

## Boys produce encouraging results against bigger schools

Written by Deb Egenberger  
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KEARNEY—Some members of the Gothenburg boys track and field team are still trying to figure out which events best suit them.

Others were well on their way to personal best performances during the Kearney High Indoor at the University of Nebraska at Kearney on Friday.

“We’re still trying to sort things out,” said coach Steve Reeves, “but we had some encouraging results in several areas.”

No team scores were kept among the four schools that included Kearney, Grand Island, Hastings and Gothenburg.

Still, Reeves said, the competition from larger schools is good for the Swede boys.

“It was the first time for some of the kids to compete at this level and the first meet for others,” he said. “I was pleased in several areas.”

Senior Aaron Collins earned the only Swede gold of the day in the triple jump, going 41 feet, 9.5 inches. That’s his best mark in the event so far this season.

Reeves was also encouraged by two pole vaulters, Blake Ristine and Skyler Kottwitz, both clearing 13 feet.

The juniors tied for fifth place in the event. The 13-foot mark ties Kottwitz’s personal best and is just two inches from Ristine’s personal record.

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Sophomore thrower Tanner Borchardt achieved a personal best in the discus as well with a distance of 138-7. That's more than a foot and a half farther than his previous best.

"Tanner is just starting to spin in the shot too," Reeves said. "It's a learning process that I expect will one day produce great results."

Borchardt finished seventh in the discus and fifth in the shot.

Gothenburg freshmen also competed separately.

"We showed some life in the sprints and jumps," Reeves said, "and did fairly well in the throws too. There are good things to come."

The Swede boys will compete at Ogallala on Thursday in their first major outdoor meet of the season.

Reeves said Chadron and Holyoke, CO, have been added to the slate of teams to make 10 schools total.

"It should provide, again, some tough competition."

The meet, which also includes Gothenburg girls, begins at 11 a.m. MT.