

# 1963 MSHSL NORDIC SKI RACING STATE MEET

## 4 mile (6.4km) Classic Results\*

<b>Location:</b>	Chester Park	<b>Date:</b>	February 16th, 1963
<b>Snow conditions:</b>	Duluth had a dry January with only four inches of snow but, after an early February thaw, close to 10 inches of snow fell in the ten days of February leading up to the state meet.	<b>High Temperature:</b>	After a chilly few days prior, and five inches of new snow during the week, the race time temperature reached 20F. Swix green with a little blue kick wax.

Rank	Name	Grade	Team	Time
1	Gene Shotley	12	Cloquet	29:21
2	Wade Britzius	11	North	29:54
3	Rick Kangas	11	North	30:06
4	Doug Berkner	12	Ely	30:06
5	Bruce Moland	12	Duluth East	30:10
6	Gary Berkrich	11	Cloquet	30:25
7	Leonard Wasser	11	North	31:22
8	Ken Butler	12	Cloquet	31:40
9	Bruce Wakefield	12	Duluth Central	32:03
10	Joe Smith	12	Duluth Central	32:23
11	Charles Nimmo	12	Duluth East	32:45
12	Pete Rogney	11	Minneapolis Edison	33:01
13	John Puci	12	Ely	33:15
14	Richard Maralt	12	Ely	33:43
15	Dave Kreager	12	Duluth Denfeld	34:00
16	Mike O'Connor	11	Edina	34:02
17	Dave Forney	11	Edina	34:54
18	Rick Stevens	11	Edina	34:59
19	Duncan Storlie	12	Minneapolis West	35:27
20	Larry Wahala	12	Minneapolis West	35:51
21	Ken Stromquist	12	Duluth East	35:57
22	Russell Kraeger	12	Duluth Denfeld	36:49
23	James Nye	12	Minneapolis Roosevelt	36:55
24	Gary Lang	12	Minneapolis Edison	37:21
25	George Rounds	10	Richfield	37:34
26	Douglas Peterson	11	Bloomington	37:44
27	Robert Chryst	12	Washburn	37:51
28	Paul Lundberg	12	Richfield	37:58
29	Alan Anderson	12	Duluth Denfeld	38:06
30	Dick Majsierski	12	Minneapolis Edison	38:08
31	Dick Olson	12	Robbinsdale	39:40
32	John Hegblom	12	Minneapolis Henry	39:41
33	Ron Swenson	12	Washburn	39:52

34	Wayne Miller	12	Minneapolis Henry	40:52
35	Charles Beighly	12	Minneapolis South	42:36
36	Greg Egan	12	No. St. Paul	42:58
37	Terry Biker	12	Washburn	43:19
38	Walter Dahlberg	12	Minneapolis Central	44:07
39	Tom Nordile	12	Bloomington	45:04
40	Rollin Peterson	12	Bloomington	45:51
41	Roger Butterwick	12	Minneapolis Roosevelt	47:18
42	Bob Burford	12	No. St. Paul	48:45
43	Raymond Guimont	12	Minneapolis South	49:22
44	Bruce Swor	12	Duluth Central	49:32
45	Vaugh Hilst	12	Minneapolis Central	49:49
46	Dana Ryan	11	Richfield	50:34
47	Jerry Jeats	12	No. St. Paul	57:23

\* Results from the Duluth News Tribune, dated February 17th, 1963

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

Stories of 1963 winner found in Amazon book "Norm Oakvik: The Inconspicuous Coach"

[www.amazon.com/dp/B0DX7JZ9SK](http://www.amazon.com/dp/B0DX7JZ9SK)

### Cross-country Team Scores

Place	School	Time	Top two
1	Cloquet	59:46	29:21+30:25
2	Minneapolis North	60:00	29:54+30:06
3	Duluth East	62:55	30:10+32:45
4	Ely	63:21	30:06+33:15
5	Duluth Central	64:26	32:23+32:23
6	Edina	68:56	34:02+34:54
7	Edison	70:22	33:01+37:21
8	Duluth Denfeld	70:49	34:00+36:49
9	Minneapolis West	71:18	35:21+35:57
10	Richfield	75:32	37:34+37:58
11	Minneapolis Washburn	77:03	37:51+39:52
12	Minneapolis Henry	80:33	39:41+40:52
13	Bloomington	82:48	37:44+45:04
14	Minneapolis Roosevelt	84:13	36:55+47:18
15	Minneapolis South	92:10	42:48+49:22
16	North St. Paul	100:21	42:36+48:45

Corrections or additions, please email Doug Edmonson at [edmonsondm@outlook.com](mailto:edmonsondm@outlook.com)

Cloquet had struggled for years to compete with Duluth schools, particularly Duluth Central. Joe Nowak took over the Cloquet ski squad in the late 1950s and the Lumberjacks were quickly at the top of the ski results for the next fifteen years. Nowak would get community support and donations to build the Pine Valley ski center and Cloquet would win thirteen state ski titles between 1963 and 1977.



Gene Shotley.

Gene Shotley, an Ojibwe Native American, was not the first of his tribe to compete in a state meet, but Gene was the first to win a state championship. First cousin, Burton Shotley, had finished third for Cloquet in the 1950 state meet. Both were team captains for Cloquet's ski teams. Shotley, coached by Joe Nowak, was one of many state champions who improved their technique at an annual holiday training camp run by Norm Oakvik, the Central US Ski Association Nordic coach.



### **Cloquet Nordic and Overall Team titles**

First Row: Chuck Benson, Bob Schilling, Tim Schilling, Jim Quinn, Dave and Donn Quinn, Paul Saarion, Second Row: Gig Butler, Bill St. Clair, Gary Beckrich, Coach Joe Nowak, Gene Shotley, Jim Seim, Ricky Nelson

Typical of Nowak's team photos, every student on the junior high and high school team were allowed in the team photo. Future stars, including Tim Schilling, Ricky Nelson, and the Quinn brothers— Don, Dave, and Jim— would contribute mightily to their success over the next five years.