

## Hot shooting lifts boys past Indians

Written by Austin Benson

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### Starters combine for 45 points

The Swedes caught fire early from behind the arc and the Indians had to play catch up the entire game.

The Gothenburg boys basketball team made four three-pointers and outscored Broken Bow 22-6 in the opening quarter of Friday's 60-54 victory over the Indians.

The Swedes got the ball to an open man and then shot the ball well as Gothenburg managed to score double-digits in each period of play.

"We got the shots we wanted and we were knocking them down," head coach Roger Koehler said. "We passed the ball well. The guys were finding the open man."

Collin Hahn provided a spark off the bench scoring 13 points including three treys in the first quarter.

"He gives a lot of energy off the bench and is a scoring threat for us," Koehler said of Collin.

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The Swedes made baskets from all over the court to start the game.

Borchardt scored the first two baskets on layins, Dawson Graham and Hahn made outside shots and Blake Ristine elevated on his mid-range jumpers to give Gothenburg a 16-point advantage after one period of play.

The Swedes cooled off slightly in the second quarter scoring only two baskets in the final four minutes of the half. Broken Bow, however, scored eight times and climbed back into the contest reducing Gothenburg's lead to 34-24 at the break.

In the third quarter, Gothenburg's defense regained control as its offense seemed unstoppable.

The Swedes didn't allow a basket for nearly four minutes after intermission and racked up 16 more points in the third stanza, extending their lead to 50-32.



With no other choice, the Indians stepped up its defensive intensity and started launching three-pointers. They forced turnovers and capitalized with a couple three-point baskets as time ticked away.

However, Broken Bow's efforts fell short as the Swedes held off the rally.

"We controlled the game from tip to finish," Koehler said. "We were up 18 going into the fourth and they made a little run with (Swede) subs in."

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Before the contest, Koehler said he was confident the Swedes could beat the Indians.

“I knew we were capable of beating them and we shot the ball well,” he said. “We came out with great focus and energy.”

Other than the final minutes of the game where Bow made three's, Koehler said he was pleased with Gothenburg's defensive effort and recognizing what the Indians were trying to do.

Graham led four Gothenburg double-digits scorers with 16 points. Ristine and Hahn pitched in 13 apiece and Borchardt added 11.

Grayson Minnick paced the Indians with four treys and 18 points.

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