

Gothenburg girls finish fifth at UNK Invite

Written by Austin Benson

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Boys fall towards back of the pack

Gothenburg's cross country team ran in the University of Nebraska-Kearney Invite and came out with both team and individual success.

The purpose of the meet is for teams to get used to a state course, head coach Steve Reeves said.

If the results from Monday's meet are any indication of what is to come at state on Oct. 25, the girls team may finish in the top five while the boys could be represented by a freshman medalist.

"I was certainly pleased with the way both teams ran," Reeves said. "That course can be intimidating if you let it be, but the key is not letting it be."

In the girls race, Destiny McVay set the pace for Gothenburg running a time of 22:49 and finishing in 20th place.

Sydney Gruber finished four spots behind her in 23:01.

Reeves talks about bunching up during the race and Amanda Kowalewski, Keely Lecher and Andie Geiken did.

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Kowalewski finished in 24:25. Lecher ran the race in 24:52 and Geiken completed the course in 25:09.

Betsy Potter and Holly Hudson also finished the course in 27:10 and 33:35, respectively.

“The girls competed without three of their top eight runners and managed a good finish,” Reeves said.

Gothenburg finished fifth as a team behind Columbus Scotus, Fort Calhoun, Chadron and Holdrege.

In the boys race, Swede standout Collin Hahn medaled in 13th place with a time of 18:09.

Prior to the race, Reeves said Hahn gets out to good starts and runs the middle of the race well.

Reeves was particularly encouraged by Hahn’s finish and sees him remaining as one of the top finishers as the season continues.

He added that members of the boys team need to close up the gap between Hahn and the fourth time to make for a better team score.

Gothenburg hosts its own invite at Wild Horse Golf Club Thursday, the only home meet of the season.

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