

Wrestlers ready to compete at home

Written by Deb Egenberger
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Swedes finish fifth at Minden.

MINDEN—Gothenburg's fifth-place team finish at the Minden wrestling invite on Friday was far less than coach Eric Manstedt had hoped.

As the Swedes enter the home stretch of their long season, Manstedt said his wrestlers are beginning to feel the grind that tends to hit this time of year.

"Call it the mid-winter blahs," the coach said. "We were all over the place. We had some kids who wrestled really well and still didn't win and we had other kids who didn't wrestle well at all. We have a lot of areas to clean up."

That doesn't discredit the good things that came from the meet.

Five Swede wrestlers earned medals. Mitch Spiegel finished third in the 103-pound class and Tanner Schwanz was third at 119 pounds. Chris Hyde, Alex McClement and Kyle Demoret each got fourth at 135, 145 and 160 respectively.

Spiegel went 2-1 and Schwanz was 3-1, including a loss to undefeated Jake Anderson of Central City.

Hyde, Manstedt said, found himself in a stacked bracket facing a fellow state qualifier in the first round of the day.

He was pinned in the first round but came back to win a pair of matches, including an 11-10 decision over No. 1 seeded Hunter Timmons of Medicine Valley in the consolation bracket to get into the medal round.

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“Chris had a tough bracket,” Manstedt said. “He had to beat some quality kids to medal.”

McClement has struggled to make weight all season but finally got there this week. He started in the bunny bracket just to get into the tournament. He went 2-2 on the day.

Demoret was another Swede in a difficult bracket. His first loss of the day came to Bryce Lewis of Minden, a state-rated wrestler.

Central City won the team title with 215.5 points. Phillipsburg, KS, came in second at 159 points.

“It was the best we’ve done at the Minden tournament ever and still it wasn’t what we wanted,” Manstedt said. “But we’re not ready to peak. If we peak at the Minden meet, we might as well pack it in.”

The Swedes will turn their attention next to the Gothenburg Invite this Friday.

“We’re ecstatic to be wrestling at home,” Manstedt said. “We’re looking forward to wrestling in front of a big home crowd.”

Teams involved in the dual format meet include Ainsworth, Broken Bow, High Plains, Holdrege and North Platte St. Pat’s.

The Swedes will fill all but one weight, which can be an advantage in dual format.

Manstedt said Gothenburg will leave the 189-pound class open. Tre Ostergard has suffered a

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season-ending knee injury and there are no other Swedes who can fill that class.

“That means we’re going to have to have other kids step up a little, getting bonus points when they can and not getting pinned,” Manstedt said.

The meet begins at 2 p.m. Three duals will run simultaneously.

TEAM RESULTS: 1. Central City 215.5; 2. Phillipsburg, KS 159; 3. Cozad 108.5; 4. Minden 76; 5. Gothenburg 60.5; 6. Centennial 60; 7. Holdrege 55; 8. Broken Bow 51.5; 9. Medicine Valley 49.5; 10. Franklin 47; 11. Hastings 40; 12. Centura 0.

INDIVIDUAL SWEDE RESULTS

103—Mitch Spiegel lost 9-2 decision to Cody Pariset of Centura; won by default over Dakota Kohler of Phillipsburg; won 7-6 decision over Ernie Solorio of Holdrege; third place.

112—Dillon Larson was pinned by Connor Bolling of Central City in 1:43; was pinned by Stephen Gnagy of Hastings in 1:24.

119—Tanner Schwanz won 17-2 technical fall in 3:55 over Zach Clodfelter of Hastings; lost 7-5 decision to Jake Anderson of Central City; won 13-1 major decision over Dillon Hill of Holdrege; won 7-0 decision over John Bader of Centura; third place.

125—Justin Larson lost 7-5 decision to Ross Coomes of Phillipsburg; lost 6-5 decision to Caleb Lucero of Cozad.

130—Bryce Eggleston pinned by Keo Roth of Phillipsburg; defeated Hastings wrestler; pinned by Josh Leas of Medicine Valley.

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135—Chris Hyde was pinned by Kyle Carlson of Cozad in 4:47; pinned Brad Anderson of Hastings in 45 seconds; won 11-10 decision over Hunter Timmons of Medicine Valley; lost 16-3 major decision to Drew Peterson of Central City; fourth place.

140—Eric Stevens was pinned by Weston Coomes of Phillipsburg in 3:52; won 8-2 decision over Derrick Kvasnicka of Cozad; pinned by Dallen Johnston of Holdrege in 2:50.

145—Alex McClement pinned Skyler Runnells of Minden in 42 seconds; was pinned by Spencer Isaacson of Holdrege in 1:53; pinned Mason James of Franklin in 1:53; was pinned by Thien Truong of Hastings in 5:12; fourth place.

152—Trent Good pinned Cody Kyhn of Centura in 4:25; was pinned by Travis Maresh of Central City in 3:45; pinned by Ethan Holertz of Holdrege in 3:14.

160—Kyle Demoret won 2-0 decision over Caleb Wagner of Franklin; lost 4-1 decision to Bryce Lewis of Minden; pinned Tommy Schroeder of Medicine Valley in 3:44; lost 11-6 decision to Brandon Morgan of Phillipsburg; fourth place.

215—Tommy France won 10-5 decision over Nick Beard of Phillipsburg; lost by default to Brandon Lewis of Minden; lost by default to Tyler Sleicher of Broken Bow.

285—Dane Ehlers lost 4-3 decision to Josh Brahmsteadt of Centura; lost 4-0 decision to Derek Fouts of Franklin.