



Noel Hayman – Sportsman/Academic

From a young age when he cycled from Wellington to Auckland at the age of just 11, Noel Hayman was always going to lead an interesting life.

After initially attending Rongotai College, Noel came to Wellington Tech in 1939 as a member of Seddon House. From 1940-41 he was in the First XI soccer side, before then going on to play in the boys' basketball A side in 1942-43. He was named a prefect in 1942 and in the following year was named as Head Boy Prefect. He then joined the RNZAF as a ground crew member in the South Pacific until the end of the Second World War.

After being demobbed, he took up study at Victoria University and played in the first national basketball championships in 1946, while representing Wellington. The following year, he was named inaugural captain of the New Zealand's men's representative team. He continued to represent New Zealand until 1954, and in between was also the player-coach of the NZ Universities team which toured Australia in 1951. After doing a post graduate teaching diploma in Dunedin in 1952, Noel then returned back to Tech as a physical education teacher for a year.

At the end of the year, he then went to Springfield College in the United States to undertake a Master's of Science degree, before undertaking a PhD at the University of Oregon. After graduating as Dr Hayman in 1959, he stayed at the University of Oregon as a lecturer before going down to Antarctica for 18 months in 1962-63 to work as an aurora physicist at the joint NZ-US Hallett Station. Such was his work down there, that an Antarctic feature in the Grosvenor Mountains, the Hayman Nunataks, was named after him.

After returning to New Zealand in the mid 1960's he taught at two secondary schools, before being employed at Wellington College as a physics teacher until 1986. He then became a relieving teacher for a number of schools, before retiring to Tauranga in 1998. He died there in March 2022, aged 96 and is survived by his two sons Harvey and Jeremy.