

Gothenburg rolls past Ord 28-7

Written by Deb Egenberger
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“It was a simple iso play that worked just like it’s supposed to,” the coach said.

With a PAT pass from Hilderbrand to Doran Johnson, the Swedes led 14-0 to close out the first quarter.

The offense had a bit of trouble finishing possessions in the second period. Haake said the boys moved the ball fairly well but stalled on penalties or turnovers.

“We didn’t do a good job of putting them away,” Haake said.

Gothenburg did manage to score again before halftime.

Haake said the defense set up the offense with a short field and Hilderbrand ran in from 9 yards out. A PAT run by Joel Teahon put the Swedes up 22-0 heading into halftime.

“Defensively we were playing well,” Haake said, “but there wasn’t a lot of fire.”

Strong drives followed by errors continued into the third period. For example, Tannor Mroczek returned a punt for what the crowd thought was a touchdown only to realize the play had been called back due to a penalty.

“It’s that kind of stuff that’s a little bothersome,” Haake said.

On the first series of the fourth period, Ord found the endzone after a short punt by the Swedes set up a quick drive.

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Blake Augustyn ran in the 1-yard touchdown.

Gothenburg fumbled on the next possession but held Ord to three and out.

On the punt return, Mroczek looked to be pinned against the sideline but squirted out for the final 54-yard touchdown.

“Ord spent most of the night trying to punt away from him,” Haake said of his junior punt returner. “We had them stuck back against the goal line, though, and they didn’t have much choice.”

The point-after conversion failed.

“We proved that we can’t just show up for games,” Haake said. “Practice matters and we’re going to have to do a better job of that.”

Landen Haake led the Swede ground attack with 170 yards on 19 carries.

Hilderbrand was 2-of-7 passing for 13 yards.

Haake said he hopes the boys will have a little more life when Gothenburg hosts Southern Valley this week.

The Eagles, who had an open week this week, are 0-1 after having lost to Cozad 20-8 in the opening game of the season.

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“We’re not worrying about them right now,” Haake said of Southern Valley. “We’re going to focus on what we need to work on.”

Kickoff is set for 7 p.m.