

At the Game



Lady Indian varsity volleyball players Aly Schlepp and McKenzie Taylor jump up to block opposing team.

Junior high volleyball girls do not fair well with Leoti

In Junior High Volleyball action last Thursday, the St. Francis Lady Indians took on the Leoti Indians. Unfortunately the Lady Indians did not fair well. In C Team action the ladies fell in straight sets, losing 25-10 and 25-17. The B Team did no better, again falling in straight sets, 25-16, 25-16.

Coach Morgan Strand was optimistic about the C and B Teams progress, "The girls have really shown tremendous improvement since the first week of practice. There are a few mental and physical aspects of the game that we still need to work on, but the fact that the girls are starting to understand the team concept and work together to try to win is awesome. We will continue to work toward a winning season!"

The A team won their first set of the young season, taking a second set 25-20, but losing the match overall 25-14 and 15-6. "After the initial nerves settled down, the girls did exceptionally well. We threw together a new rotation just earlier that day in practice, and they all handled it well and performed it well. I had them moving around a lot more than we have been used to, and the girls grasped on to it all easily," said coach Aly Marin.

"It was a tough loss because we fought so hard, and were close, but for all of the good things the girls showed that night I was very proud of them. They moved well, communicated like never before, and we had fun!"

The next match for the Jr. High Lady Indians will be Sept. 19 against the Idalia Wolves in Idalia.



Jessica Confer sets the ball as Jylian Laten looks on.
Herald staff photos by Doug Sloper

Ladies lose game to Eagles

The St. Francis Lady Indians Varsity Volleyball team was in action last Saturday, in the Gove County Tournament in Grinnell/Grainfield. In their first match the Lady Indians took on the Weskan, losing 25-21, 25-20. In their next match the Lady Indians showed improved play but lost close sets to the Trego-Wakeeney Golden Eagles 25-21, 25-20. In their third match of the tournament, the Lady Indians came together and beat the Quinter Bulldogs in straight sets, 25-17 and 25-6. This put St. Francis up against the Stockton Tigers in the consolation bracket. The Lady Indians took the first set 25-23; they dropped the next set in a thriller 26-24 and lost the next set and the match to the Tigers 25-13. The Lady Indians then took on Quinter again for the seventh

place spot in the tournament and again beat the Bulldogs 25-18 and 25-20. Coach Morrow was upbeat and impressed with the Lady Indian's effort in the tournament. "What a great day!! The Lady Indians showed up ready to fight and took hold of their first wins. Overall, I am starting to see the benefits of continuing to persevere through some very difficult times with these special young ladies...they are growing, changing, and learning that they can have success when they work together and appreciate each other."

"We played some awesome volleyball today against teams we are very competitive with. I am quite proud of their performance, of the mental toughness they showed, and of how they came back from behind to keep fight-

ing. McKenzie Taylor got her first stuff today. Kyla Bandel played 5 matches (11 sets) in a row as our only setter on the floor. McKayla Taylor was a "beast" today, both at the net and as a primary defender in the backcourt. Aly Schlepp scored many kill points as middle hitter. Justice Wiley passed the ball almost perfectly and showed much prowess as an attacker, smartly placing the ball instead of swinging hard every time. And the best part about the day was that we stuck together - we didn't fall apart - we showed that we can stay together, win or lose, and be a great volleyball team. I couldn't be any more proud. Way to go, Lady Indians!!"

The next match for the Lady Indians will be a quadrangular in Atwood with the junior varsity Lady Indians facing off against the Dighton Hornets and Rawlins County Buffaloes. The varsity Lady Indians will face off against the Wallace County Wildcats, Dighton Hornets and Rawlins County Buffaloes. The varsity, junior varsity and junior high teams will play again on Sept. 19 in Idalia against the Idalia Wolves, starting at 4:30 p.m.

Lady Indians varsity volleyball team plays

The St. Francis Lady Indians varsity volleyball team was in action last Thursday, taking on the Wauneta-Palisade Broncos in Wauneta. The Lady Indians played well but lost the match with scores of 25-10, 25-15, 25-21.

Coach Morrow was disappointed with the effort the Lady Indians put out. "Unfortunately, we didn't 'show up' to play in the first two sets," she said. "The Broncos are a very polished

team that plays together year-round and they ran right over us until we decided to play in the third set. So, needless to say, we didn't play well, we didn't score most of our own points, and we learned some very valuable lessons.

"The Lady Indians won't give up, though...I believe they love this game enough to make some changes, and that is what we are working on. My hope is that this is the last time this will happen."

Junior varsity girls learn teamwork

In Junior Varsity Volleyball action last Thursday, the St. Francis Lady Indians took on the Wauneta-Palisade Broncos in Wauneta. The Lady Indians lost the first set 25-9 looked better in the second set, but still lost the second set 25-19 and the overall match. "We introduced a new offense with a new setter and it took a while to work out the kinks," said Coach Jeff Olofson. "In the first set we bounced the ball off the low ceiling several times and over passed. In the second set we

adjusted our serve receive and had better success. We still have a lot of work to do and the young ladies are working hard to understand their roles on the team."

The next match for the Junior Varsity Lady Indians will be in Atwood with the Lady Indians facing off against the Dighton Hornets and Rawlins County Buffaloes. The varsity, junior varsity and junior high teams will play again on Sept. 19 in Idalia against the Idalia Wolves, starting at 4:30 p.m.



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