



MSU Finish Line Club
P.O. Box 189 East Lansing, MI 48826



Dear MSU Cross Country Alumnus,

With apologies for the impersonal salutation please accept this Winter 2015 progress report with respect to the MSU Cross Country History project. I'm pacing myself and things are getting done.

The Book

The book is about 2/3 written at this point. My goal is to complete penultimate drafts of all 22 chapters by the end of calendar year 2015. Of course, I've been in higher education long enough that I should know how long it takes to compile, analyse and write-up an effort the scope of this project and even though I feel like substantial progress is made each week it seems like the months [and years] drift by faster than I would like. That I've been Department Chair for the duration of this project has meant that I've been working on the book part time. My most reliable writing time is between 6 and 7 a.m. before I head off to work. Thankfully, I'm a "morning" person!

Please refer to the working draft Table of Contents information on subsequent pages for information on specific book chapters. The figures I've reported are for typed, double-spaced writing so the actual chapters will more likely be shorter as the publication will be single spaced. Chapter titles for the later part of the book may evolve a bit. I like to include a quote from a coach or athlete in most chapter titles and I'm still collecting surveys from some people, especially our youngest alumni whom I'm reaching via the Internet, primarily using Facebook. I am hopeful that an academic press will be interested because I am confident that the history is compelling and the social science is solid. However, the sheer volume of my attempt to describe every season, not to mention every race, from 1907 to present is also a factor. So the plan is to wait until I have every chapter drafted before bringing it to publisher[s] so they'll be able to evaluate the finished product as a whole. I'm confident that it will find a good home, and will be back in contact with all of you at that point.

As usual, I'm open to fielding questions, concerns, suggestions, and comments. I am also willing to share draft chapters with any alumnus who wishes to read and/or critique. Please let me know via phone or e-mail if there are specific chapter drafts that you would like to see. As well, you are welcome to follow the project via the study Web site at:

<http://www.ahs.uwaterloo.ca/~mhavitz/MSUCrossCountryStudy.htm>

It is an exciting time for MSU Cross Country as our women are defending NCAA Champions and our men's team has regularly qualified for the championship as well in recent years.

Go Green! All the best,

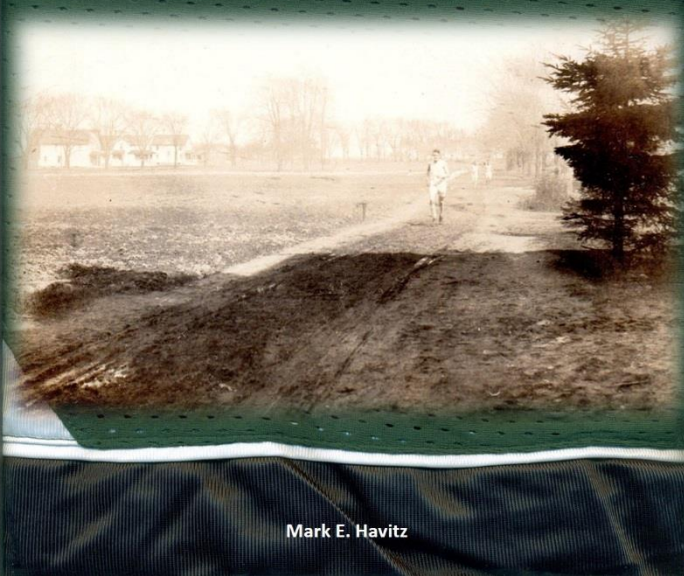
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Some “Just for Fun” cover mock-ups!

One Hundred Years Running on the Banks of the Red Cedar

A Social History of Michigan State University Cross Country

Part One: 1907 through 1967



Mark E. Havitz



Part 1 Front Cover

An unidentified runner, very likely Michigan Agricultural College’s cross country ace Fred Tillotson, is pictured on 17 April 1909 about a half mile from the finish of that year’s 3-mile cross country race, running through east campus agricultural test plots near future site of the 1924 Horticulture building. The houses in the background are on Grand River Avenue. Tillotson won that race. A year later, he won MAC’s first-ever intercollegiate cross country competition, the Hope College Invitational, leading the Aggies over Olivet College, host Hope College, the Grand Rapids YMCA, and Muskegon High School. He also won the Western Conference two mile run in 10:00.

Part 1 Back Cover

Arguably MSU’s best ever male distance runners, Henry (#30) and Crawford (#31) Kennedy lead their Spartan cross country teammates and opponents from Penn State out of Old College field during MSU’s 1957 dual meet with Penn State. Henry led the 1955 and 1956 teams to NCAA championships while Forddy did likewise in 1958 and 1959. Forddy is Michigan State’s only NCAA medalist to date, copping top honors in 1958. Henry was passed by Iowa’s Deacon Jones in the final yards of the 1955 NCAA race, finishing second by a body length. Ironically, the only year they ran together, in 1957, MSU finished NCAA runner-up to Notre Dame. Between them, the Kennedy brothers also won 3 Big Ten (2 Henry, 1 Forddy) and 5 IC4A individual titles (2 Henry, 3 Forddy).

One Hundred Years Running on the Banks of the Red Cedar: A Social History of Michigan State University Cross Country

Table of Contents [February 2015 Working Draft/Subject to Change]

Green text denotes archival-based chapters, supplemented by survey data. **Red text** denotes survey-based chapters.

PART ONE 1907 - 1967

1 “The Athletic Wizard of M.A.C.”

Chester Brewer introduces cross country to Michigan Agricultural College

Length to date: 36 pages double spaced, supplement (including photos, maps, tables) 11 pages, percent completion 90%+

2 M.A.C. Responds to Local and Global Crisis: Brewer’s Departure and World War

The years leading up to and through WWI under coaches John Macklin and George Gauthier

Length to date: 41 pages double spaced, supplement 9 pages, percent completion 90%+

3 From Slippery Footing to Good Team Chemistry: M.A.C./M.S.C. Roars through the 1920s

Five coaches in five years, then stability under AD Ralph Young & Coach Morton Mason

Length to date: 59 pages double spaced, supplement 11 pages, percent completion 90%+

4 “One Swell Guy”: Lauren P. Brown Establishes a Cross Country Dynasty

Michigan State emerges as a national cross country powerhouse from 1931-1937

Length to date: 72 pages double spaced, supplement 14 pages, percent completion 90%+

5 “Worked Out in Infinite Detail”: Lauren Brown Changes the Face of Intercollegiate Cross Country

The NCAA cross country championship is developed & hosted by Michigan State, 1938-1946

Length to date: 81 pages double spaced, supplement 21 pages, percent completion 90%+

6 “Who Do You Love?” Understanding Running Origins and Identity

What drew MSU runners to distance running and what kept/keeps them involved?

Length to date: 42 pages double spaced, supplement 15 pages, percent completion 60%

7 “Hurry Back!” Early Years of the Karl Schlademan Dynasty, 1947-1952

Michigan State wins three national championships over six years

Length to date: 60 pages double spaced, supplement 12 pages, percent completion 90%+

8 “I’ll See You at the Finish!” Later Years of the Karl Schlademan Dynasty, 1953-1957

Michigan State wins three more national championships over five years

Length to date: 82 pages double spaced, supplement 15 pages, percent completion 90%+

9 “Go Green, Go White” Living and Running at Michigan State

Highlights, Lowlights, Sport Hierarchy, Social Worlds

Length to date: 11 pages double spaced, supplement 40 pages, percent completion 20%

10 “Reserved Gentleman:” The Fran Dittrich Years, 1958-1967

Two more NCAA championships and continued Big Ten dominance

Length to date: 88 pages double spaced, supplement 11 pages, percent completion 85%

MOVE ANOTHER CHAPTER TO PART ONE – PERHAPS CHAPTER 11 OR CHAPTER 20?

PART TWO 1968 - Present

11 “Tank Commander:” The Early Jim Gibbard Years, 1968-1976

Michigan State’s program remains feisty amidst turbulent times in America

Length to date: 75 pages double spaced, supplement 9 pages, percent completion 85%

12 A Good Thing Gets Better: Women’s Cross Country Arrives at MSU

AD Nell Jackson & Coaches Mark Pittman, Eric Zemper and John Goodridge establish a program, 1974-1981

Length to date: 51 pages double spaced, supplement 5 pages, percent completion 75%

13 Paradise Lost? The Later Jim Gibbard Years, 1977-1983

The men work to stay relevant

Length to date: 48 pages double spaced, supplement 5 pages, percent completion 75%

14 “Still ‘Brushing my Teeth!’” Running in Adulthood

Negotiating Life’s Challenges

Length to date: 4 pages double spaced, supplement 1 pages, percent completion 10%

15 Valleys and Peaks – The Women Build an Identity

The Karen Dennis, Sue Parks and Karen Lutzke Years, 1982-1997

Length to date: 85 pages double spaced, supplement 5 pages, percent completion 75%

16 The Long Road Back

Coach Jim Stintzi Stabilizes Michigan State's Program, 1984-1997

Length to date: 70 pages double spaced, supplement 6 pages, percent completion 75%

17 Entering the Modern Era: Moving Toward a United Program

Coaches Jim Stintzi and Angela Goodman begin to work in concert, 1998-2003

Length to date: 68 pages double spaced, supplement 5 pages, percent completion 75%

18 United We Stand

Coach Walt Drenth & Rita Arndt Molis officially unite the program, 2004-2008

Length to date: 65 pages double spaced, supplement 5 pages, percent completion 75%

19 Toward another Hundred Years' Running

Michigan State establishes 21st Century Tradition, 2009-present

Length to date: 10 pages double spaced, supplement _ pages, percent completion 10%

20 Passing It On

What our experiences contribute to understanding links between generations, running & health

Length to date: 2 pages double spaced, supplement 10 pages, percent completion 10%

21 Description of Research Methods: Human and Archival Resources

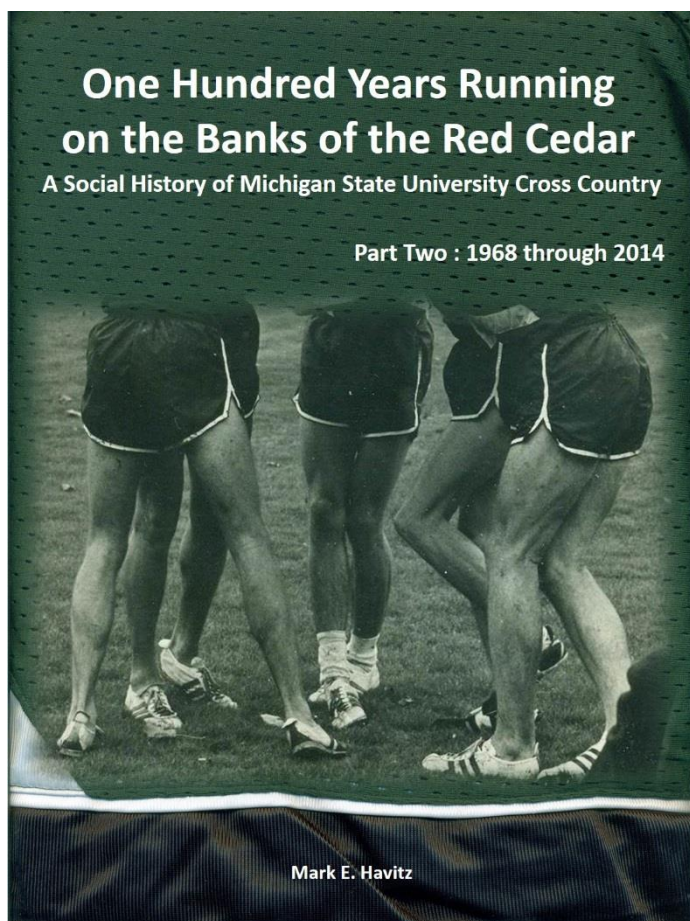
Instrumentation, data collection processes, response rates and patterns, & analytic techniques

22 Postscript: Over the Long Run

From first photo of Henry Kennedy, past God-like gazes from above, to a last visit with Gibb

Length to date: 4 pages double spaced, supplement 1 pages, percent completion 5%

More “Just for Fun” cover mock-ups!



Part 2 Front Cover

In 1970 Michigan State, heavy underdog to Minnesota, cruised to a convincing victory at the Big Ten Cross Country Championship in East Lansing. The tangled legs in this joyous immediate post-race celebration photo belong to MSU’s top five on that day: From left, those legs belong to Kim Hartman (who finished 11th overall), Chuck Starkey (12th), Randy Kilpatrick (7th), Ken Popejoy (4th) and Ralph Zoppa (8th).

Part 2 Back Cover

Emily MacLeod won back-to-back Great Lakes Region individual titles in 2009 and 2010, and also captured the Big Ten title in 2010 while leading MSU to team honors in both events that season. She’s pictured here late in the 2009 Regional race beginning to pull away from eventual runner-up, Michigan’s Kaitlyn Peale. Starting in 2010, Michigan State captured four of five possible Big Ten women’s team titles. In 2014 MSU won its first-ever NCAA women’s team title.

Photo Credits: MSU Archives and Historical Collections; Ron Berby Collection