

1950 MSHSL NORDIC SKI RACING STATE MEET

4 mile (6.4km) Classic Results*

Location:	Chester Bowl, Duluth Mn	Date:	2/4/1950
Snow conditions:	The Duluth area was blessed with almost forty inches of snow in January, 1950 but temperatures were brutally cold, never reaching positive numbers for daily highs and lows in the -20's in the week leading up to the state meet..	High Temperature:	On race day, competitors faced a balmy high twenty-on degrees Fahrenheit for one of the most closely contested cross-country meets in state history. A blue hard wax kicker, over a green base, might have been the wax combination of the day.

Rank	Name	Grade	Team	Time
1	Don McDonell	10	Duluth Central	24:45
2	Steve Wilcox		Duluth Central	24:47
3	Burton Shotley	12	Cloquet	25:19
4	Robert Smith		Duluth Denfeld	25:28
5	Dale Berquist		Cloquet	26:24
6	Gordon Slotness		Duluth Central	27:01
7	Duane Gurneau		Cloquet	27:15
8	Gerald Flynn		Cloquet	27:27
9	Bernard Kaiser		Minneapolis North	28:32
10	Pat Rice		Minneapolis Washburn	28:43
11	Burton Wyse		Coleraine	29:33
12	Ben Skinner		Minneapolis North	29:43
13	Bob Fubie		Cloquet	30:15
14	Carl Schramm		Duluth Central	30:32
15	Don Ortley		Minneapolis Washburn	30:40
Fifty-three individuals (below) were entered and forty-five participated in the cross-country meet				

* Results from the Duluth News Tribune, dated February 5th, 1950

The race is listed as 3.5 miles in the Duluth News Tribune article.

Stories of double winner Don MacDonell are found in Amazon book "Norm Oakvik: The Inconspicuous Coach"

www.amazon.com/dp/B0DX7JZ9SK

Cross-country Team Scores

Place	School	Time	Top two
1	Duluth Central	49:32	24:45+24:47
2	Cloquet	51:43	25:19+26:24
3	Minneapolis North	58:15	28:32+29:43
4	Minneapolis Washburn	59:23	28:43+30:40
5	Greenway Coleraine	61:41	29:33+32:08
6	Minneapolis Roosevelt	64:06	
6	Duluth Denfeld*	68:04	25:28+42:36

*Denfeld tied for third in overall team scores with Minneapolis North, placing in sixth (Washburn was not counted because they did not field individuals in all three events) in Cross-country skiing, in order to tie in the Overall Team competition.

Duluth Central Nordic and Overall Team Champs

Don MacDonell Individual Champ (below)

Team Photo: First Row: Coach Sebo, G Slotness, R. Smith, J. Modahl, R Mctavish,
Second Row: D. Polanko, D. Ramfjord, S. Wilcosz, J. Soltau, D. McDonell, C. Schramm



CROSS COUNTRY
 Minneapolis Edison—Arthur Kirberger, Richard Berg, Richard Holmberg, George Shoppe, Donald Koelfgen.
 St. Paul Central—Sig Malvick, Art Notch, Dick Day.
 Cloquet—Burton Shotley, Duane Gurneau, Dale Bergquist, Robert Jubie, Gerald Flynn.
 Minneapolis West—Patrick Rick, Jack Walby, Don Feldt, John Lee.
 Greenway of Coleraine—Ray Costelano, John Fochtman, Burton Wyss, David Anderson, Richard Sobitzak.
 Minneapolis Patrick Henry—Gary Paulson.
 Minneapolis North—Bernard Kaiser, Gerald Ranheim, Ben Skinner, Bradley Swanson, William Warner.
 Minneapolis Roosevelt—DuWayne Pavek, Phil Bemis, Clarence Besemehn, Gordon Sathre, Bob Vevie.
 Minneapolis Washburn—John Helmkes, Don Ortle, Dino Pihos, Arvin Sathre, Don Strom.
 Denfeld—Kermet Somers, Gerald Sobczak, Don Isakson, Joe Tessier, Erving McKenzie.
 Grand Rapids—Warren Erickson, Dennis Ojakangas, Richard Ojakangas, David Erholtz, Larry Phillips.
 Duluth Central—Robert Smith, Carl Schramm, Steve Wilcosz, Gordon Slotness, Don MacDonell.



Don MacDonell—Duluth Central Cross Country Champion

Cross-Country Skiers Meet



Here's a trio of cross country skiers who competed in yesterday's big state ski meet at Chester bowl. Left to right, the riders are: Duane Gurneau, Cloquet; Erwin McKenzie, Denfeld, and Dick Ojakangas, Grand Rapids. — (News-Tribune sportshot.)

The Duluth News Tribune listed fifty-three starters in the February 4th, 1950 edition. Forty-three finishers were recorded. Three of those were (L-R) Duane Gurneau of Cloquet, Erwin McKenzie of Denfeld and Dick Ojakangas of Grand Rapids (photo Duluth News Tribune, Feb 5th, 1950). Don MacDonell of Central (center) would continue the long list of Duluth Central winners, winning again in 1951.

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