

## Depleted squad offers challenges for Seniors

Written by Gothenburg Times  
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A lack of numbers produced few hits, scored not many runs and earned no wins for the Gothenburg Seniors in four games this past week.

Several factors kept the Seniors from playing at full strength and forced players from lower levels into action.

After travelling for their first five games, the Melons will be at home for three of four contests this next week. Home games are Thursday against Cozad, Sunday against Cambridge and Wednesday, June 18, against Overton. Gothenburg plays at Hershland on Saturday afternoon.

Lex claims 14-4 victory

Gothenburg stayed within striking distance midway through the game but couldn't match Lexington's scoring late in a 14-4 loss on June 4.

Lexington jumped out to a 7-1 lead after three innings, but the Melons scratched back to within three, 7-4, after the top half of the fourth inning.

Lexington came back with two in the bottom of the fourth and added five more in the fifth inning to ice the victory.

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Three consecutive singles by Gothenburg started a potential big rally in the second inning. Adam Speck led off with a single and eventually scored on a single by Blake Riley. The rally fizzled as one runner was picked off first base followed by a double play that ended the threat.

Chase Ostergard doubled to start the fourth inning. Despite not getting any more hits, the Melons scored three runs.

Gothenburg players were at second and third when the fifth inning ended.

Speck had two of Gothenburg's five hits for the game. He also started on the mound and suffered the loss.

Melons held hitless

Kaden Sitzman tossed a no-hitter against Gothenburg Thursday as McCook earned an 18-0 victory.

Just two Melons reached base—Ross Ostendorf in the fourth on an error and Jake Matthies in the fifth on a walk. Sitzman fanned 11 Gothenburg players.

McCook batters pounded out 11 hits while seven earned a free pass to first after being hit by a pitch.

Ostendorf took the pitching loss and Matthies threw in relief.

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### Holdrege cruises

Holdrege opened up a nine-run lead after one inning and cruised to a 14-0 victory over Gothenburg Friday. The contest was a make-up for a game rained out earlier in the season.

Holdrege quickly jumped on Melon starting pitcher Adam Speck in the first inning and the McCook score kept climbing in the second and third frames.

Bryce Kowalewski opened the game with a single for Gothenburg, but it went down hill from there.

A hit batter and an error allowed base runners in the second and fourth innings, but nothing developed for the Melons.

### Free passes help Minden

Too many walks gave Minden numerous scoring opportunities in a 9-0 win over Gothenburg Sunday.

The hosts received 10 free passes to first in the seven-inning contest. That, combined with eight hits and a couple of errors, provided scoring chances in nearly every inning.

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Minden took a 2-0 lead in the first inning and added to it with three-run rallies in both the second and third frames.

Gothenburg had runners in scoring position in four innings, but couldn't get the timely hits needed.

The best chance came after Braeden Brundage singled to lead off the sixth. He eventually reached third base, but was tagged out trying to score after a catcher's error and throw to first base.

No other Melon base runner made it past second.

Others hitting safely for Gothenburg were Ross Ostendorf and Riley Ostendorf. The brothers also handled the pitching chores.