

Borchardt's gold is one for the books

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History may or may not be Tanner Borchardt's favorite subject, but he did a good job of writing some for Gothenburg at the state track meet.

Borchardt became just the second Swede ever to win a gold medal at state in the shot put—and the first in 91 years.

The Gothenburg junior tossed the shot 57-9, which not only won the Class B gold medal but also placed second when compared to all classes. He just missed the all-class gold by two inches.

Swede coach Steve Reeves did some digging in the record books and found that Snub Carr was a state champion in the shot in 1923.

“(Tanner) went in with a bulls eye on his back,” Reeves said, after having the best throw in the state during the season.

Another thrower in the state prelims took the lead by beating Borchardt's best effort early.

“Tanner is a competitor and he's been there before,” Reeves said. “The experience has helped him. Coach (Dan) Scherer has done a great job with him.”

The junior responded to the challenge with his 57-9 toss which held up for the win.

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Borchardt also placed fourth in the discus with a throw of 153-3.

Senior Blake Ristine earned a fourth place medal in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 15.147 seconds.

“Blake ran two very good races down at state,” the coach said. “For the most part, he stayed very clean over the hurdles. For him getting fourth was an outstanding effort and a tribute to him and coach (Dan) Yilk for the job they both did in getting him ready for the state meet.”

Freshman Collin Hahn barely missed a medal in his first experience at state. He placed ninth in the 1600 with a time of 4:36.42 that eclipses the old Swede freshman record and ranks No. 10 on the varsity all-time chart.

“I thought he ran a very strategic race,” Reeves said. “He hung back the first lap and then really pushed laps two and three.

“For a freshman, as far as experience is concerned, I thought he did everything that he was asked to do. Even though he didn’t get a medal, his race paid dividends for the talent that he has. He has a lot of promise ahead.”



Junior Seth Eggleston tied for 16th in the high jump, clearing the bar at 5-10.

“He did a good job to get there,” the coach said. “Hopefully he gets a little stronger and a little more in terms of inches. He can compete for a medal next year.”

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Cozad capped a tremendous year of athletics earning the Class B team championship with 69 points. The next three teams, including runner-up Sidney with 45, came out of Gothenburg's B-6 district. The Swedes ranked 11th with 20 points.