balance going over the hurdle."

Cletus Clark was third in 7.12.

The victory was Foster's second in a row in the Millrose Games, his fifth in six years and his sixth overall.

He was ranked No. 1 in the world last year and won the gold medal in the World Outdoor Championships in 1987 for the second straight time, taking over the mantle that once belonged to the now struggling Nehemiah.