

THE EARLY YEARS OF MINNESOTA TRACK & FIELD

1909

The Interscholastic Meet sponsored by the University of Minnesota sent out invitations to all high schools and academies throughout the Northwest. The six man team from Menomonie, the "crack team of northern Wisconsin" was the first non-Minnesota winner. In spite of this, the Duluth newspaper refers to the Third Interscholastic as "The State Meet". Newspaper accounts described large crowds gathering to watch the competition.

I found no mention of any All-Time State Records being set in 1909, but am not sure how accurately measured the tracks might have been. For example, in some meets in Duluth and on the Range they would run the track events on the street and longer races around the block. I have difficulty believing that the closing of London Road in Duluth for an afternoon to allow the local high school lads to run timetrials would go over very well in 1997. In the Twin Cities and southern Minnesota they usually used collegiate tracks (Laird Field- Carleton, Norton Field-Hamline, and Northrop Field- U of M) or Fairgrounds (St. Paul, Hutchinson, and Mankato).

THIRD ANNUAL INTERSCHOLASTIC

Saturday, May 22, 1909 - Northrop Field, U of M, Minneapolis

Teams: Menomonie (Wis) 34.5, St Paul Central 26, Shattuck 21.5, Hutchinson 19, Mpls Central 17, ... thirteen others.

100 Yard Dash

- 1 Benham, SP Central :10 4/5 sec.
- 2 Ferris, Shattuck
- 3 Stewart, Mpls Central
- 4 Hall, Mpls North

120 Yd High Hurdles

- 1 White, Mpls Central :16 1/5 sec.
- 2 Nimmo, Mpls East
- 3 Kilbourne, Shattuck
- 4 Kaysen, SP Central

Mile Run

- 1 Condie, Menomonie (Wis) 4:46 flat
- 2 Pugh, Hutchinson
- 3 Culligan, SP Central
- 4 Stegomier, Hutchinson

High Jump

- 1 Chapin, Hutchinson 5-6
- 2 Thoralsen, Litchfield
- 3 Jackson, Menomonie (Wis)
- 4 McDonald, SP Central

Shot Put

- 1 Jackson, Menomonie (Wis) 41-2
- 2 Hudson, Shattuck
- 3 Sawyer, Mpls North
- 4 Thoralsen, Litchfield

220 Yard Dash

- 1 Kitzman, Menomonie(Wis) :23 1/5 sec
- 2 Hall, Mpls North
- 3 Benham, SP Central
- 4 Chapin, Hutchinson

220 Yard Low Hurdles

- 1 Hudson, Shattuck :26 3/5 sec.
- 2 Meyers, SP Central
- 3 Kaysen, SP Central

Half-Mile Relay

- 1 Menomonie (Wis) 1:37 4/5
- 2 Mpls Central
- 3 Shattuck
- 4 Hutchinson

Broad Jump

- 1 Thoralsen, Litchfield 21-5.75
- 2 Jackson, Menomonie (Wis)
- 3 Stevenson, Albert Lea
- 4 Alcock, Mpls East

Twelve Pound Hammer

- 1 Stewart, Mpls Central 143-3.5
- 2 Hudson, Shattuck
- 3 Miller, Menomonie (Wis)
- 4 Dahlgren, LaCrosse (Wis)

440 Yard Run

- 1 Kitzman, Menomonie (Wis) :52 4/5
- 2 McKey, Shattuck
- 3 Anderson, Mpls East
- 4 Foley, SP Central

Half-Mile Run

- 1 Yerx, Hutchinson
- 2 Scott, Mpls West
- 3 Sill, Mpls Central
- 4 Dapron, SP Central

Pole Vault

- 1 McDonald, SP Central 10-0
- t2 Jackson, Menomonie (Wis)
- t2 Trudgeon, Shattuck
- 4 Dorrance, SP Central

Discus Throw

- 1 Dahlgren, LaCrosse (Wis) 104-9
- 2 Longbotham, SP Central
- 3 Chapin, Hutchinson
- 4 Thoralsen, Litchfield