

THE EARLY YEARS OF MINNESOTA TRACK & FIELD

1912

Shattuck under the leadership of legendary coach John A. Foster won their third consecutive Interscholastic title. With the death of the old Northwestern Interscholastic Association after the 1910 season and the desire of University Coach Dick Grant to turn his Interscholastic into a showcase meet of all the Northwest, Grant decided to add the name "Northwestern" to the University's invitational. The individuals who competed in the 1912 Meet were exceptionally talented.

Fred Watson of Minneapolis West won the Mile Run at Alonzo Stagg's National Meet in Chicago in 4:39. Watson was to go on and win three Big Ten Cross Country titles for the Gophers and set the school record in the Two Mile at the University. Ballentine of Minneapolis South won the 440 in Chicago in :52 2/5. The next year Ballentine ran on the Hamline Mile Relay team that won at the Drake Relays. Thomas Farquhar's time of :10 flat (two of six official watches had him at :09 4/5 seconds) at the Northwestern Interscholastic was within half a second of the World Record and helped earn him honors as Athlete of the Meet. At the National Meet, he took second in the 220 yard dash and anchored St. Paul Central's team to a victory in their heat in the 440 Yard Relay in :47 3/5 seconds. At the Northwestern Meet, Farquhar passed four men in anchoring StP Central to the State Relay title.

Another sprinter who went on to earn letters in both track and football at the Univ. of Minnesota was Bernie Bierman of Litchfield. Bierman made a name for himself as Minnesota football coach when the Gophers were winning National titles.

Minneapolis continued to sponsor a City Meet and it was won by Minneapolis Central. Saint Paul, however, only had two schools sending teams to the major meets, Central and Mechanic Arts, and did not sponsor a "City" Meet for those two schools. Central and Mechanic Arts did meet in a dual which Central won.

Hutchinson continues to put on an early invitational that receives raves from local media and meet officials. L.M. Molumby, former Minnesota record holder in the Long Jump and Track Referee, called it the best run meet in Minnesota.

SIXTH ANNUAL NORTHWESTERN INTERSCHOLASTIC

Saturday, May 25, 1912 - Northrop Field, U of M, Minneapolis

Teams: Shattuck 34.5, Lake Forest (Illin.) 22.5, St Paul Central 22, Mpls West 15, Annandale 9, Northfield 9, Mpls East 8, St PI Mecanic Arts 5, Litchfield 5, Mpls North 5, Mpls South 5, Howard Lake 4, Madison, 3, Hastings 2, Menominee (Wis) 1

100 Yard Dash

- 1 Farquhar, SP Central :10 flat sec.
- 2 Bjoraker, Northfield
- t3 Wilkins, Shattuck
- t3 Irwin, Lake Forest (Illinois)

120 Yd High Hurdles

- 1 Lyman, Lake Forest (Illin) :16 1/5 sec)
 - 2 Martin, Mpls East
 - 3 Kadletz, Shattuck
- others dq'ed for knocking down hurdles

Mile Run

- 1 Watson, Mpls West 4:41
- 2 Durst, Mpls West
- 3 Briggs, Mpls Central
- 4 Hauser, SP Mechanic Arts

High Jump

- 1 McVeety, Howard Lake 5-9
- 2 Banker, Lake Forest (Illinois)
- 3 Leady, SP Mechanic Arts
- 4 Lano, Annandale

Shot Put

- 1 Waldron, Mpls West 41-4
- 2 Wilkins, Shattuck
- 3 Truax, Hastings
- 4 Hawarth, SP Central

220 Yard Dash

- 1 Farquhar, SP Central :23 flat sec.
- 2 Bierman, Litchfield
- 3 Miller, Shattuck
- 4 VanNest, Shattuck

220 Yard Low Hurdles

- 1 Martin, Mpls East :26 1/5 sec.
- 2 Townsend, SP Central
- 3 Gluek, Lake Forest (Illinois)
- 4 Baker, Shattuck

Half-Mile Relay

- 1 SP Central 1:38 1/5 (Fuller, Cowle, Brightman, Farquhar)
- 2 Shattuck
- 3 Lake Forest (Illinois)
- 4 Minneapolis Central

Broad Jump

- 1 Wilkins, Shattuck 20-9
- 2 Robinson, Madison
- 3 Mattem, Mpls West
- 4 Strong, SP Central

Twelve Pound Hammer

- 1 Huestis, Northfield 128-0
- 2 Lano, Annandale
- 3 McMenemey, Lake Forest
- 4 Wilkins, Shattuck

440 Yard Run

- 1 Ballentine, Mpls South :54 4/5
- 2 McMenemy, Lake Forest (Illinois)
- 3 Lovering, SP Mechanic Arts
- 4 Young, Menominee (Wis)

Half-Mile Run

- 1 Famham, Mpls North 2:07 1/5
- 2 Eddy, Shattuck
- 3 Merrill, SP Central
- 4 Gilbert, Northfield

Pole Vault

- 1 Bros, Shattuck 10-6
- 2 Johnson, Shattuck
- 3 Irwin, Lake Forest (Illinois)
- 4 Lyman, Lake Forest (Illinois)

Discus Throw

- 1 Lano, Annandale 109-9
- 2 Wilkins, Shattuck
- 3 McCusker, Litchfield
- 4 Irish, Shattuck