

Three of six losses come in final week

Written by Deb Egenberger
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OGALLALA—The Gothenburg volleyball team closed out the regular season with a pair of losses in a triangular at Ogallala.

The Swedes fell to the Badgers in the opening match on Friday 25-16, 16-25, 25-21.

“Valentine is the best blocking team we’ve seen,” said Gothenburg coach Mary Clark.

The Badgers put up double and sometimes triple blocks on every Swede hit, she said.

“And we didn’t handle it very well. We started playing safe.”

Safe isn’t in the game plan for Gothenburg’s team, the coach said. The girls do best when they’re on the attack.

The first set slipped away from the Swedes before they felt warmed up, Clark said. And after coming back to win the second set, Gothenburg fell behind 12-0 in the third set before making a run.

“We had some major serve receive problems,” Clark said.

Junior Aryn Meisinger reeled off 11 wicked serves to get Gothenburg back in the game but it wasn’t enough to beat the Badgers.

Meisinger finished 16-of-19 serving with two aces. She also offered 15 set assists.

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Tiani Reeves smacked 11 kills and Jacey Wiggins added 10.

In the nightcap against Ogallala, Gothenburg struggled with serve receive and could never get on top of the Indians, falling in straight sets 25-14, 25-18.

“We’ve been a pretty good serve receive team,” Clark said. “They serve a combination of float serves and top spin that we can usually handle but it was just an off night for us.”

At the same time, Gothenburg had only one service ace against the Indians.

Wiggins led the way at the net with six kills. She also had six set assists.

Taylor Mroczek picked up eight digs.

The Swedes finish the regular season with a 22-6 record. They played in C1-11 sub-district action Tuesday night, too late for results to be printed in this issue.

If Gothenburg won its first-round match against Chase County, the Swedes would likely face Ogallala again in the finals.

Check next week’s issue of The Times for complete results.