The amount of explosive plays could be counted on one hand, but that doesn’t mean Gothenburg’s win over Broken Bow wasn’t worth the drive or the price of admission.

The Swedes went on the road and knocked off Broken Bow in a pad cracking, defensive football game, 3-0

Head coach Craig Haake said he felt like the Swedes had the game under control more so than the Indians.

“They never really got close enough to make us feel threatened,” Haake said.

Gothenburg on the other hand had a couple chances to score early in the game, Haake said, but the efforts were to no avail.

“We had chances but didn’t take advantage of them,” Haake said.

One of those chances was a missed 43 yard field goal in the second quarter.

Luckily, the Swedes would get another chance later in the game.

One could say that the game was so close because teams practically mirrored one another.

Gothenburg ran for 165 yards, only 17 more than Broken Bow. The passing edge went to the Indians who threw for six more yards than the Swedes’ 16.

Each team caused and recovered a fumble, and intercepted one of the combine 16 passes thrown.

Haake said it was a great spectator's game.

"That showed the way high school football is supposed to be played," Haake said. "It was old-school competition."

So what was the difference between these two teams if the stats are practically identical?

Trenton Long's leg and the entire defense.

When Broken Bow did move the ball on offense they had to start deep in their territory, Haake said.

Long had a couple punts go 40+ yards.

When Bow did have the football, their quarterback drew all the attention.

He is a good option quarterback that has the ability to throw some too, Haake said, but Gothenburg hit him every opportunity they had.

"It was a total team effort, we played very well defensively and our special teams were just that—special," Haake said.

The biggest play of the night came on second-and-long for the Indians in the fourth quarter.

A pass thrown down to Gothenburg's 20 yard line was intercepted by Dawson Graham and returned to midfield with just over eight minutes left in the game.

Gothenburg used the next two minutes to march to Broken Bow's 20.

With just over six minutes on the clock, a loss of 11 gave Long the opportunity to make up for an earlier miss.

"It was a 38 yard attempt and he knocked it right through," Haake said.

The scoreless tie was broken, and Gothenburg led 3-0.

Broken Bow had a drive going at the end of the game, but a fumble, forced by Long and recovered by the Swedes, secured the victory.

Winning that game gives this team a good frame of mind, Haake said. It is much easier to improve on things after a win.

Gothenburg has a bye week before playing Minden, at home on Sept. 27.

"We will continue to work on things on both sides of the ball," Haake said. "Win or lose we get back to work."

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