

Wrestlers place sixth in invitational tourney

By Scott E. Knebel
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The annual Gabel-Jenkins Invitational Wrestling Tournament was held Saturday in St. Francis. St. Francis placed sixth with one champion and two second placers and one third placer.

This was a good start to the year, said Dylan Loyd, coach. It was a long, tough tournament with 11 teams participating. A majority of the St. Francis faculty and students helped wherever needed, and much of the success of the well-run tournament goes to them.

Colby and Goodland both have strong teams with solid depth again this year. Colby finished the tournament on top with a total of 207.5 points, Goodland second with 166 and Wray third with 100.5. Sterling, Colo., had 98 points; Norton, 97.5; St. Francis, 78; Atwood, 70; Holyoke, 68; Pine Creek, 67; Leoti, 44, Greeley County, 21 and Team X, 0.

MIKEY LEIBBRANDT brought home the gold and was selected by the coaching staff as wrestler of the week. Mikey took first and won the 160-pound championship. He wrestled tough and smart and will only continue to get better, Coach Loyd said.

Shakotha Blanka came in second and, the coach said, has improved over last year.

Clay Cassaw also second, wrestled tough in his first varsity tournament, the coach said. He wrestled against a two-time defending state champion, but he battled him tough and didn't back down. He, too, will continue to get better each week.

Casey Keller finished third having a rough first match but, Coach Loyd said, he stormed through and was able to win over the third and fourth kid that he met earlier in the tournament.

"We were missing some quality, varsity wrestlers due to injury, so the outcome was unknown, but St. Francis battled tough," Coach Loyd said. "Granted we have things that we definitely need to work on but we'll get there. Last week is in the past now we are going to take it one week at a time and focus on getting better each day."

Other St. Francis wrestlers adding to the accumulated points were Austin White and Logan Lampe.

Coaches awards

Each week, the coaches give out awards. This week's awards are: Most exciting match: Leibbrandt over Dashner and

Hobrock over Sandoval; Coaches award: Casey Keller; Practice wrestler: Blaine Guggenmou; Best freshman performance: Clay Cassaw and Justin Pacheco; Best junior varsity performance: Justin Pacheco; Best sophomore performance: Shakotha Blanka; Key match award: Casey Keller; Most outstanding performance: Mikey Leibbrandt.

Championship round

106-Gastineau, Goodland, defeated Mcfee, Rawlins County; 113-Avelar, Goodland, defeated Addington, Norton; 120-Migchelbrink, Rawlins County defeated O'Leary, Colby; 126-Reed, Colby, defeated Cassaw, St Francis; 132-Tarin, Wray, defeated Krier, Sterling; 138-Shull, Colby, defeated Contreras, Sterling; 145-Lively, Norton, defeated Valko, Wray; 152-Peden, Goodland, defeated Miller, Norton; 160-Leibbrandt, St. Francis, defeated Dashner, Pine Creek; 170-Woofter, Colby, defeated Bonsall, Goodland; 182-Brown, Colby, defeated Groves, Wray; 195-Hermosillo, Holyoke, defeated Gastineau, Goodland; 220-Kotch, Holyoke, defeated Mason, Wichita County; 285-Bieberie, Colby, defeated Blanka, St. Francis.



MIKEY LEIBBRANDT, had his opponent in a takedown hold at the wrestling tournament in St. Francis on Saturday.
Herald photo by Kristi Guthmiller

Junior high Indians play tough Dighton Hornets

By Scott E. Knebel
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Vs Dighton
22-36 and 30-34

The first loss of the season came to the A-team on Friday, Nov. 30, to a very good Dighton Hornet team. Both teams were equally matched, which hasn't been the case often this season said coach David Morrow.

The boy's were unable to have easy looks at the basket and the lay-up opportunities they had were still under pressure. Dighton had one player who was both tall and skilled who created a lot of grief for our boys. In the first quarter, Dighton was able to break our pressure and effectively attack our defense. "We got some opportunities from our offense, but were unable to capitalize on them."

In the second quarter, the boys out-scored the Hornets by one and found their way to the free throw

line several times. In this quarter, and through the rest of the game, the guys did a good job of creating opportunities at times by attacking the basket.

Dighton's big guy, who played both on the perimeter and in the lane, made it tough to connect very often. "We didn't get many uncontested shot opportunities when we were trying to get back in the game", said boy's coach David Morrow. The boys will be a better team in long run by playing opponents as tough as Dighton. Outside of the Sharon Springs game, have not been pushed very hard this year, and it's difficult to be mentally ready for such a tough game under those circumstances.

The loss to Dighton was disappointing, but the focus now changes to improving to beat the Hornets in the tournament if we face them again. Individual play scoring: Tate Busse, 2; Quinton Cravens, 2; Taylor Rogers, 13; Joel Hill, 3; J.R. Landenberger, 2. Scoring by quarters:

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Sainty	3	11	16	22
Dighton	9	16	26	36

This was a tough loss for the B-team for a couple of reasons.

Not only was this the first defeat, but St. Francis led the contest all the way until the last minute or two.

Dighton had a very good team that pressured the boys from the beginning of the game. Getting the ball down the court wasn't an issue, but it was always at the threat of having it stolen. Once the ball past half court, the boys executed half-court offense well. Dalton Straub made some tough shots and half of his points came from contested situations. Trayton Doyle secured the ball against the press and scored several baskets from the lane off of rebounds.

"This game will make us a better team," Coach Morrow said. When you play teams of this caliber, they help to reveal things that we either don't do well or need to learn. We were four of 14 from the free throw line, adding to the disappointing loss. The boys still fought hard all through the game" Individual player scoring: Dalton Straub, 16; Trayton Doyle, 13; Luke Lampe, 1.

Scoring by quarters:

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Sainty	6	12	23	30
Dighton	2	9	18	34

Ladies play at Oberlin

By Scott E. Knebel
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The ladies played very hard Friday, Nov. 30, but lost to a better-shooting Oberlin team. During the first half the girls forced turnovers and applied pressure to the Red Devils.

"This would have allowed us to take the lead at halftime had we been able to score reliably when we had the ball, and had we not turned over the ball so often" said girls' coach David Morrow. "Not only did we miss lay-up opportunities, but we also found it difficult to shoot the ball effectively throughout the game"

In the second half, the girls tried to slow things down and execute half-court offense and defense. The girls will be very competitive this year if they can find ways to score more effectively, primarily through better shooting from the field. As far as athleticism, these girls will be second to few, though we are a fairly short team, said Coach Morrow. "Our young Indian players have been working very hard in practice and will continue to improve, once the girls to get their bearings and play a sharper style of ball" said Mr. Morrow.

McKenzie Taylor led the team in scoring and in free throw attempts. The scoring by quarters:

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Sainty	9	11	20	26
Oberlin	17	24	31	40

Individual player scoring: McKenzie Taylor, 7; Aby Fernandez, 3; Emily Elfers, 4; Journey Lee, 2; Kylie Sherlock, 4; Mariah Beikman, 2; Syndey Sundstrum, 4.



"The temperature in my house was never comfortable. My friends with bigger homes would have smaller utility bills. I knew I needed help."

- Robin said

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Varsity basketball team drops game to Oberlin

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A loss to Oberlin on Friday, Nov. 30, wasn't exactly the way that St. Francis boy's head coach Jeff Beims hoped to start the season. The first game of the season allowed coaches to see where the team is and what needs improvement, he said.

"Statistics really tell the story, I think," said Coach Beims. "We only shot six free throws all night. Ninety percent of all fouls occur in the lane, which happens to be the same place where most points are scored."

The entire team shot two for six from the free-throw line and

the coaches encouraged the boys to be more aggressive in the lane.

Another obvious statistic that tells a story are turnovers. He said "The boy's had 25. I look at turnovers as points lost, so 25 turnovers is potentially 50 points."

St. Francis did not have the opportunity to score, while Oberlin capitalized off of turnovers.

"The effect of the turnovers, took its toll, if we scored on 10 of those 25 lost opportunities, the game would have had a different outcome." Coach Beims said.

Mason Schiltz led the



Indians with 13 points. Wyatt Landenberger scored 11. The Indians shot 35 percent from two-point range and 33 percent from three-point range in the contest. The Indians gathered 11 offensive rebounds and 17 defensive rebounds. Mason Schiltz led the Indians with 11 rebounds.

Herald And Times Happenings:

Christmas seen through the eyes of a child is priceless

This year, as in the year's past, the Special Christmas section will be published before the holidays. The section will feature letters from Santa, answers of questions asked of school children, memories and recipes.

The Saint Francis Herald and Bird City Times staffs welcome participation from children to adults. All items must be received by Dec. 5 in order to get them into the special section.

Send letters, special memories, articles and recipes to The Herald at P.O. Box 1050, St. Francis, KS 67756 or fax 785-332-3001, or drop them off or e-mail to sfherald@nwkansas.com titling the subject as "Christmas for the Paper."



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