

At the Game

Wrestler comes home a champion

The St. Francis Wrestling Club had six wrestlers qualify for the Kansas Kids State Wrestling Tournament in Topeka. Trayton Doyle came home champion in the 12 and under 240 pounds.

We had one wrestler, Logan McCarty who was fighting the flu, said Shawna Blanka, coordinator. He did wrestle his first match but then had to scratch his next.

8 and under: Logan McCarty, 52 pounds, lost 2-11 major decision to Koby Koch, Con-kids.

12 and under: Tayton Weeter, 92 pounds, won by fall over Chaz Brandhorst, Tiger Wrestling Club; lost by fall to Marcus Robinson, Ark City; lost by fall to Gage Leedy, Junior Comets.

Luke Lampe, 130 pounds, won by 2-1 overtime over Anthony

Delgado, Emporia; lost a 0-6 decision to Gage Foster, Sunflower Kids.

Trayton Doyle, 240 pounds won by fall over Tye Washington, Hoxie Kids; won by fall over Marquis Hannon, Maize Kids, to take first.

14 and under: Garrett Brunk, 140 pounds, lost by fall to Clayton Peterson, Team Lighting; lost by fall to Kyle Fuller, Junior Viking team.

High school: Shakotah Blanka, 285 pounds, lost by fall to Jonathon Jensen, Hutchinson; lost by fall to Les Wessel, Bonner Springs.

Several of the St. Francis wrestlers will be participating in the Midwest Classic National Tournament this weekend in Kearney, Neb.



TRAYTON DOYLE wrestles during the Kansas Kids Tournament. Doyle won both matches by fall and is the state champion in the 12 and under 240 pound weight class.

Herald photo by Shawna Blanka

Six seniors finish their high school wrestling careers

The St. Francis wrestling team season came to an end in February. The Indians qualified one wrestler to the state tournament, Zach Gienger, and he was able to come home with a state medal.

Six seniors have finished their high school wrestling careers: Casey Keller, Mikey Leibbrandt, Tyler Raby, Dylan Wolaver, Zach Gienger and Thomas Douthit. Throughout their careers Keller, Leibbrandt and Wolaver were one-time state qualifiers, while Zach Gienger was a two-time state qualifier and one time state medalist.

Other wrestlers who competed on the varsity squad throughout the year were: Clay Cassaw, Austin White, Logan Lampe, Justin Pacheco, Lane Hobrock and Shakotah Blanka.

Returning to the team next season will be several wrestlers who have been able to gain key-varsity experience and have shown great improvement throughout the year. These wrestlers include: Clay Cassaw, Austin White, Matt White, Garrett Brunk, Logan Lampe, Justin Pacheco, Matt Howell, Lane Hobrock, and Shakotah Blanka. Austin White, Matt White, and Lampe will be key seniors and leaders on the team. Howell and Blanka will be juniors, and Cassaw, Brunk, Hobrock, and Pacheco will be

sophomores.

Results from the year show the Indians won non-league duals over Trego, Stockton, Hill City, and Osborne at the Stockton Quad, Wiggins, Estes Park and Merino at the Sterling Dual Tournament. In league duals St. Francis finished the season 1-3 beating Oakley, and losing to Hoxie, Atwood-Rawlins County, and Oberlin-Decatur Community.

Sainty won a team championship at the Dundy County Tournament. They placed sixth at the St. Francis Invitational, sixth at the Wray Invitational, eighth at the Western Kansas Tournament of Champions, 10th at the Panther Classic, 11th at Regionals and 51st at the State Tournament.

Following is a wrap-up of the statistics from all the varsity matches during the season. Some of the wrestlers listed also competed in a number of junior varsity matches but the statistics shown only apply to varsity matches.

Team record

The following stats were recorded this year. The first number listed belongs to St. Francis while the second number represents their opponents: takedowns: 363-274; escapes: 166-185; reversals: 89-73; near falls: 262-163; major decisions:

18-10; technical falls: 6-7; falls: 108-60; St. Francis had 184 wins and 133 losses.

Top five wrestlers

Takedowns: Logan Lampe 62; Zach Gienger 58; Mikey Leibbrandt 41; Clay Cassaw 38; Casey Keller 34.

Escapes: Keller/Lampe 28; Leibbrandt 20; White 19; Cassaw 15.

Reversals: Keller 18; Cassaw 12; Wolaver/Gienger/Lampe 11.

Near falls: Gienger 41; Leibbrandt 35; Keller/White/Wolaver 31.

Wins: Leibbrandt 29; Gienger 26; Keller 25; Wolaver 24; White 23.

Fewest losses (20 or more matches): Gienger/Wolaver 8; Cassaw/White 12; Keller/Leibbrandt/Hobrock 14.

Major decisions: Gienger/Lampe 5; Cassaw/Leibbrandt/Wolaver 2.

Technical falls: Keller 3; Cassaw 2; Lampe 1.

Falls: Leibbrandt 18; Wolaver 14; Gienger/White 13; Cassaw 10.

Total points: Leibbrandt 146; Gienger 125; Wolaver 122; White 121; Keller 118.

Complete stats

Where two numbers are listed such as fall 10-2, the Sainty wrestler pinned 10 of his opponents while he was pinned twice.

Keller: takedowns 34; escapes 28; reversals 18; near falls 31; record 25-14; major decisions 1-0; technical falls 3-0; falls 9-3; team points 118.

Cassaw: takedowns 38; escapes 15; reversals 12; near falls 26; record 21-12; major decisions 2-0; technical falls 2-0; falls 10-7; team points 108.

Austin White: takedowns 31; escapes 19; reversals 3; near falls 31; record 23-12; major decisions 1-2; technical falls 0-1; falls 13-2; team points 121.

Lampe: takedowns 62; escapes 28; reversals 11; near falls 17; record 16-22; major decisions



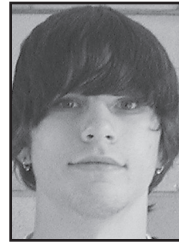
Keller



Leibbrandt



Raby



Wolaver



Gienger



Douthit

Letter winners

Seniors: Keller, Leibbrandt, Wolaver, Gienger, Douthit.

Juniors: Austin White, Lampe, Matt White (provisional).

Sophomores: Howell and Blanka.

Freshmen: Cassaw, Garrett Brunk (provisional), Pacheco, Hobrock.

Mat maids: Taylor Archibald, Aly Schlepp, Dallas Reed, Ashlee Orth.

Finals comments

When I look back on the season I see a lot of improvement from each wrestler, said Dylan Loyd, coach. We worked the kids pretty hard this year and I think throughout the season the kids got more and more confident. We are losing a very good senior class that is filled with good leaders.

Not many people can see that many of them put in a lot of time with our little kids program. They not only wanted to make the improvements to get better, but also they wanted to help our young kids improve; which goes to show just what type of kids that they are.

I know Coach (Kyle)

Buffington and myself will miss them very much. Looking forward, we will have a very solid group returning, and will have a solid freshman class next year stepping in. Many of them have stepped right back on the mat after high school season finished.

We have a group of kids that are very hungry and doing the things that it takes to get better. I don't care what it is, whether it be basketball, volleyball, football, track, baseball whatever it is you will not get any better by not doing the extra stuff it takes. If you want to improve you have got to keep at it in the offseason.

I tell them complacency is a disease, Coach Loyd said, when you get complacent you're not getting any better, and that attitude will carry with you for the rest of your life. We have got a lot of good athletes in our school system, boys and girls, and I encourage you all as athletes and students to do the things it takes to get better, and be positive role models for those around and for those young eyes that are watching you!



Riverside Recreation Ladies Night Out

April 6 • 6 - 9 p.m.

Lots of Vendors, a fun girls night out!

APPETIZER BAR

Tickets for the meal are \$10/ticket (Tickets can be purchased at Western State Bank, BANKWEST, Riverside or at the Door.)

Margarita Bar (extra Charge)

Door Prizes

Funds donated to remodel kitchen

It's Spring

If you insulated your water meter, now is the time to remove any insulation so the meters may be read.

Thank You!!!
City of St. Francis

Concrete Bids

The City of St. Francis is accepting bids for four (4) 3'x9'x6" concrete level pads and one (1) 38" diameter concrete platform in Sawhill Park for the Glenn Zwegardt art. Work must be completed by May 4 for details contact J.R. at 785-332-3031.

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- TJ and Angela said

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