CROSS COUNTRY AT CORNELL 1962

The Heptagonal Champions of 1961 were a team that made you admire them for their courage and determination against injuries that as a rule would cause defeatism in most squads. The varsity men back from last year’s team namely were Captain Ray Westendorp—Eric Groon—John Munday—Peter Slater—William Arnst—Jim McSweeney—Paul Deignan.

They were to be helped with last year’s freshmen team, namely Steve Machooka, Jim Byard, Jim Sims, Hugh Conway, Bill Brockman, Bill Brehm, John Cederholm, Peter Kuck and John Rumble.

Before the season got underway, knee injuries to Eric Groon, Jim McSweeney, Bill Brockman, with shin splints to Paul Whitey Deignan, and to add to further complications, Jim Sims in his first week at school came down with infectious mononucleosis.

The team that won the Heptagonal Championship was composed of three seniors and four sophomores. Four seniors could not finish the season due to one reason or another were Groon, Deignan, Slater and Mc-Sweeney. Captain Westendorp, John Munday and Bill Arnst graduate this year leaving the responsibility of cross country to this year’s sophomores to carry on. Jim Byard was elected captain for next year. He will have the Heptagonal and IC4A Champion and record holder, Steve Machooka, Hugh Conway, Bill Brockman, Bill Brehm, John Cederholm plus this year’s freshmen men who were only seven in number. Much help is looked for and expected from Arnold Cary, John Olds, Steve LeRay, Bruce Hawley and Pete Frisbee.

We will also be strengthened by two men who have experience and should make us a championship threat, in 1962. They are Doug Treado a transfer from Eastern Michigan and Richard Hemmings returning to Cornell from a three year Army hitch.

If I had to express my feelings about this year’s varsity team I would sum it up in these words, “A group of Blue Chippers that I was exceptionally proud to have had the pleasure to coach.”

Louis C. Montgomery
Coach of Cross Country
CORNELL vs. COLGATE—SEPT. 27

Continuing an old and long standing tradition at Cornell, the Big Red romped over Colgate in the first meet of the season. Colgate had just a single man in the first eight places with Steve Machooka, Ray Westendorp and Jim Byard leading all the runners to the finish line. Machooka's breaking of the Cornell individual record for the Moakley course—"Terrible Turk" Brockman being the last human to do this—forebode the spectacular races yet to come. Soph Byard proved that he had the makings of a superior distance man by staying with always strong Capt. Westendorp throughout the race. Moreover, the fifth and sixth place showings of sophs Hugh E. Conway and John T. Cederholm demonstrated that these Freshman Flashes of 1960 could take their places with the "big guys" at the five mile grind. Aged seniors John Munday and P. Greg "Slates" Slater raced to the team for the season. The trio of Bill Arnst, John Cederholm and 5th man for Cornell were especially encouraging. The results of the team contest ran true to expectations, Cornell winning easily, 21-40. Truly astounding, however, were the individual performances. It was obvious at the 1.5 mile mark that Machooka was not content to win. His time of 7:19 for that distance was a course record; so was his time for 5 miles—an unbelievably 26:05.5, 39 seconds under the old standard. Mack made the mistake of following the Panther closely for 2 miles and finished 34 seconds back.

CORNELL vs. HARVARD—OCT. 7

In their second meet of the young season, the Red were upset by an aroused Harvard team, 26-29. Steve Machooka put on a great show for the "intellectuals" on the Charles by topping the Crimson captain Mark Mullin by 45 seconds. Cornell's captain Ray Westendorp took 4th position and soph Jim Byard 5th. The meet was then won for Harvard by the 3 men they placed between Byard and Cornell's trio of seniors, Peter G. Slates, Willie Arnst, and J. C. Munday, who finished 9th, 10th, and 11th respectively. Hugh E. Conway and J. T. Cederholm, two up and coming sophs, finished a bit farther back. That the Red lacked dependable 4th and 5th men in this meet is pointed out by the full one minute vacuum between Byard and the Slater-man. The problem to be faced by Coach Montgomery in future meets was plainly to coach two of the 7-add runners behind the leading trio to move up closer to that trio.

Machooka's time for the Franklin Park course broke the old standard of 25:21 by a full 15 seconds, and was all the more commendable for the fact that Brown's Bobby Lowe, last year's IC4A champion, and Cornell's own venerable Frankie Brockman, 1960's captain, had themselves failed to break the standard during their careers. Brockman, now in Nigeria serving his country with the Peace Corps, was narrowly beaten by Lowe, and saw the Bruin ace miss the record by only 3 seconds last year.

CORNELL vs. PENN STATE—OCT. 14

Running against 1960's IC4A x-c Champs, Cornell went down to its expected defeat, 22-33. The Nittany Lions lost only their first man to graduation last year and were bolstered by a good group of sophs. The pattern for Cornell ran true to that established at Harvard on the previous Saturday. Fantastic Steve Machooka again soundly whipped all-comers, including two Lions heralded by many as the best in the "fast, 28 year old Gerry Norman, and Steve Moorhead. The Shadow's time over the rain-soaked course was 25:36, not fast enough to break the record of 24:55, but creditable enough when one considers that that standard is held by Michigan State's once invincible Forddy Kenndy.

Ray Westendorp and Jim Byard ran their usual solid races, taking 6th and 7th places behind a Penn State quartet. John Munday was 9th for the Red, and Hugh Conway improved significantly while finishing just one second behind John-bo. Their finishes as 4th and 5th men for Cornell were especially encouraging in that they moved to within 30 seconds of 3rd man Byard. Two sophs, Billy Brehm and Pete Kuck, performed well in their first away meet.

CORNELL vs. YALE OCT. 21

A victory over Bob Giegengack's Blue Horde is always welcome, and on this occasion there were few who did not expect one. The only fight was expected to be between Machooka and Yale's Booby Mack, a soph x-c star last year and a 4:08 miler.

The results of the team contest ran true to expectations, Cornell winning easily, 21-40. Truly astounding, however, were the individual performances. It was obvious at the 1.5 mile mark that Machooka was not content to win. His time of 7:19 for that distance was a course record; so was his time for 5 miles—an unbelievable 26:05.5, 39 seconds under the old standard. Mack made the mistake of following the Panther closely for 2 miles and finished 34 seconds back.

Ray Westendorp and his close companion of the past few weeks Jim Byard, ran their best races ever. Westy's time of 27:04.4 was the 5th best ever on the Moakley course, while Byard's 27:27.6 matched the Cornell best of the pre-Machooka era.

Senior John Munday, home 7th, was 5th man for the home forces, sandwiched between a pair of sophs, Jim Sims and Hugh Conway. Sims, who had trained little more than a week after a bout with mononucleosis, ran a characteristically courageous race, while Conway continued to perform well. Three other sophs, Pete Kuck, Bill Brehm, and John Cederholm continued to improve, Kuck finishing just behind Conway.

CORNELL vs. SYRACUSE—OCT. 27

For the second straight year the Big Red doomed any hopes Syracuse might have had for the mythical Upper New York State cross country title. Outstanding running on the part of Steve Machooka gave Cornell an important first place by beating the Orange's much touted star Joe Francello. Steve, following up his record breaking performance at Moakley the week before, smashed Francello's record for the Syracuse course by a full 18 seconds. Cornell's Ray Westendorp split the remaining Syracuse forces by finishing third; Jim Byard and Jim Sims further saddened the quintet from Piety Hill by placing sixth and seventh. Sims continued his spectacular comeback from a siege with mono by closing the previous gap between Byard and himself to a mere six seconds. Pre-season prognosticators had even thought that Sims would be lost to the team for the season. The trio of Bill Arnst, John Munday and Hugh Conway managed to cross the
finish line before Syracuse's fifth man; thus assuring victory for Coach Montgomery's harriers. This much hoped for victory against an always strong Syracuse team on their home course contributed to the spirit which all knew would be so crucial against the Black Knights of the Hudson the following week.

**CORNELL vs. ARMY—NOV. 4**

It was no easy task for the Cornell team to send to defeat the imposing quintet from West Point. Army came to Ithaca trailing a record of no less than twelve straight victories and three consecutive Heptagonal titles. Cornell demonstrated that they would be a cross country power to be contends with the following week at the twenty-third Heptagonals by chalking up a 27 to 29 victory over the cadets.

Considerable credit for making this a happy day for Cornell fans falls to Ray Westendorp and Jim Byard. Ray closed out his Cornell career on Moakley by running the fourth best time ever negotiated on the home course; Westy's time was a mere seven seconds off the old, pre-Machooka record. The magnitude of this achievement forces itself on us when we consider some of the "greats" who previously tried their skill on formidable Moakley—Ed Moran, Mike Midler, Frank "The Mad Turk" Brockman. Jim Byard continued his string of outstanding performances by placing fourth, just behind Army strong man John Jones and in front of a pack of four Army men. The phenomenon from Kenya—who some claim has changed the concept of the sport by his prowess—took his usual first place unchallenged. Jim Sims and Bill Arnst completed the Big Red five by placing ninth and eleventh. Cornell thus served notice to the rest of the league that the gathering storm of force would break with decisive strength just six days hence at the Heptagonals in New York City.

**HEPTAGONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS NOV. 10**

With the momentum of three straight victories over strong opponents behind them, Cornell faced off to the task of winning the 1961 Heps. S. Masati Machooka had soundly disposed of every other strong man in the league; but would the Big Red be able to muster the depth needed to capture a team title? The creditable efforts of Ray Westendorp, Jim Byard, Bill Arnst and John Munday resolved this question in the affirmative. Even without the help of stand out runners Eric Groon, Paul Deignan, Peter Slater and renegade Joel Heine now of Navy, the Big Red was able to fulfill the fond dreams of Coach Lou Montgomery by setting Cornell on top of the Ivy League heap for the first time in four years. The victory was all the more significant to Coach Montgomery because it was won by guts and determination on the part of the whole team. The true-blue chippers from the cow lands of the Southern Tier overcame powerful opposition in toppling the three time defending champions from the battlements on the Hudson.

Steve Machooka, the phenomenal Panther from Kenya, collected another Van Cortlandt Park record for himself in his first try at the course since he set the Freshman IC4A record the year before. Again the little "big man" from Yale, Bobby Mack, felt the smack of defeat at the hands of Steve who pranced across the line 20 seconds ahead of Bobby, Capt. Wasty’ placed fifth and Captain-to-be Byard followed right on Ray's heels. The pressure was on now, Cornell had three men in the first ten and Army had four men in the first ten. Repeating his life saving performances of previous years, little Willie Arnst steelied himself and finished eighteenth. That meant Cornell had 30 points and Army had 25 for the first four men. John Munday, courageously fighting his way back after a knee injury in the Yale meet, won the day for Cornell and CUAA blazers for the whole team by placing twenty-second; eleven spots ahead of Army's fifth man. Seniors Westendorp, Arnst and Munday carried out the threat they had posed to the Ivy League 3 years before when they were members of the 1958 IC4A Championship Freshman team. Sophs Machooka and Byard, trained down fine for this meet, raised quite a few eyebrows at the finish line by their showing; their classmates Jim Sims and Hugh Conway, hampered by pre-season and mid-season difficulties, showed the promise of the really great runners they are well on the way to becoming. To quote the words of manager Peter "Twistin' Pete" Hoffman—a sagacious observer of athletic affairs: That victory is the sweetest which is hardest won.

**IC4A CHAMPIONSHIPS—NOV. 20**

Not really expecting to win, but hoping to secure its highest team position in 5 years, the Heptagonal champions from I-town took on the best squads in the East. In finishing 7th, the Red disappointed some (particularly their own) hopes, but established themselves further as a fine running force. The outstanding individual performance of the day was turned in, as always, by Cornell's ebony excellent, Steve Machooka. Running through the slush and snow of Van Cortlandt Park, Steve easily mastered all opposition. His time of 26:02.9 was 33 seconds slower than the course record held by Brown's Bobby Lowe, and 27 seconds slower than Steve had run the week before; but it was certainly fast enough to top Penn State’s Gerry Norman, who finished some 50 yards behind with a time of 26:12.

Ray Westendorp and Jim Byard also turned in good performances, finishing 25th and 34th respectively. The powerful running styles of both these men, however, were hampered by the atrocious footing and their times were consequently slower than those of the previous week. Willie Arnst (91st) and John Munday (93rd) rounded out the Cornell scoring. William W. Brockman, brother to the Turk, and known by his teammates as the Turklet, finished with a kick reminiscent of his brother's best days, swooping into the 113th slot just at the tape.

The Freshmen, though they had run well enough to compile a 5-2 record for the season, were completely outclassed in a race won by Villanova, and finished 10th in the team scoring. They were led, as they were throughout the season, by promising Arnold Cary (31st), who was followed by teammates Olds (39th), Hawley (71st), LeRoy (77th) and Frisbee (94th). The Frosh suffered throughout the season from a lack of depth, but a dedicated 7-man nucleus brought them to the close of a successful season.
NCAA AND MACCABIAH GAMES

Three Cornellians participated last June in post-season competition. Co-captains John S. Murray and Peter W. Brandeis, both Heptagonal champions, and ace weight thrower L. Michael Schenker, journeyed first to Philadelphia for the NCAA’s. Murray succeeded in clearing the qualifying height of 14’4 in the pole vault, but dropped out after failing at 14’8. Brandeis, meanwhile, after qualifying for the semis with a slow 1:53.0, took 3rd in the fastest heat of the day, setting a new all-time Cornell record for the 880 with his sparkling 1:49.6. His final placing was 5th, an outstanding performance in a National meet. Schenker, who had hovered around the 160’ mark in the hammer all season, surprised everyone by placing 6th in the finals with his best ever, 170’1—a very respectable effort.

In August, Brandeis and Schenker went to Israel; Murray, due to events in early July, was no longer in shape—of course he wasn’t (and isn’t) one of the chosen anyway. Both Cornell representatives starred, Schenker grabbing second place with 169’6, and Brandeis, running on the slowest track in Mesopotamia, taking first with 1:52.6, a record. Pete hasn’t come back.

It is costing more and more to put out the Cornell Wastebasket and funds are getting lower and lower. For most alumni, The Wastebasket represents the only remaining contact with Cornell Track and the many happy and profitable years spent at ole Schoellkopf. Please help to continue this Track tradition by sending your desperately needed contribution to Coach Montgomery, Teagle Hall.

Editorial:

On the 1961-1962 Indoor Track Season

Once again the editors of the Wastebasket feel morally obligated to call to the attention of the loyal alumni a disgraceful handicap which shackles Cornell Track year after year. We are, of course, referring to the wooden “obnoxious oval” erected seemingly at the center of every cross-wind on the Hill. Every year, invariably, two or three key men are lost to the team for part or all of the season because of colds, the flu, or walking pneumonia. Moreover, last year, standout runner Peter Brandeis broke a bone in his lower leg because of the training conditions under which he had to labor. It seems a pitiful shame for a champion runner who trains his heart out to be sidelined because of the apparent visceral apathy of the unknown higher-ups. The authors ask what kind of athletic officials would ask their runners to condition themselves on uneven boards covered with a slick of ice, buffeted by fierce winds, and this in a temperature normally below 20°F.? There is no oddity in the fact that it is always the important men who are injured; for these are the men who are taking exhausting long distance workouts or are blazing around sharp, icy corners.

Spirit for Cornell Track never sags so low as during the wintry months of the Indoor season. This situation just is not FAIR. The blood of all runners boils at the thought of the cold outdoor “indoor track.”

A quick look around the league will perhaps make it obvious to all why Cornell is not annually at the top of the Heptagonal group. Of our 9 opponents, only Penn and Columbia are without indoor field houses; the less said about the recent success of these teams the better. Suffice it to say that they can both be safely ignored in championship meets. Cornell, on the other hand, has not yet hit bottom; but you have all certainly noted that 4ths, 5ths, and ties for 6th have recently been more common than 1st. Witness the past few Heps Championships at Barton Hall. Now it is held by all who know Cornell Track that the quality of coaching and of running is not going down-hill. Why, then, are we moving down to the depths of Penn and Columbia? The answer, of course, is simple. THE REST OF THE LEAGUE IS MOVING AWAY FROM US. They are doing it with very little effort, because (1) their fieldhouses provide normal training conditions (2) high school prospects need not think twice about where they will train in mid-winter. On this second point, it is absolutely certain that not one high school trackman, if sought by any other University, could think about coming to Cornell without considering the abominable indoor facilities here. Needless to say, this makes it almost impossible to get a star. Certainly the effect of all this on Coach Montgomery’s recruiting job is obvious.

Please heed this plea and voice your indignation to the buck (or should we say non $buck$) passing higher ups who place the welfare of Cornell Track at the very bottom of their lists. Ex-trackman Robert Kane, Director of Athletics, has a sympathetic ear and can convey our grievances to the proper people. May we suggest that you sit down now to express your reaction to this injustice to Cornell Track.

Co-editors
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