

Sailors cruise past Gothenburg girls

Written by Deb Egenberger
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SUTHERLAND—The Sailors used strong play from 6-foot post Sam Kennedy to dominate the Gothenburg girls both in points and on the boards.

Sutherland lunged ahead in the third quarter and never relinquished the lead as the Sailors defeated the Swedes 49-35.

“Their big girl hurt us,” said Swede coach Chris Lecher. “We just couldn’t get her forced where we wanted her to go.”

Kennedy is left-handed and Lecher said the Swede girls struggled to defend her.

Gothenburg got off to a slow start, trailing 9-5 after the first quarter, but the girls managed to get Kennedy in a little early foul trouble.

They took advantage of having Kennedy on the bench, making their way back into the game in the second period to trail just 23-20 at halftime.

But a six-point run by Sutherland to start the third period and another to end it put the Swedes behind by nine and they couldn’t seem to inch any closer.

“One turnover seemed to lead to another in the second half,” Lecher said, “and we couldn’t recover.”

Swede senior Jacey Wiggins finished with 10 points to lead Gothenburg. Kennedy had 17 for the Sailors.