

Foster nipped at the line for second

Written by Deb Egenberger
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Boys earn three state medals

OMAHA—Fourteen hundredths of a second is about the time it takes to blink.

Alec Foster didn't even do that until he hit the track at the end of the 110-meter high hurdle finals at the Class B state track meet in Omaha on Saturday.

After having clocked the fastest qualifying time in the hurdle prelims on Friday, the senior managed his personal best time of 14.887 seconds in the finals on Saturday.

“The high hurdles is a race where hitting even one hurdle can affect you,” said Swede coach Steve Reeves. “I think Alec was as clean as he could be in the prelims and maybe nicked one or two in the finals but he ran a heck of a race.”

The meet's electronic timer and finish line film determined that Thomas Hinrichs of Auburn beat Foster to the line by little more than an eyelash.

“Everybody wants to be a state champ,” Reeves said. “Alec put in the work all season and went out there Saturday and put it all on the line, diving for the finish. Second isn't too bad at state.”



Foster moves to No. 6 on the Gothenburg all-time Top 10 list in the event.

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He also competed in the 300-meter intermediate hurdles, along with teammate Preston Franzen.

“Both those boys have great work ethic,” Reeves said. “They ran hard but in a race like that, the wind can play tricks on you.”

Neither qualified for the finals.

Four-time state qualifier Brett Dockweiler finally got his state medal.

The senior ran the 3200-meter on Friday in 10:15.549 to finish eighth.

He then came back on Saturday for the 1600-meter run, finishing in a personal best time of 4:33.348 but crossing the line in 10th.

His time, though, was good enough to move him into No. 5 on the school’s all-time chart.

“To get into the school’s Top 10 and not get a medal says a whole lot about the competition in that race,” Reeves said. “He got after it and that’s what I try to get all these kids to do every day. Go out and get better each time.”

The fourth Swede to compete at the state meet also brought home a bit of hardware.

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Senior Dillon Foster nipped at the line for second in the 100m dash, finishing with a time of 15.92 seconds. He was followed by runner in white, who finished with a time of 16.01 seconds. The race was held at the outdoor track at the University of Oregon on Thursday, May 24, 2012.