

At the Game

Indians lose two home contests

By Betty Jean Winston
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Those who missed the last few minutes of the Oakley-St. Francis boys basketball game at the high school Friday night missed an exciting finish. St. Francis came sooooo close to sending the game into overtime in the last seconds. The shot just did not go through the hoop. The team had displayed a surge in the final minutes of play and they succeeded in closing the gap but just not getting the win. The final score was 55-52.

On Tuesday night, the Wolves from Idalia traveled to St. Francis to play the Indians for the first time not counting occasional tournament play. Idalia went home with a 54-49 win.

Idalia 54, St. Francis 49

"The second quarter of our game against Idalia personifies the things that have been killing us all year," Coach Jeff Beims said. "To sum it up, we attempted only five shots in the entire quarter, making only one. When you don't value the ball, you tend to turn it over. When you turn it over you give up an opportunity to score, not to mention giving the other team a pretty good chance to score at the other end."

"Idalia had some real good chances to score, as we tended to give them two or three opportunities every time they tried in the second quarter. It is the little things like rebounding and passing that have beat us all year."

"Oddly though, those issues seem to flare up only once or twice a game. We have these temporary

meltdowns that might last 3 or 4 minutes and then we play decent. The second quarter was the Chernobyl of our season. If you take that quarter away we win the game by 3 points. It's up to me to minimize the meltdowns."

Trent Kinen had a high scoring evening with 22 points. He was 4-of-8 with his three point attempts and he added four other field goals and was 2-of-2 from the line.

Also scoring in double figures were Trent Raile with 12 and Matt Raile with 11. Both of these men also hit a three pointer with M. Raile making three and T. Raile one. This game, the team had a total of eight three's.

They had a good percentage from the free-throw line making 7-of-9 attempts.

M. Raile led in rebounds with eight, while also having two blocked shots. Kinen and Sam Sowers also blocked a shot.

SF 13 4 13 19 49
I 10 12 15 17 54

Scoring: Kinen 22, T. Raile 12, M. Raile 11, Alex Long 2, Sowers 2.

Rebounding: M. Raile 8, Kinen 6, T. Raile 4, Sowers 3, Drew Zwegardt 3, Garrett Figgins 1, Brett Lampe 1.

Oakley 55, St. Francis 52

The Indians just about pulled the game out at the end but fell by the score of 55-52. They had gone into the final period behind 47-33 so they gave an encouraging hitting spree late in the game, outscoring Oakley 19-8 in the fourth quarter.

"Defensively I thought we played much better against Oakley," Coach



THROUGH THE HOOP — Ethan Zwegardt (50) and Trent Kinen (10) are prepared to retrieve Matt Raile's ball in case it does not hit its mark.

Herald staff photo by Betty Jean Winston

Beims said. "I was especially impressed with our work on the boards."

Sainty had 46 total rebounds in this contest, 28 of them defensive and 18 offensive. Six players contributed to the larger than usual amount of boards with M. Raile having 14 and Kinen 11.

"We had some trouble early fighting through Oakley screens, but we started switching baseline screens and that seemed to slow

them down a bit," Coach Beims said. "Our main problem continues to be our inability to score. We scored three field goals in the first half. Luckily they were all three pointers, but when you rely on the three, it usually comes back to haunt you. The frustrating thing is we got the shots we wanted, but just couldn't hit them. We missed seven shots right at the rim, and at least five of those should have been automatic."

In this contest, three players provided all of the scoring during the evening. M. Raile had 22 points, Kinen 19 and Trent Raile 11. They were 29 percent from the field including both twos and threes. The six threes, which were successful, accounted for 18 of the points. Sainty earned 18 more points from the free-throw line. Kinen hit 8-of-9 and M. Raile 7-of-8 to lead the way.

Sowers came up with two blocked

shots and M. Raile one.

"We play a pretty good Hayes Center team Friday, and we will have to continue to rely on our defense, and get better around the rim," Coach Beims said.

SF 10 10 13 19 52
O 16 15 16 8 55

Scoring: M. Raile 22, Kinen 19, T. Raile 11.

Rebounding: M. Raile 14, Kinen 11, T. Raile 9, Sowers 6, D. Zwegardt 4, Ethan Zwegardt 2.

Junior varsity girls

By Betty Jean Winston
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The girls junior varsity basketball team won two-of-three contests played this week with two of the games being at home and the lone loss on the road. Wins were over Idalia (22-16) and Oakley (58-52). The loss was to Heartland Christian (36-26).

The C-team defeated Heartland Christian on Monday by the score of 13-12.

Monday, Jan. 12

St. Francis 13, Heartland 12

"Although improvements are being made, we still just beat ourselves with unforced turnovers," Coach Susan Dinkel said.

The junior varsity lost to Heartland Christian by the score of 36-26 but the C-team earned a 13-12 victory.

"Rebounding was a problem tonight," Coach Dinkel said. "Although we touched the ball, we just couldn't seem to grab it. Then, confusion prevailed when we did our press and press break."

"I'm not sure what they were thinking, but we certainly didn't run the one they were taught in practice! When we would discuss it during a time out, all the lights were on in their eyes...when they went out on the floor, there was a definite power outage!"

Scoring junior varsity: Ashlynn Lambert 12, Mikaela Grace 6, Jacquelyn Ketzner 2, Kaitlin Figgins 2, Tilyn Bell 2, Jenna Hill 2.

Scoring C-Team: Hill 9, Lambert 2, Figgins 2.

Tuesday, Jan. 13

St. Francis 22, Idalia 16

Of the four St. Francis teams, the

girls junior varsity was the only one which pulled out a win. The final score was St. Francis 22, Idalia 16.

Hill hit 12 points for the Sainty Ladies.

"From last night to tonight, we made huge strides," Coach Dinkel said. "Although we weren't error free, we did learn from the things we did wrong last night and tried to make better decisions. I was very pleased with the adjustments we made on the press and how the girls reacted to it."

"I got to play many girls who haven't had a lot of playing time the rest of the season, so that was good for them, too. The three foreign exchange students are definitely improving, even though they haven't had much court time during games. It's been fun watching them learn."

Scoring: Hill 12, Grace 4, Figgins 4, Lambert 2.

Friday, Jan. 16

St. Francis 58, Oakley 52

"We are definitely improving," Coach Dinkel said. "Although we get extremely excited at times and make silly errors, we are not turning the ball over as much at this level."

Leading the scoring in this contest was C. Hilt with 13, followed by Figgins with 10.

"It was a good game and we continued to fight hard, even when the game got close," Coach Dinkel said. "We did get into some foul trouble, so that wasn't good. But, offensively, we shot a lot of shots (and our shooting is obviously getting better with the number of points we scored) and got quite a few offensive rebounds."

Scoring: C. Hilt 13, Figgins 10, Trembly 8, Lambert 6, S. Hilt 6, Grace 5, J. Hilt 4, Marin 4.



BOTH TEAMS ARE FIGHTING for the ball — St. Francis Elizabeth Gienger (23) joins Jami Pevler in an attempt to control the ball.

Herald staff photo by Betty Jean Winston

Ladies play hard against foes

By Betty Jean Winston
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Oakley proved to be a tough opponent on Friday night when the Lady Indians met them in Sainty. Oakley scored 35 points in the first half compared to 14 points for the home team. Sainty came up with a total of nine points in the second half for a final of Oakley 59, St. Francis 23.

Tuesday night, St. Francis entertained the Lady Wolves from Idalia and this contest was close with the outcome undecided until the end. Idalia won the contest 52-46.

Idalia 52, St. Francis 46

"We played a close game throughout the contest and made a good run late in the fourth quarter, but we were unable to connect on critical free throws the last 2 minutes," Coach Larry Flemming said.

The final score on Tuesday night was Idalia 52, St. Francis 46.

As has happened in other recent games, Sainty tied the score in the fourth quarter in a come-from-behind charge. They just did not have the highest score when the buzzer sounded.

Although Sainty was ahead at the end of the first quarter they had fallen behind by halftime, thus the need to play catch up.

St. Francis scored competitively

in every quarter but the second where Idalia had 10 points and the Lady Indians only four.

From the field, Sainty was 24 percent, making 17 of 70 attempts. They did manage four three-pointers out of 12 attempts. Having three's were Andrea Holzwarth, Sidnee Crabtree, Sarah Trembly and Christina Hilt.

Leading the scoring for St. Francis was Crabtree with 16. This included six field goals besides the three-pointer and one free throw. All 10 girls on the team had at least one point in the scoring column.

Defensively Sainty had 21 rebounds, with 14 of them defensive; 21 steals with seven players contributing and three assists. The team had a larger number of steals (21) than they did turnovers (17). Leading in steals was Holzwarth with six while Elizabeth Ginger had the most rebounds with eight.

"We competed well and are adapting much better to the concepts of applying and accepting pressure," Coach Flemming said.

SF 13 4 11 18 46
I 10 10 13 19 52

Scoring: Crabtree 16, Holzwarth 9, Gienger 4, C. Hilt 3, Trembly 3, Jami Pevler 2, Jodie Hilt 2, Shayla Hilt 2, Aly Marin 2, Joni Pevler 1.

Rebounding: Gienger 8, Holz-

warth 5, Jami Pevler 4, Marin 2, Joni Pevler 1, C. Hilt 1.

Oakley 59, St. Francis 23

Oakley began the game strong and continued to find the opening in the basketball hoop throughout the game. They also applied pressure to the St. Francis offense throughout the game.

"I did not have the girls mentally prepared for this game," Coach Flemming said. "I must do a better job before our next contest."

No Lady Indian hit double figures but Crabtree had four field goals for eight points. She (4-10) and Gienger (2-5) were each 40 percent from the field to have the highest percentage. From the line Holzwarth was 3-of-5 for 60 percent.

Defensively Sainty had a total of 18 rebounds, 11 steals, three assists and 22 turnovers. Leading in rebounds were Jami Pevler and Gienger with four each. Crabtree had four steals.

SF 4 10 7 2 23
O 18 17 15 9 59

Scoring: Crabtree 8, Holzwarth 5, Gienger 4, Jami Pevler 2, Joni Pevler 2, J. Hilt 1, Marin 1.

Rebounding: Jami Pevler 4, Gienger 4, Joni Pevler 3, Holzwarth 2, Crabtree 2, Trembly 2, S. Hilt 1.



Teams outscore Indians

The junior varsity boys were in action on Tuesday night and Friday night with both games being played in St. Francis. St. Francis was defeated by Idalia and Oakley. Garrett Figgins was the leading scorer against Idalia and Isaac Schiltz led the team against Oakley.

Idalia 51, St. Francis 47

Garrett Figgins scored 12 points and Brett Lampe 11 on Tuesday night against the Wolves of Idalia but Idalia had a 22-point fourth quarter and took the win.

Going into the final quarter, the Indians had a small 3-point advantage but the game fell in the loss column when the Wolves outscored the Indians by seven points in the last quarter.

Lampe's 11 points came from hitting three outside shots for nine points and adding two free throws. Figgins scored all of his points from two-point range, hitting four baskets in the fourth.

SF 14 9 9 15 47
I 12 11 6 22 51

Scoring: Figgins 12, Lampe 11, Tyler Lauer 7, Brooks Hobrock 5, Ben Neitzel 4, Zach Zwegardt 4, Jonathan Butler 3, Martin Hnizdil 1.

Oakley 38, St. Francis 26

Ten of the 26 points which St. Francis scored on Friday night came from the free-throw line with Lampe having five of them, Isaac Schiltz having four and Brooks Hobrock, one.

Schiltz was the top scorer of the evening having 10 points. Besides his four free throws he hit two three-pointers.

Scoring: Schiltz 10, Lampe 5, Lauer 4, Hobrock 3, Figgins 2, Cody Killingsworth 2.