

THE EARLY YEARS OF MINNESOTA TRACK & FIELD

1908

In 1908 Hamline Academy upset an inexperienced Shattuck squad in the Second Annual Interscholastic Leonard Frank, who went on to win the Big Ten Shot Put for Minnesota in the 1910 Big 10 Meet and coach the Gophers in 1924, dominated his specialty for the third year in a row and was one of two athletes to defend his Interscholastic title. Poston, the other double winner, was stripped of his mile title after the meet was concluded. High Jump champ Al Peterson of Litchfield was another Interscholastic winner who went on to win a Conference title for the Gophers, the 1911 High Jump.

Track and Field in the north was difficult and often delayed. Meets in Duluth were often scheduled and then rescheduled and rescheduled and ... because of wet fields or driving rain. In 1908, however, the Duluth-Superior Meet was canceled for a most curious reason. According to the Duluth newspaper, Superior learned that "Duluth had such a speedy squad that they decided to stay home."

Shattuck, on the other hand, was the first prep school or high school in the State to have its own indoor track facilities. The fieldhouse was completed in 1908 and in combination with their fine cinder track, gave them a tremendous advantage over most other schools.

The Northwestern Interscholastic had been the 'big' meet of the of the Twin Cities Track & Field schedule prior to Coach Grant beginning his Interscholastic at Northrop Field. This meet was sponsored by the Northwestern Interscholastic Association which included the schools from St. Paul, Minneapolis, Stillwater, and Hutchinson. In 1908 St. Paul Central won the Northwestern for the third consecutive year and got to keep the Traveling Trophy that had been donated by the Alumni of Amherst College. The Northwestern Meet was contested for two more years, but then died in 1911 when the Minneapolis school principals decided to host the Minneapolis City Meet. They felt that with the addition of Minneapolis West in 1908 to the four other Minneapolis schools there were enough competitors within the city to warrant dropping out of the Northwestern Interscholastic Association.

SECOND ANNUAL INTERSCHOLASTIC

Saturday, May 23, 1908 - Northrop Field, U of M, Minneapolis

Teams: Hamline Academy 39, Shattuck 28, Mpls Central 19.5, Valley City (N.D.) 11, Hutchinson 9, St Paul Central 8, Granite Falls 8, Litchfield 8, Mpls North 5, Mpls East 5, SP Mechanic Arts 5, Faribault 4.5, Menomonie (Wis) 3, Pillsbury Acad 1

100 Yard Dash

- 1 Vanstrum, Mpls Central :10 3/5 sec.
- 2 Hall, Mpls North (:10 4/5 in prelim)
- 3 Parker, Shattuck (:11 flat in prelims)
- 4 McNair, SP Mechanic Arts(:10 4/5 prelim)

120 Yd High Hurdles

- 1 Higgins, Hamline :17 3/5 sec.
- 2 Woodward, Mpls Central (:17 4/5 p)
- 3 Kelliher, SP Mechanic Arts (:18 flat p)
- 4 Myers, SP Central

Mile Run

- 1 Poston, Hamline 4:44
- 2 Culbertson, Hamline
- 3 Capser, SP Mechanic Arts
- 4 Sutherland, Mpls Central

High Jump

- 1 Peterson, Litchfield 5-8
- 2 Chapin, Hutchinson 5-5
- 13 Smith, Faribault 5-5
- 13 Gage, Mpls Central 5-5

Shot Put

- 1 Frank, SP Central 45-3.5
- 2 Rankin, Shattuck 42-3.5
- 3 Zoereks, Hutchinson 40-8.75
- 4 Smith, Faribault 40-2

220 Yard Dash

- 1 Stevens, Granite Falls :24 1/5 sec.
- 2 Parker, Shattuck (:24 flat in prelims)
- 3 Runyon, Valley City (:24 flat in prelims)
- 4 Vanstrum, Mpls Central

220 Yard Low Hurdles

- 1 Quamstrom, Hamline :26 4/5 sec.
- 2 Hudson, Shattuck (:28 flat in prelims)
- 3 Barker, Shattuck (:28 flat in prelims)
- 4 Hemp, Valley City

Half-Mile Relay

- 1 Shattuck 1:38 flat (Livingston, Lufflin, Parker, Hudson)
- 2 Valley City (Stewart, Hemp, Davidson, Runyon)
- 3 St Paul Central
- 4 Mpls Central

Broad Jump

- 1 Alcock, Mpls East 19-11.75
- 2 Tharakson, Litchfield 19-11.5
- 3 Hudson, Mpls Central? 19-2.5
- 4 Andrus, Shattuck 18-11

Twelve Pound Hammer

- 1 Davidson, Valley City (ND) 146-11
- 2 Field, Menomonie (Wis) 144-9.5
- 3 Quamstrom, Hamline 141-0.5
- 4 Hudson, Shattuck 138-1

440 Yard Run

- 1 Quamstrom, Hamline :54 flat
- 2 Livingston, Shattuck
- 3 Brennan, Mpls North
- 4 Haggans, Hamline

Half-Mile Run

- 1 Culbertson, Hamline 2:08 4/5
- 2 Poston, Hamline
- 3 Yerx, Hutchinson
- 4 Hughes, Pillsbury

Pole Vault

- 1 Woodward, Mpls Central 10-6
- 2 Harter, Shattuck 9-9
- 3 Tripp, Faribault 9-8
- 4 Tolles, Shattuck 9-8

Discus Throw

- 1 Quamstrom, Hamline 103-7
- 2 Nelson, Granite Falls 98-0.5
- 3 Zoereks, Hutchinson 96-1
- 4 Hudson, Shattuck 94-8