

Three Swedes headed to Omaha

Written by Austin Benson

Thursday, 20 February 2014 18:10 - Last Updated Thursday, 20 February 2014 18:25



Scott: Top six finishers get medals and our wrestlers are going there to get one.

Three Swede grapplers avenged earlier losses en route to a spot in the state tournament.

Skyler Kottwitz, Jayden Miller and Bryce Larson will represent Gothenburg High School at the state wrestling tournament in Omaha Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Gothenburg was joined by Cozad and Scottsbluff as the three teams who had multiple district champions.

Kottwitz, at 170 pounds, and Larson, a 106 pounder, earned first place at the District B-4 meet at Cozad. Miller earned a third-place finish at 145 pounds.

“I knew we were strong in our 106- and 170-pound brackets,” head coach Tom Scott said. “Our entire team was awesome at districts.”

Although only three Swedes are going to state, Scott said he was impressed with how everyone wrestled in districts.

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“The majority of guys wrestled their best in the last match,” he said. “Even guys that didn’t win did well.”

Larson took down Clayton Glendy from Broken Bow for the fifth time this season before beating Daniel Goings from Chadron in the final two seconds of the match. Goings qualified for state last year and had beaten Larson this season.



“Bryce showed he is focused in his matches,” Scott said. “He’s been wrestling a long time and doesn’t get rattled.”

Kottwitz returns to state with a lot of success this season, Scott said.

In his finals match against Garrett Ulmer from Broken Bow, Kottwitz won a 9-5 decision and reached the 100-win milestone.

“That kid had beaten him earlier in the year and they weren’t matched up a lot,” Scott said. “He wanted to wrestle him and win.”

Scott added Kottwitz is doing the best job of adjusting to what opposing wrestlers are giving him instead of trying to force action.

Miller, who was defeated by a three-time defending state champion in the semifinals pinned his way to a third place finish.

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With one more tournament remaining the Swedes have to win the close matches, Scott said. He said he's confident his wrestlers will continue to wrestle well and finish matches.

"At this point in the season pins don't matter," he said, "points will be tight. We have to win and get off the mat."

Gothenburg's goal has never changed from the start of the season. The Swedes are shooting for medals at state.

"For (these) three wrestlers, they have one more tournament to wrestle their best matches of the year," Scott said.

DISTRICT B-4 TEAM SCORING



1. Scottsbluff 196.0

2. Lexington 157.0

3. Cozad 135.0

4. Chadron 124.5

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5. Ogallala 85.0

6. Gothenburg 82.5

7. Alliance 81.0

8. Holdrege 74.5

9. McCook 58.0

10. Broken Bow 50.0

11. Gering 48.0

12. Sidney 46.0

INDIVIDUAL SWEDE RESULTS

106—Bryce Larson won unopposed; pinned Chandler Brock (Cozad), 0:32; won 15-7 major decision over Clayton Glendy (Broken Bow); won 6-4 over Daniel Goings (Chadron).

126—Tyler Alvarez won unopposed; lost 7-5 in ultimate tie break to Kane Wellnitz (Chadron), pinned Ty Baker (Broken Bow), 2:45; won 16-1 by technical fall over Jacob Long (Alliance); was pinned by Henry Gonzalez (Lexington), 4:44.

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132—Talbot Buchholz won unopposed; was pinned by Brian Messersmith (Cozad), 1:37; won unopposed; was pinned by Hayden Logston (Holdrege), 4:31.

138—Seth Portiner pinned Isaiah Votruba (Sidney), 1:14; was pinned by Clay Trejo (Cozad), 1:44; pinned Isaac Brodrick (Chadron), 2:12; was pinned by Kristopher Kizzire (Scottsbluff), 1:50.

145—Jayden Miller pinned Tyler Reitz (Chadron), 3:22; pinned Trent Zink (Ogallala), 2:28; was pinned by Colton Adams (Scottsbluff), 1:03; pinned Cameron Griffis (Cozad), 1:40; pinned Trent Zink (Ogallala), 1:00.

152—Julian Smith was pinned by Tate Cullers (Chadron), 0:16; won unopposed; was pinned by Bryant Wilson (Alliance), 1:53.

160—Keyan Anderson was pinned by Sabian Harsh (Scottsbluff), 0:20; won unopposed; was pinned by Brody McKnight (Sidney), 2:05.

170—Skyler Kottwitz won unopposed; pinned Dylan Lucius (Scottsbluff), 3:38; won 9-0 major decision over Jared Washa (Ogallala); won 9-5 decision over Garrett Ulmer (Broken Bow).

182—Tyson Miller pinned Curtis McMann (Chadron), 1:53; was pinned by Matthew Skinner (Ogallala), 1:08; lost 4-3 decision to Blake Rains (Gering).

195—Tyler Miller won unopposed; was pinned by Brody Cleveland (Ogallala), 1:13; won unopposed; was pinned by Jose Ambriz (Broken Bow), 1:21.

220—Luke Ferguson was pinned by Grant Packard (Ogallala), 3:00; won unopposed; was pinned by Mario Soriano (Scottsbluff), 3:29.

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285—Chad Schmiett was pinned by Bradley Clinesmith (Ogallala), 1:01; won unopposed; was pinned by Charles Davis (Broken Bow), 0:25.

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