

At the Game

Girls lose last game of season to Bulldogs

The high school girls basketball season came to a close on Monday evening, Feb. 25, when the Lady Indians lost to Quinter in the opening round of the 1A-Division 1 Sub-State Basketball Tournament in WaKeeney. The Lady Indians lost to the Lady Bulldogs by a score of 26-63.

The Lady Indians were never really in the contest, and looked somewhat lethargic at times during the game. Quinter experienced an exceptionally hot shooting night, and the outcome was never in doubt.

Valerie Wurm gave the Lady Indians their only lead of the contest when she scored the first basket of the game. Quinter responded with treys from Brooke Flax and Marissa Reed.

At 5:28, the Lady Indians were down 2-8. After a St. Francis time out, the Lady Indians committed a turnover.

Quinter capitalized with an offensive rebound basket to lead 2-10. Wurm scored again to trim the lead, but St. Francis committed several more turnovers before the quarter ended and trailed at the first buzzer 4-16.

Justice Wiley scored on an aggressive drive on the opening play of the second period. On the next three St. Francis possessions, the Lady Indians committed turnovers, and Quinter converted each one into points to lead 6-23.

With 5:03 left in the second period, the Lady Indians trailed by 20 points. A basket by Laura Brunk and a trey by Justice Wiley moved the scoreboard to 11-32 at 3:26. Aubrey Mills scored on a offensive rebound that was sandwiched

between St. Francis turnovers. The Lady Indians trailed at halftime, 14-37.

The Lady Indians did not score until 1:25 left in the third period. The deficit grew to 14-51 before Kyla Bandel drained a trey.

The Lady Bulldogs had gone on a 17-0 run. Clarice Neitzel scored on a nice post move with 52 seconds left in the third period. The quarter closed with St. Francis trailing 19-51.

Early in the final period, St. Francis earned baskets by Neitzel and Bandel, each coming off assists by Justice Wiley. The fourth quarter was played with a running clock due to the 30-point rule. St. Francis was defeated by the Lady Bulldogs from Quinter, 26-63.

Seniors Brooke Flax and Marrisa Reed led the Quinter scoring attack with 24 and 18 points respectively. Quinter made twenty-three 2-point goals and five treys. The Lady Bulldogs were 2-3 from the line.

Clarice Neitzel scored 7 points for the Lady Indians. Justice Wiley added 6. St. Francis scored eight 2-point goals and 3 treys in the contest. The Lady Indians were only 1 of 10 from the free-throw line.

With the loss, the Lady Indians' season came to a close with a record of 2-18. Quinter (11-11) advances to play Rawlins County on Thursday, February 28th, in the semifinals of the Sub-State Tournament. In the other first round girls contest, Trego Community (3-16) defeated Logan (8-12) in overtime, 50-43. Trego will play Hoxie (20-0) on Thursday.

Sharon Springs ladies win on Sainty's home court

The St. Francis Lady Indians and the Wallace County Lady Wildcats competed in high school basketball on Tuesday, Feb. 19, in St. Francis. The ladies from Sharon Springs earned a 48-56 victory over the home-standing Lady Indians in a contest marred by numerous turnovers and fouls by both teams. The junior varsity contest was not close; the Lady Indians were spanked by the Lady Wildcats 7-29.

In the varsity contest, Wallace County opened the game with an offensive rebound basket (plus one) to take a 0-3 lead. The basket was a sign of things to come, as the Lady Indians gave up numerous second and third shots to the Lady Wildcats in the contest. Rebounding was a major factor in the outcome. At 4:41, Clarice Neitzel made a trey to get St. Francis on the scoreboard. The Lady Indians trailed 5-9 after one period of play.

In the second period, the Lady Indians fell further behind as Wallace County got several additional attempts by out-rebounding the Lady Indians. The deficit stood at seven (9-16) with 3:40 left in the first half. A Neitzel basket moved St. Francis within six (14-20) with 1:30 to go. The margin increased to 14-27 before Kyla Bandel nailed a

three-ball with 14 seconds left in the half. The Lady Indians trailed 17-29 at halftime.

Clarice Neitzel left the game due to injury with 6:30 left in the third period, but by that time St. Francis trailed 17-33. A trey by Kyla Bandel trimmed the lead to 22-33 at 5:55, but a couple baskets by Sharon Springs' Rachael Kuhlman moved the score to 23-38 at the 4:13 mark. A nice steal and pass by Bandel led to a basket by Valerie Wurm at 2:59. Bandel closed the third period with two free throws. The Lady Indians trailed 29-46 after three periods of play.

The Wallace County lead extended to 29-51 early in the final quarter. Kyla Bandel scored 10 points in the final period. The Lady Indians connected on 12 of 14 free throws in the period to trim the game margin. St. Francis lost to the Lady Wildcats 48-56. Wallace County received 30 points from sophomore Rachael Kuhlman. Kuhlman made ten 2-point field goals in the game, one more than the Lady Indian team. Tatum Elder added 9 points to Sharon Springs total. The Lady Wildcats were 5 of 11 from the free throw line.

Kyla Bandel scored 24 points for St. Francis; Clarice Neitzel chipped in 9.

"We had a tough time



generating much offense against the Wildcats," Coach Morrow said. "Their zone defense was difficult to penetrate, and we had a poor night of shooting. When we got the ball into the post area, the tall Wildcat players made it difficult for us to get many clean looks at the basket."

The junior varsity game was a blowout. Wallace County led after one quarter of play 2-21. The Lady Indians lost to the Lady Wildcats 7-29 in a two-quarter contest.

Coach Morrow added, "Sydney Sundstrum was able to connect on a field goal attempt and made two of her four free throws. Kayla Reed was 2 of 2 from the free throw line."



PLAYING DEFENSE — Valerie Wurm and Laura Brunk try to keep the Quinter team from getting to the basket.

Herald photo by Kent Kechter

Senior basketball players honored between games

Between the girls' and boys' basketball games with Sharon Springs in St. Francis on Tuesday, Feb. 19, the senior's were recognized in a short ceremony.

The 10 seniors involved in the basketball programs and their parents included: Laura Brunk, daughter of Eddie and Julie Brunk; Caleb Frink, son of Vaughn Sabatka and Tammi Frink; Joey McCormick, son of Casey and Lezlie McCormick; Aubrey Mills, daughter of Mark and Julie Mills; Clarice Neitzel, daughter of Ron

and Roxie Neitzel, Steven Nelson, son of Randy and Brenda Nelson; Ally Northrup, daughter of David Northrup and Aimee Northrup; Dylan Peter, son of Craig Peter and Delores Peter; Keegan Sherlock, son of Mike and Tammi Sherlock; and Dillion Straub, son of Sean and Lucinda Straub.

A special recognition was also

held for Pete Kinen, who recently died. Pete was a standout athlete at St. Francis Community High School, as well as a long-time coach and supporter of Indian athletics. The Kinen family including his wife, Alice, and sons, Tanner, and Trent, were presented a photo of Pete signed by the senior basketball players.



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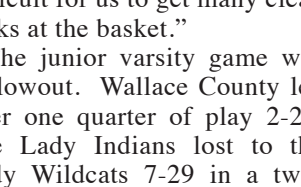
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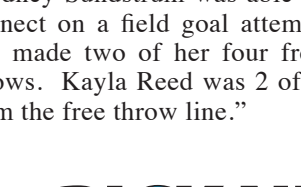
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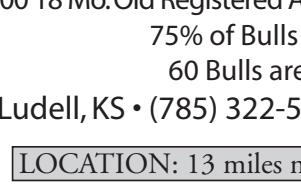
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