Written by Deb Egenberger
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GRANT—With four Swedes in double figures and another just one bucket away, the Gothenburg boys cruised past the Perkins County Plainsmen 56-43 on the road Saturday night.

After tying the Plainsmen in the first quarter 9-9, Gothenburg went on a run in the second period to take an eight-point lead, 29-21.

“We reversed our trend a little bit,” said coach Roger Koehler. “We had been stronger in the first and third periods but at Grant we did a little better in the second and fourth.”

Perkins County has quick guards and a couple of big kids who play inside the paint, Koeh-ler said.

Pressure from both the man-to-man defense and a 1-3-1 kept the Plainsmen at bay most of the night.

“The kids really hustled on defense,” Koehler said, “and we moved the ball well and had good shot selection on offense.”

The key to the win, though, was balance, Koehler said.

Four players in double figures means there are multiple threats on the court.

It also means the Swedes were passing the ball well to find the open man, Koehler said.

The Swedes shot 45% from the field while Perkins County made just 32%.

Branndon McMichael was the leading scorer with 12 points followed by Cody Ostergard with 11 and Brett Dockweiler and Jack Dudley with 10 points each.

Dudley also pulled down 12 rebounds to complete the double-double.

With a 2-2 record, Gothenburg

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