

Volleyball team drops pair

Written by Deb Egenberger
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Swedes have rough night at home triangular.

It usually doesn't pay to play it safe on the volleyball court.

The Swedes learned the hard way that playing not to lose is not the same as playing to win as they dropped a pair of matches to Chase County and Perkins County in a home triangular on Sept. 28.

"I felt like we let two games get away that we should have won," said coach Becky Costello. "We just couldn't get things going and keep them going."

In the first game against Chase County, Costello said her Swedes simply got out-hustled in the 25-14, 25-22 loss.

"Chase County is a very scrappy team," she said, "and the girls seemed to be playing safe."

After losing the first set, Gothenburg came out flat, falling behind 9-1 before they could kick anything into gear.

"We have to start aggressive and stay aggressive," Costello said.

Gothenburg worked its way back into the game, even taking a lead at one point.

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"It seemed like we get to points in the 20s and we get afraid to make mistakes so they choose the safe thing," Costello said. "You can't attack aggressively and be safe at the same time."

Joslyn Oliver finished 8-for-9 at the net with four kills. Jacey Wiggins served 7-for-7 for seven service points.

Gothenburg started better against Perkins County, Costello said, moving to 22-20 in the first game before dropping the match 25-22 and 25-23.

"We missed a serve and then one thing led to another," Costello said. "Before we knew it we'd let them crawl back in and take the game."

Jacey Wiggins was 7-for-8 serving for five service points. She was also 15-for-17 hitting with seven kills and offered eight set assists to her teammates.

Oliver was the hot hitter again putting down eight kills while libero Ali Clark picked up 12 digs.