

Wrestlers primed for B-4 district

Written by Deb Egenberger

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SCHWANZ

EGGLESTON

Swedes finish second at SWC.

VALENTINE—All that lies ahead for the Gothenburg wrestling team is everything the Swedes have been working toward all season.

It's district week for the Swedes. Medal now or turn in your singlet.

"The district is wide open in a lot of areas," said Gothenburg coach Eric Manstedt. "It comes down to who put in the time, who has the mental edge and who believes in themselves."

The B-4 district meet begins at 3 p.m. Friday in Cozad and will conclude Saturday afternoon when champions are crowned and the four medalists in each weight class earn their ticket to the state meet in Omaha.

"It no longer matters who is supposed to win," Manstedt said. "If you think you are or you think you're not, you're right."

The Swedes are physically prepared for their district opponents. What remains is tidying up a little in the mental arena.

"They have to go in believing they will qualify for state," Manstedt said. "That's what we've talked about all year. But it's no longer enough to just qualify. We want to go to the state meet and earn some hardware."

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B-4 DISTRICT

■ **WHEN:** Feb. 12-13

■ **WHERE:** Cozad High School

■ **SCHOOLS:** Alliance, Broken Bow, Chadron, Cozad, Berwyn, Brokenburg, Hildreth, Lexington, McCook, Ogallala, Scottsbluff, Sidney

■ **TIMES:** 3 p.m. Friday, two championship rounds

■ **AWARDS:** Medals for the first four places will be presented after the 145-pound and 285-pound weight class finals Saturday

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