Rice Relaymen Romp at Lawrence; Run 3:07.4 Mile, Nation’s 2nd Best

By GREG PETERS
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Rice’s performance at the gigantic University of Kansas Relays in Lawrence was easily the most outstanding in the Owls’ track history.

A foursome composed of John Moss, Bob Thompson, Fred Cloud, and Jimmy Ellington ran away from all contenders in the mile relay at Kansas to set a new school record, a new meet record, a new Texas record, and to post the second best time in the world so far this year. The quarter splits on that accomplishment were 46.6, 47.3, 47.4, and 46.1, respectively, giving an overall time of 3:07.4. The best time this year was run by Southern of Louisiana who earned a 3:04.7 clocking.

Ellington and Cloud collaborated with Ronney Conner and Jimmy Epps to win the 440-yard relay in 40.7 and to finish 15 yards ahead of second place Oklahoma in the 880-yard relay with a school record time of 123.8.

Other Fine Efforts

No points were given out at this meet, hence there was no winning team. If an outstanding team were picked, it would have been a draw between Rice and Kansas, since KU set a couple of meet records in the distance relay events.

The choice would have swung in the Owls’ direction through the efforts of other Riceites.

Jim Wilkerson took second in the 120-yard high hurdles with a time of 14.2 seconds; Ricki Jacobs loosed a 208’ 8½” throw in the javelin for third place; and a fifth place position was captured by Tommy Marshall in the pole vault with a career best height of 15’ 4”. Considering the quality of the competition and the size of the meet, these showings are worthy of merit.

This Saturday a confident squad of track men take on the Mexican Olympic team on their home ground in Mexico City, site of the 1968 Olympic Games.