

Reeves hits two school records

Written by Deb Egenberger
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OGALLALA—It has been almost four years since Gothenburg sophomore Tiani Reeves has competed in the triple jump.

The last time was between sixth and seventh grade at a USA Track & Field meet.

Until Thursday.

“Coach (KC) Lathrop has been doing some triple jump drills with the kids and we just felt she was ready to give it a shot,” said Swede coach and Tiani’s dad, Steve Reeves. “She’s got a long stride and a lot of spring. That combination usually makes for a good triple jumper.”

That combination turned out to be the perfect recipe for a new meet record and new Gothenburg school record in the event.

It took Tiani only two attempts to hit 36-9.25. She won the event by three feet and broke the meet record from 1995 by about six inches.

She also set a new school record, slipping past the previous best mark of 36-8.25 set by Trina Franzen in 1994.

The coach said Tiani isn’t likely to triple jump at every meet this season but she’ll continue to work on it.

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There are other areas Tiani excels in where Reeves doesn't want to miss out on points.

For instance, she also won the long jump and ran on the winning 4x400 relay in addition to tying the school record in the 200-meter dash with a time of 25.4 seconds.

Kim Rittola was previously the lone record holder in the 200, setting the mark in 1992.

"Tiani ran a good curve and finished strong," Reeves said.

Senior Siera Schwanz was the only other Swede girl to earn an individual title.

Schwanz cleared 8-6 in the pole vault to get gold. Teammate Aryn Meisinger also cleared 8-6 to finish second.

In addition, two Swede girls moved up on the school's all-time Top 10.

Sophomore MaKaela Franzen moved from No. 9 to No. 6 in the 300-meter hurdles with a new personal best time of 50.4 seconds.



Junior Emily Franzen also moved up in the shot from her previous spot at No. 10 to No. 6 with a distance of 38-10.25.

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“Our weights kids really competed well,” Reeves said. “The internal competition is good for them.”

Reeves said the expectation is there for all kids to compete hard.

“They really represented Gothenburg well,” he said.

The Swedes finished second as a team, close behind champion Sidney.

The girls will travel to Broken Bow on Friday. Reeves said the Swedes may be hampered by low numbers as several participants will be at the state FFA contest.

“It could affect our ability to run some relays,” he said, “but it is what it is.”

The meet begins Friday at 2:30 p.m.

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