



At the Game



LADY INDIAN Kyla Bandel shoots from the free-throw line as Valerie Wurm prepares for a rebound in Friday night's game against Quinter. Heard staff photo by Tim Burr

Indians defeat Quinter Bulldogs at home game

By Douglas Sloper
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The St. Francis Indians and Lady Indians rebounded from their previous games and defeated the Quinter Bulldogs on Friday, Feb. 14 in St. Francis. Both the varsity boys and girls played strong, never trailing in either game, and held off rallies by the Bulldogs late in both games.

Lady Indians

The Lady Indians started strong in the first quarter, taking the game to the Bulldogs. The Lady Indians offense was clicking and shots were falling. St. Francis ran past Quinter for a 15-2 lead at the end of the quarter.

There was more even scoring in the second quarter, as Quinter got their offense going and the Lady Indians continued to score on their offensive plays. St. Francis maintained a healthy lead at the half 25-11.

Quinter came out in the third quarter, playing hard, but the Lady Indians held their own and did not cave in to the pressure. Both sides play hard, with St. Francis still holding a 9 point lead, 35-26, as the quarter came to an end.

In a low scoring fourth quarter, both sides battled back and forth. The Bulldogs could not make up enough ground on the Lady Indians to catch them. When the horn sounded, the Lady Indians

had picked up a much needed win, 41-34.

Lady Indians scoring: Justice Wiley, 12 points; Journey Lee, 9 point; Kyla Bandel, 7 points; Kylie Sherlock, 6 points; Valerie Wurm, 6 points; Emily Elfers, 1 point.

"We started out playing really aggressively and got a quick lead, said Coach Susan Dinkel. Unfortunately, we let up our guard a little, which made the game quite a bit more interesting. Fortunately, we were able to end up with the victory.

The girls need to become more consistent in their play, believe in their abilities, and enjoy the opportunity to learn and grow every day at practice or in a game."

Indians

Letting first quarter jitters get to them, both teams played a ragged first quarter. Easy scoring opportunities were missed by both teams. The Indians held a slim 16-12 lead at the end of the quarter.

As the second quarter progressed, the Indians got into foul trouble, which allowed the Bulldogs to stay close. The Indians were still playing good basketball, and held a 5 point lead at the half, 32-27.

The Indians came out strong in the third quarter. Both teams battled, with St. Francis holding

off a Bulldogs rally and extending their lead to 9 points, 57-43

In the fourth quarter, both teams played even basketball, matching each other basket for basket. Quinter was unable to make any progress to catch the Indians. St. Francis held on, keeping the lead, and defeated Quinter, 71-57.

Indians scoring: Mason Schiltz, 23 points; Cade Bracelin, 16 points; Wyatt Landenberger, 10 points; Jacob Baxter, 8 points; Taylor Rogers, 4 points; Lenny Olivares, 4 points; Carl Fabre, 2 points; Quinton Cravens, 2 points; Jeremiah Neitzel, 2 points.

"We have suddenly become quite the scoring machine," said Coach Jeff Beims. "We averaged 73 points a game in the last two. Against Quinter I think a lot of that came from transition points. When we play that style, we tend to get more high percentage shots, and more open looks on the perimeter. It's a lot of fun to watch, and the guys have a blast doing it."

"We rebounded and got out in transition really well Friday against Quinter. We handled their pressure, and saw the floor extremely well. We had some defensive lapses, but were able to overcome them by scoring! Who knew?"

In a close game, junior varsity Indians fell to Quinter 52-50.

Indians suffer losses to Brewster at weather postponed games

By Douglas Sloper
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The St. Francis Indians and Lady Indians traveled to Brewster to take on the Triplains-Brewster Bulldogs on Monday Feb 17. This meeting was a make up game, as the original game was postponed on Feb 4, due to inclement weather.

Lady Indians

The Lady Indians and Lady Bulldogs got off to the usual slow start, as both teams were going through the first quarter "feeling out" process. At the end of the quarter Brewster held a 19-13 lead.

In the second quarter the Lady Indians quickly got into foul trouble and were only able to score 4 points in the quarter. The Lady Bulldogs took advantage, outscoring St. Francis by 18 points and built up a large lead of 41-17 going into the half.

The Lady Indians got their offense going in the third quarter, but were unable to make a dent in the Bulldogs lead. The Lady Indians were down by 30 points,

57-27 at the end of three.

Neither team did much scoring in the final quarter, and the Lady Indians were defeated, 59-35.

Lady Indians scoring: Kyla Bandel, 10 points; Valerie Wurm, 9 points; Kylie Sherlock, 8 points; Kayla Reed, 2 points; Emily Elfers, 2 points; Journey Lee 2 points; Justice Wiley, 2 points.

Coach Susan Dinkel was not happy with the mental preparation of several of the players. "Well, unlike last game, we struggled right off the bat. Several players were not mentally prepared to play a game tonight, which in turn, hurt the team. That is a difficult pill to swallow.

At some point, we must learn that internal preparation is just as important as the physical side of things. At this point in the season, we may make a few adjustments, but the offense and defense is learned - now, it is simply execution. I was very disappointed in the mentality of some of our team members last night."

Indians

In the first quarter, the Indians

got off to a quick start, leaving the Bulldogs in the dust. St. Francis had a 7 point lead, 15-8 at the end of the quarter.

The Indians got into foul trouble, in the second quarter, which let the Bulldogs cut into the Indians lead. St. Francis still led 23-20 at the half.

In the third quarter, both teams had trouble scoring, and Brewster was able to climb back into the game and tied the score at 29.

As the fourth quarter started the Bulldogs changed their strategy and went into a delay game. This caused the Indians to have to foul, to be able to get the ball back. The strategy worked in favor of Brewster, who were able to convert 13 or 14 free throw attempts down the stretch. The Bulldogs outscored the Indians 24-14 in the final period and took the game by 10, 53-43.

Indians scoring: Cade Bracelin, 12 points; Wyatt Landenberger, 10 points; Mason Schiltz, 9 points; Jacob Baxter, 8 points; Taylor Rogers, 2 points; Quinton Cravens, 2 points.

"Apparently we can't stand prosperity, said Coach Jeff Beims As high flying as our offense has been the last week, one would have thought maybe that trend would continue. I guess not. We couldn't have hit snow had we fallen from the back of a polar bear Monday night.

The first half unfolded much as we had expected. Brewster is an improving team, and we knew we were in for a fight, but we were getting what we wanted.

In the second half the "point train" derailed. There was a 10:30 stretch in the second half that we didn't score! There was no particular reason for the drought. We were getting pretty good looks, despite a good defensive effort from Brewster.

It seems the harder we tried the worse it got as we began forcing shots, trying to make something happen. We did a pretty good job of extending the game by fouling, but Brewster decided not to miss any free throws down the stretch and we were sunk."

The next game for the Lady Indians and Indians will be at home on Tuesday, Feb. 18 against cross-county rival Cheylin Cougars beginning at 4:45 p.m.



CADE BRACELIN and Jacob Baxter play tight defense against the Quinter Bulldogs to help win the game Friday night. Heard staff photo by Tim Burr

Indians drop all games to Tigers

By Douglas Sloper
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St. Francis varsity and junior varsity hosted the Benkelman Tigers on Tuesday, Feb. 11. Although the Indian teams played hard, the Tigers took all four games. The varsity boys played a fast paced, exciting game against a very good Tigers team. Both teams were tied at the end of regulation, with the Tigers pulling out the victory in overtime.

Lady Indians

The Lady Indians came out and played hard against the Lady Tigers in the first quarter. St. Francis continued to be haunted by mistakes and bad passing. The Lady Tigers took full advantage of the Indians miscues, and held a 19-7 lead as the quarter came to a close.

The Indians made a game of it in the second quarter and played better, but couldn't make up any ground on the Lady Tigers. The Lady Indians were outscored 20 to 14 in the quarter, and trailed 39-21 at the half.

In the third quarter, the game fell apart for the Lady Indians. Benkelman came out playing a full court pressure defense, which took the Lady Indians

out of their game. St. Francis could do nothing in the quarter, scoring only 5 points. The Lady Tigers took a commanding 66-26 lead at the end of the quarter.

A continuous clock was running for the fourth quarter, and the game finished with Benkelman defeating St. Francis 72-31.

In junior varsity action the Lady Tigers defeated the Lady Indians 58-12.

Indians

The Indians came out strong and hard against the Tigers. Both sides battled in a high scoring first quarter. Both teams were tied at 17 at the end of the quarter.

As the second quarter progressed, the Tigers took advantage of many Indian's mistakes and miscues. St. Francis got into foul trouble in the quarter, and Benkelman began to pull away, taking a 38-29 lead into the half.

The Indians stormed back in the third quarter, scoring 21 points, and cut the Tigers lead to 54-50 at the end of the third quarter.

Both teams battled it out in the fourth quarter, with the Indians tying the score at 57 early in

the quarter. As the game clock wound down, both teams made each basket and free throw count and the regulation game ended with both teams tied at 68.

In the overtime period, the Tigers were again able to take advantage of Indians foul trouble, hitting many clutch free throws. The Tigers outscored the Indians 16-7 in overtime to pull out the victory 84-75.

Indians scoring: Cade Bracelin, 21 points; Wyatt Landenberger, 16 points; Jacob Baxter, 16 points; Mason Schiltz, 15 points; Taylor Rogers, 6 points; Lenny Olivares, 1 point.

"I thought our guys rebounded nicely from a rather ugly performance against Hoxie last week," said Coach Jeff Beims.

"The Dundy County game would have been fun to watch as a fan. A high scoring, fast paced affair that they were able to pull out in overtime, largely due to their ability to hit free throws down the stretch."

"It was a tough game to lose (as they all are), but I thought our guys competed hard and got back to the style of play that we have become accustomed to."

The junior varsity Indians lost their game 70-50.

Idalia News

By Chuck Wright
Community News

Sunday, Feb. 23, 4-8 p.m. The Idalia After Prom committee is hosting a community pitch party at the school cafeteria. Everyone is invited to a fun-filled night of card playing and great food. Contact any Senior or Freshman parent for tickets.

In February, the Idalia Book club will be reading the novel, Daughter of Fortune, by Isabel Allende. They will meet at the Conerstone Center on Wednesday, Feb. 26, 6:30 p.m., to enjoy a potluck meal and discuss the book. Contact Lynn Cody for more information about this meeting.

St. John News

Sunday, Feb. 23, 10:30 a.m. The morning worship service will include a discussion of The Story, Chapter 18, Book of Daniel.

Tuesday, Feb. 25, 5 p.m. The Women's Fellowship will be holding a quilting night at the church. Bring finger food to share and join in tying lap quilts for

community members.

Sunday, March 2, 10:30 a.m. Morning worship will include Holy Communion and a discussion of The Story, Chapter 19, The Book of Ezra, Chapter 1-6.

Wednesday, March 5. Ash Wednesday. The Season of Lent begins with a soup supper for the community provided by the church at 6:30 p.m. At 7:15 p.m. there will be a traditional Ash Wednesday worship service that will include scripture readings, prayer, and the Imposition of the Ashes.

Idalia school news

Idalia school parents are reminded that important TCAP testing begins for 3rd through 10th grade students at the end of February through March. A list of specific testing dates is available at the school office. Parents are encouraged to make sure your child is in school on the days they will be tested.

Feb. 25 and 26. 3rd grade reading TCAP tests.