

The Saint Francis Herald

At the Game



TWO GOOD FOOTBALL TEAMS, St. Francis and LaCrosse met at Greene Field in regional football action on Saturday. Although each team had the advantage, at some point in the game, LaCrosse was the winner by one touchdown 38-30.
Herald staff photo by Casey McCormick

LaCrosse breaks tie to win game 38-30

By Betty Jean Winston
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Two top ranked 2A high school football teams went in to regional action in St. Francis on Saturday evening. The LaCrosse Leopards with a 10-0 record were rated number two in the state in 2A and the Indians with a 9-1 record were rated number five.

St. Francis went into the fourth quarter with a 30-24 advantage but LaCrosse tied the game and then went ahead with their second touchdown in the fourth quarter. The regional championship went to LaCrosse with a 38-30 final score. They will move on to sectional play against Smith Center who defeated Sacred Heart, 73-20.

St. Francis finished the season as the regional runner up after having been named the district champion and bi-district champion. The season ended with a 9-2 record.

Both teams played well during the contest, with each team taking advantage of their potent offense and a very good defense.

Seniors playing their last game for the Indians included Trent Kinen, Jesse Pacheco, Trevor Hilt, Tyler Larson, Casey House, Scott Ford, Ethan Zweygardt, Lance Owens, Shawn Warren and Sam Sowers.

LaCrosse scored on their first possession of the game on a 5-yard run. With an unsuccessful conversion play they held a slim 6-0 lead.

St. Francis came right back a couple of plays later and tied the score 6-6. Trent Raile took the ball 55 yards for the score. St. Francis failed in their conversion attempt making the score 6-6.

LaCrosse added another score in the first quarter with 4:12 on the clock. It was on a 14-yard running play. This time they added the two conversion points

and the first period ended with the Leopards 14, St. Francis 6.

After the second quarter began it was the Indian's turn. LaCrosse had an unsuccessful fourth down pass and Sainty took the ball at the 27-yard line. On the second play from scrimmage a pass to Trent Kinen put the Indians into Leopard country. They worked their way down to the 9-yard line when the clock showed 8 minutes remaining in the quarter. Adam Guthmiller took the ball in shortly thereafter from 4 yards out and Trevor Hilt went in for two more points to tie the score 14-14.

The final score before halftime took place with LaCrosse using 4 minutes off the clock in their march down field. They had three first downs as they made their way 69-yards to the end zone. The clock said 4:24 when they scored on a 4-yard run. After a completed conversion attempt the Leopards went into the locker

room with a 22-14 advantage.

The third quarter saw little scoring but the Indians maintained possession of the ball much of the time. On more than one occasion they were forced to convert on a fourth-down situation. A M. Raile to J. Pacheco pass inside the 10-yard line gave the Indians a touchdown and the opportunity to tie the score if they were able to convert the after-touchdown attempt. T. Raile took the ball into the end zone for the two points and the score was 22-22.

The teams went into the fourth quarter of this important post-season game tied. The last 12 minutes would tell the story.

Sam Sowers had the Indians fans on their feet when he tipped a LaCrosse pass. All of a sudden Guthmiller had the ball and made a heads-up play. With a 35-yard run he was in the end zone. This put Sainty up 28-22. A T. Raile conversion attempt had Sainty

ahead 30-22 for the first time in the game.

LaCrosse still had time on the clock and they took advantage of it by scoring twice, once on a 14-yard touchdown pass and again on a 4-yard run. The second touchdown was set up when the Indians were forced to punt on a fourth down play and the Leopards took advantage of a long pass from the quarterback which put them within 10-yards of the end zone. The conversion attempt was good after the touchdown was scored and LaCrosse moved into sectional play.

St. Francis had 205 yards rushing in the game and 47 yards passing for a total offense of 252 yards. They had 11 first downs and only two penalties for a total of 7 yards.

Defensively T. Raile and Sowers had sacks and Sowers had a pass deflection as did Kinen. T. Raile recovered a

fumble and Guthmiller had a pass interception which turned into an Indian score.

vs LaCrosse

Scoring: Guthmiller 12, T. Raile 10, Pacheco 6, Hilt 2.

Rushing yards: T. Raile 155, Hilt 31, Guthmiller 13, Cody Sherlock 6.

Tackles: T. Raile 16, Guthmiller 14, Kinen 13, Sowers 12, J. Pacheco 10, Ford 9, E. Zweygardt 7, M. Raile 6, Warren 5, House 4, Alex Long 2, Brooks Hobrock 2, Drew Zweygardt 1, Sherlock 1, Freddy Pacheco 1, Cody Killingsworth 1.

Passes/pass receivers: M. Raile was 2-of-5 passing. Kinen had a pass reception for 43 yards and J. Pacheco had one for 6 yards.

Punts/kick-offs: Long had five kickoffs for 155 yards; T. Raile had three punts for 94 yards. Having a kickoff return was Kinen for 12 yard.

St. Francis earns bi-district title over Decatur Community

By Betty Jean Winston
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The Indian offense was going strong Tuesday night, rolling up a 52-8 score over the Decatur Community Red Devils in bi-district football action. This win resulted in St. Francis advancing to regional competition on Saturday against the La Crosse Leopards.

Tuesday night, the Indian defense returned the ball to the offense a number of times as a result of interceptions and just plain preventing the Red Devils from making a first down.

The Red Devils threatened to score on a couple of additional occasions, moving within 10-yards of the Sainty end zone but the Indian defense held.

As always the win was a team effort, but several players had unusually good games. The Indians answered their opponents passing attempts with nine interceptions. Of these, Trent Kinen was responsible for four of them and Matt Raile added two.

Also accounting for interceptions were Jesse Pacheco, Terrence Lamb and Trent Raile.

Kinen and Sam Sowers had sacks to further inhibit the Red Devils.

Offensively, Sainty rushed for 480 yards.

T. Raile had a four-touchdown night with two scores in the first quarter, one in the second and one in the third. He led the team in rushing yards with a total of 225 for the evening. He accounted for 1,407 yards rushing during the nine game pre-playoff season.

Three other players rushed for over 50-yards against the Red Devils with Drew Zweygardt having 74, Adam Guthmiller 61 and Cody Sherlock 55.

An Alex Long kickoff put Decatur Community's opening series on the 25-yard line. The Sainty defense sent a message early when Kinen sacked the quarterback on the third play of the game forcing them to punt on fourth down.

St. Francis took over on the

45-yard line and four plays later T. Raile was on his way to the end zone from 29-yards out for the first score of the game. The time was 8:30 of the first period. Before the touchdown, Trevor Hilt and Adam Guthmiller had gained yardage for Sainty.

The Red Devils used the pass when they began the next series but even though they had one completion out of the three attempts the total yardage gained was only 4 yards. During the third attempt, a St. Francis interception almost took place.

St. Francis recovered their own fumble to keep possession of the ball early in the next series. Besides Hilt, Guthmiller and T. Raile, yardage was gained by Matt Raile and Cody Sherlock. T. Raile scored on a 17-yard run for the next touchdown. Sherlock added the two conversion points and the score was 16-0.

Casey House and Shawn Warren put pressure on the Decatur Community offense forcing them back to a second

and 15 position. They had to punt on fourth down.

Shortly before the quarter ended, St. Francis had possession of the ball and worked their way down to the 42-yard line.

It was from this point that T. Raile opened the second quarter with a touchdown run for the third score of the evening. A. M. Raile to Jesse Pacheco pass scored the after-touchdown points to make it 24-0.

Decatur Community was still making completion on short passes and made a first down. Sainty again mounted a pass defense and M. Raile had an interception. The Red Devils scored on their next series with the clock showing 5:08. They did succeed on their conversion attempt making it 24-8.

An offside kick saw the Red Devils make a recovery but they were forced to part with the ball as soon as Kinen had another of his interceptions. He had another one before half-time, making it impossible for the Red Devils to

mount a series offensive drive.

The Indians kept the offensive and defensive pressure on during the third quarter when they added four additional touchdowns.

The first one was on a 60-yard run by T. Raile making it 30-8. The other three scores were on a 37-yard run by Guthmiller, a 36-yard run by T. Raile and a 27-yard interception return by J. Pacheco. Hilt had a successful conversion after the Guthmiller touchdown and Guthmiller had a two-point conversion run following the Pacheco score for a final of 52-8.

vs Decatur Community

Scoring: T. Raile 30, J. Pacheco 8, Guthmiller 8, Hilt 4, Sherlock 2.

Rushing yards: T. Raile 225, Drew Zweygardt 74, Guthmiller 61, Sherlock 55, Hilt 37, M. Raile 12, Terrence Lamb 10, Garrett Figgins 6.

Tackles: Kinen 9, Guthmiller, M. Raile 7, T. Raile 6, Sam Sowers 5, J. Pacheco 4, Scott Ford 4, Sherlock 3, Lamb 3, Figgins 3, D.

Zweygardt 2, Alex Long 2, Tyler Larson 2, Casey House 2, Ethan Zweygardt 2, Shawn Warren 2, Brooks Hobrock 1.

Passes/pass receivers: There was only one passing attempt and it was incomplete.

Punts/kick-offs: Long had eight kickoffs for 333 yards; T. Raile had two punts for 77 yards. Having kickoff returns were one for 22 yards and T. Raile with one for 1-yard.

Sacks: Kinen 1, Sowers 1. Interceptions: Kinen 4, M. Raile 2, J. Pacheco 1, Lamb 1, T. Raile 1.

2-1A bi-district winners

Sixteen teams were successful in bi-district action on Tuesday night. Other winners in the bottom bracket besides St. Francis were Smith Center, Sacred Heart, LaCrosse, Ellis, Ell-Saline, Meade and Oakley. Winners in the upper bracket included Solomon, Centralia, Moundridge, Pittsburg Colgan, St. Marys, Troy, Olpe and Pleasanton.

B-team volleyball season ends at tourney

A win over Quinter at the Northwest Kansas League Tournament ended the season for the St. Francis junior high B-team. They earned seventh place by defeating Quinter 25-15, 22-25, 15-2. The tournament was held Oct. 27 in Oberlin.

"We had a good end to our season with a win over Quinter, who was ranked number four going in to the tournament," Coach Leigh Ann Bandel said. "St. Francis was defeated by Oakley by the scores of 24-26, 20-25."

"The day started out against the number one seed, Oakley. I was really proud of the girls' attitudes going into this first match. We lost both sets but as you can see from the score, we did not hand them the win easily."

Having good serves in this match were Bailey Merklin 11, Taylor Archibald 9, Rande Grover 5, Aly Schlepp 5, Sarah

Whitmore 4, Nariah Hamilton 3.

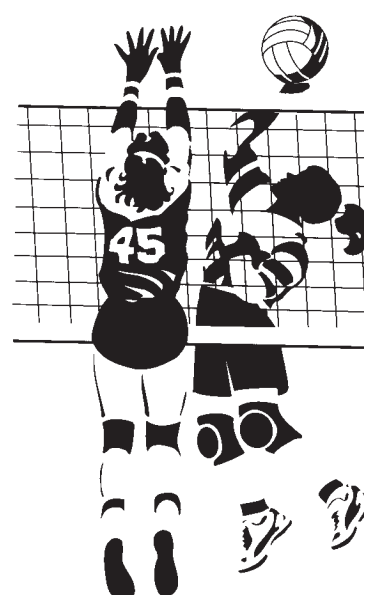
The second match of the day for the Sainty B-team was against Colby and the final scores were 15-25, 16-25.

Having good serves in this match were Whitmore 4, Archibald 4, Schlepp 4, Hamilton 3, Grover 2, Merklin 2.

"We didn't play our best against Colby, but pulled together against Quinter for a win!" Coach Bandel said. "It was a great way to end the season."

In the Quinter match, St. Francis won the first game but fell short in the second one Quinter 1-1. The third match was all St. Francis as the B-team scored a decisive victory. The final scores were 25-15, 22-25, 15-2.

Having good serves in this match were Archibald 21, Grover 16, Hamilton 9, Whitmore 4, Schlepp 3, Merklin 2.



"These six girls have worked so hard to improve their skills all year," Coach Bandel said. "Their serving has improved, their communication has improved, as has their passing skills."

Decatur Community defeats Sainty in basketball competition

By Betty Jean Winston
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The junior high boys basketball season opened at home on Thursday, Nov. 6. St. Francis boys were defeated by the Decatur Community boys in both contests. The final score in the eighth grade contest was Decatur Community 46, St. Francis 19. The final score of the seventh grade game was Decatur Community 36, St. Francis 13.

The boys also played at home against Quinter on Tuesday and then will be on the road until Monday, Nov. 24, when they meet Hoxie at home.

Eighth grade

Zach Gienger, Dylan Peter and Foster Grant scored for St. Francis in their 46-19 loss to Decatur Community.

"The guys did a good job for their first competition," Coach David Butler said. "We hustled well and learned a lot from the game experience."

"We need to do a better job getting the ball down low to our low post players. We did a good job on rebounds, but we put up way too many careless and low percentage shots. We did not execute offensively very well, but will be working hard to do better." SF 2 4 8 5 19 DC 7 9 15 15 46

In fifth quarter play Decatur Community scored two points to zero for St. Francis.

"We also need to do better getting more scorers involved in our next game," Coach Butler said.

Gienger had points, Peter 4 and

Grant 2.

Seventh grade

In their first junior high basketball competition the seventh grade boys were defeated by the score of 36-13.

"The guys did a good job for their first competition," Coach Kent Kechter said. "We hustled well and learned a lot from the game experience."

We did not execute offensively very well, but will be working hard to do better. SF 2 4 7 0 13 DC 8 6 12 12 36

Scoring: Jacob Butler 3, Lane Hoffman 3, Gaten Cooper 3, Mason Schiltz 2, Wyatt Landenberger 2.

"It was nice five different kids scored in the game," Coach Kechter said.