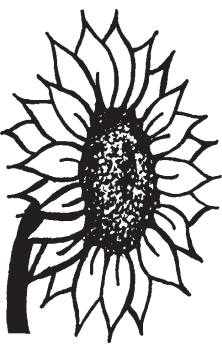


The Saint Francis Herald

At the Game



Season begins

By Betty Jean Winston

The St. Francis Indians and Decatur Community Red Devils football teams were each hot and cold at different times on Friday night. St. Francis took the lead in the first half, then Decatur Community took over. Next it was the Indians again but unfortunately for St. Francis, Decatur Community had a three-point advantage at the buzzer and took the 21-18 win. In the final seconds the Indians were only a yard from pay dirt but the clock said "no more time."

"We played very well at times and not so well at other times," Coach Tim Lambert said. "There is no need to panic. We have a good team and we will be working every day to get better."

The contest was played in St. Francis and was the first game of the new season.

Being able to execute the conversion attempts after the touchdowns told the story. Each team scored three touchdowns but Sainty could not reach the end zone on the points-after attempts. Decatur Community had one successful kick and one conversion on a two-point rushing play to win by three.

St. Francis looked like they had the Decatur Community running game stymied in the first half. The Red Devils offense was extremely cold at this point.

After halftime the story changed dramatically as Decatur Community had a 86-yard pass play and before the Indians could regroup, scored another touchdown. With the successful kick the score gave the Red Devils a 13-12 advantage.

This time St. Francis answered the call with a touchdown of their own on a nice drive. They took over the lead by five 18-13.

Eating up the clock in the fourth quarter on a long drive put Decatur Community in good position when they scored leaving St. Francis with about 3 minutes and no time-outs to answer the call. They made it to the 1-yard line but the buzzer stopped the action.

St. Francis led in the rushing category for the game with 307 yards to 124 for Decatur Community but the Red Devils passed for 86 yards while Sainty completed one 19-yard pass. The final offensive totals saw the Indians with 326 yards and Decatur Community with 210.

"We need to get better and be more consistent at what we do," Coach Lambert said. "We have plenty of things that we will be working on. The defense looked good at times; so did the offense."

Jordan Gienger carried the ball for 132 yards for the evening while Gabe Smull added 83, Dylan Loyd 75 and Matt Brown 17.

Levi Weeden was the leading tackler with 16, five of them unassisted. Twelve other Indians had at least one tackle.

An overview of the first quarter saw third-down turnovers tell the



INDIANS ON THE MOVE – Gabe Smull attempts to gain yardage for the Indians on Friday night. The Indians scored the first two touchdowns but fell to Decatur Community 21-18.

Herald staff photo by Leslie McCormick

story in the first few minutes. First St. Francis fumbled on a third-down play and then Decatur Community had a pass intercepted on third-down.

Two penalties and the Indian defense hindered the Red Devils offensively.

Halfway through the quarter, Decatur Community had the ball again as the Indian drive stalled on fourth down. A holding penalty caused a run into the end zone to be voided and when they tried a pass it was battled down by Brown.

The St. Francis defense was not allowing any yardage on the ground and when they went to the air, the Indians rushed the passer giving Loyd an opportunity to pull down an interception.

During the remainder of the quarter, St. Francis began a nice drive when they received the punt on the 20-yard line. A combination of rushing attempts by Gienger, Brown, Smull and Loyd saw the team collect four first downs as they moved down field.

The drive ended at the beginning of the second quarter due to a fumble.

Decatur Community recorded their initial first down when they received the ball. This drive was stopped cold when Ted Crabtree stepped up and intercepted a pass.

The first successful scoring drive began at this time, taking advantage of the Red Devil miscue. After posting two first downs and keeping possession of the ball, St. Francis runner Gienger moved into the end zone with 2:42 on the clock. St. Francis now held a 6-0 advantage.

The score moved to 12-0 in the last seconds of the half when Gienger again scored on a rushing play. A pass to Loyd was one of the offensive pluses for the offensive movement.

The tide turned in the third quarter. Only a minute had passed in the quarter when Decatur Community used a pass play to score and then had a successful kick. The score was now 12-7.

A St. Francis fumble gave the Red Devils an opportunity to hold another scoring drive. By this time they were able, on occasion, to move the ball on the ground and the drive included a nice 30-yard run.

All of a sudden the Indians were behind 13-12.

It was time for St. Francis to get back in the game and they did. They took the ball from the 38-yard line into the end zone in the next four minutes. Loyd scored this time with 4:11 on the clock. The lead was back in the Indians' hands (18-13).

The philosophy of using up the clock on rushing plays worked for Decatur Community in the fourth quarter. There was only 3:12 left after they had controlled the ball nearly 9 minutes. They collected their winning score with a touchdown and a two-points conversion play and gave the Indians only a short time to answer back, especially when the Indians were limited on time outs to stop play.

Sainty did a good job, but fell just a little short with time running out.

Team stats

St. Francis listed first followed by Decatur Community: first downs: 20/10; rushing attempts and net yardage: 68 attempts for 307 yards/38 attempts for 124 yards; passing yardage: five for a total of 19 yards/three for a total of 86 yards; total offense: 307/124; punts: no punts/

three for 101 yards and a 33.7-yard average; fumbles: 3/0; penalties: five for 42 yards/six for 35 yards.

Individual stats

Rushing: Gienger, 132 yards on 25 attempts; Smull, 83 yards on 22 attempts; Loyd, 75 yards on 18 attempts; Brown, 17 yards on three attempts.

Passing: Brown, five attempts, one completion, 19 yards, no interception

Pass receivers: Loyd, one for 19 yards

Kickoffs: Weeden, four for 197 yards, a 49.3-yard average

Punt return: Loyd, one for 1-yard

Interceptions: Loyd, one; Crabtree, one

Scoring: Gienger, 12; Loyd, 6.

Tackles: Levi Weeden 16; A.J. McAtee 9, Loyd 9, Smull 9, Heath Owens 8, JD Hawkins 6, Russell Rogers 5; Adam Peter 4; Brennon Wilger 4; Gienger 3; Crabtree 3; Josh Carpenter 1; Brown 1.

Area scores

Weekend scores involving Northwest Kansas League teams include: Oberlin 21, St. Francis 18; Goodland 27, Hoxie 26; Oakley 24, Norton 3; Atwood 34, Colby 20

Junior High Volleyball

By Betty Jean Winston

In a change from the past, the junior high girls volleyball teams are now an A-team and a B-team instead of an eighth grade team and a seventh grade team. Therefore each team is combined of both eighth graders and seventh graders. They opened the season at home on Thursday, Sept. 1, against Northwest Kansas League opponent Oberlin.

The A-team began their match with a strong opening game, taking the opener 25-14. Lexi Reichert scored 8 points in the effort

Games two and three did not go quite as well as the final scores were 9-25, 12-15 giving Oberlin two games out of three and the match win.

"The girls played well in the first set but they lost some momentum and couldn't serve quite as well," Coach Terri Orth said. "They played a really close third set."

"We had fun and we're looking forward to our next game with Quinter."

Scoring: game one: Reichert 8, Brittany Henderson 6, Sarah Trembly 3, Allyson Marin 1; game two: Marin 2, Jodie Hilt 1, Reichert 1; game three: Jodie Hilt 1, Marin 1, Trembly 1.

B-team

This match went two games with St. Francis at the short end of the scoring. The final outcomes were 13-25; 10-25.

"The girls played very well for their first game of the year," Coach Orth said. "We are looking forward to a fun season. And we are looking for a win next week with Quinter."

Scoring: game one: Christina Hilt 2, Jeri Merchant 1, Aubree Schleppe 1, Mikaela Grace 1; game two: Brittney Statley 2, Merchant 1.

Football

By Betty Jean Winston

St. Francis junior high footballers scored a nice 18-0 shutout over Oberlin on Thursday, Sept. 1, in front of the St. Francis fans. The team has been busy practicing since the middle of August but this was their first attempt with outside competition.

"It was nice to play someone else finally," Coach Jeff Beims said. "After beating on each other for most of three weeks, we got to see how we measured up against another school."

"Obviously we feel pretty good about how we measured up."

All the scoring in the contest took place in the first half of play.

The first quarter saw the Indians take the lead when Trent Raile dashed 54-yard into the end zone. This made the score 6-0 as the conversion attempt was unsuccessful.

Two touchdowns were scored by St. Francis in the second quarter and in both instances the points-after attempts failed. Drew Zweygardt ran the ball in from 12 yards out for the first score. Adding the final touch was Raile with a 26-yard effort.

The team begins the season with a 1-0 record.

"We talked at half time about controlling the line of scrimmage and although we showed signs of doing that, I think we need to do better," Coach Beims said.

School Schedule

Thursday: junior high volleyball, Quinter, here, 4 p.m.; junior high football, Quinter, here, 4 p.m.; grade school pictures; board meeting;

Friday: high school football, varsity, Goodland, here, 7 p.m.

Saturday: high school volleyball, Gove County Tournament, Grinnell, 9 a.m.; high school volleyball, C-team quad, at St. Francis, 9 a.m.

Monday: high school football, junior varsity, Goodland, here, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday: high school volleyball, St. Francis, Sharon Springs, Rawlins County at Atwood, 4 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 15: junior high volleyball; junior high football, Oakley, there, 4:30 p.m.

Musician plays at Shrine Bowl

By Betty Jean Winston

Mac Frewen, a student at St. Francis Community High School, was selected to participate in the 22nd annual Kansas Masonic All-State High School Marching Band Camp at Kansas State University from July 26 through July 30. This was his second year to receive the invitation.

"Once again, I was thrilled and honored to represent St. Francis and be a part of the 2005 Masonic All-State Marching Band," Frewen said.

He told the members of the St. Francis Masonic Lodge that he sincerely appreciated the kindness in allowing him to renew friendships, share camaraderie and fellowship with the best band students in the state of Kansas.

"It was easier and a lot more fun when I met up with all my other friends all around the state," he said. "Plus, meeting new friends was one of the more exciting aspects of going. I was a bit more at ease and was able to take it all in."

Frewen attended the five day 233-member band camp in Manhattan with musicians from across the state of Kansas.

"This year I came away with a much deeper understanding of what it takes to put together such a spectacular event as the Shrine Bowl," Frewen said.

The Kansas Shrine Bowl tradition celebrated its 20th year when the marching band assembled in Manhattan.

The Masonic All-State Marching Band has become an integral part of the Shrine Bowl festivities. The members provide entertainment at the Shrine Bowl banquet the night before the game, march in the Shrine Bowl parade on game day morning, and entertain fans both before kickoff and during halftime of the game.

The band was the brainchild of then-director of bands at Wichita State University Brad Bone in 1984, who suggested the idea to Shrine Bowl Executive director Dave Mize. The early years of the

Shrine Bowl, which began in 1974, were marked by little music.

"College and high school bands were simply not ready at the time of year when the games are played (late July/early August) so it was tough getting any sort of musical entertainment," Mr. Bone said.

But the Masonic band changed that. The first band, consisting of 93 members, was formed in 1986. The size of the band has grown steadily over the years, and is now two-and-a-half time larger than the original.

The band is a project of the Kansas Masonic Foundation. The Masonic Lodges in communities across the state sponsors band members. The money pays for a band shirt, housing, meals, transportation, insurance, professional instruction, and social activities.

"This gave me a small idea of what living on a college campus is like," Frewen said. "We stayed in the college dorms and had to find the directed buildings without a map. A lot of students were getting lost the first few days."



MAC FREWEN (upper left) was a member of the All-State Band which entertained at the Kansas Shrine Bowl Game.

Kansas State University Director of Bands Dr. Frank Tracz directed this year's band.

Frewen is one of over 3,400 young people who have performed in the Masonic band since 1984.