

Broken Bow capitalizes on mistakes

Written by Deb Egenberger

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Gothenburg football coach Craig Haake has challenged his players all season to clean up their act.

Turnovers and penalties have riddled every game the Swedes have played but the mistakes hadn't truly caught up with them until Friday night's 21-7 loss to Broken Bow.

Gothenburg lost three first downs to big penalties and fumbled five times—twice on third-and-short—to halt successful drives against the closely matched Indians.

“We've played like that every game this year,” said coach Craig Haake. “Finally, we ran up against a team that made us pay for our mistakes.”

Gothenburg had three possessions in the first quarter, none of which carried them into the red zone.

One, in fact, resulted in an interception and Broken Bow scored one play later on a 42-yard run by all-state quarterback Nathan Scott.

With a PAT by Indian kicker Tanner Johnson, Broken Bow went up 7-0 with 1:47 to play in the

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first quarter.

“We just kept hurting ourselves,” Haake said. “Broken Bow has a decent defense and they made it tough to go 10 yards to get a first down, let alone 15 after a penalty.”

Neither team put any points on the board in the second quarter.

“With all the mistakes, I felt pretty fortunate to be going into halftime only down 7-0,” Haake said.

Gothenburg kicked off to start the second half but a fumble by the Indians on the return gave the Swedes the ball on Broken Bow’s 7 yard line.

Three plays later, Tyler Aden earned the touchdown on a 5-yard run and Trent Long tied the game 7-7 with a PAT kick.

Haake said the Swedes played better overall in the second half but Gothenburg didn’t threaten to score again.

Justin McCullough scored for Broken Bow with 2:25 to play in the third period and Johnson added the PAT to put the Indians up 14-7.

Broken Bow scored again after an 80-yard drive in the fourth quarter that ran eight minutes off the clock.

Scott carried in the touchdown from 6 yards out and Johnson added the PAT.

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Gothenburg managed 172 yards total offense to Broken Bow's

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