

Whippets' power wears on Swedes

Written by Deb Egenberger

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MINDEN 52		GOTHENBURG 41		
GO	FT	A	Re	PT
K. Allendorf	3-8	0	4	5
A. Collins	0-0	0	3	0
J. Dudley	0-0	0	1	0
D. France	1-6	1	0	3
L. Haake	3-19	0	1	17
M. Hultstrand	2-4	0	1	4
P. Reeves	1-3	1	0	5
T. Sheets	1-1	0	0	2
J. Teahon	2-3	0	2	6
TOTALS	17-48	2	6	23
Three-pointers: Gothenburg, 1; Minden, 0.				
Rebounds: Gothenburg, 17-48, 35%.				
Free throws: Gothenburg, 2-8, 25%.				
Rebounds: Gothenburg, 9 offensive, 14 defensive, 23 total.				
Turnovers: Gothenburg, 16.				
Scores by quarter:				
Minden	12	12	16	18-58
Gothenburg	7	17	9	8-41

Minden controls second half.

Gothenburg's boys gave Minden all they could in the first half last week.

Although they got off to a bit of a slow start, the Swedes worked their way back to tie the state-ranked Whippets at halftime.

"There was a span of about four minutes where it looked like everyone on the floor had confidence in themselves and each other," said Gothenburg coach Kent Koehn.

But with size, strength and skill, the Whippets wore down the Swedes in the second half to win 58-41.

"We had guys stepping up in the first half taking good shots," Koehn said. "That's by far the best half of basketball we've played all year."

The Swedes trailed the No. 10 rated Whippets 12-7 at the end of the first quarter but fought back to tie 24-24 at halftime.

"Joel Teahon stepped up and hit back-to-back three-pointers about midway through the second quarter," Koehn said. "That was huge. We had a good team on the ropes."

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In the third period, Minden's skilled ball handlers and shooters started wearing the Swedes down.

"We went to a trap defense to try and get the ball back," Koehn said. "Their kids are such good ball handlers that it didn't work. They just slowly and methodically picked apart our press."

Minden outscored Gothenburg 16-9 in the third quarter and 18-8 in the fourth.

"The third quarter has been our Achilles all season," Koehn said. "And once we got down, we couldn't muster the strength to get back into it."

Four Minden players scored in double figures, led by Carson Blum with 15 points.

Landen Haake was the leading scorer for Gothenburg with 14 points.