

At the Game

Teams compete for championship

By Betty Jean Winston

The wrestling season will open with the Indians having several experienced mat men to lead the way. This should make for an exciting campaign. St. Francis again will be competing in a number of tournaments with the St. Francis Invitational expected to be very strong again this year.

Information on the Indian Invitational on Saturday can be found on Page One of *The Herald*.

This season St. Francis will have a squad that features a number of upperclassmen who have State experience. Returning wrestlers who qualified at Regionals to travel to Hays last year (2004/05 season) were Trevor Richard, Dylan Loyd, Brennon Wilger, Jordan Gienger and Gavin Smull. Some of them like Richard, Loyd and Gienger also went to the tournament and placed at the end of the 2003/04 season while Richard and Loyd placed at the 2002/03 tournament when Gabe Smull, who had also qualified, battled the flu.

"Richard is a good all-around wrestler," Coach Larry Gabel said. "Loyd and Gienger are tough at all positions. Gabe Smull is one of the better 160 pounders in the area and Wilger has strength on both his feet and on the bottom."

Last season the squad won six non-league duals and was 5-1 in league duals, winning the Northwest Kansas League title (they tied with Goodland at 5-1 but had defeated Goodland in dual action). They also won five tournaments including the Prairie Classic in Hays were wrestlers from many schools of all sizes compete.

The squad is composed of 21 mat men, the same number as last year. They are all busy increasing their

skills in daily practice sessions, although the practicing began late due to the exciting football playoffs. Each wrestler is out on the mat by himself and he will need the individual skills necessary to compete well.

Besides the wrestlers who attended State, Sainty has additional returning letter winners including Tal Earl, Matt Brown, Zach Mills, Russell Rogers, Josh Carpenter, David Guthmiller and Justin Sherlock.

"The attitude is very good," Coach Gabel said. "The seniors are providing good leadership."

Coach Gabel had the wrestlers take a few days off following the Smith Center/St. Francis football game but when they reported he said they were all ready to go.

"The skill level is good at this point and, due to weight lifting and off-season tournaments, most of them are stronger than last year.

"They attended a team camp in Kearney, Neb., and they wrestled tough, dominating the competition."

Traveling to Kearney were Josh Carpenter, Richard, Loyd, Gavin Smull, Justin Sherlock, Gienger, Brown, Rogers, Gabe Smull and Guthmiller.

"Brennon (Wilger) and Dylan (Loyd) attended the Brut Nationals in Lincoln, Neb., and placed while Loyd and Gienger placed in the Rocky Mountain Nationals.

"We don't have depth in every weight, which is a concern" Coach Gabel said.

He said the main goals for the year were to "have fun," learn as much as possible and "develop mental and physical toughness."

"If we do this winning takes care of itself."



WRESTLING SEASON IS HERE. Trevor Hilt and Matt Brown were among several wrestlers practicing.

He expects the Northwest Kansas League to be strong again this year including Colby, who beat the Indians last year.

"St. Francis will be doing their best," he said.

Looking at the strengths of some of the returning wrestlers, a number of them were in the top five in a variety of categories at the end of last

season including:

Wins: Loyd, Richard, Wilger.

Total points: Richard, Loyd, Wilger.

Takedowns: Richard, Loyd, Gienger.

Falls: Richard, Loyd, Gienger, Wilger.

Escapes: Wilger, Gavin Smull, Brown.

Fewest losses (20 or more matches): Richard, Loyd, Gabe Smull.

Roster

Seniors: Brown, Earl, Loyd, Richard, Gabe Smull,

Juniors: Gienger, Zach Mills, Rogers, Wilger

Sophomores: Carpenter, Guthmiller, Sherlock, Gavin Smull

Freshmen: Jeremy Meyer, David Meyer, Jesse Pacheco, Scott Ford, Tyler Miller, Trevor Hilt, Sam Sowers, Shawn Warren

Begin the wrestling season by attending the St. Francis Invitational on Saturday.

"I'm excited," Coach Gabel said. "It should be a fun year with us being very competitive."

Some additional league football statistics released

Additional Northwest Kansas League football statistics have been released. Below are the top 10 in various categories including offensive and defensive team statistics, tackles, interceptions, fumble recoveries, receiving, rushing, kick-off returns.

Team stats

Offensive rushing yards: St. Francis 3271, Hoxie 2466, Oakley 2413, Colby 1988, Goodland 1921, Rawlins County 1732, Quinter 1403, Oberlin 439

Offensive passing yards: Quinter 788, Rawlins County 721, Goodland 633, Oakley 510, Hoxie 488, Oberlin 462, Colby 242, St. Francis 167

Total offense: St. Francis 3428, Hoxie 2954, Oakley 2923, Goodland 2554, Rawlins County 2453, Colby 2230, Quinter 2191, Oberlin 901

Points scored: St. Francis 314, Hoxie 308, Oakley 224, Goodland 180, Quinter 178, Rawlins County 152, Colby 130, Oberlin 61.

Defensive total yards (rushing and passing): Quinter 2948, Goodland 2563, Rawlins County 2543, Oberlin 2260, Colby 2178, St. Francis 1564, Oakley 1458, Hoxie 1424

Defensive points scored: Colby 338, Goodland 279, Quinter 279, Rawlins County 234, Oberlin 153, St. Francis 110, Hoxie 94, Oakley 63.

Individual accomplishments

Tackles: Deaton, Quinter, 175; Bird, Hoxie, 161.5; Leighton, Quinter, 144; Werth, Quinter, 133; Rippe, Rawlins County, 123; Weis,

Hoxie 117.5; Munderloh, Colby, 106; Thomas, Oberlin, 102; Weeden, St. Francis, 98; Loyd, St. Francis, 85.

Interceptions: J. Sperber, Oakley, 5; Kessler, Quinter, 4; Baker, Hoxie, 3; Chatfield, Goodland, 3; T. Spresser, Hoxie, 3; Loyd, St. Francis, 3; Rippe, Rawlins County, 3; Crabtree, St. Francis, 3; Weis, Hoxie, 2; K. Johnson, Quinter, 2.

Fumble recoveries: Jones, Rawlins County, 5; Dunker, Rawlins County 4, Finley, Colby, 3; Starr, Goodland, 3; Porter, Oakley, 3; Racette, Oakley, 3; Kesler, Quinter, 3; Rippe, Rawlins County, 3; Garcia, Colby Receiving: T. Reed, Quinter, 463 yards; Keller, Oakley, 433 yards; Herl, Goodland, 275 yards; Erwin, Hoxie, 158 yards; Mondero, Oberlin, 156 yards; Juememann, Oberlin, 155 yards; Dunker, 148 yards; Peter, Oberlin, 147 yards; Thomas, Oberlin, 143 yards; Warta, Rawlins County, 130 yards.

Rushing: McKenna, Hoxie, 928; Gienger, St. Francis, 921; J. McAtee, St. Francis; 911; Keller, Oakley, 8;62; Smull, St. Francis, 862; Fenner, Goodland, 811; Warta, Rawlins County, 729; Munderloh, Colby 653; Tuma, Colby, 583; Younkin, Oakley, 548.

Kick-off returns: Reed, Quinter, 346 yards; Henderson, Goodland, 324 yards; Erwin, Hoxie, 181 yards; Lowry, Rawlins County, 171; Heier, Colby 118 yard; Garcia, Colby, 112 yards; Loyd, St. Francis, 109 yards; Chatfield, Goodland, 105 yards; Rippe, Rawlins County, 99 yards; Bird, Hoxie, 77 yards.

Grandson finishes college football career

The Pittsburg State University Gorillas ended their football season on Saturday when they were defeated in the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II quarterfinals by Northwest Missouri in a game played in Pittsburg. The final score was 21-10.

Senior Cole Vap, son of Jan and Jeff Vap and grandson of Elton and Ella Mae Keller, a starting de-

fensive tackle for the Gorillas, finished his college career with this contest.

Vap played high school football for LaCrosse before moving on to Pittsburg State upon his high school graduation.

Northwest Missouri will move to the next level of competition, the semi-finals, when they met Northern Alabama in Alabama on Saturday.

Sport Schedules

Wrestling schedule

Saturday, Dec. 3: St. Francis Invitational, 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, Dec. 8: Colby, there, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 9: Brush, there Saturday, Dec. 10: Brush Invitational, 10 a.m.

Friday, Dec. 16: Oberlin, here, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 17: Wray Invitational, there, 10 a.m.

Friday, Jan. 6: Hoxie, there, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 13: Oakley, here, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 15: Sterling Invitational Tournament, 10 a.m.

Friday, Jan. 20: Prairie Classic, Hays, 3 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 21: Prairie Classic, Hays

Saturday, Jan. 28: Northwest Kansas League Tournament, Goodland, 9:30 a.m.

Friday, Feb. 3: Goodland, there, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 5: Southwest Invitational Tournament, Indianola.

Friday, Feb. 10: Rawlins County, here, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 17: Saturday, Feb. 18: Regional Wrestling

Friday, Feb. 24: Saturday, Feb. 25: State Wrestling

C-team/9-10/novice

Saturday, Dec. 3: C-team, Goodland, 10 a.m.

Saturday, Feb. 14: Colby Novice Tournament, 9 a.m.

Basketball Schedule

Thursday, Dec. 1: Dundy County, here, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 6: Sagebrush Classic at Brewster

Friday, Dec. 9: Sagebrush Classic at Brewster

Saturday, Dec. 10: Sagebrush Classic at Brewster

Tuesday, Dec. 13: Cheyenne Wells, there, 5 p.m. Boys play first

Friday: Dec. 16: Oberlin, there, 6:30

Tuesday, Dec. 20: Colby, there, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 3: Rawlins County, here, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 6: Hoxie, here, 6:30

Friday, Jan. 13: Oakley, there, 6:30

Tuesday, Jan. 17: Oberlin Tournament

Friday, Jan. 20: Oberlin Tournament

Saturday, Jan. 21: Oberlin Tournament

Friday, Jan. 27: Brewster, there, 6:00

Tuesday, Jan. 31: Cheylin, here, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 3: Goodland, here, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 7: Sharon Springs, there, 6:30

Friday, Feb. 17: Quinter, here, 6:30

Tuesday, Feb. 21: Rawlins County, there, 6:30 p.m.

Monday/Saturday, Feb. 27 through March 4: Sub-state

Wednesday/Saturday, March 8 through 11: State

School Schedule

Thursday: high school basketball, Dundy County, here, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday: high school wrestling, St. Francis Invitational, 9 a.m.; high school wrestling, C-team, at Goodland, 10 a.m.

Tuesday: high school basketball, Sagebrush Classic

Thursday, Dec. 8: high school wrestling, Colby, there, 6:30 p.m.; junior high basketball, Goodland, here, 4:30 p.m.

Additional letter winners

Coach Tim Lambert has announced that football managers Brandon Rueb, Britney Lucas and Nate Ketzner, are 2005 letter winners.

Ladies honored

Northwest Kansas League coaches have announced the players being named to the All-League Volleyball team following the 2005 season. Each league team is represented by at least one player. League teams include Goodland, Colby, Hoxie, Oakley, Oberlin, Quinter, Rawlins County and St. Francis.

Lady Indians Allyson Reichert and Talisa Voorhies, seniors, were named to the first team while senior McKenzie Grace received honorable mention

League players to receive honors were Lissa Mazanec, Colby; Lydia Karnopp, Decatur Community; Dani Pratt, Hoxie; Chelsea Kramer, Rawlins County; Megan Dennis, Oakley; Rishonna Martin, Colby; Justeen Koehler, Goodland; Tricia Dorshorst,



Reichert



Voorhies



Grace

Decatur Community; Jocelyn Anderson, Quinter; Allyson Reichert, St. Francis; Heather Williams, Decatur Community; Megan Cahoj, Rawlins County, Talisa Voorhies, St. Francis.

Receiving honorable mention were Lauren Cox, Colby; Emmie Pauls, Decatur Community; Melissa Swagger, Goodland; Kristen Loftus, Oakley; Melissa Grandison, Quinter; Bethany Holste, Rawlins County; McKenzie Grace, St. Francis.

The Saint Francis Herald

and

The Bird City Times

Papers will be printed one day later on both weeks. All Ads & Copy **MUST** be in by Tues., Dec. 27 and Tues., Jan. 3

The Saint Francis Herald

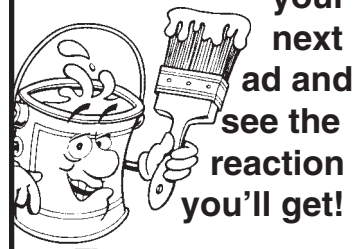
Will be **CLOSED** Mon, Dec. 26st & Mon., Jan. 2nd

Advocate ads must be in by Noon on Fri., Dec. 23 and Fri., Dec. 30

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