

Swede CC runners ready for district

Written by Deb Egenberger
Thursday, 15 October 2009 21:07 -



Swede boys match Ogallala's points, finish second at SWC.

Gothenburg cross country coach Steve Reeves doesn't put much stock in moral victories, especially when it comes to the conference title.

The Swede boys matched Ogallala's team point total at 30 points during the Southwest Conference meet at Wild Horse Golf Club on Thursday.

Ogallala has been Gothenburg's toughest competition all season. The Swedes had previously beaten the Inidans once and vice versa.

Knowing you can match the competition is one thing, Reeves said. Winning is another.

The tie-breaker for the SWC trophy was determined by the two teams' fifth-place runners and ultimately, Ogallala took home the hardware.

"We competed hard," Reeves said, "but maybe this reinforced that it doesn't matter if you're the first runner or the fifth runner or somewhere in between, every place counts. If we could have just beat one more kid, we'd have won."

Ogallala had varsity boys finish first, second, 13th, 14th, 23rd and 28th. The first four from each school determine the team score and the top 15 overall earn medals.

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Gothenburg's varsity boys were third, sixth, 10th, 11th, 24th and 30th.



Medalists, in order, were Andrew Collins, Brett Dockweiler, Bryce Eggleston and Luke Rehmert.

"It's tough to get beat like that," Reeves said.

Still, the coach was proud of the effort the boys put out at the SWC meet and all season.

"We finished with four all-conference runners," he said. "I think when you see how the conference stacks up at state next week in both Class C and Class D, we'll have a lot of state medals."

On the girls side, Tabitha Paul was back after missing four meets because of an injury and led the Swedes to a fifth-place team finish.

"Realistically, we didn't know if we could beat anybody," Reeves said of the girls' team standings. "Instead of the cellar, we ended up fifth."

None of the Gothenburg girls earned medals but Reeves said at this point in the season that is not the focus.

"They can only do what they can do," he said. "They keep fighting and keep working to improve. That's all I can ask."

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With the conference meet out of the way, the Swedes now have to focus on the C-4 district meet in Ogallala on Thursday, hopefully qualifying for state.

The boys stand a solid chance of finishing in the top three and qualifying as a team. The girls are looking more toward individual state qualifiers.

“Our main objective now is to get a chance to represent our school at the state meet,” Reeves said.

BOYS TEAM SCORING

1. Ogallala 30; 2. Gothenburg 30; 3. Broken Bow 50; 4. Ainsworth 57; 5. Cozad 64; 6. Valentine 104; 7. Minden 136.

SWEDE VARSITY BOYS

3. Andrew Collins 16:27

6. Brett Dockweiler 16:33

10. Bryce Eggleston 17:01

11. Luke Rehmert 17:02

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Joshua Clark 17:55

Eric Stevens 18:12



Chris Block 18:17

Marcos Avalos 18:25

Jade Clement 18:48

Brandon Wlasiuk 18:49

Alex Spencer 19:08

Justin Larson 19:51

Brennan Costello 19:58

Ray Ramirez 20:03

Jon Rehmert 20:11

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Ryan Ostendorf 21:22

Josh Portiner 22:29

Alix Meisinger 23:21

Bryan Benash 23:40

Jonathon Clark 24:12

Coltin Beensee 29:51

GIRLS TEAM SCORING

1. Broken Bow 20; 2. Ainsworth 30; 3. Valentine 45; 4. Minden 59; 5. Gothenburg 82; 6. Cozad 88; Ogallala, no team score.

SWEDE VARSITY GIRLS

Tabitha Paul 17:33

Morgan Kowalewski 17:38

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Lauren Schmiett 17:58

Emily Hult 18:56

Theresa Richey 19:21

Ashlee Bruntz 19:33

