

Swedes win Gothenburg Invite in three quick, easy games

Written by Deb Egenberger
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The Gothenburg softball team won three games Saturday to capture its own invitational crown. More importantly, the Swedes might be getting their attitude back on track as they head into the final week of the regular season.

“It looked like we’re getting back to our Swede team that we had earlier in the year,” coach Roger Neujahr said.

The squad had trouble responding positively to injuries that have sidelined three starters.

One is back on the field and the Swede coach hopes the two others return this week.

Gothenburg busted loose for a combined 32 runs and 35 hits for the day.

“Hopefully we can have a decent week. We’ve got two good teams that we’re going to play this week,” he said Monday. Gothenburg traveled to North Platte Tuesday and will host Cozad Thursday (Parent’s Night).

RESULTS	
Goth. 8.....So. Valley 0 (3 inn.)	
St. Paul 13.....Minden 1 (3 inn.)	
Goth. 10.....Minden 4 (4 inn.)	
So. Valley 6.....St. Paul 5	
Goth. 14.....St. Paul 4 (4 inn.)	
So. Valley 15.....Minden 9	

Swedes blank Eagles 8-0

Southern Valley never got its offense going in an 8-0 loss to Gothenburg.

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The Eagles' best opportunity came in the third inning when a pair of singles put a runner in scoring position with one out. A double play ended that threat and, except for an error, they went down in order the rest of the way.

Gothenburg left a pair of runners on base in a one-run first inning and then failed to score in the second.

The scoreboard got lit up with four runs in the third, although the rally had just two hits. Siera Schwanz's two-run single did the most damage.

A triple by Becca Riley was the big hit of a two-run fourth inning.

After getting hit by a pitch in the fifth inning, Shay Wear later scored on a pitcher's error to end the game early.

"We played a pretty good game," Neujahr said, referring to the team's hitting and pitching. "Overall, as a team, we looked pretty decent."

Whippets falter 10-0



Minden didn't offer much challenge to the Swedes in the second round. The Whippets fell in four innings, 10-0.

"I'm not sure there was enthusiasm and excitement to even want to play the game for them," he said.

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Minden's first batter got on base from a walk but was stranded. Another player also walked in the fourth inning, but the Whippets couldn't do anything then either.

Two-run singles by Emily Franzen, Siera Schwanz and Ashley Eskew fueled a six-run first inning for Gothenburg.

The next two innings were quiet with just one Swede run scored. A three-run rally ended the game early in the fourth.

Amanda Barkmeier and Sam Tiedemann split the pitching duties, each going two innings.

"Sam came in and got back to her old ways," Neujahr said. "It was good to get her back in the last two innings of that game."

Shay Wear hit three singles in as many trips to the plate and five other players had two hits apiece.

Wildcats tamed 14-4

St. Paul had no answer for Gothenburg's offense in a 14-4 Swede win that ended early in the fourth inning.

Gothenburg hammered out 10 hits, included three for extra bases.

Brittyn Munster started a first inning rally with a triple, followed up by two-run singles by Siera Schwanz and Sam Tiedemann to make it 6-2.

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Walks helped the Swedes score a pair in the second inning. Two more walks and a couple of singles pushed two across in the third.

A bases-loaded walk followed up by Ashley Eskew's triple brought things to an end in the bottom of the fourth.

Tiedemann went the distance on the mound for her second win of the season. She weathered a two-run rally by St. Paul in the first inning and went on to throw strikes, the coach said. "It was good to see that Sam would be able to handle that," he said.