

Runners find out how good they are

Written by Deb Egenberger
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Boys capture title at Broken Bow.

BROKEN BOW—It was an NFL place kicker who said, “To be the best, you’ve got to beat the best.”

That’s Adam Vinatieri’s philosophy about sports.

It’s what the Gothenburg boys cross country team proved Saturday at the Broken Bow Invite.

The Swedes finished ahead of what coach Steve Reeves calls outstanding teams from Broken Bow, Ogallala and Ord.

“Going in I still questioned who the really good teams are,” Reeves said. “You don’t really know where you’re at until you go up against tough competition like that.”

Where the Swede boys were over the weekend was at the top.

With four medalists, they finished 34 points ahead of second-place Ogallala with 52.

Brett Dockweiler and Luke Rehmert finished in the top 10 in fourth and seventh respectively.

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Bryce Eggleston and Joshua Clark rounded out the Swede medalists in 11th and 12th.

Reeves said he was not confident the whole time.

“At about the two-mile mark, I thought we might be in a little bit of trouble,” the coach said. “We weren’t in the position I’d like them to be at that point.”

But the boys persevered, he said, and moved up enough to win the meet.

“Josh Clark came on at the end and secured things for us,” Reeves said. “It was a good win for them but I’d like to see them attack a little more earlier in the race.”

On the girls side, freshman Abbie Mazour earned her second medal in as many meets finishing 10th overall.

The Swedes were sixth in the team race. McCook ran away with the title, getting six runners in the top 15.

“Our goal is just to keep improving each week,” Reeves said. “We need to work on bunching up with our first four runners to improve the team outcome.”

Gothenburg takes a road trip to Geneva this week for the Fillmore Central Invite on Thursday.

Reeves said the kids generally enjoy the Fillmore Central meet because they get to compete against schools from the eastern part of the state instead of the same opponents they see much of the season.

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“It’s a good comparison for us,” the coach said, “as we look ahead to the state meet.”

The first race begins at 5 p.m.