

At the Game

Sainty C-team wins championship

The St. Francis boys C-team played Atwood on Friday night in Benkelman and the Indians won 7-1. This was the first game of the season-ending tournament.

In the first inning, Garrett Brunk hit a single, Justin Pacheco hit a double and Brunk scored the first run. Atwood's first inning consisted of one walk and the runner was out with a throw from catcher Pacheco to third baseman Brunk for the third out.

In the second inning, Jakob Church took a hit by the pitcher to take a base, Nicky Easter hit a single, Jon Hoard hit a single, Brunk took a walk and Church scored the second run, Pacheco hit a double to bring in Easter for run three, Cade Bracelin hit a home run and brought in runs four, five and six which ended the inning for the five-run rule. Atwood had two walks and one single in the second inning but no runs were scored.

The third inning Shakotah Blanka hit a triple, Joel Hill walked, Jude Faulkender hit a single to bring in Blanka for run seven. Church hit a single but was thrown out at first. Atwood hit two singles and had one walk to score one run for them.

The top of the fourth the Indians with pitcher Bracelin took Atwood three up and three down to end the game due to the mercy-run rule.

Championship game

The championship game was played Saturday afternoon in a wet and cool game against Benkelman. The Indians had lost to Benkelman both times they played earlier this year. This proved to be a nail-biting game as the score was tied at the end of the regulation five innings and the game was forced into overtime to decide the tournament winner.

The first inning the Indians went three up and three down. Benkelman hit a single but the runner was out by a throw from Hill, shortstop to first baseman Blanka. Bracelin was pitching for the Indians.

In the second inning Hill walked, Church hit a single but no runs were scored. Benkelman was forced three up and three down.

In the third inning, Easter had a walk for the Indians but no runs were scored. Benkelman had a batter take a hit by the pitcher and took his base and there was one more walk. The first runner was thrown out at home by a throw from Brunk to Pacheco.

The fourth inning Blanka hit a single and was thrown out at first and Benkelman also had one single and the runner was forced out by Blanka at first.

In the fifth inning, Faulkender and Church both walked but no runs were scored. Benkelman had a batter take a hit by the pitcher to take a base and they received walks to have the bases loaded. Bracelin struck out the next batter to end the inning.

This was the end of a very exciting five innings and the score was 0-0 so the game went into extra innings.

A pitchers can only work a total of five innings so Blanka came in to pitch for the Indians.

In the sixth inning Pacheco walked, Bracelin hit a single, Blanka was hit by a pitch to take a base and Pacheco was thrown out at home plate. Hill walked and Faulkender hit a single but still no runs were scored.

Benkelman's first batter was at a full count and was struck out, second batter hit a single and was then thrown out at home by a throw from Brunk, third base-



BASEBALL ACTION took place in St. Francis when the C-team played home contests. Above Justin Pacheco is looking for a hit. Umpire Trevor Hill is carefully watching the pitches. Below Nicky Easter wants to get on base by having a clean hit.

Herald staff photos by Casey McCormick and Betty Jean Winston

man to Pacheco at home plate and the third batter went to a full count and was struck out.

Going into the seventh inning the game was still scoreless. The Indians were up to bat first as visitors and Easter hit a single but was thrown out at first, Brunk walked, Pacheco hit a double to bring in Brunk for run one, Bracelin hit a single to bring in Pacheco for the second run of the inning. Benkelman's first two batter's in the seventh were struck out. The third batter walked and the next batter was struck out by pitcher Blanka for the Indians. This ended the game with the Championship going to the Indians 2-0.

"In both games the defense played great and we just wished our bats could have gotten going a little earlier in the Benkel-

man game but overall they played exceptional," said coaches Chris Bracelin and Shawn Blanka.

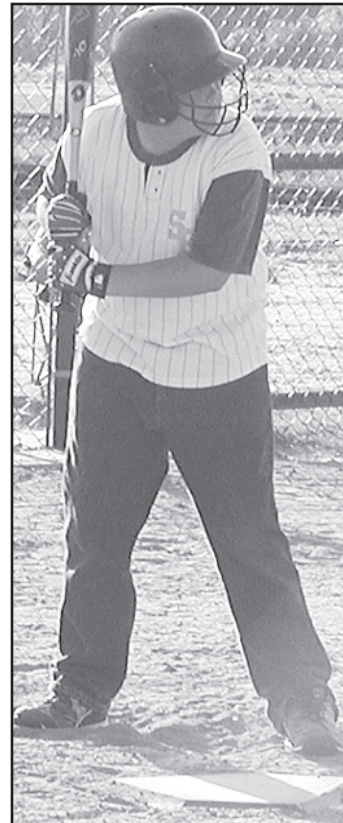
The boys played really good and it was a very exciting game on Saturday.

Extra innings

Saturday afternoon before the championship game the younger players played four innings against Benkelman.

Pitching for the Indians were Tate Busse, Quinten Cravens and Kevin Wagoner.

Having hits were Busse with a single; Faulkender, two singles and one double; Ryan Grover, two singles; Kevin Wagoner, two singles; Brice Wagoner, two singles; Kenny Felzien, a single and Connor McBride, two singles. They scored four runs with Benkelman only having one run.



Three attend golf tourney

St. Francis junior golfers Cade Bracelin, Cassie Cooks and Kyla Bandel attended the league tournament held in Goodland on Monday.

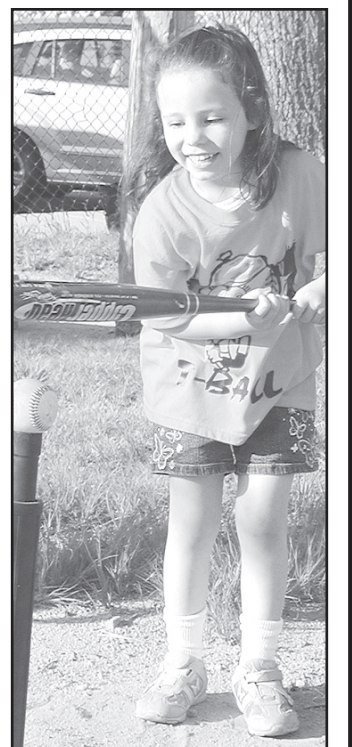
Bandel placed first in the 10-11-year-old girls bracket. She shot a good score to win the event over the three other girls in her flight. Her score was good enough so she could have won first in the girls 12-13-year-old competition. She was eight strokes better than the winner in this group.

"Cade (Bracelin) did all right," said George Banister, coach. "He placed fourth out of 14-or-more players in this flight and was just one stroke away from a medal (third place). He is in a real tough age group."

Cooks, who is only 7 years old, played with the girls who are 8-or-9. She would not have been able to medal as she was not 8 by Jan. 1, but she completed the full nine holes on her first time out at a tournament.

The next competition will take place on Monday in Oakley.

T-ball fun



WINNING SMILES - It looks like Hailey Robbins (above) and Ben Busse are having a great time playing T-ball.

Herald photos by Betty Jean Winston

Sharks compete well in Atwood

The Sharks traveled to Atwood on Saturday for the third meet of the season. Teams participating were Atwood, Cheylin, Hitchcock and St. Francis.

The competition is getting tougher according to Coach Margaret Poling and the Sharks need to be in good shape to keep up. The events are 10-15 minutes apart so it's hard to re-hydrate and recover between races. She said they work on sprints at practice trying to mimic the quickness of the races.

"This week we will be spending time on starts and turns as we had a few disqualifications in those areas," she said.

The team will be heading to Benkelman on Saturday and they appreciate having fan support. The meets go fast so interested people can come for a while and will probably get to see most of the swimmers compete.

"As we gain in momentum, our adult swimmers are coming on strong," Coach Poling said. "We are hoping for a mens' relay this week. We are also getting some of our younger swimmers across the pool and into the competition. Hopefully this will add an 8-and-under boys' relay. We still need to get one or two more."

This is the last week for swimmers to add and still be eligible for the meet which qualifies them for the championship meet in Lexington.

"If you know of anyone interested in swim team, send them down," Coach Poling said. "We also look forward to seeing fans at the races."

Results from the Atwood meet include:

Brianna Cooks, 11-12, 100-yard medley relay, 12-and-under, second; 50-yard backstroke, heat winner, third; 200-yard free relay, second; 50-yard breaststroke, third; 100-yard free relay, 12-and-un-

der, first.

Cassie Cooks, 8-and-under, medley relay, open class, fourth; 50-yard freestyle, heat winner, first; 25-yard backstroke, third; 25-yard freestyle, third; 100-yard freestyle relay, open class, third.

Crissy Cooks, 30-and-over, medley relay, open class, fourth; 25 yard backstroke heat winner, first; 200-yard free relay, open class, second; 25-yard breaststroke, heat winner, first; 25-yard freestyle, heat winner, first.

Mandi Cooks, 9-10, 100-yard medley relay, 12-and-under, second; 25-yard backstroke, heat winner, first; 200-yard free relay, 14-and-under, second; 25-yard freestyle, tied for third-fourth; 100-yard free relay, 12-and-under, first.

Margaret Poling, 30-and-over, 25-yard backstroke, sixth; 25-yard breaststroke, third.

Kim Queen, 30-and-over, 25-yard backstroke third; 200-yard free relay, open class, second; 25-yard breaststroke, second; 25-yard freestyle, second; 100-yard free relay, open class, third.

Christina Schoenrogge, 15-18, medley relay, open class, fourth; 50-yard backstroke, third; 200-yard free relay, open class, second; 100-yard individual medley, third; 100-yard free relay, open class, third.

McKayla Taylor, 11-12, 100-yard medley relay, second; 50-yard butterfly, second; 200-yard free relay, second; 50-yard breaststroke, heat winner, first; 100-yard free relay, first.

McKenzie Taylor, 11-12,



ALEX QUEEN PLACED in the 50-yard freestyle, 25-yard freestyle and as part of the 10-and-under, 100-yard free relay.

Herald photos courtesy of Crissy Cooks.

100-yard medley relay, 12-and-under, second; 50-yard backstroke, heat winner, first; 200-yard free relay, 14-and-under, second; 50-yard breaststroke, heat winner, sixth; 50-yard freestyle, first; 100-yard free relay, 12-and-under, first.

Sarah Trembly, 15-18, medley relay, open class, fourth; 100-yard freestyle, second; 200-yard free relay, open class, second; 50-yard breaststroke, third; 50-yard freestyle, heat winner, first; 100-yard free relay, open class, third.

Thomas Douthit, 13-14, 100-yard medley relay, 14-and-under, first; 200-yard free relay, 14-and-under, first; 50-yard breaststroke, second; 50-yard freestyle, second; 100-yard free relay, 14-and-under, first.

Seth Hilt, 8 and under, 25-yard backstroke, fifth; 100-yard free relay, 10-and-under, first.

Wyatt Hilt, 8 and under, medley relay, 14-and-under, first; 50-yard freestyle, second; 100-yard free relay, 10-and-under, first.

Adam Krien, 8-and-under, 25-yard freestyle, sixth.

KCKrien, 8 and under, 25-yard breaststroke, first; 25-yard freestyle, second; 100-yard relay,



KC KRIEN PLACED in the 25-yard breaststroke, 25-yard freestyle and as part of the 10-and-under 100-yard free relay team in Atwood.

10-and-under, first.

Logan Lampe, 13-14, 100-yard medley relay, 14-and-under, first; 50-yard butterfly, second; 200-yard free relay, 14-and-under, first; 50-yard restyle, third; 100-yard free relay, 14-and-under, first.

Luke Lampe, 9-10, 25-yard butterfly, heat winner, first; 200-yard free relay, 14-and-under, first; 25-yard freestyle, heat winner, first; 100-yard free relay, 14-and-under, first.

Alex Queen, 9-10, 50-yard freestyle, second; 25-yard freestyle, fourth; 100-yard free relay, 10-and-under, first.

Derek Queen, 13-14, 100-yard medley relay, 14-and-under, first; 50-yard backstroke, heat winner, first; 200-yard free relay, 14-and-under, first; 100-yard freestyle relay, 14-and-under, first.

Tim Poling, 30-and-over: 25-yard free, fourth.

Swim meet Benkelman, Saturday