

Golfers get rough start at NP

Written by Deb Egenberger
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NORTH PLATTE—Things didn't go quite as planned in Gothenburg's first golf meet of the spring Friday at North Platte's Iron Eagle.

The cool, damp weather was less than desirable and the Swedes' 10th-place team finish was not the way first-year coach Don Graham hoped the team would start.

Gothenburg shot a 402 team score to finish at the bottom of the varsity list with no one in the top 10 for medals.

Grand Island took the team title with a score of 315 while Scottsbluff was second at 326 and McCook came in third with 327.

"We had a couple of kids who haven't played much," Graham said. "You could see the nerves shaking them at the beginning but once they settled down, they played OK."

Dillon Linegar and Nate Graham played their first round on a course other than Wild Horse, the coach said.

Linegar shot 49 on the front nine and 50 on the back for a total of 99.

Graham went 52 and 62 for 114.

Jackson Graham, a junior, was the low scorer for Gothenburg shooting 89, nine strokes out of medal contention.

Still, Graham is looking on the bright side.

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The team total of 402 is 29 strokes better than the Swedes scored in the same meet a year ago.

“Hopefully we can continue to make improvements like the kids did last year and we’ll be better at the end,” the coach said.

The Swedes will host Lexington in dual action at Wild Horse on Thursday. Tee time is 4 p.m.

Gothenburg then travels to Broken Bow for another dual on Tuesday.

Graham said the two duals are good at the beginning of the season because they allow more kids to participate in a meet and gain valuable experience.