

Swede girls find offense, earn win

Written by Deb Egenberger
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Combine solid defense with a little bit of offense and there's a good chance for a basketball team to win.

Offense has been missing much of the winter season for the Gothenburg girls, who barely averaged over 30 points per game prior to Friday's home match-up with the Chase County Longhorns.

But the Swedes more than doubled their offensive output from the night before to beat the Chase County Longhorns 46-43.

"We finally made some shots," said Gothenburg coach Tim Peterson. "The girls played good defense and we showed some patience on offense."

Both teams got off to a good start, the coach said. Gothenburg opened with a 14-12 first quarter lead behind 12 points from sophomore Jacey Wiggins.

"Sometimes it's easy to forget that Jacey is only a sophomore and she still has a lot to learn," Peterson said.

The Swedes continued to control the game through the second quarter, taking a 24-17 lead into halftime.

Gothenburg maintained the lead in the third period before Chase County mounted a comeback effort in the fourth.

"We got a little tentative," Peterson said. "Our shots didn't go in and things could have fallen apart but the kids just kept plugging away."

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The game was tied 39-39 late in the fourth quarter when free throws by Karen Franzen and Wiggins gave the Swedes an edge. Senior Ali Clark sank the final two charity shots to ice the game.

“It was a good team effort,” Peterson said. “Everyone contributed to the win.”

Wiggins led Gothenburg with 17 points. Franzen

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