



At the Game

Season opener set in St. Francis at 4 p.m. on Tuesday

By Betty Jean Winston
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"We are going to be very aggressive this year," said Talley Morrow, new head volleyball coach, about the season which opens in St. Francis on Tuesday.

Having a home opener is always a plus for both the team and the fans. It is an opportunity for the girls, especially the younger ones, to perform before a friendly group of fans. The local followers also have an early-season chance to view the skill level of the team.

"Our main strength this year is a love of the game," Coach Morrow said. "Many of the girls are showing that they want to play and are responding well to coaching."

It should also be noted that the team has eight returning letter winners including seniors, Dale Northrup and Kaycee Williams, juniors, Mikaela Grace, Jodie Hilt, Aly Marin, Aubrey Schleppe and Sarah Trembly and sophomore Kaitlin Figgins.

The coach said the team has good experience, especially at the varsity level.

"Their attitude is really good so far. They are working hard, are intense and ready to go."

Players who will be vying for positions on the squad include two seniors, eight juniors, eight sophomores, and seven freshmen. This totals 25 girls interested in the volleyball program.

Before the season began the participants showed their interest in the program by attending a skills camp this summer in St. Francis, directed by Coach Morrow. A group of them also attended a

team camp at the University of Nebraska - Kearney. This is new to the St. Francis volleyball players since the Kansas rules have changed allowing team members and their coaches more flexibility in activities outside of the season.

Coach Morrow attended a Volleyball Coaching Clinic at Wichita State University over the summer.

"It was a very good program and I will be using their treatment of skills to develop future new skills for the St. Francis program," she said. "Many of the ideas will be implemented with the underclassmen who are just beginning to develop as high school players."

"We have a lot of new tricks we can learn - but we need to balance the time we have to practice on improving what we already know (especially the upper classmen) and changing the program to made advancements to keep up -- we will use our practice time with both things in mind."

Coach Morrow feels that it is important to let the opponents know that Sainty will play aggressively.

"With what I learned at Wichita State, I expect us to become a breeding ground for good servers."

I want our serving percentage to be sky high, and I want the girls to be aggressive, but in bounds with a purpose, in their serving. We want our opponents to know at first glance we are ready to go. We want to show this with our first serves of the match by having our offensive be fiery at the serving line."

She is optimistic about the team's serving potential.



READY TO GO - Aly Marin, (l to r) Shayla Hilt, Christina Hilt, Jodie Hilt, Mikaela Grace, Aubree Schleppe and Sarah Trembly look happy to be back representing St. Francis Community High School on the volleyball court.

Herald staff photo by Betty Jean Winston

"We have some offensive options which is huge."

"Kaitlin Figgins is 6 feet tall and we have other taller-than-usual players this year so we finally have some height," she said.

Figgins, who is only a sophomore, led the team in most blocks and most stuffs last year.

The team also has experienced setters in Aly Marin and Shayla Hilt.

Last year Marin led the team in hitting percentage, had the most aces and most service points and Coach Morrow also feels that Hilt is coming on strong.

"Both of these players are also good hitters."

When asked about the team's quickness the coach said their quickness is average.

"It is not our strength but we are working on agility and move-

ment."

The Lady Indians are coming off a 7-25 season. The competition ended with a defeat by Decatur Community/Oberlin at the 2A substate tournament in Atwood.

The community is encouraged to begin the season by attending the sports open house at the high school gym on Friday night when team members will be recognized.

High school volleyball competition will take place in St. Francis on three occasions.

The next opportunity to view the team following the home opener with Hoxie and Golden Plains on Tuesday will be on Sept. 24 when Chase County and Dundy County join St. Francis in a triangular. This homecoming week and that Thursday is Volleyball Appreciation Day.

A round robin tournament will be held here on Saturday, Oct. 10. Last year was the first time for this event and Hayes Center and Hitchcock County, both Nebraska teams, and Cheylin attended.

Other varsity tournaments on the schedule this year include Gove County at Grinnell, Decatur Community at Oberlin, and the Northwest Kansas League at Goodland.

End-of-the-season action with the top teams working their way to the state tournament begins the week of Oct. 19.

Coaching staff

Coach Morrow has been an assistant coach for the Lady Indians for the last seven years before moving into the head coaching position this fall. She played volleyball in high school and also one year at York College in Ne-

braska.

She will have an experience assistant in Jeff Olofson, who has worked with St. Francis volleyball for 17 years.

Roster

Seniors: Kaycee Williams, Dale Northrup.

Juniors: Aly Marin, Mikaela Grace, Christina Hilt, Shayla Hilt, Jodie Hilt, Sarah Trembly, Aubree Schleppe, Alyssa Lee.

Sophomores: Kaitlin Figgins, Christina Schoenrogge, Lexi Hilt, Caitlin Northrup, Trista Orth, Jacquelyn Ketzner, Tilyn Bell, Hayley Brown.

Freshmen: Aubrey Mills, Laura Brunk, Krissy Harris, Nariah Hamilton, Jandy Dunn, Clarice Neitzel, Ally Northrup.

Managers/statisticians: Emily Mullins and Allison Grice.



TATE BUSSE was one of the Sainty Sharks who competed at the regional meet in Lexington, Neb., in July. This event finished the season for the team. Photo courtesy of Crissy Cooks

Year-end awards received by members of the Sharks

It was only right that our awards ceremony barbecue was rained out just like our swim meet said Coach Margaret Poling.

"The rain held off long enough to get all the medals distributed, although we were in a hurry and could not check the medals and a few were mismarked," she said.

If a swimmers feels like he/she got a medal that is incorrect they need to contact Coach Poling or Crissy Cooks, coach, as they will try to get it corrected.

Awards received at Lexington

Two St. Francis swimmers earned high-point awards at the championship meet held at Lexington this year. Gavin Smull received a first place high point

award and KC Krien earned a second place award.

Other awards which were presented included several team awards. The following swimmers were honored.

Team awards

Rookie of the Year: KC Krien.

Most overall improvement: Luke Lampe

Most improved butterfly: Wyatt Hilt.

Most improved flutter kick: Lyden Lampe.

Most improved times: boy, Seth Hilt; girl, Emily Elfers.

Most dedicated practice swimmer: Gavin Smull.

Most improved breast stroke: Alex Queen.

The swim team had a float in the parade during the fair earlier this month.

"All the swimmers who came to help had fun making water balloons," Coach Poling said. "We did have to replace some of the letters which got wet before they could even be finished. We had to move the balloon makers further from the letter makers."

Plans for next year are being made. Coach Poling said if anyone has any suggestions please let the coaches know.

"We appreciate all the support from the swimmers families this year," said both Coach Poling and Coach Cooks. "See you next year."



STEVE JENKINS, assistant football coach, is working with Cody Sherlock (left) and Adam Guthmiller at a recent practice. Herald staff photo by Betty Jean Winston

School Menu

Monday

Breakfast: warm muffins, juice, cereal assortment, milk.

Lunch: chicken club sandwich, potato wedges, grapes, Rice Krispie treat, milk.

Tuesday

Breakfast: breakfast casserole, toast, juice, cereal assortment, milk.

Lunch: French dip sandwich, au jus, French fries, green beans, sliced pears, milk.

Wednesday

Breakfast: coffee cake, juice, cereal assortment, milk.

Lunch: nachos, chili, cheese,

and chips, bread sticks, tossed salad, mandarin orange Jello, milk.

Thursday

Breakfast: breakfast taco, salsa, juice, cereal assortment, milk.

Lunch: barbecued beef on a bun, corn, brownie, cantaloupe, milk.

Friday

Breakfast: fruit turnovers, juice, cereal assortment, milk.

Lunch: sausage, pepperoni or cheese pizza, relish sticks, ice cream bars, peaches, milk.

• Salad bar is offered at noon daily in the junior/senior high school



Open House Friday 7 p.m.