

Swedes squeak past Ainsworth

Written by Austin Benson
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Girls carry two-game win streak into C1-11

Ainsworth's last-second basket came a second too late and the Gothenburg girls basketball team held on for a 38-37 win Friday.

"It was a good win for us and huge confidence boost," head coach Chris Lecher said. "We knew if we could beat them we'd be on the right track for subdistricts."

During the first period, leading Swede scorer Regan Geiken got into foul trouble. She sat for 10 minutes as both teams struggled to extend leads after a 9-9 first-quarter score.

After outscoring Gothenburg 12-11 in the second frame Ainsworth had the 21-20 advantage at intermission.

Gothenburg used an extended zone defense most of the game, Lecher said, which seemed to slow down the Bulldogs' attack.

In the third stanza, the defensive showcase continued as the teams combined for fifteen points and Ainsworth remained in the lead, 29-27.

"In the fourth quarter we got the ball to open players who shot it well," Lecher said.

During the break, Lecher said he told the girls to not give the Bulldogs anything cheap.

"I wanted us to keep playing aggressive," he said.

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Gothenburg managed to get some drives into the lane and outscored Ainsworth 11-8 in the final period. Mady Vogel made the final basket before the Swedes got a must-have defensive stop.

‘We did what we needed to do to win that game,’ Lecher said.

Vogel led the Swedes with 12 points off the bench.

Ellie Carr scored 15 for the Bulldogs.

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