

The Saint Francis Herald

At the Game

Wrestling teams compete for trophy

By Betty Jean Winston

The 45th annual St. Francis Invitational Wrestling Tournament held on Saturday opened the 2005-06 wrestling season for the Indians. The tournament ended with Colby earning the championship with 159.5 points. They had three champions, one second place finish and four thirds.

Coming in second was Pine Creek with three champions, three second place finishes, and one third. Placing third with 148 points was Goodland. The Cowboys had two champions, two second place finishes and two thirds.

This year the Indians placed fourth with 135.5 points, having one champion, five second place finishes, one third, two fourths, one sixth, and two seventh.

Taking the crown in his weight class was Brennan Wilger at 275 pounds. He defeated Doxon of Goodland in the championship game.

Also qualifying for championship matches were Trevor Richard, Gavin Smull, Dylan Loyd, Justin Sherlock and Jordan Gienger with each receiving second place honors.

Gabe Smull took an injury default due to a football injury and did not finish the tournament.

"It was a well-balanced tournament," Coach Larry Gabel said. "Colby has a lot of depth. Pine Creek has really improved over the last two years.

"Overall it was a good tournament. I believe in giving our kids the best competition possible. It helps us improve, and we can improve, and gets us ready for the end of the year.

"It is fun being with the kids and watching them make progress. "Hoagie Carmichael, high school principal and athletic director, did such a good job organizing and running the tournament and Kent Kechter, in his first year of running brackets, did an exceptional job. Tammy Grice also was a big help."

Coach Gabel also commented on the first and second place finishers.

"Brennon (Wilger) looked fundamentally sound wrestling Saturday.

"Trevor (Richard) wrestled a defending state champion. He had a few technical mistakes which can be corrected. There was a lot of action in his final match.

Gavin (Smull) started slow but got better in each match as his timing improved.

"Dylan (Loyd) also had some technical errors and got behind. He battled back to tie the match but lost in the last couple of seconds. A loss this early in the season does not hurt.

Justin (Sherlock) had a good tournament. He is much improved from last year. He just gets better and better.

"Jordan (Gienger) wrestled a defending state champion, Garcia from Colby. He made some technical errors but wrestling this level of competition can only make him better."

Sainty has one of their busiest weeks of the year this week with a Northwest Kansas League dual in Colby on Thursday, two duals (Brush - Manitou Springs) on Friday night and the Brush Invitational on Saturday. This year the invitational will be a dual tournament with St. Francis competing in five duals.

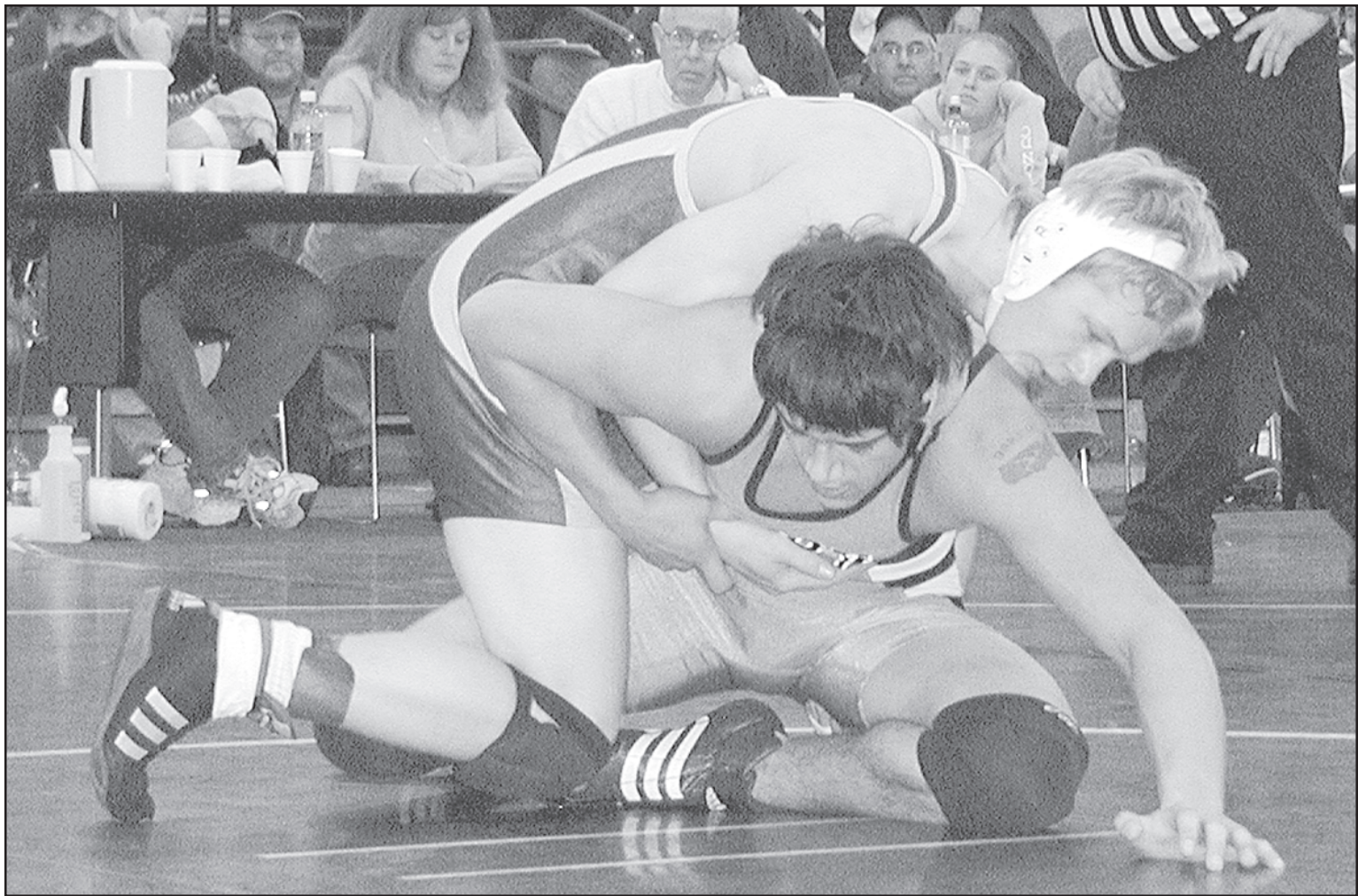
"We're looking forward to the competition," Coach Gabel said.

Team scores

Colby 159.5; Pine Creek 156, Goodland 148, St. Francis 135.5, Scott City 128, Wray 73.5; Sterling 48; Leoti 33; Atwood 17; Quinter 13.

Championship round

112: Luedke, Colby defeated Johnson, Pine Creek; 119: Bahe, Goodland defeated Richard, St. Francis; 125: Olson, Colby, defeated Gavin Smull, St. Francis; 130: Sikorski, Pine Creek defeated Kough, Scott City; 135: Dreiling, Scott City defeated Loyd, St. Francis; 140: Warta, Scott City defeated Sherlock, St. Francis; 145: Garcia, Colby defeated Gienger, St. Francis; 152: Schields, Goodland defeated Finley, Colby; 160: Mettlen, Scott City defeated Titoni, Pine Creek; 171: Hicks, Pine Creek defeated Baumfalk, Goodland; 189: Ross, Pine Creek defeated



JORDAN GIENGER FINISHES SECOND at 145. The St. Francis Invitational again was very competitive with Colby winning the team title.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Bernig, Wichita County/Leoti; 215: Cure, Wray defeated Stanbrough, Pine Creek; 275: Wilger, St. Francis defeated Doxon, Goodland.

Third/fourth place round

112: Albert, Goodland defeated George, Scott City; 119: Sporing, Colby over Bebb, Rawlins County; 125: Sauer, Scott City defeated Smith, Goodland; 130: Flanagan, Colby defeated Read, Wray; 135: Davison, Wray defeated Stephens, Goodland; 140: Martin, Pine Creek defeated Hawk, Colby; 145: Hoeme, Scott City defeated O'Dell, Pine Creek; 152: Carey, Sterling defeated Brown, St. Francis; 160: Withington, Colby defeated Gabe Smull, default; 171: Rogers, St. Francis defeated Richmeier, Quinter; 189: Goodley, Goodland defeated Beardsley, Sterling; 215: Vargas, Wichita County; 275: Brown, Colby defeated Minton, Wray.

103 bracket

The 103 bracket was run as a round robins with Brewer, Colby, placing first; Ritchey, Wray, second; Contrers, Scott City, third and

Shelden, Goodland, fourth

Team totals

Sainty wrestlers listed first followed by their opponents: takedowns: 3329; escapes: 14/19; reversals: 21/19; near falls: 14/08; wins: 18/16; major decisions: 2/3; technical falls: 1/0; falls: 10/8.

Individual results

103: Open
112: Josh Carpenter (seventh) lost by a fall to Albers, Goodland; lost by a fall to Eastep, Sterling; won by forfeit
119: Richard (second) won by a 19-4 technical fall over Sporing, Colby; lost by a 12-4 major decision to Bahe, Goodland

125: Gavin Smull (second) won by a 7-2 decision over Dirks, Leoti; won by a fall over Saner, Scott City; lost by a 17-7 major decision to Olson, Colby

130: Jesse Pacheco (seventh) lost by a fall to Sikorski, Pine Creek; lost by a fall to Ledesma, Goodland; won by a fall over Finley, Atwood

135: Loyd (second) won by a fall over Voget, Pine Creek; won by a fall over Stephens, Goodland; lost

by a 10-8 decision to Dreiling, Scott City

140: Sherlock (second) won by a fall over Helvie, Sterling; won by a 12-8 decision over Hawk, Colby; lost by a 10-3 decision to Warta, Scott city

145: Gienger (second) won by a 9-0 major decision over O'Dell, Pine Creek; lost by an 11-2 major decision to Garcia, Colby

152: Matt Brown (fourth) won by a 7-0 decision over Binning, Rawlins County; lost by a fall to Finley, Colby; lost by a 2-0 overtime decision to Carey, Sterling

160: Gabe Smull (fourth) won by a 3-1 decision over Hatfield, Goodland; lost by a 7-5 decision to Mettlen, Scott City

171: Russell Rogers (third) won by a 13-2 major decision over McDaniel, Sterling; lost by a 4-2 overtime decision to Hicks, Pine Creek; won by a fall over Richmeier, Quinter

189: David Guthmiller lost by a fall to Work, Quinter; won by a fall over Voss, Colby; won by a fall over Tankersley, Leoti

215: Tal Earl (sixth) lost by a fall to Work, Quinter; won by a fall over Ming, Scott City; lost by a fall to Kriss, Colby

275: Wilger (first) won by a fall over Brown, Colby; won by a fall over Doxon, Goodland

Awards

Most exciting match: Coach's award: Pacheco; practice wrestler, Wilger; best freshman performance, Miller vs Goodland; best junior varsity performance, Miller vs Goodland; best sophomore performance, Smull/Sherlock, both placed second at Invitational; most takedowns, Loyd, 8; Key match Award, Earl vs Ming, Scott City; fastest fall, Wilger vs Brown of Colby, 49 seconds; most exciting match, Gavin Smull vs Dirks, Scott City; most outstanding performance, Wilger, champion at Invitational.

Wrestlers of the Week

St. Francis Wrestling coaching staff has selected Brennon Wilger as Wrestler of the Week. Wilger won the 275 pound championship at the St. Francis Invitational.

Ladies play Dundy County; suffer loss in opening game

By Betty Jean Winston

Dundy County pulled away in the fourth quarter on Thursday night to defeat the Lady Indians 50-41 in the opening game of the new season. The contest was played in St. Francis and was the only opportunity for fans to see the team at home until January. There will be five games on the road between now and the Christmas break with the team being involved in the Sagebrush Classic this week. Tuesday night they played Cheylin in the opening round. The semi-finals will be Friday and the final games on Saturday. (Details next week.)

Dundy County, again this year, opened the basketball season for the Lady Indians.

"I thought the effort was pretty good," Coach Ted Busse said. "We can even do better there (effort) though.

"Dundy County had pretty decent size."

Danielle Flemming and Alecia Zimbelman led the scoring for Sainty with eight points each followed by Sam Coates with seven. Flemming was accurate from the free-throw line where she collected four of her points from a perfect 4-of-4. She also hit two field goals. Zimbelman had the same scoring with four points from the field and four from the line while Coates had a perfect percentage from three-points range with 2-of-2 for six points. She collected her other point from the free-throw line.

"We were 31 percent from the field which is not were we want to be," Coach Busse said. "We will work on improving."

Sainty was 50-percent from three-point range but only put up four attempts.

Defensively Sainty managed 38 rebounds with 29 of them defensive boards. On the offensive board, Lauren Ross led with four while Megan Rice had nine defensive boards and Zimbelman and Ross five each. Rice ended the evening with a total of 10 rebounds, Ross with nine and Zimbelman with seven.

The Lady Indians had 38 turnovers for the evening, seven more than the Lady Tigers.

"Turnovers hurt us," Coach Busse said.

The team had 17 steals with Zimbelman, Ross and Rice having five, four and three respectively. Rice had four assists and Zimbelman three.

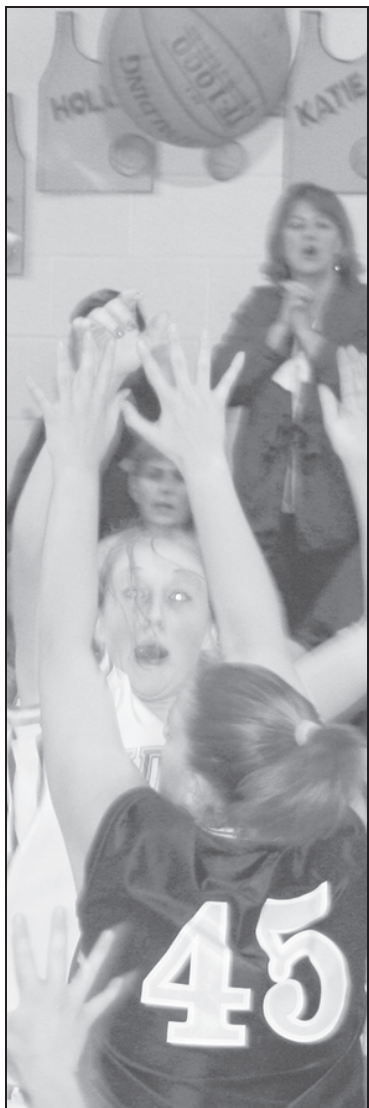
"We want to get on the winning trail," Coach Busse said and the Ladies will attempt that during the tournament this week.

SF 13 09 13 06 41
DC 11 10 09 20 50

Scoring: Zimbelman 8, Flemming 8, Coates 7, Ross 6, Rice 4, Maddie Knodel 4, Erin Neitzel 4.

Rebounds: Rice 10, Ross 9, Zimbelman 7, Talisa Voorhies 3, Knodel 3, McKenzie Grace 2, Flemming 2, Neitzel 2.

**Late Tuesday
Sagebrush Classic
Indians 72, Cheylin 26
Ladies 56, Cheylin 22**



ALECIA ZIMBELMAN wants the ball for the Lady Indians and is putting forth all of her effort to pass the ball to another St. Francis player in the Dundy County game played in St. Francis.

Photo courtesy of Doug Ross



DYLAN LOYD (seated) signs a letter of intent to wrestle at Fort Hays State University following his high school career. Showing support are (ltoR) his mother, Keely Loyd, Trevor Richard, Trevor Hilt (back) Sam Sowers, Jesse Pacheco, Jeremy Meyer, Dylan's father, Coach Daryl Loyd, Coach Larry Gabel and Coach Steve Jenkins.

Herald Staff Photo by Karen Krien

Letter of intent is signed

By Betty Jean Winston

Dylan Loyd, a senior at St. Francis Community High School, has signed a letter of intent to wrestle at Fort Hays State University following his high school career.

"I'm pretty excited," Loyd said. "It is a relief to have made a decision."

"It is a whale of a deal," said Coach Larry Gabel, head wrestling coach at St. Francis. "They are getting a first-class wrestler and a first-class student. He will be an asset to their program.

"It is a good fit for both Dylan and Hays. I'm excited to have him com-

pete on the college level. He could have a stellar career like his high school career or maybe better. Some wrestlers peak in high school and some just get better and better."

Loyd still has his senior year of wrestling in front of him and has already he has represented St. Francis at State three times and earned three State medals, one second place and two third places.

Going into this year, Loyd has a career record of 99-17. He has wrestled at the 112 and 125-weight classes in high school and could possibly wrestle at 135 this season. His projected weight class at Fort

Hays will be either 125 or 133.

Loyd is the senior class president at St. Francis and is a member of Fellowship of Christian Athletes. He currently has a 3.75 grade point average.

He plans on majoring in athletic training at Fort Hays.

"Hays is building toward a good program," Loyd said. "They have had two good years of recruiting."

"Dylan Loyd comes from a great family and is one of the top wrestlers in western Kansas this year," Fort Hays Coach Cody Bickley said. "We look forward to having him in our program next year."