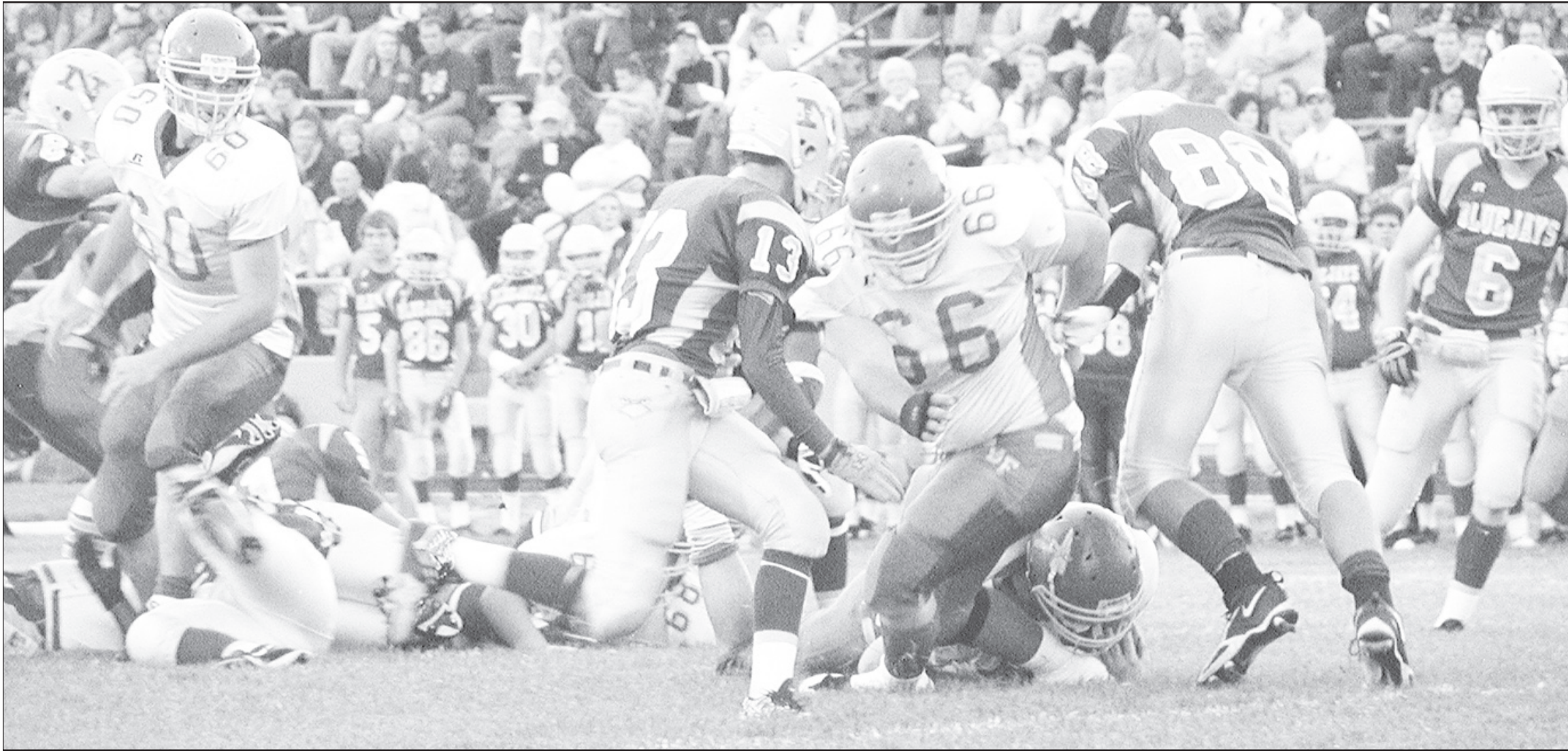


The Saint Francis Herald

At the Game



SENIOR ETHAN ZWEYGARDT contributed six tackles in the St. Francis vs Norton football game Friday night. He is one of the Indians who earned defensive league honors after the 2007 campaign. *Herald staff photo by Lezlie McCormick*

Sainty Indians defeated by strong Norton team

By Betty Jean Winston
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The Blue Jays knocked the Indians off the list of undefeated high school football teams on Friday night, Norton, who was a regular opponent of St. Francis back when both teams were members of the Northwest Kansas League, topped the Indians 36-16. It has been approximately 30 years since the two teams played regularly and Norton is still a worthy opponent.

"Norton has a good football team and they played very well," Coach Tim Lambert said. "We were a little dead emotionally. We didn't have what we needed to bring to the table."

This leaves St. Francis with a 4-1 record in 2-1A football and Norton, who was defeated by Smith Center by 2 points earlier this year, 4-1 in 3A.

St. Francis used up half of the first quarter with a successful drive. Jesse Pacheco received the kickoff and moved the ball to the 45-yard line giving St. Francis good field position.

The backfield of Trevor Hilt, Trent Raile and Adam Guthmiller collected three first downs to keep the drive going before Guthmiller took the ball into the end zone on a 2-yard rushing play. The largest gain of the drive was by Raile, who collected about 30 yards on the sixth play of the game. Shortly thereafter the Indians successfully made a first down on a fourth down play.

The clock read 6:42 when Guthmiller scored with the two-point conversion attempt by Raile giving the Indians an eight-point advantage.

Norton's first series resulted in a first down but during the second series they were stopped as they lost yards due to a penalty, had a short rushing play and then two incomplete passes.

The Indians had the ball again and were ready to repeat their earlier drive, but they were forced to punt on fourth down. Then a surprised Indian team had the ball returned to them when a flag was called on Norton during T. Raile's punt. After the penalty was marked off, St. Francis had their first down.

Unfortunately, a St. Francis fumble occurred during the next series and the Blue Jays used the Indian miscue to complete a pass on their first play from scrimmage. The pass receiver ended up in the end zone and Norton had their first touchdown of the night. They used a successful kicking attempt for the conversion point, making the score St. Francis 8, Norton 7.

With just a short time left in the quarter St. Francis received the kickoff and began play on their own 8-yard line. There was a completed Matt Raile to Trent Kinen pass which moved to ball out to the 38-yard line and a 2-yard gain by Guthmiller before the quarter ended.

The Indians continued moving the ball when the second quarter began. With the team facing a fourth down, they came through with a rushing play to retain the ball. Unfortunately, on the next series a fourth-and-2 attempt resulted in a fumble.

The ball exchanged hands until late in the period when Norton began a



JESSE PACHECO caught one of the three passes thrown by Matt Raile, quarterback, on Friday.

Herald photo by Lezlie McCormick

drive on the 37-yard line. They retained possession of the football, using both

rushing plays and passing plays until a 39-yard run put them in the end zone. The after-touchdown kick was good and Norton had a 14-8 halftime advantage.

Norton began the second half with their third touchdown of the night. The final play was a 1-yard run. A successful kick moved the score to 21-8.

St. Francis maintained a drive in this quarter which took them over 80 yards and ended with a 3-yard run by Guthmiller to post the score. T. Raile added two point on his conversion run, making the score 21-16.

The five-point difference in the score was less than one touchdown as the period was drawing to a close but with 46 second left Norton scored again. This time on a 13-yard run. For the first time in the contest they did not execute on the conversion attempt. The score at the end of three quarters was 27-16.

Norton added one more touchdown, this one in the fourth quarter on a 36-yard touchdown pass. The kick was successful making their score 34 and the Indians 16.

The final points of the evening took place when St. Francis had a bad snap and Norton scored a two-point safety.

Sainty had 252 rushing yards for the night plus four completed passes for 57 yards for a total of 309 yards of offense. Norton rushed for 130 yards and added 170 yards passing for a total of 300 yards.

Two players, Scott Ford and Shawn Warren each had seven tackles for the evening. They each had two unassisted and five assisted.

The Indians stand 3-0 in the Northwest Kansas League and 4-1 overall.

Next action

Sainty will entertain Hoxie, a member of the Northwest Kansas League, at Greene Field on Friday night.

Game stats

Scoring: Guthmiller 12, T. Raile 4. Rushing: T. Raile, 131 yards, Hilt, 63 yards, Guthmiller, 40 yards, Drew Zwegardt 12, Matt Raile 6.

Tackles: Ford 7, Warren 7, Ethan Zwegardt 6, Guthmiller 6, Terrence Lamb 5, M. Raile 4, J. Pacheco 4, T. Raile 4, Hilt 4, Casey House 4, Trent Kinen 2, D. Zwegardt 1.

Passes/pass receivers; M. Raile was 4-of-11 passing for a total of 57 yards. Kinen had two receptions for 40 yards, Pacheco had one for 10 yards and T. Raile had one for 7 yards.

Punts/kick-offs: Alex Long had three kickoffs for a total of 80 yards. T. Raile had two punts for a total of 71 yards. Having kickoff returns were D. Zwegardt with 6 yards; T. Raile with 5 yards and Pacheco with 4 yards.

St. Francis had four penalties for a total of 20 yards while Norton had six for a total of 60 yards.

The Indians had 19 first downs while the Blue Jays had eight.

Scores

League teams (11-man football): Norton 36, St. Francis 16; Colby 30, Phillipsburg 21; Goodland 35, Rawlins County 24; Oakley 50, Plainville 0; Osborne 8, Hoxie 0; Trego 38, Oberlin 12.

Junior High

Volleyball

21-25, 25-17, 8-15

"Once again the record shows a loss but I believe we were definitely winners in this game," Coach Tina Elliott said.

"This game we did much better against Hoxie then we did in the Saturday tournament. We took them to three sets and it was close all the way. The girls communicated well and had a lot of hustle in this match.

"I was very proud of them." Having good serves were: Laura Brunk 12, Krissy Harris 9, Jandy Dunn 4, Taylor Archibald 3, Ally Northrup 3, Clarice Neitzel 3.

B-team

16-25, 11-25

"We struggled with our serves

Football

their final home outing is on Monday with Colby.

"We lost a tough one to a pretty good Hoxie team on the road last week," Coach Jeff Beims said.

"Our defense played great, giving up only one touchdown late in the third quarter. We

in this match and I think that is what hurt us the most, but we kept going and overall didn't do too bad of a job," Coach Elliott said.

Having good serves were Rande Grover 4, Jacy Hilt 4, Aubrey Mills 2, Aly Schlepp 2, Bailey Merklin 2, Sarah Whitmore 1, Archibald 1.

C-team

25-14, 25-19

"They did very well and came up with a win," Coach Elliott said. "This first match of the day gave the girls more confidence."

Having good serves were Brunk 7, Mills 6, Neitzel 5, Archibald 5, Schlepp 4, Harris 3, Grover 3, Northrup 2, Dunn 2, Merklin 2, Katie Lambert .

just couldn't seem to get our offense going with any consistency, a problem we have had for most of the season really. Simply put, our blocking needs to improve. In the offense we run, it's tough to hide poor blocking."

Ladies score victory over Cheylin

By Betty Jean Winston
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The volleyball season is moving along and Saturday the Lady Indian junior varsity team attended the Oberlin Tournament. They met teams from Decatur County, Norton, Hoxie and Rawlins County. St. Francis scored a win over Hoxie, finishing the day 1-3.

"This is one of the most important tests of our junior varsity volleyball program," Coach Jeff Olofson said. "Year in and year out the competition is very good and matches tend to be close and exciting. Saturday was no exception. As the final scores indicate we played close games all day with exception of the last match."

Final scores of the matches include: vs Decatur County:

18-25, 25-23, 6-15; Norton: 24-26, 25-17, 13-15; vs Hoxie: 25-15, 15-25, 17-15; vs 21-25, 18-25.

"Volleyball is often described as a game of momentum and it certainly was at this tournament," Coach Olofson said. "In the first three matches the momentum swung back and forth and the winner of each game had the upswing at the right time. It is often hard for the young ladies to control their emotions in tight matches and that is one of the most important aspects of what they learn on these long days.

"The successful teams do a better job of managing the highs and lows. We are still learning how to do this but I think that the young ladies are getting better each week.

"We still struggle when our

servicing game is off and this is something we will work on in the coming weeks."

Tuesday, Sept. 30 vs Decatur County 18-25, 17-25

Oberlin and Cheylin visited St. Francis on Sept. 30 with the junior varsity team meeting a team from Oberlin. There was no junior varsity game with Cheylin.

"We got outplayed by a good Oberlin team," Coach Olofson said. "The only part of our game that was on was serving and Oberlin passed well enough to counter this.

"We passed and set inconsistently so our offense never really had good chances. We will see this team again and I hope that we can finally give them a good match.

C-team defeats Oberlin, loses to Wray

By Betty Jean Winston
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C-team volleyball action took place in St. Francis last week with St. Francis playing on both Tuesday and Thursday. The Tuesday game was a 23-25, 26-24, 15-7 win over Oberlin.

"We finally have a couple of wins under our belt (Goodland is the Oberlin Tournament and Oberlin on Tuesday!)" Coach Talley Morrow said. "I'm so happy for the girls."

"They are starting to figure it all out and work better both together

and individually. Thursday St. Francis lost to Wray 25-11, 18-25, 10-15.

"This crew has a long way to go, but the progress they are making is good," Coach Morrow said. "Keep working hard, girls!"