



At the Game

Five wrestlers qualify for state finals

St. Francis has five wrestlers headed to the 3-2-1A State Wrestling tournament in Hays on Thursday with action continuing on into Friday.

Lane Hoffman, 106 pounds, placed third; Casey Keller, 113 pounds, placed fourth; Mikey Leibbrandt; 138 pounds, placed fourth; Dylan Wolaver, 152 pounds, placed fourth; and Zach Gienger, 182 pounds, placed fourth. They earned the right to travel to state by placing in the top four in their weight class at Lakin last weekend.

This year, the state tournament, while still held at Hays, will start on Thursday instead of Friday because of a conflict of activities at the coliseum. Each year St. Francis has many fans make the trip to Hays to support the Indians and this year they will again have the opportunity to cheer on wrestlers who are working to come home as state champions.

Note that Smoky Hills television is scheduled to provide live coverage of the Kansas State High School Activities Association's 3-2-1A Wrestling State Championships on Thursday and Friday.

Thursday

Session I: First round, 10 a.m. Second round, championship quarterfinals, 2 p.m.

Session II: First-round consolation, 4 p.m. Championship semifinals, Immediately following the conclusion of the first round consolation but not earlier than 4:30 p.m.

Friday

Session III: Consolation cross bracketing, 9 a.m.; Consolation quarterfinals, 10:45 a.m.; Consolation semifinals, 12:15 p.m. Fifth place, 2 p.m. Consolation finals, 3 p.m.

Session IV: Parade of Champions, 40 minutes after consolation finals; Championship finals, 45 minutes after consolation finals.



SOPHOMORE MIKE LEIBBRANDT works to pin his opponent in last weekend's regional wrestling tournament. Leibbrandt earned fourth place at the tournament and will go to state wrestling in Hays on Thursday. Herald photo by Kristi Guthmiller

Wrestling team takes fifth at sub-state

By Nathan Fiala
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Five Indian wrestlers are headed to Hays for the State Wrestling tournament on Thursday.

The team wrestled in Lakin at the 321A Regional Wrestling tournament last weekend, Feb. 17 and 18. Sainty earned eighth place with 81 points and wrestlers Lane Hoffman, Casey Keller, Mikey Liebbrandt, Dylan Wolaver and Zach Gienger qualified for State.

"It was an exciting weekend," Coach Nathan Smith said. "I think the young men represented St. Francis and themselves very well this weekend. We had six wrestlers make it to the qualifier round and five won. Some of the young men defeated kids they lost to earlier in the season, which is a credit to them for continuing to compete regardless of past results."

Decatur Community earned first place at the tournament with 134 points, Goodland came in second

with 133, Scott Community got third with 130.5 points, Hoxie was fourth with 121 points, Norton Community was fifth with 114.5, Oakley got sixth place with 105.5 and Phillipsburg came in seventh place with 84 points.

Hoffman (106 pounds) earned third place, winning a 4-0 decision over Junemann (Oberlin), lost a 3-2 decision to Addington (Norton), was pinned by Fairleigh (Scott City) then won a 7-0 decision over Junemann (Oberlin). Keller (113) got fourth, winning a 3-2 decision over Davis (Sublette), losing by a 16-1 technical fall to Amos (Holcomb), pinning Lacy (Cimarron) and losing a 13-0 decision to Jurgens (Scott City). Leibbrandt (138) got fourth, pinning Hutchins (Scott City), pinning Hefner (Oakley), lost a 3-5 decision to Dusin (Phillipsburg), won a 6-4 overtime decision over Munoz (Holcomb) but lost a 3-4 decision to Hefner (Oakley). Wolaver

(152) got fourth, winning a 4-1 decision over Glading (Oberlin) losing a 10-0 decision to Wiesner (Plainville), pinning Kinter (Phillipsburg), winning a 9-2 decision over Boyd (Oakley) and winning over Lopez (Ellis) due to default injury. Gienger (182) got fourth, losing a 6-4 overtime decision to Heimann (Hays TMP), pinning Schmidt (Meade), winning a 12-0 decision over Cooper (Cimarron), winning a 5-0 decision over Mason (Leoti) but was pinned by Salmons (Hoxie).

Matt White, Austin White, Erik Nelson, Derek Queen, Thomas Douthit, Paul Nelson and Shakotah Blanka also competed in Lakin.

M.White (120) was pinned by Avelar (Goodland) and Mizer (Atwood). A. White (132) lost a 4-3 decision to Gehring (Plainville), defeated Helberg (Hill City) in an 8-3 decision, then lost to Ellis (Norton) in a 2-0 decision. E. Nelson

(145) was pinned by Younger (Ellis) and Werth (Hays TMP). Queen (160) was pinned by Yergey-Dible (Hoxie) and Seltman (Hill City). Douthit (170) pinned Beckman (Hill City), lost a 6-1 decision to Thyfault (Plainville), pinned Jacobs (Phillipsburg) and lost a 4-2 decision to Cowan (Goodland). P. Nelson (220) was pinned by Washington (Hoxie), then pinned Wahrman (Plainville), pinned Gassmann (Oakley), then was pinned by McEachern (Scott City). Blanka (285) was pinned by Crick (Montezuma- South Gray), pinned Schippers (Hoxie), then was pinned by Maddox (Cimarron).

"I'm so proud of each and every young man on this team for everything thing they have put into making this year what it is," Coach Smith said.

State Wrestling starts on Thursday in Gross Memorial Coliseum at Fort Hays State University.

Basketball teams to go to sub-state

Sub-state basketball action starts on Monday, Feb. 27. St. Francis will participate in the Quinter sub-state for the Class 1A, division 1 tournament, along with Hoxie, Osborne, Quinter, Stockton and Thunder Ridge. Cheylin will compete in the Colby Class 1A, division 2 tournament along with Colby, Triplains-Brewster, Golden Plains, Sharon Springs, Tribune and Weskan.

When the newspapers went to print, brackets nor times were available.



Lady Indians win one, lose one at home

By Nathan Fiala
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The Lady Indians played the Lady Cougars Tuesday night, Feb. 14, in St. Francis. The first quarter was close, ending with Sainty leading by one point. They increased their lead in the second quarter and the rest of the game, winning by a final score of 48-28.

"I was extremely pleased with our focus tonight," Coach Susan Dinkel said. "We were aggressive and yet were smart enough to not foul. We didn't shoot the ball very well, missing many shots in the paint. But, on the other hand, we got several rebounds and were able to convert eventually."

Stats for the Lady Indians were Clarice Neitzel with 16 points and two rebounds, Kyla Bandel with 10 points and four rebounds, Kaitlin Figgins with nine points and 15 rebounds, Aly Schlepp with four points and 11 rebounds, Jenna Hill with three points and four rebounds, Justice Wiley with three points and seven rebounds, Laura Brunk with two points and two rebounds, Mariah Beikman with one point and two rebounds, and Aubrey Mills with one rebound.

"This is by far the best rebounding game we have had, even though I felt as though we didn't do as good a job defensively blocking out as we were doing," Coach Dinkel said. "It turned out okay though, obviously. I was pleased with the overall team play tonight and look forward to the next couple of games. It's hard to believe the end is near."

The basketball teams will host Quinter on Friday, Feb. 24 with sub-state action starting on the following Monday.

vs. Greeley County

The Lady Indians played the Greeley County Jackrabbits on their home court last Friday night. Sainty found themselves on the wrong side of a 20 point lead early on in the game that they never overcame, the final score 72-50 for Greeley County.

"We played a pretty good team," Coach Susan Dinkel said. "We unfortunately were out of sync with one another, turned the ball over way too many times and forgot how to run the court to get back on defense. Periodically, we just go through these phases. Hopefully, we will return in time for our final game this Friday with Quinter and definitely before our game next Tuesday evening."

Stats for the Lady Indians were Aly Schlepp with 15 points and seven rebounds, Clarice Neitzel with 11 points and one rebound, Laura Brunk with 10 points and three rebounds, Kaitlin Figgins with eight points and seven rebounds, Justice Wiley with four points and two rebounds, Kyla Bandel scored two points and Jenna Hill got two rebounds.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed watching our girls progress this season," Coach Dinkel said. "Even though we lost by quite a bit to Tribune, we certainly never quit. And, that, in itself, couldn't make me happier."



CLARICE NEITZEL looks to score under the basket in last Friday's game against the Greeley County Jackrabbits. Herald staff photo by Nathan Fiala

Boys' lose close game at home

By Nathan Fiala
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The Indians hosted the Cheylin Cougars on Tuesday, Feb. 14 for a non-league basketball game. Cheylin led by two at the end of the first quarter, then Sainty came back to head into the locker room with the score 29-25. Cheylin outscored Sainty in the second half to win the game 57-52.

"The loss to Cheylin is a tough one for us to swallow because I can't really point to anything in particular that we did poorly," Coach Jeff Beims said. "It was just a well played game between two good teams and somebody had to lose. I would say that our late game execution failed us, as we had a couple of key turnovers down the stretch, and we went cold from the field in the fourth quarter especially. We had decent looks at the basket and we have to do a better job of knocking those shots down, especially late in a tight ball game."

Stats for the Indians were Isaac Schlitz with 17 points and four rebounds, Mason Schlitz with 13 points and five rebounds, Cade Bracelin with nine points and five rebounds, Jonathan Butler with seven points and three rebounds, Dylan Peter with four points and nine rebounds, and Matt Tygart with two points and two rebounds.