FINAL TRACK BANQUET OF 1957

At the final banquet of the 1956-57 season high jumper John King and quarter miler John Ingley were elected co-captains to succeed graduating Art Boland who received the John Gatling Award, given to the Varsity senior track man who has done the most for Cornell Track. The Shorty Lawrence Trophy, to the most improved man on the team, was won by hammer thrower Paul Boguski. Harvey Weissbard won the Jinks Crozier award, given to the most improved quarter miler. The new Rothschild award, for the winners of the class mile relay race, went to the junior foursome of Dave Cadiz, Mike Midler, Barry Tharp, and John Ingley. Once again the Everett Collyer award to the outstanding varsity pole vaulter was not given since Cornell did not have any scoring vaulter this year.

For Cross Country 1956 the following awards were made at the cross country banquet in the fall; Most Valuable Freshman—Robert Peet; Most Improved Varsity man—Edward Ingall; Most Valuable Varsity man—Michael Midler; John F. Moakley Award to the senior who has done the most for Cornell Cross Country—David Eckel.

We could use a couple of more track awards. Incentives are great motivators to better performances. The following are suggested; John Bangs Trophy for the best all-round weightman; John Paul Jones Trophy for the best varsity miler; An award to the outstanding hurdler; An award to the outstanding jumper.

Coach Montgomery

Final Cross Country Banquet—1957

At the final banquet of the 1957 Cornell Cross Country team, completing one of the finest seasons in Cornell history, elections were held and awards presented.

The most valuable frosh was Pete Brandeis; The most improved varsity man, Arnie Cummins; The most valuable varsity man, Dave Eckel; The Moakley Award to the man who has done the most for Cornell Cross Country went to Mike Midler.

Nat Cravener and Chuck Hill were elected co-captains for the 1958 season. John Delameter won the Hobby Young award as winner of the 8 mile race. As officers of the Cross Country club the following were elected; Joe Adams, Pres., Arnie Cummins, VP, and Richard Hemmings, Sec-Treas.

CROSS COUNTRY
CORNELL-PENN STATE

The Penn State meet on October 12 caught some of the Big Red runners still not in good condition. The Nittany Lions, who later edged Cornell for third place in the IC4A 119 to 125, won this dual meet 20 to 35, as 3 Penn State runners crossed the line together 25 yards ahead of Dave Eckel. Mike Midler and Nate Cravener finished together in 6th and 7th spots behind the 4th Penn State harrier. Chuck Hill placed 8th and Captain McCreary in 10th place to complete the Cornell scoring. Other Cornell finishers were Arnie Cummins 12th, Glenn Benjamin 17th, and Bob Eeinaudi 19th. Later in the season, in the IC4A meet, Dave Eckel beat all the Penn State men and Mike Midler beat all of them except one.

PROFESSOR (B.A.) BRISTOW ADAMS

I was asked to write a dedicatory message to Prof. Bristow Adams for this issue of the Wastebasket. He died on November 19, a week after his 82nd birthday, so sadly this becomes a memorial to him instead.

B.A., as he was affectionately known to all track and cross country men for the past 40 years, was a devotee of all Cornell sports, but his great and enduring favorite was his own sport, track. He was faculty adviser for track for over 20 years and for 30 years he was a trademark of distinction as referee of Barton Hall and Schoellkopf track meets. His top hat and tails for the indoor meets; the Navy blue jacket, white flannels, and flamboyant Panama hat for the outdoor meets provided gaudy coloration to these affairs which established them as extravaganzas of widespread mention.

But it was his judicial fairness and sympathetic treatment of the undergraduate participants which contributed most to the well-deserved renown Cornell achieved for its skill in conducting track competitions.

He was a warm, gentle man with immense personal magnetism. It was a profound human experience to know him. And we all knew him, to our betterment.

Robert J. Kane
CORNELL-LEMOYNE

In their second meet of the season, the Cornell Cross country team defeated Le Moyne College, 18-39. Three Cornellians, Dave Eckel, Nat Cravener, and Chuck Hill, broke into the lead at the start and were never challenged as Eckel and Cravener tied for first in the time of 28:22.25 with Hill finishing third in 28:50. Le Moyne’s top runner, Tom Wagner, placed fourth, ahead of Cornell Captain Kirk McCreary. Glenn Benjamin’s seventh place completed the scoring for Cornell.

CORNELL-MANHATTAN—NOVEMBER 2

A strong Manhattan squad managed to sneak by a valiant Cornell cross country team in a meet run over a cold and rainy university course of five and one-sixteenth miles. It was by only three points, 26-29, that the Jaspers beat a Cornell team still recovering from the flu.

The individual winner was Jasper sophomore Pete Beyer who covered the course in a fast 27:42. Close behind were Dave Eckel and Mike Midler, in second and third places. Manhattan’s depth enabled it to place the next three runners. Tied for seventh were juniors Chuck Hill and Arnie Cummins with Captain Kirk McCreary following closely.

While this loss might discourage a less determined team, it nevertheless was a remarkably close contest and, with all conditions considered, it showed the potential strength of a fit Cornell team.

CORNELL-YALE—OCTOBER 19

Running without the services of two of its first five men, Cornell was edged by Yale, 27-31. Nat Cravener and Chuck Hill, junior point scorers, were forced to sit out the race because of the flu. Greater depth by the Elis proved decisive in their victory. Cornellians Mike Midler and Dave Eckel provided a first place tie over the cold and rainy university golf course in a time of 28:28.2. Yale succeeded in taking the next three places ahead of Cornell’s Arnie Cummins. The following three spots were won by Yale, thus sewing up the meet for the visitors. Cornell Captain Kirk McCreary was Cornell’s fourth man, in 44th place, rounding out the team.

IC4A CHAMPIONSHIPS

On the 18th of November, the Cornell team returned to New York City’s Van Cortlandt Park to compete with thirty-one other schools for the IC4AAA cross-country crown. The Heptagonal Champions faced much stiffer competition than they had encountered the previous weekend over the same course.

As the teams lined up for the start, Cornell’s chances appeared as bleak as the cold, overcast November afternoon sky. Arnold Cummins, a steady performer for the whole season, was hit by the grippe again and could not run. However, it soon became evident that this Cornell team was a team of desire. Although Michigan State won the meet, Cornell finished a respectable fourth.

The strong desire to win was shown by the sparkling times turned in by the Big Red harriers. Dave Eckel finished sixth with a new Cornell record time of 25:00 minutes. This was an improvement of 47 seconds over last week’s time on the same course. Mike Midler, in 14th place, improved 24 seconds. Nat Cravener, in 34th place, and Chuck Hill, in 36th place, improved 24 and 66 seconds respectively. Captain E. Kirk McCreary, in 44th place, rounded out the Cornell scoring.

1957 HEPS

Until the Heeps, our win, lose record did not indicate a championship team, but this was the one race that everyone had been working for since September. Nate Cravener, Chuck Hill, and Arnie Cummings had been very sick with the flu, which had hit us hard in the previous weeks, and it was doubtful as to how well they would run.

Well, right from the start of the race, it appeared that neither the flu nor our previous record was enough to stop a team of Blue Chippers. At the 440, the 880, and the mile mark, Cornell had five of the first eight men. Ed Sullivan of Brown was really pushing the pace with the first mile in 4:28.9, but Mike Midler and Dave Eckel were right behind him with a time of 4:32. Cravener was running close to this group with a 4:38. At two miles Cornell still held good positions, and at three miles it was a safe bet that we were going to be one of the low scores. At the top of Cemetery Hill things were in good shape with Midler, Eckel, and Cravener in the top ten and the next two men in the 13th and 14th slot. The Heeps was in the bag now. Mike Midler managed to pull ahead of Dave Eckel on the ‘flats’ and these two Cornell greats finished second and third respectively. Nate Cravener’s 7th was truly a sensation, and something Coach Montgomery just hadn’t figured on. Arnie Cummings, the next Cornell man, took 16th, followed by teammate Chuck Hill in the 17th spot. Kirk McCreary was in the 23rd position and sophomore Richard Hemmings came in 39th. He made a good showing in his first championship race and should be one of the top men in next year’s team. This gave us 45 points, as compared to Navy in second place with 58 points, and Harvard in third with 61. Yale finished in the fifth spot with 119 points. Army came in fourth with 112 points, Brown and Columbia tied for sixth place with 173 points, Princeton was eighth with 198, Dartmouth ninth with 223, and Pennsylvania came in tenth with 270 points.

Monty’s beaming smile after the race expressed how we all felt about winning the 1957 Heeps. It was truly a Blue Chipper performance. The determination of everyone to do his best, no matter what had happened in previous weeks, showed what a great team Cornell had this year.

So this year’s victory can be added to the record—a record that shows many Cornell Heptagonal Cross Country Championships. It is the fourth championship for Cornell in the last five years; and in the last ten years, Cornell has finished second, six times, and first, four times. Cross Country is a tradition at Cornell and championships are a part of that tradition.

CORNELL-ARMY—OCTOBER 26

Smarting from the wounds sustained in the previous weekend’s defeat at the hands of Yale, the Big Red Harriers traveled to West Point to encounter the Black Knights of the Hudson. Both teams still felt the effects of the flu bug and Nat Cravener was, due this illness, unable to make the trip.

At the start of the race Dave Eckel and Mike Midler took a commanding lead. Arnie Cummings moved up with Eckel and Midler, followed by Army’s Healy at the one mile mark. After a long grinding 3/4 mile hill Eckel and Midler had maintained their lead while Cummings still battled it out with Healy.

Coming down the same hill Eckel pulled away from teammate Midler. Captain Kirk McCreary and Dick Hemmings also picked up yardage in the down-
ward dash. Dave Eckel was all by himself in the last mile of the race and strolled in with a 26:52, only six seconds off the course record. Mike Midler showed much improvement by finishing second with a time of 27:15. Arnie Cummins ran one of his best races to finish fourth. Kirk McCreary and Dick Hemmings teamed up to tie down 8th and 9th places respectively. Chuck Hill in 11th, Jim Palmer in 12th and Glenn Benjamin in 15th, rounded out the Cornell field.

The weakened Cornell team, by defeating powerful Army, established itself as a strong contender for the Heptagonal crown. The running of Eckel and Midler was especially gratifying as they improved from week to week.

In the freshman meet, the plebes overpowered the cub harriers 25-30. Pete Brandeis finished first with a terrific kick to overtake two plebes in the last 100 yards. Brandeis' time for the three mile course was 16:18.

NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS

The first Cornell varsity cross country squad ever to compete in the NCAA Championships finished a strong 7th in the four mile race held on the Michigan State University course in East Lansing. The team championship went to a Notre Dame team which, though lacking a low scoring punch, showed excellent depth.

The main standouts for Cornell were Mike Midler and Dave Eckel. Midler, who beat ex-IC4A champion Henry Kennedy for 15th place, finished in 20:12, only one minute behind the winner Max Truex. Eckel was close behind in 21st place with a time of 20:20.

The general consensus of opinion was that the 4 mile race, much of it run on level pavement and graveled paths, approximated a long, laborious wind-sprint. It could hardly be called cross country. That the times will eventually plunge under 19 minutes on the MSU course is likely. When the record approaches the comparable times for such a distance on a cinder track, the NCAA may finally stage the contest on a decent course.

Whether the typical 5 mile hill-and-dale course would have bettered Cornell's showing is debatable, since too many other variables cloud the picture (such as Penn State's unexpected drop from 3rd in the IC4A to 9th in the NCAA). Nevertheless, this race, along with the IC4A's, showed that the Big Red could hold its own against the top college squads in the country.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

As a result of a meeting held between the active officers of the Society and Coach Montgomery, and the luncheon held in conjunction with this same group and the alumni officers at the Statler Club, a broad outline of the activities for the coming year was agreed upon.

It was agreed that three issues of the Wastebasket be published on or before December 15th, April 1st and June 15th respectively.

We are also planning a showing of the 1956 Olympic Track films at the Straight ball room.

Spiked Shoe is going to write up a booklet on Cornell Track that can be used to interest high school and prep school track athletes in Cornell track opportunities.

Last Spring Spike Shoe members bought their own jackets and wore them on campus to create interest in track. We will continue this practice in the future.

It has been suggested that the Spiked Shoe Society have some sort of gathering for track alumni during reunion week. Coach Montgomery suggested having the Moakley House as a meeting place. More about this in later issues.

In an effort to perpetuate the grand tradition of Cornell Track in the future, we would sincerely appreciate any help that you could give us in interesting prospective high school and prep school track men in coming to Cornell. The alumnus should first contact the athlete asking if he would be interested in a letter from Coach Montgomery telling about Cornell track and its program. Then the prospects name and address sent to Coach Montgomery who will then be able to write to the athlete.

Respectfully yours,

David Eckel
Pres.—Spiked Shoe Society
United States went down to defeat, 8-7, at the hands of a determined English squad. Considering the blistering heat performances were of high caliber and several meet records were broken.

In the 100 yard dash Captain Art Boland fell with a pulled muscle but Irwin Roberson came through with a victory in 10.0. In the 880 Cornell’s Chuck Hill was in fourth place. The 120 high hurdles saw C. David Carrington of the visitors streak to a record 14.5 performance, with Dick Abell of Cornell in third. The old record in this event was held by Cornell’s Walter Ashbaugh, established in 1950. In the 220 R. Gwilym Roberts notched another record for the Big Red with a victory in 21.6, around one turn. Harvey Weissbard of Cornell was in third spot. After leading for most of the race Bo Roberson was nipped at the last hurdle in the 220 lows and ended up second. Nat Cravener and Kirk McCready nailed second and third in the two mile run. John Ingley came from behind to take the 440, his specialty, in 49.5. The 440 relay was another of few track victories for the Penn-Cornell contingent. The quartet of Pennsylvanians John Gray and Irv Dardik, and Cornellians John Ingle and Bo Roberson sped to a very slim triumph. Mike Midler was a close third in the mile run and Dave Eckel followed in fourth place. In the field events the Ivy Leaguers fared better. Gerry Knapp jumped to a record 22’ 10½” in the broad jump with John King a close second. Don Vichick tied for high jump laurels with Wohlgemuth of Penn at a height of 6’2”. Versatile Gerry Knapp scored for a third time as he tossed the javelin into 60 Yard H. Hurdles: 600 Yard: 1—57’ weight thrower; 1—50’ shot putter; 1—13’4 Pole vaulter; Two top Hurdlers of 7.4—7.5 class; Two fair 1000 yard men; Two top sprinters of 6.3—6.4 class; Two top Hurdlers of 7.4—7.5 class; Potentiola IC4A yard champ and 1:11, in time; Two fair 1000 yard men; One 4:14 miler; Two men who should go under 9:30 in the two miles; Two 6 ft. high jumpers, one doing 6’ 6”; Three 23’ plus broad jumpers; 1—13’4 Pole vaulter; 1—50’ shot putter; 1—57’ weight thrower; and two pretty strong relays.

INDOOR TRACK PROSPECTS

Cornell should be very strong in Track this Winter and barring sickness, accidents and academic difficulties, should win the Indoor Heptagonal championship when March 8th rolls around. Many of the men are out for football and will bolster our track team considerably. Combined with the men who are out now, plus the continued great running of the distance men from cross country here is what our team should look like.

60 Yard Dash: Irwin Roberson, Earl McHugh, Robert Hazzard, Michael Quinn, Ray Burton, Harvey Weissbard.

60 Yard H. Hurdles: Jerry Knapp, David Heasley, D. Kimball, Michael Davies, Jim Hodges.

600 Yard: Co-Captain John Ingle, Indoor Hep champions and 2nd in IC4A 600; Harvey Weissbard, Barry Tharp, Peter Eichhorn, Ted Voigt, Hobson Wilson.

1000 Yards: Chuck Hill, David Cadiz, Michael Midler, Larry Iwan, Arnold Cummins, David Maurer.


High Jump: John King, Jerry Knapp, Jack Kimball, Dave Heasley, Burt Filer.

Pole Vault: Albert Finch, Robert Bevan, James Tallman, Herman Meisner, John Ash.


Two Mile Relay: Midler, Hill, Cummins, Cadiz, Tharp, Eckel, McCreary, Cravener, Iwan, Ignall, Maurer.

This array of talent at their best would give us:

Fishman Cross Country Team—1957

This year’s Freshmen team had their first meet against Colgate quite early—three days in fact after they had reported to Schoellkopf. A couple of the men only had two days training, before the race. Colgate defeated the Cornell frosh for the first time in many a year. Colgate had been in session for two weeks which made the difference. Their next foe was LeMoyne College of Syracuse who they defeated, and later on defeated them in a second meeting. These were the only victories the Freshmen had this year as they lost to Penn State and to Army, both meets being away from home. However in the Army meet Peter Brandeis, Captain of the squad came home first. The Army score was 25 to 30 favor the plebes.

The 7 freshmen to represent Cornell in the IC4A race at VanCortlandt Park, New York city were, Peter Brandeis, John Delamater, Marco Einaudi, Benjamin Woodward, David Craver, Thomas Slack. Cornell finished tie for 6th place with Pennsylvania. John Delamater won the 8 mile Hobey Young race on Friday, November 22 and received an 18 lb. turkey from Atwaters Community Store.

In looking forward to the Freshmen that will help the varsity next year, I look for Brandeis, Delamater, Woodward, Einaudi, and Slack to be of varsity material. Other members of the Freshmen team were: Roger Avery, Shelly Blum, Frank Brockmann, Dennis Daly, David Franz, Jerry Gross, Carmine Liotta, Norman Miller, Jeffrey Sutherland, and Roger Williams.

Coach Montgomery.

A couple of the men against Colgate quite early—three days in fact after they had reported to Schoellkopf. A couple of the men