

Domination at home

Written by Deb Egenberger

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Swede boys zoom past competition at Zorn Invite.

When a track team adds double-digit points to the team score in multiple events, it's going to be tough for the competition to catch up.

Gothenburg earned gold medals in seven of 17 events at the Dutch Zorn Invite on Friday with multiple places in five events.

That put the team title far out of reach for the other seven schools competing.

Gothenburg's boys earned 134 points. Second place went to McCook with 87.

"I kind of figured the first team to 100 would win and that was us," said Gothenburg coach Steve Reeves. "I did anticipate it would be a little closer, though."

Reeves said it was yet another outstanding effort by the boys this season, particularly the upperclassmen.

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But the juniors and seniors were not alone. Reeves commended the younger boys who contributed to the team score as well.

BOYS TEAM SCORING:
1. Gothenburg 134, 2. McCook
87, 3. Lexington 82, 4. Sidney
73, 5. Kearney JV 70, 6. Oquialta
70, 7. Valentine 36, 8. Kearney
Catholic 15.

“Tannor (Mroczek), Mark (Hilderbrand) and Andrew (Collins) did what they’ve done all year and continue to compete at a high level,” Reeves said of each boy’s winning performances. “But we saw some very good things from a couple of young kids as well.”

Mroczek won both the sprint races and Hilderbrand won both hurdle events while Collins finished first and second in the 800 and 1600, respectively.

Reeves said sophomore Brandon Wlasiuk’s win in the high jump at 6-feet even and Brett Dockweiler’s silver in the 3200-meter run were both notable.

“They continue to improve each week,” the coach said. “That’s a big thing.”

In all, Gothenburg boys earned 20 places, including first in the mile medley relay, an event specific to the Zorn meet.



Logan Sheets and Landen Haake each ran legs of 200 meters while Eric Stevens ran 400 meters and Bryce Eggleston completed 800, all in a medley time of 3:51.8.

Some Swedes will compete in the Brady-Gothenburg Invite here on Thursday while the majority of the varsity squad will travel to Lexington on Friday for the Don Bader Invite.

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Reeves said the Lexington meet brings together skilled competitors from various sizes of schools. No team scores are kept.

Thursday's meet is scheduled to begin at 3 p.m. while field events start at 12:30 p.m. in Lexington on Friday.

"We're a little tired and a little beat up," Reeves said. "Hopefully we can get healed up before the Southwest Conference meet."

SWC will be in Ainsworth on May 1.



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