



## The Saint Francis Herald

# At the Game

## Indians play for Sagebrush championship

By Betty Jean Winston  
betty.w@nwkanas.com

St. Francis earned the right to play in the championship game of the Sagebrush Classic by defeating Brewster and Stratton in pool play. Rawlins County, the winner of the other pool, met the Indians on Saturday night in Brewster.

When the final buzzer sounded, the Buffaloes walked away with an 86-44 victory.

"The loss to Rawlins County was disappointing," Coach Jeff Beims said. "They are a good team, but not 40 points better than us."

St. Francis players Trent Raile and Trent Kinen were voted to the All-Tournament team following the action.

Matt Raile also was recognized as he won the boys three-point shooting contest by making 13 threes in one minute.

### Game one

#### St. Francis 54, Brewster 50

"It was great to get a win against Brewster Monday night," Coach Beims said "They might not be the powerhouse of year's past, but they are a quality program, and they have a good team. Beating perennially good teams is the first step to joining their ranks."

Although the Indians came out on top at the end, the lead changed hands during the game with the Bulldogs having a 24-23 halftime advantage. The Indians outscored Brewster in the first and third quarters and Brewster led the scoring in the second and fourth quarters.

St. Francis had a 46-40 advantage after the third quarter and held on to win the game.

"I thought the key to the game would be rebounding," Coach Beims said. "I thought if we could limit their scoring opportunities we would be in good shape. We did win the 'battle of the boards,' but not overwhelmingly. What ultimately won it for us was three-point shooting and free throws."

"Matt Raile hit four three-pointers in the third quarter, putting us up by eight at one point. We were able to hang on down the stretch, thanks in large part to the free-throw shooting of Drew Zwegardt and Trent Raile who combined to hit four free throws in the last minute to ice the victory."

The long shot put M. Raile ahead in the scoring for the evening with 15 points. Two other Indians, Trent Raile and Trent Ki-

nen, also hit in double figures with T. Raile having 13 and Kinen 10.

Sainty was 19-of-54 from the field and 10-of-18 from the line.

The team had 27 total rebounds with M. Raile and Sam Sowers each having seven. Sowers led the team in assists with three.

Kinen had three of the teams eight steals.

"We have to continue to improve on defense," Coach Beims said. "Although we are starting to understand the basic concepts of it, the little fundamental things like footwork and positioning need work. That comes with practice. We'll get better."

SF	13	10	23	20	54
B	9	15	16	10	50

Scoring: M. Raile 15, T. Raile 13, Kinen 10, D. Zwegardt 7, Garrett Figgins 3, Jacob Riedel 2, Brooks Hobrock 2, Sowers 2.

Rebounds: M. Raile 7, Sowers 7, Kinen 5, T. Raile 5, Figgins 2, Hobrock 1.

### Game two

#### St. Francis 50, Stratton 41

The Indians outscored Stratton in every quarter except the third to take the second victory in the Sagebrush Classic. The winning score was 50-41. This win qualified them for the championship game scheduled for Saturday.

The two Trents, Raile and Kinen led the scoring for St. Francis with 16 points each. Kinen put seven of his points through the hoop at the free-throw line, making 7-of-8 attempts. All of Raile's points came from the field.

"The win over Stratton was bittersweet," Coach Beims said. "Although we got a win against a good opponent that has given us trouble over the years, I think we could have had this game in hand in the third quarter. We did just enough offensively to win, but defensively we didn't play as well as we could have."

The team hit 19-of-56 attempts from the field for 34 percent. At the free-throw line they put in 10-of-14 for about 76 percent.

In this contest, T. Raile pulled down 11 boards with seven of them defensive. Kinen and Sowers were next with eight each.

The team had nine turnovers and collected eight steals. Kinen had five of the steals.

"Good teams have the ability to smell blood in the water, and we don't have that killer instinct quite yet," Coach Beims said. "It's the



TWO SENIOR MEMBERS of the Indian squad are Sam Sowers (left) and Ethan Zwegardt. Both were caught working out in the gym.

Herald staff photos by Betty Jean Winston

offense that gets you the lead, but it's defense that slams the door on opponents. We have to be able to turn up the intensity when we have a lead. That is what takes a

five-point lead and turns it into a 20 point victory."

SF18 12 9 11 50

S 16 8 11 6 41

Scoring: Kinen 16, T. Raile 16,

Sowers 9, M. Raile 5, D. Zwegardt 4.

Rebounds: T. Raile 11, Sowers 8, Kinen 8, M. Raile 7, D. Zwegardt 3, Figgins 1, Long 1.

### Championship game Rawlins County 86, St. Francis 44

After a reasonably even first quarter, the Buffs turned on the heat and scored 20 points or more in each succeeding period.

Rawlins County won the championship with an 86-44 effort after leading 45-20 at halftime. They had four players score in double figures.

St. Francis was led by M. Raile with 17 points and Kinen with 11. Raile had three three-pointers, three field goals and was 2-of-2 from the line. Kinen had two three's, two other field goals and a free throw.

"We really beat ourselves in this game," Coach Beims said. "Turnovers absolutely killed us. Rawlins County is a transition team. They like to get out and run. One of the keys was to keep them from doing that, but when you turn the ball over, it makes for a prime opportunity to run."

"They capitalized on our mistakes, but instead of slowing down and regaining control, we just kept feeding them the ball. A wise man once said that when you find yourself in a hole the first thing you do is stop digging. Especially in the second quarter, not only did we not stop digging, we called in a backhoe."

Sainty had a 40-percent field-goal shooting but shot less than 50 percent from the free-throw line, making 5-of-11.

M. Raile had three blocks, T. Raile had seven rebounds and also led in steals with three. The team had 18 turnovers to six steals.

"Rebounding is another aspect of the game that needs improvement," Coach Beims said. "Anytime you give a team like Rawlins County three or four chances to score, they usually will. We have to toughen up defensively and limit opponents' opportunities to score."

"Offensively we did alright, but we need to be more patient and clean up our offense. Little things like setting and using screens properly, and cutting down on turnovers certainly tops the list of things that need work."

SF 13 7 9 15 44

RC 17 28 21 20 86

Scoring: M. Raile 17, Kinen 11, T. Raile 6, Jacob Riedel 6, Garrett Figgins 2, Ethan Zwegardt 2.

Rebounding: T. Raile 7, M. Raile 6, Kinen 3, E. Zwegardt 3, Riedel 2, Figgins 1, Alex Long 1.

## Sainty plays Cheylin in final tourney game Saturday

By Betty Jean Winston  
betty.w@nwkanas.com

The Lady Indians met Brewster, Stratton and Cheylin in basketball action during the Sagebrush Classic.

Brewster, Stratton and St. Francis were in one pool while Rawlins County, Cheylin and Triplains formed the other pool.

After the Lady Indians were defeated by Brewster on Monday and Stratton on Tuesday, they placed third in their pool. Cheylin had placed third in the other pool.

Cheylin and St. Francis met for fifth place on Saturday. The Lady Cougars prevailed by a close 53-52 score.

"We were down by one point with 3.2 second left and had the ball out under Cheylin's basket," Coach Larry Flemming said.

"We inbounded the ball to half court but as we were going to score a Cheylin player knocked the ball out of bounds. With .5 seconds left, we inbounded the ball and got a shot off in time, but it bounced off the rim and Cheylin was victorious."

### Game one

#### Brewster 46, St. Francis 32

There were only four points (19-15) dividing Brewster and St. Francis at halftime but the Lady Bulldogs increased the lead in the second half for a 46-32 victory.

"Our shooting woes continued in this game," Coach Flemming said.

The Lady Indians attempted 63 field goals but only 10 of them found the opening in the basket.

The shooting from the free-throw line was a different story as they connected on 10-of-15 for 67 percent. The free throws were attempted



SIDNEE CRABTREE and Andrea Holzwarth, both seniors, are practicing before the next game.

Herald staff photo by Betty Jean Winston

by only three players with Kaycee Williams having 2-of-2, Jami Pevler 4-of-5 and Andrea Holzwarth 4-of-6.

Jami Pevler led the scoring for the evening with 10 points. Besides her free throws she hit 3-of-5 field goal attempts for 60 percent.

"The game was actually closer than the final score," Coach Flemming said. Brewster led by only seven points going into the final frame.

"Brewster had a better shooting percentage from the field," he said "They made 13 field goals but had less attempts."

"Erskin of Brewster is a skilled player and they have more than one skilled player on the team."

Sainty had 23 rebounds with 14 of them offensive. The 23 boards were distributed among nine players with Jami Pevler having five and Holzwarth and Elizabeth Gienger having four each to lead the team.

Sidnee Crabtree, Jami Pevler and Holzwarth each had four out of the 20 successful take-aways of the game. Also having steals were Williams 3, Sarah Trembly 2 and Christina Hilt 1.

"We are working on our skills including working to improve our defense," Coach Flemming said.

SF	8	7	9	8	32
B	10	9	12	15	46

Scoring: Jami Pevler 10, Williams 7, Holzwarth 4, Gienger 4, Joni Pev-

ler 3, Trembly 2, Shayla Hilt 2.

Rebounding: Jami Pevler 5, Holzwarth 4, Gienger 4, Trembly 3, Williams 2, C. Hilt 2, Joni Pevler 1, Jodie Hilt 1, Shayla Hilt 1.

### Game two

#### Stratton 63, St. Francis 36

Stratton had a 33-13 lead at half time and went on to win the game 63-36.

"This was the first team this season that took more shots than we did, and they were skilled enough to score!" Coach Flemming said.

St. Francis attempted 53 field goals for the evening and was successful 11 times.

"Stratton was very good at seeing the court, making good passes

and getting the ball to the open girl," Coach Flemming said. "They shot 40 percent from the floor, no matter whether it was a three, layup, or perimeter shot. They were 25-of-62."

Crabtree led the Sainty scoring in this game with 11. She had three two-pointers, one three-pointer and was perfect at the line with 2-of-2.

The team was 12-of-18 from the line. Besides Crabtree; Jami Pevler, Williams and Gienger were all 2-of-2 from the line.

Twenty-six rebounds were collected with 10 of them offensive and the other 16 defensive. Jami Pevler and C. Hilt each had four.

The Lady Indians had seven steals for the evening but unfortunately had 33 turnovers. Holzwarth and Crabtree led in steals with two each.

SF	7	6	12	11	36
S	13	20	11	19	63

Scoring: Crabtree 11, Williams 5, Gienger 4, Ali Marin 4, Joni Pevler 3, S. Hilt 3, Jami Pevler 2, J. Hilt 2, Mikaela Grace 2.

Rebounds: Jami Pevler 4, C. Hilt 4, Crabtree 3, Marin 3, Joni Pevler 2, Holzwarth 2, J. Hilt 2, Grace 2, and Williams, Gienger, Trembly and S. Hilt, 1 each.

### Game three

#### Cheylin 53, St. Francis 52

St. Francis was in this basketball game until the final buzzer. They had a 50-49 advantage with about a minute and a half to go but Cheylin came back with two free throws to turn the lead back to Cheylin. The nip-and-tuck game saw St. Francis go ahead on a field goal by Andrea Holzwarth and then Cheylin scored again and the Lady Indians could not reply to the basket, giving Cheylin the victory.

The Lady Indians were playing catch-up ball in the fourth quarter as the Lady Cougars had a strong third quarter and pulled ahead of St. Francis by nine points. Cheylin had scored 18 points compared to 10 for St. Francis. Sainty just about came away with the win as they outscored Cheylin in the first quarter, failing a come back by only two points.

Gienger was the leading scorer for St. Francis with 11 points. She had four field goals and was 3-of-4 at the free-throw line. The remainder of the scoring was distributed among nine other players with Holzwarth following Gienger with nine points. She had three field goals and was also 3-of-4 from the line.

Sainty hit 16-of-26 free throws for 62 percent. Their percentage from the field was 23 percent, making 18-of-78 attempts.

With a total of 35 rebounds, the team had 16 offensive boards and 19 defensive ones. Holzwarth led in this area with eight. Again many members of the squad helped with the total, as 11 players had at least one.

Sainty had 23 steals and 20 turnovers. Crabtree led in steals with six.

SF	12	10	10	20	52
C	8	12	18	15	53

Scoring: Gienger 11, Holzwarth 9, Crabtree 8, Jami Pevler 6, Trembly 5, Hilt 4, J. Hilt 4, Joni Pevler 2, Marin 2, Mikaela Grace 1.

Rebounds: Holzwarth 8, Crabtree 5, Gienger 5, Jami Pevler 4, Williams 3, Joni Pevler 2, Trembly 2, C. Hilt 2, Grace 2, Marin 1, J. Hilt 1.