

Girls find open teammates and success against Ogallala, 45-38

Written by Austin Benson

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In its 20th game of the season the Gothenburg girls basketball team may have played its best game to date.

The Swedes had 12 assists on 19 field goals and shot 45% from the field in a 45-38 victory over the Ogallala Indians.

“We took advantage of what their defense gave us and didn’t force anything,” head coach Chris Lecher said. “The girls recognized who was open and made good passes.”

In the first quarter Gothenburg ran out to a 14-8 lead by driving into the lane and hitting open jumpshots.

The Swedes’ offensive success continued with 17 more points in the second frame while they limited Ogallala to only nine.

Taylor Mroczek had the hot hand early for Gothenburg scoring all eight of her points in the first half, pacing Gothenburg’s 31-18 lead at intermission.

“Taylor was making her shots and as a team I think we shot 58% from the floor,” Lecher said.

At halftime he said he told the girls to continue playing well and smart.

“I wanted them to keep being aggressive,” Lecher said.

Gothenburg didn’t shoot as well in the third period as the Swedes were outscored 11-8 but still maintained a comfortable lead.

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“We were getting the good looks we did in the first half but we didn’t make as many shots,” Lecher said.

Ahead by 11 to start the final stanza, the Swedes extended their lead to 14 points before the Indians got a couple cheap baskets towards the end of the game.

However, the game was never in question, Lecher said, as the Swedes won by seven points.

“It was nice to see us play a good game,” he said. “The biggest thing was we had more assists than turnovers. If you can do that, you’ll win a lot of games.”

Regan Geiken and Mady Vogel led the Swedes to victory. Geiken scored 12 points while Vogel pitched in 11.

The Indians Jenna Paloucek led Ogallala with 11 points.

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