



## MCSA Northern Division Update

by Drew Birschbach

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University of Minnesota sophomore Lily Den Hartog enters the finishing stretch of the half-Noque January 25<sup>th</sup>. Athletes from across the Midwest flocked to Michigan's Upper Peninsula for a weekend of winter racing.

## Northern Division off to a great start of the season

### *Northern Division skiers tackle the Half-Noquemanon*

Nearly 100 skiers from the Northern Division of the MCSA convened in Marquette, Michigan for some warm and at times slushy racing at the Noquemanon.



University of Minnesota – Duluth sophomore Jordan Woods makes the final turn to the finish. Woods ended the day in first for the MCSA men's classic race.

Under an overcast sky and some warm conditions, the motley college crew from around the Midwest shared the trails with skiers of all ages, young and old. The Noquemanon welcomed over 900 skiers come race day, according to Skinnyski.com.

Badgers, Gophers, Bulldogs and Huskies all slogged through a course that was at times slick and speedy and other times slow and slush. The Northern Michigan University Superior Dome watched over the finish line as the MCSA athletes made their way in.



University of Wisconsin – Madison senior Ketzell Levens brings in her first podium-topping ski of the MCSA season.



University of Minnesota senior Joe Rauzi finishes the classic race strong despite slow conditions.

### Half–Noque Breakdown

Ending the **women’s classic race** second overall and first in the division, senior **Ketzell Levens** (University of Wisconsin-Madison) completed 24K in 1:29:48.5, followed by freshman **Hannah Delker** (University of Minnesota – Twin Cities) in 1:45:34.6, and freshman **Madisen Clemensen** (UMN-Twin Cities) rounded up the podium in 2:01:07.4.

The 24k **women’s skate race** saw graduate student **Anna Engel** (UW-Madison) finish first in 1:15:36.2, followed by sophomore **Lily Den Hartog** (UMN-Twin Cities) in 1:22:47.4, and senior **Caroline Frischmon** (UMN-Twin Cities) took third in 1:23:43.1

Sophomore **Jordan Woods** (UMD) finished first overall and first in the Northern Division in the 24k **men’s classic race** in 1:14:26.0, junior **Nathan Bich** (UMN-Twin Cities) finished third overall and second in the Northern division in 1:18:12.3, and senior **Joe Rauzi** (UMN-Twin Cities) finished third in 1:19:19.6.

Bulldog freshman **Ethan Anderson** (UMD) took away the **men’s skate race** with a time of 1:08.21.0, senior **Daniel Dylla** (UMN-Twin Cities) and fellow Gopher senior **Grant Halvorson** (UMN-Twin Cities) finished close together in 1:13:12.0 and 1:13:23.7, respectively.



University of Wisconsin – Madison graduate student (and Gopher alumnus) Anna Engel and her trademark Hodag Hat finish up the woman’s skate race.



University of Minnesota senior Daniel Dylla snags his first podium finish of the MCSA season in the men’s skate race.

## Team Breakdown

The **women's team podium** ended with the **University of Wisconsin-Madison** in first with 160 points, the **University of Minnesota-Twin Cities** in second with 97 points, and **Michigan Technological University** in third with 1 point.

The **men's team podium** ended with the **University of Minnesota-Twin Cities** in first with 181 points, the **University of Minnesota-Duluth** secured second with 120 points, and the **University of Wisconsin-Madison** grabbed the third spot with 13 points.

MCSA results can be found [here](#), and Noquemanon overall results can be found [here](#).

Keep scrolling for coverage of the Mt Ashwabay Summit Pursuit, February 1.



(From left) Evan Wetzel (UW-Wisconsin) attacks a corner during the classic leg. Danielle Ungurian (UMN – Twin Cities) poling through the classic leg. Henry Campbell (MTU) waves at the camera during the skate leg. Pictures by Steve Vizanko via [SkinnySki.com](http://SkinnySki.com)

## *The Mt. Ashwabay Summit Pursuit Race*

College racers at the Mt. Ashwabay Summit were treated to a day of high energy competition. Special thanks to the race organizers for the inclusion of a brand-new wave, exclusively for college students.

The 25k pursuit saw over 30 MCSA competitors tackle its 10k classic and 15k skate legs. Winners of this race across age groups earned pies and other baked goods for their efforts.

Here are some of those winners.

### Mt. Ashwabay Summit Pursuit Breakdown

The top two spots of the **women's pursuit** saw some familiar faces, with **Ketzel Levens** (UW-Madison) and **Lily Den Hartog** (UMN-Twin Cities) finishing in 1:49:19 and 2:00:20 respectively. The third woman's finisher was **Danielle Ungurian** (UMN-Twin Cities) with her first podium finish of the season and a time of 2:08:15.

The **men's pursuit** ended with **Tony Mathie** (UMN-Twin Cities) in first at a time of 1:24:41, followed by **Evan Wetzel** (UW-Madison) in second place with a time of 1:25:17, and **Jordan Woods** (UMD) returned to the MCSA podium in third completing both legs in 1:26:01.

## Team Breakdown

The **University of Wisconsin – Madison women’s team** secured the top spot two weeks in a row with 50 points, followed by the **University of Minnesota – Twin Cities** in second with 47 points, and **Michigan Technological University** finished up the team standings in third with 1 point.

Another repeat winning team, the **University of Minnesota – Twin Cities**, made their way to the top of the **men’s team podium** with 157 points, breathing down their backs, the **University of Minnesota – Duluth** brought up second with 143 points, and the **University of Wisconsin – Madison** ended in third with 135 points.

MCSA results can be found [here](#), and full Mt Ashwabay Summit results can be found [on their website](#).



Some more pictures from race day. (**Top, from left**) Luke Dykowski (UMN-Twin Cities), Lily Den Hartog (UMN-Twin Cities) and Ethan Anderson (UMD). (**Bottom, from left**) Sam Hagedorn (UW-Madison), Mitchell Campbell (UW-Madison), Nicole Jensen (MTU).

Pictures by Steve Vizanko via [SkinnySki.com](#)

