

Golfers gain experience at state meet

Written by Deb Egenberger
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COLUMBUS—The Class C state golf meet was all about gaining experience and reaching a goal for the Swedes at Quail Run Golf Course in Columbus last week.

“We set our expectations high from the beginning of the year and we were able to meet them by getting the team to state,” said Gothenburg coach Tara Foster. “Golf can either be an individual sport or a team effort. The neat thing about this group of girls is that it was all about the team. All of them had the same goal in mind and continued to work toward making it to the state tournament.”

The Swedes finished 11th as a team with an 863 total for the two-day tournament.

Senior Andrea Coder led the way shooting 98 on the first day and 112 on the second for a 210 total.

“It was great to see a Swede golfer on the leader board after the first day of competition,” Foster said. “She was very committed from the first day of practice to helping the Swedes make a team appearance at state.”

Fellow senior Heidi Teahon was five strokes behind Coder with a two-day total of 215.

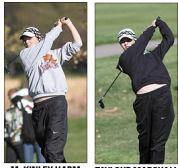
“Heidi hit the ball solid off the tee box and hit several great approach shots,” Foster said. “She played aggressive golf both days but couldn’t catch a break around the greens.”

Junior Mallory McCoy and sophomore McKinley Harm shot 218 and 220, respectively.

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“Mallory played very conservative both days and really focused on keeping the ball in the fairway,” Foster said. “McKinley struggled to find the fairway on the first day and got into a lot of trouble with the out-of-bounds on the front nine but I was pleased to see her overcome her highest round of the year of 134 on the first day and come back 20 strokes better on Tuesday.”

Sophomore Taylour Marshall rounded out the Swede players with 248.

“Taylour felt a little pressure as she teed off,” Foster said. “She played a little timid around the greens and it took her a while to get comfortable with the course.”

Grand Island Central Catholic captured the team title with 746 over the two days and Crusader McKenna Kime took the individual championship with 166.

Foster said she is looking forward to another exciting season next year with experienced players coming back.

“We will continue to improve our short game techniques and focus more on putting routines,” she said.