Speed, Spring and St

Talented new faces, and some rejuvenated old ones, are blossoming like sp.

Jones: Speed Dominates

Speed dominates Reggie Jones' life whether as a hobby or as his vehicle to gain an education. At home in Saginaw, Mich., Reggie is a drag racer. At school in Knoxville, Tenn., Reggie is a comer, and he shares the US lead at 100 and 220 yards this spring.

"I've got almost \$1000 invested in a Chevelle 396," says 6-3/185 freshman Jones, "and there's more to go. Six of us have helped build the car. There's a little sticker on the back which says, 'keep on trucking,' and that's what it does."

And that's what he does, too. You see, Reggie just might be the hottest sprint



REGGIE JONES

property around. When he zipped to a windy 9.2 at Gainesville, some skeptical eyebrows were raised. But a 9.4 win against UCLA on March 30 and a legal 9.2 and 20.7 at the Dogwood Relays April 13 means the well-built Tennessee Vol is for real. Those marks give him a share of the seasonal US leads.

"Reggie explained in his sleep the other night why he likes the 100 and 220 so much," laughs steepler Doug Brown. "He said if he didn't do well, the coach might move him to the marathon."

There's probably little chance of that happening. Jones has established himself as a sprinter supreme. When trying out for football at Saginaw High as a wide receiver, a linebacker landed on his left knee. The speedster quickly picked himself off the turf and decided he would give track a try.

Though Jones rates his start as only average, it's the final part of his race, his acceleration, which separates him from his opponents. That's a trait employed by two other great sprinters who share Reggie's size—Tommie Smith and Steve Williams. And his goals at Tennessee might put him in direct conflict with both of those stars. Reggie Jones wants his body to run world records in both the 100 and 220.