

## Geiken's 31 points helps Swedes bounce back with win

Written by Austin Benson

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Göteborg's girls basketball team escaped its potential fourth consecutive loss Jan. 7 by beating McCook 49-46.

The Swedes used a consistent scoring attack each quarter headlined by Regan Geiken and limited the Bison to only four points in the final quarter of play.

"The tournament in Sidney was tough on us mentally," head coach Chris Lecher said. "We played with a confidence that we didn't have previously and that led to good things."

The team's confidence showed in the first quarter as the Swedes hung 13 points on McCook.

Göteborg forced some turnovers and capitalized on the offensive end with baskets.

Leading 13-9 to start the second quarter, Göteborg continued to get good looks and make shots but McCook's offense did damage against Göteborg's defense and scored 19 points.

Geiken scored seven of her game high 31 points in the last three minutes of the half but it was McCook's Kaity Elder who made a layup to give the Bison the three-point advantage at the break, 28-25

"She was more controlled and the shots she was taking were good shots for her," Lecher said about Geiken.

Lecher said he talked at halftime about coming out in the second half with intensity.

The girls have had issues playing well in the third quarter. He said he and the girls addressed

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that before taking the floor.

"We don't come out of halftime well," Lecher said. "The third quarter is an issue for us and we didn't want to come out flat."

Gothenburg's offensive attack remained without problems as the Swedes scored 12 points, however the Bison extended their lead to five, 42-37.

To start the fourth, McCook tried stalling on offense and had control of the ball for nearly three minutes before Gothenburg rebounded a missed shot and scored quickly to bring the ball game within one possession.

The Swedes' solid offense continued scoring on the Bison's defense for the remainder of the contest until Gothenburg walked off the court with a 49-46 victory.

"We played much better. We passed better and moved without the ball better," Lecher said.

After the game, he said the girls felt good about coming out on the winning end instead the opposite.

Gothenburg lost two previous games by three points and winning was a confidence booster for the girls as well as himself, Lecher said.

Geiken led all scorers but the Swedes received eight points from Kyndal Holmes in the game.

"Kyndal shot the ball softly and with confidence," Lecher said. "She made the shots that we needed her to make."

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McCook's leading scorer was Molly Sughroue with 21 points scored.

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