

Swedes scratch Panthers from post-season

Written by Austin Benson

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The No. 2-seed Swedes flexed their offensive muscle against No. 3-seed Hershey Monday night at the C1-11 subdistrict semifinals sweeping the Panthers 25-13, 25-8, 25-19.

Heading into the match Gothenburg head coach Mary Clark said the Panthers would be a challenge.

“Hershey has a really good coach and she will have them ready to play against us,” Clark said.

Unfortunately for Hershey, Gothenburg was on top of its game.

The Swedes jumped out to a 7-1 lead that turned into a 21-11 margin before the set ended in favor of Gothenburg.

Much like the first set, Gothenburg controlled the second set collecting the majority of their 16 total aces in the 25-8 set win.

“The girls have worked very hard on serving aggressively and positioning the ball,” Clark said.

When the Swedes were forced to volley the ball, they used strong attacks from Regan Geiken and Tiani Reeves to dwindle down the Panthers hopes of gaining momentum.

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Geiken led the team with 12 kills on 27 swings while Reeves followed with 11 kills on 20 hit attempts.

With the convincing win in the first round of the subdistrict tournament, the No. 6-ranked Swedes advanced to the championship match Tuesday and faced the No. 2-ranked Ogallala Indians for a shot to play in the district final. Ogallala has won two matches between the two while the Swedes beat the Indians once.

“We have to take care of our side of the net,” Clark said. “We have to continue to play well. We have blocked them in past matches and have to do it again.”

abenson@gothenburgtimes.com

308-537-3636

