

Slow start hampers girls against Eagles

Written by Deb Egenberger

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Gothenburg's girls spotted Southern Valley 11 points to start the basketball game Thursday night and the Swedes finished seven points behind as the Eagles notched a win 55-48.

But getting down by 11 points in the first two and a half minutes of the game didn't determine the outcome, said Swede coach Tim Peterson.

"You don't win or lose a game in the first few minutes," Peterson said. "I didn't see any reason to panic at that point. I knew we could get back in it."

The Swedes did battle back to come within 15-12 at the end of the first quarter and the score was tied 19-19 with 4:47 to go in the first half.

Gothenburg even took the lead with two minutes left in the second period when Jacey Wiggins hit the front end of a one-and-one.

At halftime, Gothenburg held a slim 29-27 advantage.

"Overall I thought we did better shooting," Peterson said, "even though we're not anywhere near where we want to be yet."

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The Swedes made 6-of-8 free throws in the second period and were 5-for-19 on field goals.

But things went stagnant for the Swedes in the third quarter as Southern Valley out-scored Gothenburg 19-9.

“They took it to us in the third and we never recovered,” Peterson said.

Two factors were key in the game, the coach said.

“One, we’ve got to get fewer turnovers,” he said. “And two, we’ve got to learn that we have to play all four quarters.”

The third period has been Gothenburg’s Achilles heel so far this season, the coach said.

“We’ve got to come out ready to play after

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