

At the Game



Ladies open season Tuesday at Sainty

By Betty Jean Winston

Leadership by returning letter winners will be an important factor as the Lady Indians varsity volleyball team takes to the floor on Tuesday. Teams from Hoxie and Golden Plains will be visiting St. Francis. Hopefully having the first competition of the year in front of home fans will be a confidence builder which carries into the remainder of the schedule.

"Leaders need to 'do' by example, show a positive attitude, encourage others, perform when needed and show their practice ethics by working hard on every play," Coach Kent Kechter said.

Seniors Danielle Flemming, Shaina Gohl, Lauren Ross, Alecia Zimelman, and Megan Rice, who earned a letter her sophomore year and did not play last year, and juniors Kattie Ford and Dara Loyd will be counted on heavily.

"All of the returning letter winners have starting experience with Lauren and Alecia being full-time starters last year.

"We will be bigger (taller) than we have been in the last few years. This year we have Shaina Gohl, Kattie Ford and Holly Keller, who have height and can be used as front row blockers.

"Along with having a pretty good number of skilled players, we have subs that can do a decent job.

"Dara was our setter last year and will be our starting setter again this year. We do have more depth in setting than before with Alecia and Katie Marin able to step in when needed.

"We need some cohesive play as a team as we have good balance, depth, pretty fair quickness and good overall passing skills."

"It is the consistency that we need, as it takes consistent good play to have a good season.

"During the practice sessions every player is required to spend time learning to pass, hits, and become familiar with all areas of the game.

"The girls are showing good skills and have a great attitude in practice. It will be interesting to see how this team develops and how successful they will become. The girls are working hard and are ex-

cited about the opportunity to play. "Keys for the season include to play hard every moment, show confidence and for players to set aside personal goals to play together as a team."

Volleyball fans will notice that a rule which is used in college play has moved down to the high school. This is the use of a libero player.

She is a specialized defensive player who must be designated on the lineup sheet prior to play. A designated libero may only perform as a back-row player and can only play the libero position. The libero is allowed to replace any player in a back-row position and replacements involving the libero are not counted as substitutions and are unlimited. The libero can only be replaced by the player whom she replaced. Replacements can only take place after the end of a rally or at the start of each game after the umpire has verified the starting lineup.

The libero player must wear a uniform top that is immediately recognized in clear contrast to and distinct from the other members of the team.

The use of the libero player can strengthen the play in the back row with Danielle Flemming, Lauren Ross or Katie Marin being possible candidates to fill the position.

"Others may develop at other levels," Coach Kechter said.

Many girls have attended camp(s) and played summer league and/or winter volleyball. St. Francis was the site of a Monday evening summer league during the month of July in which many Lady Indians participated. This league was in its first year with hopes of continuing in the future.

Sainty also fielded a team in the Ogallala team volleyball camp this summer and had their annual summer camp the latter part of July.

"This additional work should prove beneficial to the Lady Indians in the upcoming season," Coach Kechter said.

Besides the opening triangular in St. Francis on Tuesday, the Lady Indians will host Rawlins County, Sharon Springs and Wray on Sept. 12 and Imperial and Dundie County on Sept. 21.

This will be the 16th season that Coach Kechter has been at the helm of the Lady Indians and Coach Jeff Olofson (14th season) and Coach Talley Morrow (fourth season) will be assisting again this year.

"I have real good help," Coach Kechter said. "My assistant coaches are good role models, good people.

"Sophomore Sarah Guthmiller does a great job helping as a statistician."

St. Francis, as a member of the Northwest Kansas League, faces stiff competition from league teams.

Colby could be the strongest this year as they finished in fourth place at the 4A State Tournament last year and Coach Kechter indicated most of their players are returning. Oberlin qualified for the 3A tournament last year.

Open house

The football/volleyball open house will be held at 7 p.m. on Friday in the high school gym.

Roster

Seniors: Andrea Blair, Melissa Burton, Danielle Flemming, Shaina Gohl, Megan Rice, Lauren Ross, Adrienne Swihart, Alecia Zimelman, Janelle Zwegardt

Juniors: Cassie Dankenbring, Kattie Ford, Jenice Hartman, Holly Keller, Dara Loyd, Katlin Marin, Sara Miller, Teri Walters

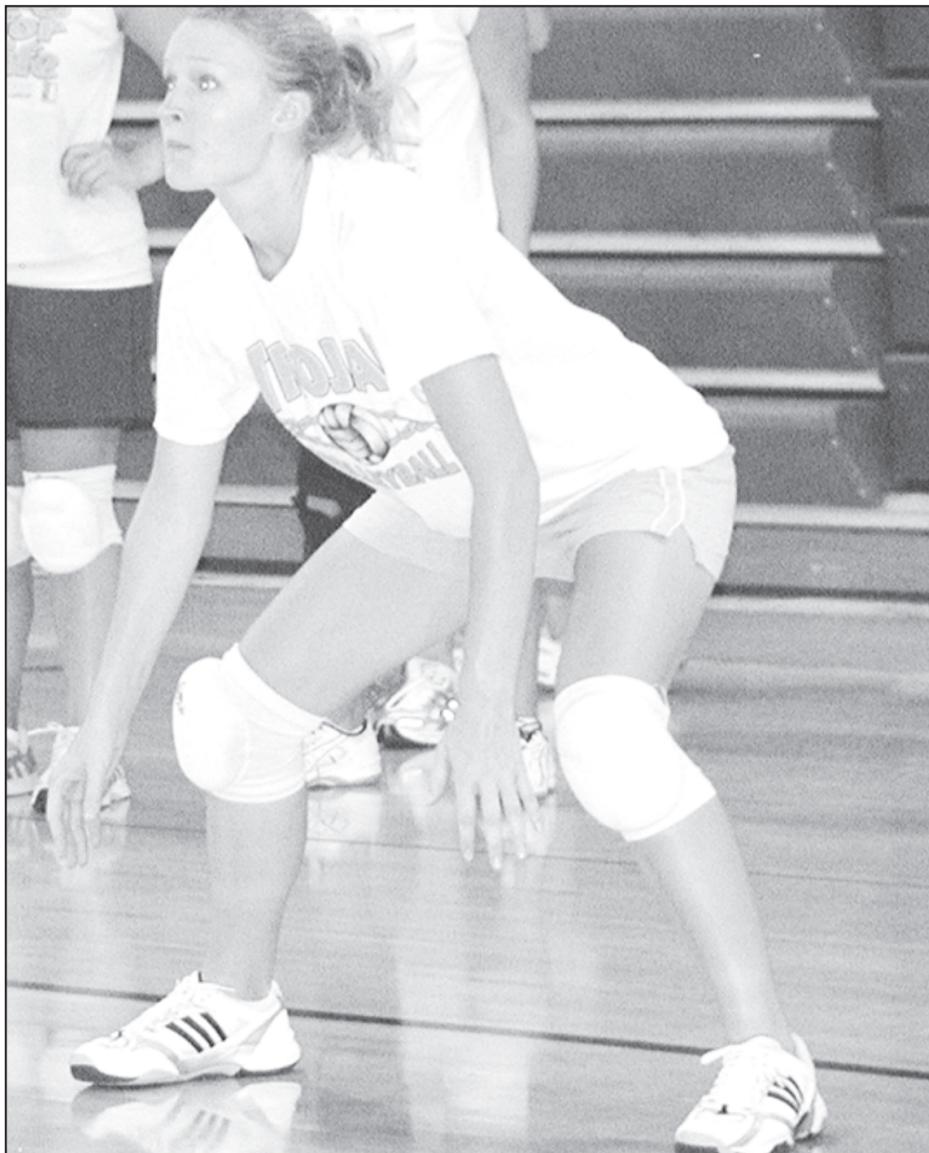
Sophomores: Elizabeth Gienger, Andrea Holzwarth, Cara Hunt, Taylor Kennedy, Lacey Kibel, Jami Pevler, Joni Pevler, Taryn Richard, Hailey Woodcox, Ashley Zwegardt

Freshmen: Emily Mullins, Dale Northrup, Taylor Spike, Kaycee Williams.

Volleyball schedule

Varsity, junior varsity, C-team or freshman teams may play on these dates.

Tuesday, Aug. 29: St. Francis, Hoxie, Golden Plains, at St. Francis, 4 p.m.



HOLLY KELLER has been busy, along with the other Lady Indians, preparing for the opening matches on Tuesday.

Herald staff photo by Betty Jean Winston

Tuesday, Sept. 5: Oberlin, Colby, St. Francis at Colby, 4 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 9: Gove County Tournament at Grinnell, 9 a.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 12: St. Francis, Rawlins County, Sharon Springs, Wray at St. Francis, 3 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 21: St. Francis, Imperial, Dundie County at St. Francis, 4 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 26: St. Francis, Oberlin, Cheylin at Oberlin, 3 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 29: Oberlin Tournament, varsity and junior varsity, 9 a.m.

Thursday, Oct. 5: St. Francis, Holyoke, Wray at Holyoke, 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 10: St. Francis, Triplains, Wallace County at Sharon Springs, 3 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 14: Northwest Kansas League Tournament at Atwood

Saturday, Oct. 21: Sub-state Tournament

Friday, Oct. 27 and Saturday, Oct. 28: State Tournament

Junior varsity - additional Saturday, Sept. 23: junior varsity tournament, Brewster, 10 a.m.

C-team - additional Saturday, Sept. 9: C-team quad at St. Francis, 9 a.m.

Saturday, Sept. 23: C-team tournament, Oberlin, 9 a.m.

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School Schedule

Friday: Football/volleyball open house, 7 p.m., high school Monday: PTA at Grade School, 7 p.m.

Tuesday: high school volleyball, St. Francis, Hoxie, Golden

Plains at St. Francis, 4 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 31: junior high volleyball, St. Francis at Oberlin, 4:30 p.m.; junior high football, St. Francis at Oberlin, 5:30 p.m.

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