

One Hit Wonders!

The Chariot Race

In 1920, an unusual event was held at the first Putnam County Field Meet in Leipsic at the Temco grounds. It was called the 'Chariot Race'. "In this novel event, five boys from each school are to pull a sixth boy standing in a crouched position on a sliding board. The board may be fitted with an upright hand hold in front. To this five boys are to be hitched with ropes and two cross poles; three boys to pull on the front pole and two on the rear pole. The teams are to run for 100 yards straight away and return. Each school is to make and bring its own board so get busy boys."

This event was won by Leipsic with a winning time of 3:20. Continental placed second. The Leipsic boys that participated in this event are as follows: Harris, Claren Wright, Purnell, Ridenour, Madden and Shirley.

The 'Chariot Race' was a one-hit wonder as this was the only year the event was held.

The Medley Relay Race

Another unusual event was a medley relay race ran by the boys in 1937. The race was broken up into four lengths of 110 yards, 220 yards, 440 yards and 880 yards. Four different boys would each run a segment of the race. Ottawa won this one-time event with a time of 4:03.6. The Ottawa participants were Charles DeMuth, Jim Sommers, Harold Tenwalde and Don Radabaugh.

Standing Broad Jump

In 1920, the boys had three jumping events, a standing broad jump, a running broad jump and a high jump. The running broad jump or long jump and the high jump are still held today. However, the standing broad jump lasted just one year. Galen Watterson of Continental won the event with a leap of 9 feet.