DISTANCE RUNNERS SHOW WELL DURING INDOOR CAMPAIGN

Six events saw athletes join or climb on Yale's top ten list during the 1972-73 season, with emphasis on the distance races.

The most movement occurred in the two-mile run, where Drew Meamns advanced to third past John Hexen by virtue of his 9:06.8 clocking to Hexen's 9:12.6. He received a 4:09.3, which Hexen moved to seventh place at 9:22.3, while Brian Kelly, despite improving to 9:21.2, slipped from eighth to ninth. Senior Dan Larson is at the bottom with a 9:23.6.

Meamns moved from seventh to fourth on the mile list on a time of 4:09.3, while Hexen joined the group just behind him at 4:10.7. Toby McLeod moved into the 600 rankings in ninth place by running 1:12.2.

There were three changes in the first field events. Freshman Mike Martin, competing in a junior varsity meet, did 13-7 in the pole vault for ninth place and Bob Wilson did 41-8 in the triple jump for second place. High jumper John Brubaker did a Yale best of 6-6 in the Heptagonal to place third in the event there and account for Yale's only points in the competition. That tied him for fourth on the Yale list. Bob Meindell's 6-5 effort was good for a seventh-place tie.

In the winter's first meet, against Massachusetts, Kelly came from behind to win the two-mile in 9:21.2, while freshman Charlie Palmer won the shot put. Greg Dubinsky took the long jump and Jim Nepola the long jump. Sandy Gutek, Dickie and Martin gave Yale a pole vault sweep.

Meamns, in the two-mile, was Yale's only individual winner against Penn and Brown, although the Ellis did take both relays. Palmer was second in the meet. Meamns won both the mile (4:09.3) and two-mile (9:09.8) at Dartmouth. Other victorious Ellis were Toby McLeod in the 600, Bob Wilson in the long jump, captain Steve McDonald in the hurdles and Bob Meindell in the high jump.

Meindell also took the high jump against Cornell and Palmer turned in a fine 50-10 1/4 effort to win the shot. McDonald, in the hurdles, was the only other Yale winner. Things hit rock bottom against Harvard and Princeton, which monopolized all the first place finishes. The best Yale efforts were second places by Meindell and Palmer.

— PETER EASTON

YALE 71, MASSACHUSETTS 46

PY - 1. CUTLER (Y), 1:36; 2. DICKIE (Y), 1:26; 3. MARTIN (Y), 1:24.
TY - 1. Banda (M), 40-55; 2. CONNORS (Y), 39.5; 3. BRUBAKER (Y), 39.5.
LI - 1. NEPOLA (Y), 21-10; 2. Banda (M), 21-3; 3. CONNORS (Y), 20-7.

(continued on page 2)
LEADING WEIGHTMEN Greg Dubinetz (left) and Charlie Palmer show their form. This pair, both offensive tackles on the football team during the fall, accounted for most of Yale's points in the weight throw and shot put during the indoor season. Dubinetz is a sophomore and Palmer a freshman. Both weight in the 240 range.

— Photos by Sabby Finzi
Hexem Draws Attention From New Haven Press

Editor’s Note: This article appeared in the New Haven Register of April 20, 1973. It was written by Jon Stein of the Register sports staff.

John Hexem’s timetable for running a four-minute mile may extend through graduate school. But he’ll still be running on the Yale varsity track team.

This oddity came about because of a new National Collegiate Athletic Association rule. It says that an athlete who graduates from college in three years can compete in varsity athletics the following year if he attends graduate school in the same university.

“I took a lot of advanced placement courses in high school,” said Hexem, who went to Walnut High in Cincinnati. “I came to Yale with a year-and-half of credits.”

The junior will graduate in June and then begin a Ph.D. program in chemistry at Yale. Hexem set a Yale record in 4:06.5 mile two weekends ago. He’s thinking about the four-minute mark now.

“You just don’t know exactly how much training you have to put in to hold a 60-second pace for three quarters,” Hexem said. “I’ve been holding a 60-second pace so I’ll work on running the first part of the race faster and then see what happens. It could be that I’m in good enough shape to do it now. If not, it might take another year.”

A Yale education has built-in barriers to long-distance running. Hexem “only” runs 70 miles a week. To achieve his full potential he would have to run over 100. Olympic marathon champ Frank Shorter didn’t become world class until he graduated from Yale.

He ran his 406.5 mile in Yale’s first outdoor meet when the Elis returned from a southern trip.

“I was just back from Florida, where I had slept nine or 10 hours a day,” he said. “At school you can’t get that kind of sleep. The day before the (Rutgers-St. John’s) meet I skipped classes and slept until noon. If I don’t get enough sleep before a mile race it’s painful.”

The 1976 Olympics will take place two years after Hexem finishes his varsity running for Yale. If all goes well he may peak for the Olympics, as Shorter did.

“It depends on how I do this year and next,” Hexem said. “If it looks as if I’m a consistent four-minute miler I’ll probably try for the Olympics.”

Hexem thinks of the four-minute mile as “a mental barrier right now.” But, he said, “I think everyone assumes he can break it if he’s any good.”

Hexem has run a 1:51.5 half mile split in relay.

“If I ever run a 64-second last quarter in a mile then I’ll know I have good speed,” he said.

He’s 6-foot tall, looks all arms and legs, and isn’t very heavy (165 pounds). That’s about the same way Shorter and a lot of other great distance runners are built.
COACH'S CORNER ... (continued from page 1)

State University, Tallahassee. No eating funds were allocated and Coaches Calheun, Hessock, Trainer Kamiensky, and assorted athletes amazened us with their communal kitchen skills — a tiny, 4-burner stove and outdoor fireplace served as refectories, shared with Dartmouth's coaches and team. It was a little uncomfortable and inconvenient, our cabins being crowded and five miles from the Florida State track. I hired a truck for transportation for field men and sprinters and coaches. All worked twice daily and distance runners often ran both ways logging well over 200 miles that week. The second week was spent at the University of Florida, Gainesville, in luxurious quarters.

We performed with distinction at the Florida Relays and must note some really fine accomplishments: The two-mile relay ran fourth in 9:34.7, for the second fastest in Yale history and this was a team that could only run 7:56 indoors and not qualify for IC4A. Hexem ran anchor in 15:15. The four-mile relay placed third in 16:58.4, a new Yale record! Hexem anchored in 4:08.8. The distance medley ran third in 10:02.2 (fourth best in Yale history).

We have run once since our return, losing a triangular meet to Rutgers-Si. John's for the first time — BUT John Hexem established a new Yale mile record of 4:06.5, breaking by more than two seconds the best times of Bittner and Shorter. Mears' 4:12 in the same race moves him into sixth best on the all-time list.

Admissions: This goes to press before we learn who will join us in the next freshman class. As far as percentage of admissions may be determined, here are some rounded figures: Of our so-called #1 applicants 16 of 32 are "Accepted", or 50%; nine have been "Rejected", and seven are "Wait Listed". Of our #2 applicants (#1 and #2 represent first-class and fair performers) six out of 19 "Accepted", or 31%, five "Rejected" and five "Wait Listed." Of course, there are about another 20 who have applied without track distinction and about whose status we know nothing. We are crossing our fingers and holding our breath over the 22 accepted, awaiting their preference, which may lose for us if we are not their first choice or if our financial aid program is not competitive, as it certainly was not last year. We have only faint hope that many of our 12 Wait Listed will persevere, since it has been our unfortunate experience that they will be accepted straighaway by the competition. By and large the situation shows little, if any, improvement.

—BOB GIEGENSECK

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Editor
Peter Easton

Contributors
Bob Giegenack
Bruce Hessock

Photography
A. Burton Street
Sabby Franz

1972 Varsity Results
Cross Country

19 Connecticut * 41-W
21 Brown 35-W
15 Columbia * 49-W
25 Dartmouth * 30-W
23 Rutgers 34-W
45 Penn 18-L
41 Cornell 18-L
43 Harvard * 19-L
41 Princeton * 20-L

Won 5, Lost 4

34th Annual Heptagonal at Van Cortlandt Park, New York City.

1. Harvard 196
2. Navy 185
3. Princeton 180
4. Army 151
5. Penn 143
6. Cornell 174
7. Yale 174
8. Dartmouth 176
9. Brown 227
10. Columbia 306

1972 Varsity Letterwinners

John A. Dirgo, '74; John G. Hexem, '74; Brian C. Kelly, '74; Daniel C. Larson, '73; Edward A. Mearns, '72, '74; Keven R. Moats, '74; William H. Sheehan, '74; Michael R. White, '76; George A. Miles, '74, manager.

YALE TRACK
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James Luck, '62
James A. Wade, '59

KELLY TO CAPTAIN CROSS-COUNTRY TEAM AGAIN IN 1973

Brian Kelly

Brian Kelly, a junior from Fair Haven, N.J., was reelected captain of Yale's cross-country team following the 1972 season.

Kelly, an intense competitor and spirited leader, helped the Elis to their first winning season in four years last fall. Yale posted a 5-4 record in recording the first winning campaign since Frank Shorter, the 1972 Olympic marathon champion, was captain in 1968.

While Kelly wasn't Yale's top runner (that honor went to Drew Mearns, a junior from Cincinnati), he was a consistent scorer and earned his second letter. He is currently in his second season as a solid two-miler on the track team.

On Yale's top ten track listings, Kelly ranked ninth in the indoor two-mile and fourth in the same event outdoors going into the 1973 season. He was also a member of the group which set a Yale record of 17:38.9 for the four-mile relay last spring.

At Rumson-Fair Haven High School, Kelly was cross-country and track captain. He is majoring in economics.

Wanda Peterson, a freshman from Philadelphia, was named IC4A cross-country and track manager, thereby becoming Yale's first staff member in those sports. The Els, however, have had female managers in crew and wrestling previously.

With a winning cross-country record as assured going into the final two regular-season meets, Yale lost to Cornell, Harvard and Princeton to wind up 5-4. Cornell ran off with an 18-41 decision, with Drew Mearns fourth on the Ithaca course, in 28:33.

In the Big Three meet, Yale lost to Princeton, 20-41, and to Harvard, 19-45. Mearns, the only Eli in the top ten, was second, covering the Yale course in 22:26. He turned in another fine effort in the Heptagonals, placing third in 25:22, a marked improvement over 1971, when he was 18th in 24:33. The Els moved up one notch to wind up seventh. Kelly was Yale's top finisher in the IC4A's, coming in 25th in 25:32, as the Els wound up 20th.

* * *

By his high finish in the Heptagonals, Mearns earned selection on the All-Ivy cross-country team... In the New England cross-country poll, Yale wound up fifth.