

## Swedes storm past Whippets, 35-0

Written by Austin Benson

Thursday, 03 October 2013 14:16 -

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Gothenburg ran to a 35-0 victory over the Minden Whippets in another rain soaked and delayed game Friday night.

The Swedes added more firepower into the offensive backfield moving Blake Ristine from quarterback to running back.

With 10 carries for 148 yards and two touchdowns, it's safe to say the transition was smooth for Ristine.

With 1:38 left in the first quarter, Ristine slipped away from Minden defenders and sped up the Swede sideline for a 66-yard touchdown

The PAT attempt was good by Trenton Long putting the Swedes up 7-0.

"I thought we needed to get more pop in our backfield," Haake said. "He is fast and runs hard, and we need that out in space."

However, Minden's offense powered by running back Quin Rutt ran into something more troublesome than Mother Nature...Gothenburg's defense.

Rutt had two games prior to the Friday night matchup with over 200 yards rushing.

Gothenburg held him to 33 yards on 14 carries.

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“We played sound, gap-control defense with a lot of people running to the ball,” head coach Craig Haake said. “I am very pleased with our defensive performance.”

Gothenburg led at halftime 7-0.

The Whippets received the ball to start the third quarter, but Gothenburg’s stout defense forced a three-and-out.

After a punt and the ball downed on the 50-yard line, a steady dose of Zach Wolf and lineman push tore up yards on the ground.



Wolf ran for 34 yards on four carries on the drive and crossed the goal line extending the Swede lead to 13-0.

A penalty on Gothenburg would lengthen the PAT attempt that Long pulled just left.

Minden completed two passes on the ensuing drive, but were held up on a third-and-four forcing another punt.

Ristine was free again.

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On the second play of the second series, Ristine outran Minden tackling angles 60 yards to the house, extending the Swede lead to 19-0.

“Our offensive line made an adjustment at halftime that showed in the second half,” Haake said. “They quit missing blocks and put guys on their backs.”

A mishandled snap on the PAT attempt allowed Ross Ostendorf to find Roy Slack for the two-point conversion.

Swedes were up 21-0.

Just as Minden started to gain some offensive confidence, lightning struck delaying the game with 1:13 left in the third quarter.

Haake said the coaching staff and players handled this break better than in the opening week.

“We told the kids to take their pads off and get out of the locker room,” Haake said. “They got some fruit from down town during the break that they ate before going out again.”

When the teams returned to play, Minden punted after not converting on a third down pass.

Wolf was again the featured back taking the ball 49 yards down the field, including a 41-yard run where he was caught just short of the goal line.

On the next play from scrimmage he walked into the endzone extending the lead to 27-0.

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Long made good on the kick bringing the score to 28-0.

After four straight runs by Minden and a punt, Gothenburg's offense was back on the field.

A 47-yard run by Ostendorf into Minden's redzone was turned into a touchdown when Carson Messersmith took two handoffs over five yards each to cross the goal line.

This time Dominic Long kicked the ball through the uprights with 2:10 left in the game.

Swedes were up 35-0.

Gothenburg finished the game with 394 yards rushing on 49 carries.

Minden was held to 85 total yards.

Gothenburg travels to Cozad next week to face a fast, athletic, undefeated Haymaker team.

"I think both teams are excited to play each other, I know our guys are," Haake said. "We're going there to give them a game, and I'm sure we will."

[abenson@gothenburgtimes.com](mailto:abenson@gothenburgtimes.com)

308-537-3636