

1954 MSHSL NORDIC SKI RACING STATE MEET

3 mile (5 km) Classic Results*

Location:	Chester Park	Date:	February 13th, 1954
Snow conditions:	After a healthy 23 inches in January, Chester Bowl received only 1.5 inches in February (one inch falling the day before the race). The course suffered a weeklong thaw followed by two subzero nights prior to that pre-race snow.	High Temperature:	The high temperature hit 40F for the 3:30pm start, making waxing difficult.

Rank	Name	Grade	Team	Time
1	Robert Carlson	12	Duluth Central	24:37
2	Allen Erickson	12	Duluth East	24:41
3	Robert Youngquist	11	Duluth Central	24:59
4	Dennis Borich	9	Duluth Denfeld	25:11
5	Jerry Lewis	11	Duluth Central	25:32
6	Mike Marciniak	12	Cloquet	25:36
7	James Johnson	11	Minneapolis Edison	25:51
8	Clyde Johnson	11	Duluth Denfeld	26:08
9	Dave Moe	11	Minneapolis Edison	26:12
10	Jerry Canfield	11	Cloquet	26:24
11	William Peissig	12	Minneapolis Edison	26:31
12	Arve Grimsmo	12	Minneapolis Roosevelt	26:42
13	David Hanson	12	Cloquet	27:00
14	David Erickson	12	Duluth East	27:18
15	Paul Sandstrom	12	Proctor	27:25
16	Robert Slotness	12	Duluth	27:35
**	James Brandt	12	Minneapolis	31:57
**	Paul Finden	12	Glenwood	33:31
**	Ward Lichtzinger	12	Glenwood	37:13
**	Larry Torgusen	12	Glenwood	39:38
45 Minnesota HS finishers total				
**Place in State unknown. Competed in both State and Junior National. Some State finishers did not register for the USSA event.				

* Results from the Duluth News Tribune, dated February 14th, 1954

The race is listed as 3.0 miles in the Duluth News Tribune article.

Stories of 1966 Co-winners found in Amazon book "Norm Oakvik: The Inconspicuous Coach"

www.amazon.com/dp/B0DX7JZ9SK

Corrections or additions, please email Doug Edmonson at edmonsondm@outlook.com

Walter Mattson, who was director of Chester Bowl activities year round, arranged for the Junior National cross-country and jumping competitions to be held at Chester Bowl in conjunction with the Minnesota State High School Ski Championship. This was the first time that the Central Division

conducted the Junior National meet in the Midwest. High School participants could opt to register for the Junior National meet with a membership in the Central U.S. Ski Association while skiing the state meet. Juniors from around the nation gathered in Duluth and were intermingled with the high school racers. Art Demers, a future Olympian, won the Junior competition handily but Robert Carlson, Allen Erickson, Robert Youngquist, Dennis Borich and Jerry Lewis all placed in the top ten. Given the few out-of-state skiers listed in the top twenty, it appears the rest of the nation wasn't so sure they wanted to travel to Midwest tundra.

Junior Nationals (held in conjunction with the Minnesota state meet)

Rank	Name	Grade	Team	Time
1	Art Demers	12	Lebanon, New Hampshire	22:00
2	Robert La Montague	12	Berlin, New Hampshire	23:43
3	Frank Cammack	12	McCall, Idaho	24:03
4	Herbert Thomas	12	Wickee, Washington	24:05
5	Frank Brown	12	McCall, Idaho	24:24
6	Robert Carlson	12	Duluth Central	24:37
7	Allen Erickson	12	Duluth East	24:41
8	Robert Youngquist	11	Duluth Central	24:59
9	Dennis Borich	9	Duluth Denfeld	25:11
10	Jerry Lewis	11	Duluth Central	25:32
11	David Erickson	12	Duluth East	27:18
12	Paul Sandstrom	12	Proctor	27:25
13	Harold Jones	12	Salisbury, Connecticut	27:26
14	Robert Slotness	12	Duluth	27:35
15	James Brandt	12	Minneapolis	31:57
16	Paul Finden	12	Glenwood	33:31
17	Ward Lichtzinger	12	Glenwood	37:13
18	David Sternberg	12	Modesto, California	37:54
19	Larry Torgusen	12	Glenwood	39:38

Cross-country Team Scores

Place	School	Time	Top two	Time listed
1	Duluth Central	49:36	24:37+24:59	as 49:46
2	Duluth Denfeld	51:19	25:11+26:08	
3	Duluth East	51:59	24:41+27:18	
4	Cloquet	52:00	25:36+26:24	
5	Minneapolis Edison	52:03	25:51+26:12	as 52:22
6	Minneapolis Roosevelt	56:02		
7	Proctor	57:47		
8	Minneapolis North	61:38		
9	Glenwood	70:44	33:31+37:13	as 73:09
	Washburn			
	Minneapolis West			
	Edina-Morningside			
	Fergus Falls			

Duluth Central continued their winning ways, taking their 18th team title since 1934. Robert Carlson upset two-time defending champion Allen Erickson of Duluth East by just four seconds, after finishing second to Erickson in 1953. The Central Trojans were on a roll.



Duluth Central - Nordic team and Overall Team Champs

Robert Carlson (above right) - Individual Nordic Champion Team photo
 (left) - First Row (kneeling): Fred Nervik, Richard Solberg, Jerry Lewis, Glen Nelson, Second Row: Coach Ruby Sebo, Richard Carlson, Gale Ziemski, Fred Hyatt, Donald Mowbray, Kenneth McKenna, Robert Youngquist, Lenny Lewis, not pictured: Robert Carlson