

Swedes' aggressive attack beats Hershey

Written by Austin Benson

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The Swedes boys basketball team took advantage of driving lanes and played solid defense in their 52-25 victory over Hershey Friday moving them to 1-1 on the season.

Gothenburg was more aggressive than the night before against Lexington, head coach Roger Koehler said.

"We took the ball to the basket and got to the free throw line," Koehler said. "Our guards did a good job and if they missed a short one, Tanner Borchardt was there to rebound and put the ball back up."

Defensively, Koehler added the Swedes limited opportunities for Hershey contesting their outside shooters and forcing 24 turnovers.

At the end of the first half, Gothenburg led the Panthers 35-10 and still had a goal in sight of holding Hershey to 20 points for the game.

"I'm very pleased with our defense the first two games," Koehler said. "Effort isn't an issue with this team."

Hershey was led in scoring by two players with six points each.

On the offensive side of the ball, Gothenburg used a balanced attack as eight Swedes managed to score, led by Borchardt's 17 points.

"Everybody on the team took a step forward in that game," Koehler said. "We had a little advantage on them with a game under our belt."

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Koehler said the emphasis before the game was to not dwell on the loss the night before and play Gothenburg basketball.

“The guys looked to get assists, they looked to deliver the ball to teammates,” Koehler said.

However, Gothenburg will face a tough task Thursday on the road against defending Class C-2 state champion Southern Valley who returns three starters from last year's team.

“They will press us the entire game, make or miss,” Koehler said. “We have to cut down on the turnovers.”

This week, he said the Swedes will focus on taking shots at game speed and breaking the anticipated full-court press.

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