

At the Game

Triplains-Brewster girls defeat Lady Indians

By Kent Kechter

kkechter@usd297.k12.ks.us

The St. Francis Lady Indians lost both contests played against Triplains-Brewster on Saturday evening, Feb. 2, in St. Francis. The Lady Indians lost the varsity contest 51-67. The junior varsity lost 17-27.

St. Francis got off to a good start in the varsity contest. Good ball movement and offensive patience resulted in several sharp possessions for the Lady Indians. Clarice Neitzel scored the first Lady Indian basket as a result of crisp ball movement.

A good pass from Laura Brunk, which set up a basket by Kyla Bandel, moved the score to 4-5. A long trey by Bandel (assist Neitzel) put the Lady Indians ahead 7-5. At 3:15, a trey by Justice Wiley moved the score to 10-5.

Wiley followed with a deuce, and Bandel nailed another three-ball to give the Lady Indians a 15-7 advantage with 1:13 left in the period. Another trey by Bandel, her third of the period, moved the Lady Indians to a double digit lead, 18-7, with 49 seconds left in the first period. St. Francis led 18-12 after one period of play.

The next two quarters would not be so kind to the Lady Indians. Triplains-Brewster scored the first three baskets of the second quarter, tying the game (18-18), at 6:03, with an uncontested basket on an out-of-bounds play. At 5:34, the Lady Titans took the lead and would not relinquish it again.

The Lady Titans scored 12 unanswered points before the Lady Indians would respond with a basket of their own at 4:01. Kyla Bandel nailed a trey at 3:07 to get the Lady Indians within one point (23-24), but Triplains-Brewster would go on another run and earn a 23-33 lead with a trey at 0:33.

Aubrey Mills tossed in a very long trey at the buzzer to make the halftime score 26-33. The Lady Indians were outscored

21-8 in the period.

Triplains-Brewster and St. Francis battled evenly for the first few minutes of the second half, but with just over four minutes left in the third quarter, the margin had increased to 28-41. With two minutes to go, the Lady Indians had worked their way into a large deficit trailing 30-47. Triplains outscored the Lady Indians 8-20 in the third period. The quarter ended with Triplains-Brewster in full control, leading 34-53.

The margin grew to 34-57 before Laura Brunk scored with 6:03 left in the contest. Justice Wiley made a basket, and Mariah Beikman and Laura Brunk each added two free throws to help cut the margin to 45-61 with 3:36 to go, but the Lady Indians could get no closer. The Lady Indians lost to the Lady Titans, 51-67.

Triplains-Brewster junior Brittany Plummer led all scorers with 25 points in the contest. Sophomores Shayna Rogge and Dara Roulier added 22 and 10 points respectively. Rogge scored 10 points in the 2nd period alone. The Lady Titans were 11 of 25 from the free throw line.

Justice Wiley and Kyla Bandel each scored 15 points for the Lady Indians. Laura Brunk added 9, and Clarice Neitzel chipped in 8, to help the Lady Indian cause. Eleven of Bandel's points came in the first quarter. Brunk scored all nine of her points in the final period. The Lady Indians were 11 of 17 from the charity stripe. St. Francis' record fell to 2-12 with the loss. Triplains-Brewster moved to 8-6.

Junior varsity

In junior varsity action, St. Francis fell behind early and never recovered in the three quarter contest. Triplains-Brewster led by eight points (0-8) two minutes and eight seconds into the game. The Lady Indians finally got on the scoreboard when Sydney Sundstrom scored a basket with 25 seconds left in the initial period.

The Lady Indians trailed 2-12 after one quarter of play.

The Lady Indians outscored the Lady Titans 4-3 in the second period, but trailed 6-15 going into the final stanza. At 6:33 in the final period, Journey Lee scored to move the deficit into single digits (8-17). Journey followed with another basket, and the Lady Indians had the spread down to seven points with 5:56 remaining. After a few St. Francis errors, the lead grew to 10-23 with 4:45 left. St. Francis lost the junior varsity contest 17-27.

The Lady Indians will travel to Quinter on Friday, Feb. 8, for Northwest Kansas League action.

Hoxie girls just too good

They are good.....no, they are VERY good! The No. 2 ranked Hoxie Lady Indians used smothering defense and quick offensive conversions to rout the visiting St. Francis Lady Indians on Friday evening, Feb. 1. The defending state champions were in full command from the start, leading 0-10 just over two minutes into the contest.

After a Hoxie trey at the 5:20 mark of the first quarter, the Lady Indians trailed 0-13 and soon found themselves down by a large margin. With approximately two minutes left in the first period, and leading 0-26, Hoxie took off the stifling full-court pressure. The Lady Indians trailed 0-33 after one quarter of play.

Hoxie led 0-37 before Clarice Neitzel removed the "goose egg" from the St. Francis side of the scoreboard when she scored at the 6:40 mark of the second period. Aubrey Mills drained a trey on the next Lady Indian possession, off an assist by Valerie Wurm.

At 4:58, Laura Brunk scored an offensive rebound basket to move the score to 7-45. At 4:03, Brunk scored again, on a long deuce, to make the score 9-49. After baskets by Aby Fernandez and Kyla Bandel (assist Clarice Neitzel), the Lady Indians trailed 13-52. The first



Several Lady Indians scramble for the ball during the Tri-Plains Brewster game. Pictured are Mariah Beikman (40), Aubrey Mills (21) and Kyla Bandel (22). Herald photo by Kent Kechter

half closed with the Lady Indians hustling well, but trailing 15-59.

The Lady Indians got scores from Justice Wiley and Aubrey Mills in the early going of the third period, but trailed 18-78 at the 2:11 mark. Kyla Bandel nailed a three-ball with 1:30 left in the third period. The Lady Indians trailed 21-84 after three periods.

The final period was played with a running clock due to the 30-point rule. Kyla drained another trey, and Clarice Neitzel scored on an assist from Bandel, to get St. Francis within 60 (26-86) early in the fourth period. The Lady Indians got baskets from Laura Brunk and Kyla Bandel (a trey) in the final minutes to make the final score 33-93.

The Hoxie Lady Indians (12-0) again showed their dominance in Western Kansas, winning by a large margin. This season, no team has played Hoxie closer than 26 points (Ellis lost to Hoxie 67-41 on Dec. 8). Since then, no team has been closer than 41 points.

Kyla Bandel scored 13 points to pace the St. Francis girls. Laura Brunk added 7, and Clarice Neitzel 6. The Lady Indians were 4-9 from the free-throw line.

Kristina Farber (5' 10" junior) led the Hoxie team with 22 points. Danel Stithem (5' 8" senior) added 14, as did Carly Heim (5' 7" sophomore). Lexi Shamberger (5' 8" sophomore) chipped in 10, and Sarah Farber (5' 7" senior) added 9.

The Hoxie girls connected on 9 of 20 from the charity stripe.

Junior varsity

The junior varsity game was much the same. The Lady Indians had trouble running any offense against the defensive pressure applied by Hoxie and fell behind 1-23 after one quarter of play. The Lady Indians trailed 1-39 at halftime.

Journey Lee scored two baskets in the third period to advance the score to 5-48. Aby Fernandez and Kylie Sherlock added a free throw each to bring the score to 7-50 after three periods. The Lady Indians lost to Hoxie 7-65.

Next week, the team will be on the road to play Quinter on Friday, Feb. 8.

Sainty Indians pick up win against Triplains-Brewster

By Kent Kechter

kkechter@usd297.k12.ks.us

The St. Francis Indians picked up another victory on Saturday, Feb. 2, when they defeated Triplains-Brewster. The win over the visiting Titans moved the Indians' season record to 7-10. Triplains-Brewster fell to 6-8.

The Indians fell behind 2-7 just over two minutes into the contest. A trey by Mason Schiltz, at the four minute mark, tied the contest at 9-all.

Schiltz followed with another trey, at 2:35, to put the Indians ahead for good, 12-9. Steven Nelson followed with an offensive rebound basket on the next Indian possession, and the lead increased. The Indians were ahead 18-11 after one quarter of play.

A nice pass from Cade Bracelin to Dylan Peter resulted in another St. Francis basket to open the second period. At 6:40, Mason Schiltz tipped in an Indian miss to put St. Francis ahead 24-11. The Indians found a hot streak in the latter part of the second period, getting baskets from Schiltz and Bracelin, and treys from Bracelin and Wyatt Landenberger. After Steven Nelson scored on an offensive rebound, the Indians were up 36-18. The Indians led 40-18 at halftime.

The Indians went up by twenty (46-26) on a floating shot by Dylan Peter, with 2:24 left in the third period. Jacob Baxter scored on a nice post move a few moments later. At 1:10, a good pass from Dylan Peter led to a Mason Schiltz basket, and the Indians earned a 50-26 advantage. The third period ended with the Indians in full control, leading 52-28.

With substitute players getting most of the playing time in the late third and fourth quarters, the Indians earned their largest lead of the contest, 54-29, on a basket by Dillion Straub (assist Keegan Sherlock). Straub also scored on the next Indian possession when he received an assist from Caleb Frink. The Indians won the contest 60-44 against a scrappy Triplains-Brewster team.

Mason Schiltz led the Indians in scoring with 24 points. Mason also grabbed six rebounds, made

eight of 11 from the field, and connected on six of seven from the line. Dylan Peter added eight points and six rebounds. Keegan Sherlock also gathered in six rebounds. The Indians were 12 of 16 from the free-throw line and only committed 11 turnovers.

Triplains-Brewster was led by 6'0" senior Michael Schmidt, who scored 26 points. The Titans were six of 11 from the line.

Junior varsity

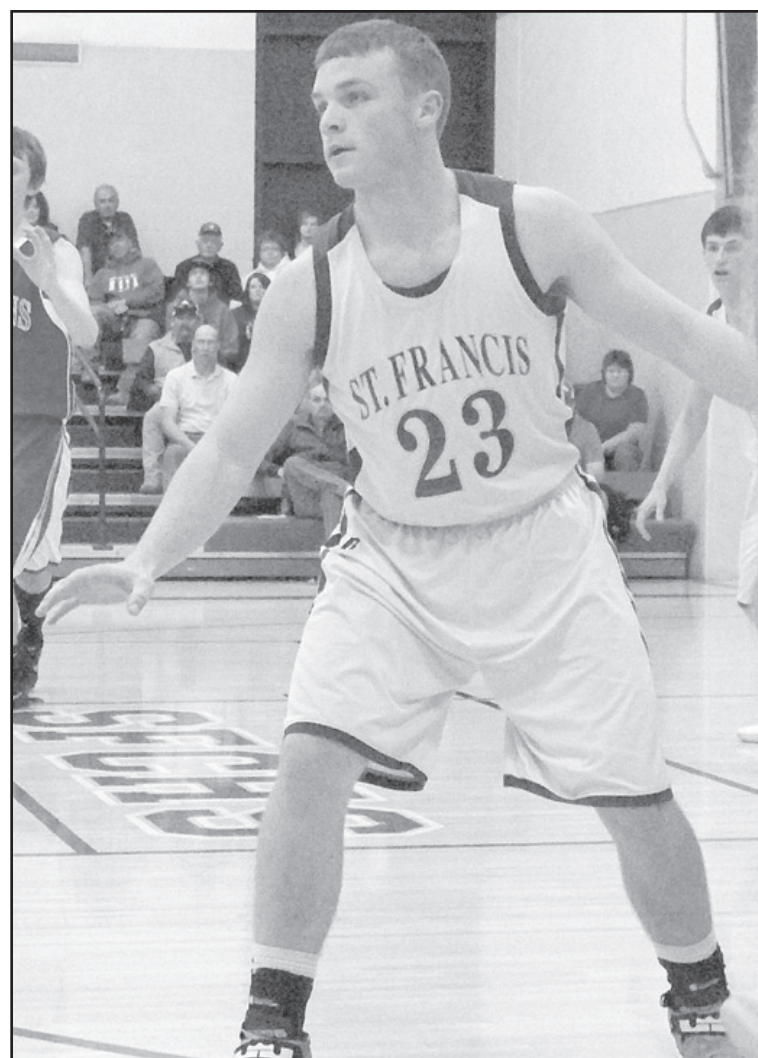
In junior varsity action the Indians defeated Brewster 65-58. The schools also played a C team contest consisting of two quarters. Triplains-Brewster defeated St. Francis 31-37, in overtime, in the C team game.

Indians bitten by Hornets

The St. Francis Indians had an "off night" against a good Dighton team on Friday, Jan. 25. The Indians seemed somewhat sluggish from the outset and were clobbered by a good Hornet team in Dighton. The Indians were aggressive early in the contest, and led 4-1 after Cade Bracelin scored on an assist from Kyler Zwegardt, and Wyatt Landenberger completed a nice driving layup in traffic. But then the turnovers began.

A tall, quick, aggressive Hornet team applied excellent pressure using a variety of defenses. The Hornets mixed in man-to-man, 1-3-1, and a smothering 2-2-1 press to give the Indians trouble. The Indians made several consecutive turnovers, and fell behind 4-10 about five minutes into the game. The Indians could only muster one more score in the first quarter, a basket by Dylan Peter (assist Wyatt Landenberger) resulting from the press offense. The Indians trailed 6-14 after one period.

The Indians got within four after a driving score by Cade Bracelin with 4:08 left in the second period. Then the Indians committed several consecutive turnovers, and the Hornets jumped to a 10-20 lead at the 3:21 mark. A post-move basket by Dylan Peter, off a Bracelin assist, got the Indians within seven points, 14-21, with 1:14 to play in the half, but that was as close as the Indians would get. The Indians trailed 13-



CADE BRACELIN, 23, takes a defensive stance during the Indian- Titan game. Herald photo by Kent Kechter

four. The Indians shot 12-34 (35 percent) from the field, committed 31 turnovers, and were out-rebounded 18-31 in the contest.

Kuhlman nearly out-scored the Indians by himself, netting 21 points for the Hornets. Aliner added 10 and Barnett 8. The Hornets were 25-48 from the field (52 percent).

Late turnovers lead to loss

In the battle of the Indians, St. Francis fell just short of defeating the home-standing Hoxie Indians on Friday night, Feb. 1. St. Francis lost to the state ranked (12-3) Hoxie team 50-56 in an exciting contest.

The Indians arrived "ready to play," earning defensive stops on the first two Hoxie possessions. Mason Schiltz went coast-to-coast for the first Indian basket. Dyan Peter followed with a trey, and the Indians were up early, 5-0.

Hoxie scored on their next two possessions, both resulting from St. Francis turnovers. The Indians fell behind 5-9 before Mason Schiltz stopped the Hoxie run with a basket for the Indians.

Cade Bracelin's driving two-pointer got the Indians within two, 9-11, with 2:39 left in the first period. After scores by Schiltz and Bracelin (assist Steven Nelson), the Indians tied the contest at 13-all at the 1:52 mark.

Hoxie answered with two free throws, but a Bracelin pass leading to a basket by Kyler Zwegardt tied the contest at 15-all when the first period closed.

St. Francis took an early lead in the second period when Schiltz scored a free throw after being fouled while crashing the offensive glass. A nice pass from Wyatt Landenberger resulted in a Cade Bracelin basket, and a Schiltz steal and drive coast-to-coast put the Indians ahead 20-25 at the 7:04 mark.

After a Hoxie time out, Hoxie scored on a well-executed play resulting in a shot behind a double screen. Hoxie moved within one point before Schiltz connected on a driving floater at 4:30. A trey by Schiltz, on a Joey McCormick assist, moved the scoreboard to 25-21 at the 2:35 mark. At 1:24, Hoxie retook the lead 25-26. Kade Spreser drained a trey at the buzzer to give Hoxie a 25-29 lead at halftime.

Two free throws by Dylan Peter, a deuce by Steven Nelson, and an offensive rebound basket by Kyler Zwegardt, tied the contest at 31-all with 4:15 left in the third period. Another Zwegardt basket put the Indians up 33-31.

A steal and basket by Schiltz gave the Indians a 35-31 lead at 2:54, but Hoxie answered with a trey from the corner. A nice post move basket by Dylan Peter was followed by a Hoxie bucket. With 25 seconds left in the third period, Cade Bracelin made two free throws to move the score to 39-36. The Indians led by one, 39-38, after three periods.

Hoxie opened the final period with a basket to regain the lead 40-39. Cade Bracelin scored consecutive baskets to put the Indians back in front.

A trey by Hoxie's Kade Spreser, tied the contest at 43, with 5:40 to play. Hoxie continued to turn up the defensive pressure, and the Indians committed three turnovers in the next three minutes.

Fortunately, the Indians were also working hard defensively, and the score remained tied (46-46) with 2:52 left. At 2:14, Dylan Peter was fouled on a drive to the basket and made two free throws to put the Indians ahead 48-46. St. Francis called time out.

After the time out, the Indians were called for a foul on an defensive rebound. Hoxie tied the game, making both throws, with 1:53 to go.

Then, Hoxie cranked up the defensive pressure one more notch.....and the Indians turned the ball over on three consecutive possessions. Hoxie capitalized on each possession to take a 48-54 lead with 51 seconds left.

Schiltz added two free throws, and the Indians fouled Hoxie with 28 ticks remaining. Hoxie missed the free throws, but the Indians also missed their next shot attempt. The Indians fouled again at 14 seconds. This time, Hoxie converted both throws (50-56). The Hoxie defensive pressure caused the Indians to use a time out to get the ball thrown inbounds.

After the time out, the Indians committed a turnover to seal the Hoxie win. The Indians had played hard, and well, but lost to a good Hoxie team, 50-56.

Both teams shot extremely well from the free throw line. St. Francis converted 12 of 14 free throws while Hoxie was 11 of 13. Kade Spreser (6'1" junior) led all scorers with 28 points. Chase Kennedy and Tyler Ewers added 10 and 8 respectively to the Hoxie point total. St. Francis received 18 from Mason Schiltz, 13 from Cade Bracelin, and 11 from Dylan Peter in the contest. The Indians shot 50 percent from the field, but committed 23 turnovers. Dylan Peter grabbed eight rebounds, and Steven Nelson had six.

On Friday, Feb. 8, the Indians will travel to Quinter to compete with the Bulldogs.